

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



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

September 25, 2017

Landscape Recognition Award of Excellence – Council and staff congratulated Brandt Tractor of Clairmont on receiving the County's Landscape Recognition Award of Excellence for 2017. The Landscape Recognition Program aims to encourage higher levels of landscaping cooperation among new and existing businesses, and features a contest to recognize and celebrate the business lot that best meets or exceeds the landscaping standards set out by the County's Land Use Bylaw. For more information, visit www.countygp.ab.ca/bestlandscaping.

2017 Marketing Award Recognition – Council and staff recognized the Economic Development department on receiving the Economic Developers Association of Canada 2017 Marketing Award for the Clairmont Heights Virtual Reality Tour. For more information visit www.edac.ca/portfolio/clairmont-heights-vr-tour/.

Regional Enforcement Services Second Quarter Report – Superintendent of Regional Enforcement Services, Stuart Rempel; Sergeant Cory Rigler; RCMP Enhanced Corporal Christina Wilkins; and RCMP Rural Corporal Dave Lee presented Council the 2017 second quarter report for the County's Regional Enforcement Services, RCMP Enhanced Policing Unit, and RCMP Grande Prairie & Beaverlodge Rural Detachments.

Regional Enforcement Services Report – Sgt. Rigler reported a total of 1,291 tickets issued from January to June as opposed to 1,732 in 2016. Road bans were busier this year as opposed to past years partially due to the extended period of road bans due to the wet roads

as well as industry picking up in 2017. New staff and Peace Officer training and appointment processes and timelines was also discussed.

Traffic safety and road/infrastructure protection, road safety, parking, unsightly premises, regulatory municipal bylaws, animal control, providing temporary animal shelter and adoption services in partnership with the City of Grande Prairie, community safety, special events coordinating, and traffic safety and crime prevention will remain as Regional Enforcement Services main priorities.

RCMP Enhanced Policing Unit – Cpl. Wilkins reported a total of 135 traffic violation tickets were issued in the second quarter of 2017 as opposed to 122 in 2016 over the second quarter.

The majority of the RCMP Enhanced Policing Unit's time in the second quarter was focused special events policing as well as greenspace patrolling, impaired driving, speeding, seatbelts, school zones, distracted driving and intersection related infractions. The unit spent considerable time in the second quarter dealing with flooding, river patrols and rescues.

RCMP Grande Prairie and Beaverlodge Rural RCMP – Cpl. Lee gave a report containing statistical highlights for both detachments as well as update on staffing and promotions. Crime rates continue to decline and are lower than the same period last year; however traffic collisions is an area of concern that is on the rise.

Regional Enforcement Services remains active in delivering several crime prevention initiatives such as special events coordinating, various patrols, Checkstops, Rural Crime Watch, and Report-A Drug House;

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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seasonal parks patrol; and traffic safety programs and presentations to various groups, schools, and communities throughout the County such as DARE, Bike safety, Detachment Tours, Internet Safety, Bullying, and Cyberbullying.

Bylaw 3074 – Council gave Bylaw 3074 to update the Municipal Development Plan (MDP) third reading. The changes proposed to the MDP were deemed appropriate to rescind the original (Bylaw 2360) and adopt Bylaw 3074 as the new Municipal Development Plan. The Municipal Development addresses future land uses, policies for subdivision and land use bylaw amendments, the provision of required transportation systems and environmental matters with the municipality in accordance to Section 632 of the Municipal Government Act. The MDP update was initiated in response to Council's direction to review subdivision and land use policies as part of Council's strategic priorities. Through a process undertaken by the County, the four key areas being updated include:

- 1) Farmland Assessment Rating, including the definition of 'better agricultural land' and permitted parcel size and density in the Rural area;
- 2) The opportunity for smaller, more intensive Agricultural parcels;
- 3) Facility Home Occupations and entrepreneurship in the County while ensuring impacts on the infrastructure are mitigated, and
- 4) Recognizing and protecting viewsapes within the County.

The updated MDP is available on the County website at www.countygp.ab.ca.

2017 Planning & Land Use Compliance Report – Gordon Halliday, County Planning Compliance Officer presented the 2017 Planning and Land Use Compliance Report. The report provides an update of 2017 compliance statistics and a review of current and updated reporting and inspection procedures.

Recreation Advisory Committee Motions – Council approved the following recreation advisory committee motions:

- \$82,785 to replace the LED lights at the Crosslink County Sportsplex
- \$15,000 for the one year pilot Recreation Fee Assistance Program (\$10,000) and enhanced KidSport funding (\$5,000)

Road Tenders – Council awarded the tender to base and pave Township Road 732 from Range Road 124A to Range Road 130A to Knelsen Gravel Suppliers for \$1,394,413.

Letter to Alberta Transportation – Council will write a letter to Alberta Transportation requesting they move forward with Phase 2 of the Highway 43X bypass and cc Premier Notley, Minister Mason, Minister McQuaig Boyd, Minister Hoffman, Minister Larivee and the Regional Director of Alberta Transportation.

Alberta Community Resilience Program – Council approved submitting an application on behalf of Aquatera Utilities Inc. for grant funding under the Alberta Community Resilience Program for the Wapiti River Raw Water Intake Relocation and Bank Stabilization Project.

Next Council meeting will take place on October 23, 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