

COUNTY OF ST. PAUL

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Our Mission - To create desirable rural experiences

January 12, 2021 Council Highlights

Council meetings and Public Works Meetings held during COVID-19 are streamed live on 'YouTube/County of St. Paul No. 19 Council Meeting'

The County Administration Office is closed to public walk-in's until further notice. Residents can still access the building by appointment only, and County staff are available by phone (780-645-3301). Payments can be made through the Drop Box (no cash please) located at the front door of the Administration Office, by mail, through financial institutions and online: see the County's website under 'Payment Options' for information. The Public Works Building remains closed to the public.

Bylaws and Policies

Council passed **Bylaw 2020-33 Fee Schedule** which came into effect on January 1, 2021. The fee schedule can be viewed on the County's website under 'Bylaws/ Administration'.

Council passed **Bylaw 2020-37 Utility Bylaw** to update water rates for utility customers effective January 1, 2021. The new rates can be found on the County's website under 'Utilities'.

Council passed **Bylaw 2020-38 Community Aggregate Payment Levy Bylaw** which imposes a levy in respect of all sand and gravel businesses operating in the County to raise revenue to be used toward the payment of infrastructure and community enhancement in the County. This bylaw came into effect on January 1, 2021. The levy imposed is \$0.40 per tonne of sand and gravel shipped from any pit as per the provisions outlined in the bylaw. Subsequent to the passing of this bylaw, Council passed motions to not charge the owners/operators of these pits the levy on the first 20,000 tonnes shipped in 2021 or on any contracts made or quotations given prior to the effective date of the bylaw to allow the owners/operators to adjust their business to accommodate the levy. Additionally, Council passed a motion for County staff to bring forward policy to deal with the administration of funds received through the levy and the formation of a committee to participate in this.

Council passed Bylaw 2020-35 to rescind the bylaw amending the **Municipal Development Plan** to permit Lot 2, Block 1, Plan 2021568 bordering Owlseye Lake to dedicate a minimum 6-meter strip of land as environmental reserve or environmental reserve easement to provide a buffer and provide public access. This bylaw was rescinded at the landowner's request.

Other Business

Council passed the **County's 2021 Interim Budget** at the Public Works meetings that was held on December 16, 2020. The budget approved the following:

Operating and Capital Revenues	\$34,207,316
Funding from Reserves	545,000
Funding from Unrestricted Surplus	1,450,000
Operations Expenditures	26,834,083
Replacement Reserves	283,000
Capital Debenture Repayment	636,379
Capital Expenditures	8,430,156
Surplus	18,698

Council moved to set the date of the **Public Auction of Lands** (if required) for May 11, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.

At the December 16, 2020 Public Works meeting, Council approved a joint grant application under the Alberta Community Partnership Program with the Town of Elk Point for a **Regional Medical Facility Concept Plan** with the Town of Elk Point being the managing partner.

Council approved the extension of the **Municipal Planning Services (2009) Ltd.** contract from March 31, 2021 to December 31, 2021 and to pay consulting fees. Evaluation of Municipal Planning Services (MPS) will take place in the fall of 2021. MPS is the subdivision authority for the County.

Council moved to provide **Elk Point Curling Club** with a letter supporting the Community Facility Enhancement Program grant application and a funding commitment of \$29,925 if the grant application is successful.

Council moved to provide **Xplornet Communication Inc.** with a letter of support to accompany their application to the CRTC Broadband fund to install transit fiber to further enhance rural broadband connectivity for the residents of the County.

Grants and Funding

Council approved a \$10,000 grant for the **St. Paul and District Chamber of Commerce** for the 2021 operating year, and a \$5,000 grant each for the **Mallaig Chamber of Commerce and the Elk Point Chamber of Commerce**.

Additional Information

2021 Municipal Election Nomination period is open

October 18, 2021 is Election Day. Nominations for the office of Reeve and a County Councillor in each of the 6 Divisions will be accepted between January 1, 2021 and noon on Monday, September 20, 2021 (Nomination Day).

* If you are considering running for office, please review the information under 'Council/Elections' on the County's website <https://www.county.stpaul.ab.ca/council/>

* If you have questions or wish to file nomination papers, please contact Phyllis Corbiere, Deputy Returning Officer, at 780-645-3301 ext. 1203 or email pcorbiere@county.stpaul.ab.ca

For more information contact:

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