

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



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

August 12, 2019

County Strategic Priorities Chart – Council approved the latest update to the County’s Strategic Priorities Chart which solidifies upcoming priorities and outline how the County will continue to be a progressive, forward-thinking municipality while maintaining its values of safe, viable communities, fiscal responsibility, environmental protection and effective regional partnerships. To view the chart, visit www.countygp.ab.ca/stratplan.

County Funds Additional Enhanced RCMP – Council approved \$330,000 to fund two additional enhanced RCMP Officers who will work out of the RCMP detachment located in the Town of Beaverloge. A recent increase in property crime in the west section of the County have exhausted the available RCMP and Regional Enforcement Services resources in place. Funding these additional positions for 2019 and 2020 will enhance safety and security in rural areas throughout the County, including the west section.

New Lease on Life for Land Adjacent to Pine Valley South Subdivision – A new lease on life has been granted to a problem area of the County as the Province of Alberta grants authority of the lands adjacent to the Pine Valley South subdivision to the County of Grande Prairie. Beyond installing further barriers to restrict access, increasing patrols, and adding signage confirming approved uses of the lands, the County has applied to sublease the lands to Peace Riding for the Disabled (PARDS), which offers therapeutic programs for children and adults with a clinical diagnosis. By providing priority usage to the organization for walking and horseback riding, the risk of wildfire in the at-risk area is reduced. For more details, visit <https://bit.ly/2JeDaBa>.

Update from Local Member of Parliament – Chris Warkentin, Grande Prairie-Mackenzie MP, provided an update to County Council on his provincial and federal advocacy efforts and heard from Council about County priorities and concerns. Topics discussed included rural crime and policing, Federal legislation on energy projects and petrochemical industry investment in our region.

Funding Request – Nustadia Recreation Inc., the organization that operates the Crosslink County Sportsplex on behalf of the County, presented to Council about negotiations between the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) on behalf of Crosslink County Sportsplex staff and Nustadia. Council approved a request for \$70,000 to cover a retroactive wage increase following the finalization of a CUPE collective agreement to come from the County’s Financial Stabilization Reserve.

Tender Award for Range Road 125 Improvements – Council awarded the tender for intersection improvements, grading and other upgrades to Range Road 125 to Wapiti Gravel Suppliers for \$2,690,960 with an anticipated project total of \$3,285,107. Of the total project cost, \$975,000 will be covered by the Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program (STIP) grant that was awarded to the County by Alberta Transportation. Veresen Midstream will contribute \$487,500 to the project, with the remaining \$1,822,607 million to come from County funds.

Advertising Bylaw – Council gave third reading to Advertising Bylaw 3096, which will establish alternate methods of advertising statutory notices.

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

Linda Waddy
Division 7
C 780-897-5609
E lwaddy@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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Policies – Council rescinded Policy C15, Petty Cash and directed Administration to develop an Administrative Directive with the information.

Council approved Council Decision Making Framework Policy B26 to outline how requests for decision will be submitted to County Council.

Public Hearings – Council held a public hearing for Bylaw 2680-19-026 to amend the County's Land Use Bylaw. The amendments would facilitate the following: to amend existing land use definitions, to enable the inclusion of new land use definitions; additions and deletions of wording to the Administrative, General Provisions for All Districts, Special Considerations for Residential Districts, and select land use district sections within the Land Use Bylaw.

Council gave the bylaw third reading. The updated Land Use Bylaw can be viewed at www.countygp.ab.ca/lub.

Council held a public hearing for Bylaw 2680-19-034 to redesignate 0.88 acres of land, located in the Hamlet of Goodfare adjacent to Secondary Highway 671 from a Limited Institutional and Recreational (L-IR) District to a Country Residential (CR-4) District to allow the landowner to apply for a residential dwelling unit development permit. Council gave the bylaw third reading.

Council held a public hearing for Bylaw 2680-19-035 to redesignate 49.28 acres of land, located 4.5 miles southeast of the Town of Beaverlodge, adjacent to Range Road 100 and Township Road 712 from an Agricultural (AG) District to Country Residential (CR-5) District

to allow for the subdivision of two lots for country residential use. Council gave the bylaw third reading.

Development Permit Request – Council approved a development permit application from Veresen Energy Infrastructure Inc. to expand an existing sour gas plant, located 5 miles southeast of the Hamlet of Demmitt near Range Road 125 within a Rural Industrial Direct Control (RM-DC) District. The permit was approved with conditions, including an agreement for upgrades to Range Road 125 as required by the County.

Grande Prairie Regional Recreation Committee Funding Policy – Council took no action on the Grande Prairie Regional Recreation Committee Funding Policy as presented and requested that the Committee consider further review.

Sponsorship Requests – Council approved sponsorship of the Sexsmith & District Community Foundation's Play for Community Fundraiser for \$500.

Council approved the purchase of two tickets for the Big Hearts for Big Kids fundraiser for \$350.

Date Change for Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting – Council approved that the upcoming Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting be rescheduled to October 4 instead of the originally date of September 12 to accommodate Council's attendance at community fundraisers.

Next Regular Council Meeting will take place on August 19, 2019.

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

Linda Waddy
Division 7
C 780-897-5609
E lwaddy@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