

COUNTY OF ST. PAUL

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Our Mission - To create desirable rural experiences

February 9, 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.

January 26 Public Works Meeting –

Council approved the **4th Quarter Strategic Plan Operational update** for October to December 2020. The Operational Updates can be found on the County's website under 'Council/Strategic Plans'.

Council moved to increase the **Capital Budget for Public Works** by \$8,645.80 for the purchase of a Heavy-Duty Trailer for \$26,645.80 and place for sale in Spring 2021 two or three low utilized light duty trailers.

Council moved to include the lost revenue in the amount of \$15,411.93 under the **Municipal Operating Support Transfer (MOST)** funding to off-set property taxes required to be cancelled in order for the County to apply for the Provincial Education Requisition Credit (PERC).

February 9 Council Meeting -

Council approved the **St. Paul-Elk Point (STEP) Economic Development Alliance Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** that outlines the formalization and sharing of costs of the committee and its ability to make decisions regarding the hiring of an Economic Development Officer (EDO) and the projects STEP undertakes. The County's contribution to the estimated unfunded portion of the EDO is \$17,099.69. The MOU is with the County and the Town of St. Paul, Town of Elk Point and Summer Village of Horseshoe Bay.

The County received notice from the provincial government on January 4 indicating that the Hybrid Contract for the assessment of Designated Industrial Properties (DIP) in the County will end effective July 4, 2021. Council moved, therefore, to enter into an agreement with **Accurate Assessment Group Inc.** to extend their contract for an additional four years for all other assessment services including Industrial Assessment Consulting Services.

Council moved to provide a letter of support for **Telus Communications Inc.** to accompany its application to the CRTC Broadband Fund to improve access to wireless services within the County of St. Paul.

Council moved to provide a letter of support to the **Elk Point Allied Arts Society** in its application for funding under the Alberta Stabilize Program.

Council made a motion to remain a member of **GO East RTO** and to pay the membership fee of \$1500. Go East RTO promotes businesses and community rural tourism.

Council approved a request from the **Library Board** for four additional hours/month for both the Ashmont and Mallaig Libraries at a total cost of \$2,444.20.

Council moved that Administration negotiate a five-year contract with **X-10 Networks** for County IT services commencing March 15, 2021 at an annual cost of \$69,120.

At the request of the Community, Council moved to proceed with advertising items for sale from the **Whitney Lake Rodeo Grounds**. The recreation area has not been used for many years. The items for sale will be advertised and sealed bids of offer will be accepted and opened at the March 23 Public Works Meeting.

Council approved collaborating with **Riverland Recreation Trail Society** to GPS approximately 85 km of snowmobile trails in the St. Paul and Elk Point areas for input into the County's GIS program and other recreation apps.

Council moved to present a **Congratulatory Certificate to Kobi Warawa** on the publication of his short story entitled "The Quarantine Project" in the book Isolate: A Collection of poems and short stories written by Young Canadians published by Polar Express Publishing.

Additional Information

Camp Reservations for the Municipal Campgrounds open on March 1 at 8:00 a.m. through Camp Reservations Canada <https://campreservations.ca/> Book your sites early for Floatingstone, Lac Bellevue, Stoney Lake and Westcove – we anticipate another busy camping season! Note: Many of the campsites have been renumbered so check the maps on the County's and Camp Reservations Canada websites if you want to book a specific campsite. The campgrounds are scheduled to open on May 20th but the opening date could change subject to COVID-19 restrictions.

FCSS Community Volunteer Income Tax Program Starting on March 1 and until April 30, trained volunteers will be completing income tax returns, free of charge, for County residents *who qualify* this tax season. Individuals will NOT be able to pick up the forms but will need to contact either the County FCSS Office (780-645-1950) or Elk Point FCSS Office (780-724-3800) to have the forms mailed to them. Additional information can be found on the County and FCSS Facebook pages.

For more information contact:

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