

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



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

May 13, 2019

Community Standards Bylaw – Council gave second and third reading to a new Community Standards Bylaw 3098, which outlines standards in an all-encompassing bylaw aimed at making the growing municipality safer, more attractive and more enjoyable.

The Bylaw includes guidelines and regulations addressing common citizen concerns and priorities in the following areas:

- Addressing
- Unsightly Premises
- Bullying and Hazing
- Graffiti
- Noise
- Nuisance
- Cannabis
- Waste Management
- False Alarms
- Fire Hydrants
- Sidewalks

Some sections of the Bylaw are new and address emerging issues; other sections have been updated from existing bylaws to better accommodate the changing needs of citizens and the County's growing communities. While new to the County in 2019, Community Standards Bylaws are common in most progressive Alberta and Canadian communities.

Earlier this spring, the County conducted public consultation on the draft bylaw, inviting comments and recommendations from citizens on a number of sections within the bylaw. The final version approved by Council includes amendments based on feedback.

The Bylaw takes effect immediately and will be accompanied by a public education campaign to support residents' understanding of how the bylaw serves them. To view the bylaw, and for further details, visit www.countygp.ab.ca/csb.

Delegations from County subdivisions – Representatives from the Dunes on 17 Homeowners Association presented to Council, outlining concerns regarding the Wapiti Shooting Club. Shooting clubs and ranges are Federally regulated and operate under a Provincial Disposition. Council directed Administration to bring back recommendations on how the County can work with the governing bodies and involved organizations to address residents and public concerns.

Representatives from the County subdivision of the Pine Valley South subdivision presented to Council about vehicle and recreational vehicle usage in the County-owned and crown land in the area increasing the risk of manmade wildfires. Council directed Administration to bring back recommendations to reduce the risk of wildfires in the area.

Weed Inspection – Council appointed eight weed inspectors and two pest and disease inspectors for the 2019 season.

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Council also approved contracts to perform weed inspection services for the towns of Sexsmith, Beaverlodge and Wembley and the Village of Hythe for the 2019 season.

Cooperative Intermunicipal Funding Agreement for FCSS – Council approved entering into a formal agreement with the towns of Sexsmith, Beaverlodge and Wembley and the Village of Hythe to provide annual funding to their Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) programs. These relationships have been in place for a number of years, in recognition of services provided to County residents.

Purchase of Event Bleachers – Council approved the purchase two sets of event bleachers for \$80,000 to come from the Community Aggregate Reserve. Administration will bring back an agreement for reimbursement and use of the bleachers by Evergreen Park.

Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance – Council will write a letter of support to the Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance (MPWA) for their Wapiti Source Water Protection Plan, and officially appoint Councillor Harris as the County's representative. The MPWA is dedicated to water protection in the Peace and Slave River regions.

Tender Award for Road Work in Clairmont – Council awarded a tender for road construction work in Clairmont to Wapiti Gravel Suppliers for \$3,410,549.

Transportation Levy – A County landowner requested the Zone 2 Transportation Levy be waived for the portion of their land that is already developed. Council approved the request.

Heritage Inventory Program – Council directed Administration to update the County's Heritage Inventory Program.

Interprovincial Advocacy with Peace Region Municipalities – Council directed Administration to bring back information regarding an interprovincial advocacy plan with Peace River Regional District, Clear Hills County, Saddle Hills County and the County of Grande Prairie.

Uncollectable Linear Taxes – County Council will write off \$9,171 in 2016 – 2018 Linear property taxes from that are uncollectable, as the company is no longer in business. The County will apply to Municipal Affairs to education portion of the debt, which is \$1,448.

Stompede Week Proclamation – Council proclaimed May 28 – June 2, 2019 as Stompede Week in the County of Grande Prairie. The proclamation event will be taking place on Tuesday, May 28, 2019, at 11:30 a.m. at the Revolution Place Parking Lot, where Reeve Beaupre will attend and read the proclamation.

Employee Introductions & Recognition – Council congratulated Regional Fire Service Captain Michael Shykora on receiving a Fire Services Exemplary Service Medal for his service. Captain Shykora will receive his award at a ceremony in Red Deer on May 26, 2019.

Council congratulated Tracy Dawe, the Safety Coordinator with the Human Resources team, for achieving her certification as a Canadian Registered Safety Professional through the University of Alberta.

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Council and staff welcomed seasonal employees to the Agriculture department in roles including mowing, weed inspection, spraying, and as Agriculture and Rural Extension assistants.

Next Regular Council Meeting will take place on May 27, 2019.

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