

# COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



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

July 13, 2020

## City and County of Grande Prairie ICF Mediation Protocols –

Council approved the City of Grande Prairie and County of Grande Prairie Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework (ICF) Mediation Protocols as presented. The Municipal Government Act requires that municipalities sharing a common boundary must create an ICF. The municipalities have agreed to mediated negotiations to complete an ICF by March 31, 2021. The date for finalizing frameworks was extended by the Provincial Government with the onset of COVID-19. Negotiations have been underway since May 2019.

ICFs document what and how services are funded and delivered with municipalities that share a common boundary. The goal in these negotiations is to produce an agreement that can pave the way for high-quality and affordable programs, services and opportunities that are sustainable and in the long-term best interests of residents of the City and County. For more details, see media release, [City and County Establish Protocols for ICF Mediation](#).

**Alberta Conservation Association Update** – The Alberta Conversation Association (ACA) provided Council with an update on their activities within the County. Since 2018, the ACA has restocked the County Sportsplex Pond three times since 2018 with 2,000 rainbow trout. They have also collaborated with the County to host three Kids Can Catch events.

Starting in 2021, the County will enter into the Corporate Partner in Conversation Program (CPIC), contributing \$2,500 per year over five years to cover the portion of the annual fish restocking fee for the

County Sportsplex Pond and to allow the ACA to invest funds in other projects within the County.

**Water Bodies for Recreation** – Council directed Administration to bring back recommendations regarding the feasibility of incorporating large water bodies into subdivision design for consideration of recreation purposes.

**Grande Prairie Regional College Awards Contribution** – Council will contribute \$1,500 per year for 10 years for a named annual award to go towards the Grande Prairie Regional College (GPRC) Student Awards program.

**STARS Gift Acknowledgement** – Council deferred signing the Gift Acknowledgment letter from STARS to a future Council meeting when STARS has an opportunity to present. The letter acknowledges the County's \$500,000 contribution to the STARS H145 Fleet Renewal Campaign to be funded at \$100,000 over five year (2020-2024) and initiates the conversation regarding suitable recognition opportunities.

**Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum Advocacy** – Council will send advocacy letters to Provincial elected officials including the Honourable Tanya Fir, Minister of Economic Development, Trade and Tourism, and Tany Yao, MLA for Fort-McMurray-Wood Buffalo; as well as Gary G. Mar, President and CEO of the Canada West Foundation.

These letters are part of the County's Advocacy Strategy and outline the Philip J. Currie Museum's contributions to the Province and invite discussions about innovative partnerships to promote northwest Alberta tourism into the future.

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**Public Hearings** – Council held a public hearing to amend Bylaw 2680-20-008 to facilitate the prohibition of wild boar operations, including the raising or keeping of wild boar within the County. Council gave the bylaw amendment third reading. The amendments will ensure the County’s current boar-free pest status is maintained.

Council gave Bylaw 3141 three readings, which includes revisions to the Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw- Section D (Regional Fire Services) fire rescue fees and administration fees; and the Section A (Assessment) Municipal Government Act Section 299 requests. The updated Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw will be available to view next week at [www.countygp.ab.ca/fees](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/fees).

Council held a public hearing for Bylaw 3142 which would facilitate the creation of a new public utility lot under section 665 of the Municipal Government Act. The lot would be located within the subdivision of Wedgewood within Lot 74, Block 1, Plan 892 1992 and contains existing stormwater management infrastructure which services the community. Council gave the bylaw third reading.

**Bylaw 3122** – Council gave Bylaw 3122- Fire Services Bylaw third reading. The County’s Regional Enforcement and Fire Services performed a review of Bylaw 2924, to reflect recent changes in the Alberta Fire Code, Forest Prairie Protection Act, Municipal Government Act, and legislation. Bylaw 3122 (amended Bylaw 2924 and Bylaw 1945) includes simplified language, the removal of redundancies that are captured in other bylaws, and updated definitions and compliance with current Alberta Health Services provisions and legislation.

**Grande Prairie Regional Recreation Coordinator Position** – Council approved committing \$23,707 in the 2021 operating budget to help fund a portion of the Grande Prairie Regional Recreation Coordinator contract position for a one-year term. This position provides administrative support to the Grande Prairie Regional Recreation Committee (GPRRC).

The GPRRC, comprised of representatives from the County and City of Grande Prairie, towns of Beaverlodge, Sexsmith and Wembley, the Village of Hythe and the Municipal District of Greenview, is mandated to carry out the 2016 Grande Prairie Area Recreation Master Plan, which was adopted and serves as a guide for cooperation and for planning recreation opportunities throughout the region.

**Tender Awards** – Council awarded the tender for the culvert replacement to Boss Bridgeworks for \$454,450. The culvert being replaced is located on Township Road 712, west of Range Road 84 near the Town of Wembley.

Council awarded the grading and subgrade preparation, granular case course, and other work on Range Road 53, south of Township Road 712 to Mainline Construction Ltd. for \$2,362,422.

**Township 720 Road Treatment** – Council approved Division 5 and 6 road bonding money in the amount of \$19,000 each be used to treat Township Road 720 in the Town of Beaverlodge, which involves chemically treating/stabilizing the road.

**Orphan Roads in the County** – Council directed Administration to review and identify the orphan roads within and around the County and

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bring back a report to Council to a future Council meeting. Orphan roads are roads that are remote to an area, that are accessed by travelling a distance on pavement or on non-County roads.

**Gravel Road Treatment Program** – Council directed Administration bring back information on the Gravel Road Treatment Program for Range Road 85 and Township Road 750 to the Council or Committee of the Whole Meeting in August.

**Wireless Access Points Upgrade** – Council approved \$33,600 to go towards upgrading wireless access points in County buildings. The upgrades will replace wireless access points with hardware that has reached their end of life, and improve wi-fi performance and minimize disruptions.

**Subdivision Time Extension Requests** – Council took no action on the subdivision time extension request for NW-8-74-4-W6 as the number of requests exceeded the allowable amount set out in the conditions of approval for subdivision applications.

Council granted the subdivision time extension request for NW-2-73-12-W6.

**SCORES Partnership Update** – Council accepted Peace Wapiti School Division's (PWSD) SCORES Partnership follow-up report. Standing Committee on Recreation and Educational Services (SCORES) is a partnership between the City of Grande Prairie and the governing boards of four local educational organizations that guides the sharing of municipal and educational organization resources, including land available for school sites.

PWSD is not a part of the SCORES Partnership. PWSD however, expressed they would be interested in exploring a joint use type of agreement with the County for the Clairmont and Whispering Ridge community schools, and new Harry Balfour School.

**Letter of Support** – Council will write a letter of support for the Beaverlodge RCMP to enable them to apply for a grant for a Restorative Justice Program.

**Range Road 60A Upgrades** – Council directed Administration prepare an application for Strategic Transportation and Infrastructure Program (STIP) funding for Range Road 60A/Resources Road upgrade including bridge improvements.

**Highway 40X West** – Council directed Administration contact the Honourable Minister of Finance and Grande Prairie-Wapiti MLA, Travis Toews requesting the Highway 40X west be included in the Economic Stimulus Projects of the Government of Alberta.

**Next Regular Council Meeting will take place on August 10, 2020. A Committee of the Whole Meeting will take place on July 21, 2020.**

Council and Committee meetings can be accessed electronically through the events calendar on the County website.

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