

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



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

June 29, 2020

Municipal Safety Review Report – Council accepted for information a Municipal Safety Review report conducted by Regional Enforcement Services. The Chief Firearms Officer of Alberta has informed the County of Grande Prairie that following a full investigation and in consultation with the Wapiti Dunes Shooting Club executive, the Wapiti Shooters Club outdoor rifle and handgun range will be permanently closed. The investigation was conducted in response to County residents who expressed concerns to County Council for their safety and the safety of those recreating nearby.

Financial Impacts of County Response to Northwestern Alberta Wildfires – Council directed Administration to write a letter to the Minister of Municipal Affairs requesting timeline of when payment will be received for County of Grande Prairie’s response to the Chuckegg Creek Wildfire. Administration will draft a resolution for the next Rural Municipalities of Alberta Zone meeting to address Provincial standards for emergency deployment payment.

Administration presented a report outlining the County’s response to the Chuckegg Creek Wildfire in 2019.

The County of Grande Prairie sent an invoice of over \$1.8 million to the Province, with the cost based on the County’s established fee for response. The Province has not provided an update on the status of the invoice, including a potential timeline for reimbursement or reimbursement amount. Council accepted the report for information.

Potential Partnership to Upgrade Section of Range Road 62/108 Street – Council will write a letter to the City of Grande Prairie regarding a proposal from the developer working in the Whispering Ridge subdivision, as well as Arbour Hills in the City of Grande Prairie, requesting the municipalities partner to upgrade a section of 108 Street at a reduced cost.

Request for Road Maintenance – Council took no action on a request from Wapiti Farms Ltd. for road maintenance, as the request is for a private road on property owned by a third party.

Physician Recruitment and Retention Incentive – Council approved a request through the Physician Recruitment and Retention Incentive Policy to support a local physician who will be practising in the Town of Wembley, Dr Angela Luckham, for the amount of \$10,000.

Council will review Policy B22, the Physician Recruitment and Retention Incentive Policy, to ensure it continues to meet the needs of the County in recruiting physicians to practice in our community.

Feedback to the Province on Infrastructure Planning – County Council will complete Government of Alberta’s survey to provide feedback on capital planning, including the proposed Alberta Infrastructure Act.

Donation Request – Council will match a donation made by Brandt Tractor, Clairmont of \$4,500 to the organizations of STARS (Shock Trauma Air Rescue Services) and the Peace Area Riding for the Disabled Society (PARDS). The donation will facilitate a new skid steer

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for the STARS base in Grande Prairie, with the existing skid steer being donated to PARDS to replace ageing equipment.

Whispering Ridge Area Structure Plan – Council held a public hearing for Bylaw 3135, the Whispering Ridge Area Structure Plan (ASP). The Plan is a framework to subdivide and develop an area in the Hamlet of Clairmont, east of Range Road 62 and adjacent to the City of Grande Prairie, and outlines mostly rural residential development, with some multi-family and commercial development as well. The ASP has been circulated to surrounding landowners and agencies for comment, and received first reading from Council on April 27, 2020.

Council gave the bylaw second reading. The ASP will be forwarded to Alberta Transportation for Ministerial approval before returning to Council for third and final reading.

Public Hearings – Council held a public hearing for Bylaw 2680-20-009 to redesignate 88.40 acres of land located along the Wapiti River at the end of Range Road 104A, adjacent to Wapiti Gardens and Wapiti Farms from an Intensive Recreation (IR) District to an Extractive Industrial (EX) District for the purposes of aggregate extraction. The adjacent properties are zoned for Intensive Recreational and Agricultural uses. Council defeated the bylaw on first reading.

Council held a public hearing for Bylaw 2680-20-010 to redesignate 14.88 acres of land located seven and a half miles northeast of the Town of Sexsmith, adjacent to Range Road 45 from an Agricultural (AG) District to a Country Residential (CR-5) District to allow for the subdivision of one lot for residential use. Council gave the bylaw third reading.

Council held a public hearing for Bylaw 2680-20-011 to redesignate 3.28 acres of land located in the Hamlet of Clairmont, adjacent to Highway 2 from an Agricultural (AG) District to a Medium Density Residential (MDR) District to allow for the subdivision of 37 lots for residential use. Council gave the bylaw third reading.

Council held a public hearing for Bylaw 260-20-012 to redesignate 7.20 acres of land located in the Hamlet of Clairmont, east of Range Road 62 adjacent to the City of Grande Prairie from an Agricultural (AG) District to a Rural Residential (RR-2) District to allow for the subdivision of 26 lots for residential use. Council gave the bylaw third reading.

Correspondence from the Province – Reeve Beaupre received a letter from the Minister of Municipal Affairs confirming that \$1,287,153 has been allocated to the County of Grande Prairie from the Provincial Gas Tax Fund.

Secondary Highway 724 – Council directed Administration to negotiate with Alberta Transportation to pave Highway 724.

Property Tax Relief Requests – Council took no action on a request to reduce the amount of taxes owing.

Next Regular Council Meeting will take place on July 13, 2020. A Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) Meeting will take place on July 7, 2020, as well as a Committee of the Whole Meeting on July 21, 2020.

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

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