

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



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

March 27, 2017

Regional Fire Service 2016 Annual Report – Fire Chief Trevor Grant presented Council the 2016 Annual Report. Fire prevention; education; regional partnerships for elevated training; mutual aid agreements; technical search and rescue; emergency preparedness; along with continuous training in all stations remains a priority for the service. The service responded to 1,347 calls which is an increase of 91 calls from 2015. Of these responses, 634 were medical co-responses. A total of 4,131 fire permits were issued, which is a 57 per cent increase from 2015.

Fire Prevention –The Fire Marshal conducted 62 inspections and 78 investigations, which is a decrease from 2015.

The Fire Prevention Branch delivered the “Learn Not to Burn” program to 10 schools in the County, held the FireSmart Community Champion Workshop, as well, attended many events including trade shows and community events; the Peace Country Agriculture Show; music festivals; rodeos and stompede; community nights; and hosted open houses. In the spring, residents were invited to bring wood debris, branches and deadfall from their yard to the County FireSmart Wood Waste Clean-up events.

Deployments – Regional Fire Service provided assistance to the Province of Alberta for the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, the Town of High Level and Mackenzie County (Norbord fire); and provided mutual-aid services to the MD of Greenview in the Fox Creek and Little Smokey region for wildfires in these areas.

Urban Operations – Staff from the Clairmont and Dunes stations continued to provide several fire prevention and education programs, attend community events, training, and respond to calls.

Rural Operations – Rural stations responded to a number of calls: Bezanson Fire Station - 71, La Glace Fire Station - 78 and Teepee Creek Fire Station - 21.

Bezanson Station – remained committed to firefighter and medical co-response training. They participated in a number of fundraising events; and hosted fire prevention education programs.

La Glace Station – kept busy with calls, mutual aid to regional partners, training and special events. The La Glace Fire Station participated in a number of community events including Go & Show Days, Safety Days at Saskatoon Lake Hall where they provided fire safety messages, as well as the Valhalla Parade.

Teepee Creek Station – remained committed to growing and developing their team and services. The station focused on training. Teepee Creek Station continued to be active in the community participating in Fire Prevention Week activities and Fire Safety talks, and provided fire watch for the Teepee Creek Stampede fireworks display.

Encana Update –David Serfas and Patsy Vik from Encana provided Council with an update on the organization’s activities over the past year as well as their successes, challenges and what is in store for the coming year. Encana will continue to focus on keeping existing

Harold Bulford
Division 1
C 780-876-9009
E hbulford@
countygp.ab.ca

Daryl Beeston
Division 2
C 780-933-3464
E dbeeston@
countygp.ab.ca

Leanne Beaupre
Division 3
C 780-814-3121
E lbeaupre@
countygp.ab.ca

Ross Sutherland
Division 4
C 780-512-5385
E rsutherland@
countygp.ab.ca

Bob Marshall
Division 5
C 780-933-2053
E bmarshall@
countygp.ab.ca

Peter Harris
Division 6
C 780-933-3074
E pharris@
countygp.ab.ca

Brock Smith
Division 7
C 780-296-1973
E bsmith@
countygp.ab.ca

Karen Rosvold
Division 8
C 780-831-0902
E krosvold@
countygp.ab.ca

Corey Beck
Division 9
C 780-831-6394
E cbeck@
countygp.ab.ca

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infrastructure full; innovation; safety; reducing their impact on the environment; and developing needed infrastructure that will support the long-term plans for the Peace River Arch and their other core assets. They also continue to have a strong commitment to responsible water use; positive stakeholder engagement through outreach, communication, the Courtesy Matters Program, and various other partnerships; and investing in local and aboriginal communities by contributing to organizations in the Grande Prairie area.

Encana is a leading North American energy producer that is focused on growing its strong portfolio of diverse resource plays producing natural gas, oil and natural gas liquids.

Staff Introductions – Council and staff welcomed Nicole McDonald to the County. Nicole will be working for the Communications department as the Digital Media Specialist.

Aspen Ridge Community Association Request – Paulette Patterson, Vice President of the Aspen Ridge Community Association requested that land near the Aspen Ridge subdivision located on Plan 802 0833, Block 3, lot 2ER, and Plan 802 0833, Block 1, Lot 32ER be leased as Environmental Reserve Land. Council directed administration to draft a bylaw and do public consultation in preparation for the potential lease or license of this land. The bylaw will return to a future meeting for public hearing and Council's consideration.

Rio Grande Rodeo Special Events Policing – Council approved the request for Regional Enforcement Services to provide special events policing on a cost shared basis for the Rio Grande Rodeo that will be taking place on June 30 - July 3, 2017.

Highway 724 Traffic Counts – Council directed administration to forward the traffic counts conducted on Provincial Highway 724, north of Provincial Highway 59 to Alberta Transportation's Regional Director.

2017 Road Project Tenders – Council awarded the following road projects to the following contractors:

- Base and pave Twp Rd. 750 from Rge Rd. 85 west to Rge Rd. 91 and Rge Rd. 111 from Hwy. 672 north to Twp Rd. 710 to Wapiti Gravel Suppliers for \$2,750,861.
- Grade, base and pave Clairmont West Phase 2 to Reco Construction (2010) Ltd. for \$716,145.
- Base and pave Twp Rd. 730 from Rge Rd. 50 west to Rge Rd. 51; Rge Rd. 51 to Rge Rd. 52; and Rge Rd. 62 from Twp Rd. 723 north to Twp Rd. 724 To Wapiti Gravel Supplier for \$2,633,347.

The complete list of 2017 Road Construction projects can be viewed at www.countygp.ab.ca/roadconstruction.

Next Council meeting will take place on April 3, 2017.

Harold Bulford
Division 1
C 780-876-9009
E hbulford@
countygp.ab.ca

Daryl Beeston
Division 2
C 780-933-3464
E dbeeston@
countygp.ab.ca

Leanne Beaupre
Division 3
C 780-814-3121
E lbeaupre@
countygp.ab.ca

Ross Sutherland
Division 4
C 780-512-5385
E rsutherland@
countygp.ab.ca

Bob Marshall
Division 5
C 780-933-2053
E bmarshall@
countygp.ab.ca

Peter Harris
Division 6
C 780-933-3074
E pharris@
countygp.ab.ca

Brock Smith
Division 7
C 780-296-1973
E bsmith@
countygp.ab.ca

Karen Rosvold
Division 8
C 780-831-0902
E krosvold@
countygp.ab.ca

Corey Beck
Division 9
C 780-831-6394
E cbeck@
countygp.ab.ca