

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



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

November 25, 2019

County Connector Service Enhancements – Council passed a motion to support expanding the County Connector service to Saturdays, adding an additional stop, and removing trips with lowest ridership, based on feedback from the recent community survey. The County Connector Advisory Board will present the proposed enhancements to the other partnering municipalities, and if approved, these changes will take effect February 1, 2020. See media release *County Council Supports New Saturday County Connector Routes* at www.countygp.ab.ca.

The County Connector is part of the two-year Rural Transportation Pilot Program funded by the Government of Alberta to look at ways to expand transit options and enhance access in rural communities. The program is supported by the County of Grande Prairie, the City of Grande Prairie, the towns of Sexsmith, Beaverlodge and Wembley and the Village of Hythe.

Peace Wapiti School Division Request – Council approved the Peace Wapiti School Division's request to access to the Five Mile Hall surrounding lands to complete site evaluations as part of the requirements for designing the future school which will be located on these lands.

Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum Update – Linden Roberts, Executive Director for the Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum presented a mid-year update about the organization to Council. Some of the information provided included 2019 year-to-date financials, project initiatives, program development, education programs, sponsorship and fundraising efforts, marketing outreach, upcoming events, and research and fieldwork.

Public Hearings – Council held a public hearing for Bylaw 2680-19-054 to redesignate 14.5 acres of land located approximately half a mile north of the Town of Beaverlodge and adjacent to Range Road 101 and Township Road 722 from an Agricultural (AG) District to a Country Residential (CR-5) District to allow for the subdivision of one residential lot. Council gave the bylaw third reading.

Council held a public hearing for Bylaw 2680-19-055 to redesignate 24.17 acres of land located within the Hamlet of Clairmont, adjacent to 69 Ave, Range Road 60 and Highway 43 from an AG District to a Highway Industrial (RM-4) District to allow for the subdivision of one lot for highway industrial use. Council gave the bylaw third reading.

Council held a public hearing for Bylaw 2680-19-056 to redesignate 5 acres of land located within the Hamlet of Clairmont, adjacent to Range Road 63 and Township Road 723 from a CR-5 District to a RM-4 District to accommodate industrial use of the lot. Council gave the bylaw third reading.

Council held a public hearing for Bylaw 2680-19-057 to redesignate 20.5 acres of land located approximately four miles west of the Town of Beaverlodge, adjacent to Range Road 110 and Township Road 720 from an AG District to CR-5 District to allow for the subdivision of two residential lots. Council gave the bylaw third reading.

Public Works Equipment Purchases – Council approved the purchase of eight Group 4 Motor Graders from Brandt Tractor for \$4,323,240 inclusive of GST and tire levies. The purchase of these graders will support the Public Works department's ongoing operations.

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Bridge Maintenance Projects – Council awarded the contract to repair six bridges in the County to La Farge Canada Inc. for \$724,299 plus GST. The bridges, scheduled to be repaired in 2020 are located on Township Road 720 east of Range Road 104; Township Road 730 east of Highway 724; Range Road 65 south of Township Road 724; Range Road 90 south of Township Road 752; and Township Road 720 west of Range Road 95.

Road Graveling Program Aggregate Supplier – Council approved extending the County’s agreement for Buffalo Rock Resources to supply of processed aggregates for local road graveling for an additional two years at a rate of \$12.50 per ton, at a maximum contract value of \$1,338,750 including.

Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum Facility Maintenance Requests – Council approved the Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum’s request to cover the cost to repair the front doors at the facility in the amount of \$27,500.

Council made a motion to take no action on the Museum’s previous request to assist with snow removal in their parking lot. The Museum has contracted out parking lot maintenance for the current season.

Seniors and Special Needs Snow Plowing Requests – Council approved two requests from residents for snow clearing from their driveways on their property. The applicants requests meet the criteria of the Seniors and Special Needs Snow Plowing program.

County Library Board Members’ Appointment – Council appointed residents Kelly Gust and Pam Rintoul to serve for a three-year term on the County of Grande Prairie Library Board.

The County Library Board provides library services to the County of Grande Prairie. The board operates and manages three libraries in the communities of Elsworth, La Glace and Valhalla. They also support libraries in the neighbouring communities of Grande Prairie, Beaverlodge, Sexsmith, Wembley and Hythe through annual funding and have established Joint Use Agreements with the library boards in these communities.

Tri-Municipal Industrial Partnership Committee Member Appointment – Council appointed Councillor Ross Sutherland to serve as a voting member and Deputy Reeve Harris as an alternative member of the Tri-Municipal Partnership (TMIP) Committee. Councillor Sutherland has served as the alternate committee member on behalf of the County since the committee’s inception.

The TMIP is a partnership between the MD of Greenview, County of Grande Prairie and City of Grande Prairie to explore opportunities to develop a world-class industrial park in the Gold Creek area. The project will promote healthy regional economic growth by attracting investment and infrastructure development, being competitive on the global stage, and showcasing the region’s diversity. This partnership promotes shared goals between the participating municipalities while supporting each municipality’s autonomy and perspectives.

Farm Freedom and Safety Act Minister’s Reception – Council approved reimbursing Councillor Rosvold for travel and registration expenses incurred from attending the Farm Freedom and Safety Act Minister’s reception in Edmonton on November 21, 2019.

The 2020 Interim Budget Meeting will begin at 10 a.m. on December 4, 2019. Next Regular Council Meeting will take place on December 9, 2019.

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