

# COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



An Initiative Designed to Keep YOU Better Informed of Council Decisions and Initiatives

**April 24, 2017**

**Seniors & Special Needs Transportation Grants** – Council approved \$128,212 in transportation grants to 15 seniors and special needs groups including:

- Disabled Transportation Society of Grande Prairie- \$75,000
- Hythe & District Pioneer Homes- \$11,300
- Grande Spirit Foundation- \$12,000
- Golden Years Club of Bezanson- \$4,937
- Twilight Club of La Glace- \$4,775
- Town of Beaverlodge \$3,000
- Beaverlodge Seniors Citizens Association- \$ 2,700
- The Silver & Gold Pioneer Club of Wembley- \$2,500
- Wolverine Wheelchair Sports Association - \$2,500
- Hythe Golden Age Craft Centre - \$2,000
- Beaverlodge Hidden Potential Society - \$2,000
- Amisk Court Social Club - \$2,000
- Grande Prairie & District Golden Age Centre-\$ 1,500
- Sexsmith Sunset Homes & Tenant Association- \$1,000
- Sexsmith & District Seniors Association- \$1,000

For more information, see news release “Transportation Grants Awarded to Senior and Special Needs Groups” at [www.countygp.ab.ca](http://www.countygp.ab.ca).

**2016 Financial Statements** – Council approved the 2016 Audited Financial Statements. Annually, the County’s financial services prepare the annual financial statements for audit. The 2016 audit was reviewed by Fletcher Mudryk & Co. The financial statements are available to view at [www.countygp.ab.ca](http://www.countygp.ab.ca)

**Town of Beaverlodge Funding Request** – Council approved the Town of Beaverlodge’s request for \$50,000 in funding to help cover costs to construct a commercial community kitchen at the new St. Mary’s School in Beaverlodge. The kitchen will be installed in the school’s new multi-use sports/events hall that will be accessible for area groups and residents to use for functions including weddings, festivals, fundraising and other community events.

**Clairmont Adventure Park Update** – Tyla Savard of the Clairmont Agricultural Society made a presentation for the Clairmont Adventure Park to Council. The Ag Society also requested funding support to offset operational costs for the Adventure Park. Council approved the motion to provide up to \$7,500 in funding to cover utility costs. The County has contributed \$622,500 to date to the Clairmont Adventure Park.

**La Glace Agricultural Society Update** – Jade Nyland, Travis Miller and Lori Thiessen of the La Glace Agricultural Society provided Council with an update on their fundraising and construction progress for the La Glace multipurpose facility. The Ag Society has raised over \$360,000. The first phase of construction of the new facility is scheduled to start this spring. The County has contributed \$1 million to the project to date.

**Property Tax Bylaw 3064** – Council approved the property tax bylaw which sets the tax rates for 2017. Tax notices will be mailed out in mid-May with tax payments due on June 30, 2017.

**Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum Update** – Tim Powell, Chairman; and Caitlin Powell, Finance & Administration Manager of the River of Death and Discovery Dinosaur Museum provided an update to Council on the Philip. J Currie Dinosaur Museum operations including upcoming

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public programming and events; fundraising and sponsorship efforts; grant applications; and the financial statements for 2017.

**Business Licensing Program** – Chris King, Economic Development Manager proposed options to Council for the County to implement an online registry system and program that would require all businesses to register for business licensing. Council directed administration to bring back more information to a future Council meeting for further discussion.

**2017 Road Project Tenders** – Council awarded the projects to overlay Township Road 714 (Richmond Avenue); and base and pave Range Road 53A from Township Road 712 to Range Road 54 to Wapiti Gravel Suppliers for \$5,765,189. The complete list of 2017 Road Construction projects can be viewed at [www.countygp.ab.ca/roadconstruction](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/roadconstruction).

**Local Member of Parliament Update** – Chris Warkentin, Grande Prairie-Mackenzie MP provided an update to Council on his provincial and federal advocacy efforts; as well as federal government initiatives and programs that impact the County of Grande Prairie and region.

**Letter Request** – Council accepted as information the Town of Peace River's request to write a letter to the Alberta Minister of Health and cc to local MLAs requesting that an emergency meeting with the Minister of Health be held to discuss the recent changes to the Air Ambulance Services in Northern Alberta.

**North American Occupational Safety and Health Week** – Council proclaimed May 7-13, 2017 as North American Occupational Safety and Health Week (NAOSH) in the County. Participating in NAOSH week demonstrates the County's cooperation and commitment with NAOSH in

promoting the important of preventing injury and illness in the workplace and at home.

**National Public Works Week** – Council proclaimed May 21-27, 2017 as National Public Works Week (NPWW) in the County of Grande Prairie. NPWW calls attention to the importance of public works in community life and acknowledges the efforts of public works employees.

**Family and Community Support Services Office Space** – passed a motion to create a committee of staff and council to investigate options to address Family and Community Support Services office space needs.

**Next Council meeting will take place on May 8, 2017.**

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