

Highlights

October 11, 2016 Council Meeting

Policies and Bylaws – Council approved an amendment to DEV-56 policy on Country-owned Structures not Requiring a Development Permit. In the new policy, there will be no charge for landowners to file an appeal fee. Council also approved an Asset Management Policy for lifecycle Management of the County's assets which impact the budget, a Volunteer Fire Department Policy which establishes minimum standards in accordance with OH&S and AB Code of Practice for Fire Fighters and an Apprenticeship Training Policy. Council also approved amendments to the Conference and Education Attendance and Vacation and Credit Card Policies.

Council approved bylaws for Taxation of Mobile Units in Manufactured Home Parks, Nonprofit Community Organizations Tax Exemption and Bylaw No. 2016-18 to rescind old bylaws that are no longer required. Copies of the bylaws can be viewed on the County website.

AAMD&C Delegation – Alberta Association of Municipal District & Counties President Al Kemmere, District 5 Director Soren Odegard and Executive Director Gerald Rhodes met with Council to discuss current issues which included the MGA Review, Bill 6, and Centralized Assessment.

Strategic Plan – Administration provided the third quarter update on the 2016 Strategic Business Plan. The 2017 Strategic Plan was also approved. Both plans can also be viewed on the County website at www.county.stpaul.ab.ca.

Capital Purchases – At the September Public Works Meeting, Council approved the purchase of two 627K buggies from Finning at a cost of \$660,000 each plus a trade of two 621G buggies, to be leased until the end of 2016 and then paid for in 2017. Council also approved the capital purchase of one 14H motorgrader from Finning for \$433,600 plus the trade of a 2007 14H grader, to be funded from unrestricted surplus in 2016. Following discussions at the Strategic Planning sessions, Council approved the purchase of a 2016 Western Star Gravel Truck for \$192,500 to be paid from the 2017 Capital Budget.

CNRL Property Taxes – Council heard from a delegation with CNRL about how they have reduced their operating costs for 2015 and their plans to reduce them further in 2016. The delegation indicated that property taxes are the second highest cost for operating a gas well and therefore requested a 30% reduction. Council denied the request as it will be precedent setting and the County will already experience a decrease in taxation due to reduced assessment on Linear Property that is expected to be between 10-15%.

Organizational Chart – Further to the Organizational Review completed earlier this year along with the retirement of two long time employees in management positions, Council approved a new organizational chart effective January 1, 2017 that is outside of Policy HR-27. The chart reflects the shift in job duties and will help to clarify a reporting structure, as requested by employees during the review.

Recycling Project at Elk Point Transfer Station – has been extended until the end of January, 2017. The pilot project has been successful, with many residents utilizing the recycling service for cardboard, plastics and newspaper. Therefore, Council agreed to continue with the recycling service and will cost share the annual fee with the Town of Elk Point.

Funding Support:

- \$500 – Mallaig School – Cross Country Provincials
- \$1,000 – FG Miller High School – Golf & Cross Country Provincials
- \$1,250 – Regional High School – Golf and Cross Country Provincials

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