

Council Highlights

Tender Awards

- Council awarded a variety of capital projects to contractors at this meeting. For the 2016 Lakeview Estates Base and Pave, Council chose Allied Paving Co. Ltd. for a sum of \$2,456,850. For the 2016 Lac La Biche Water Treatment Plant Upgrades, Council chose Filtrum Inc. for \$995,190. For 2016 Hamlets (Lac La Biche and Plamondon) Resurfacing, Council chose Allied Paving Co. Ltd. for \$1,318,560 plus GST. To supply crushed gravel for re-gravelling roadways, Council chose Skoreyko Crushing for \$765,000 plus GST and Rely-On Ltd. for \$544,500 plus GST.
- Council also awarded an operational contract. For the curbside collection program, Council awarded a one-year contract to Lakeland Waste Disposal.

Assessment Review Boards (Bylaw 16-019)

- The Assessment Review Board is a quasi-judicial board governed by the Municipal Government Act (MGA). To ensure property owners have a voice in the property assessment system, the MGA has set out a complaints and appeals system for property owners who have concerns about their assessment. The process involves filing a complaint with your municipality's assessment review board.
- Lac La Biche County wished to reach out to neighbouring municipalities (like St. Paul and Athabasca) for qualified Assessment Review Board members in order to achieve quorum at meetings. Quorum means the minimum number of members to make an Assessment Review Board meeting valid.
- Council amended Bylaw 16-019, which allows them to appoint qualified members to the Assessment Review Board from neighbouring municipalities. By opening the board to non-residents in nearby municipalities, the County will have a larger pool of qualified members to make important decisions about municipal taxes.

Safety Concerns - 101 Street Near Sobeys

- At the January 5, 2016 Public Works Committee Meeting, Council discussed safety concerns at the 101 Street crosswalk near Sobeys.
- Administration followed up on these concerns, and briefed Council on a meeting they held with the owners of Sobeys. The owners agreed to change access to the parking lot. It will allow for entry only from 101 Street with appropriate signage. They will also remove barricades in the parking lot at the back alley side, remove existing paint markings, and repaint the area to allow for easier exit through the back alley.
- Administration will install new signage and repaint the area in the next few weeks.

Jubilee Hall Renovation and Canada 150 Grant

- The County has been in discussions with the Lac La Biche Regional Museum and Discovery Centre about their space. The museum is currently in McArthur Place's basement. However, museum staff have expressed concerns about the limited space and the potential for flooding to damage valuable artifacts.
- At a previous meeting, Council allotted space in Jubilee Hall to the museum. However, the hall needs renovations. Council directed administration to renovate the interior and exterior of the hall with \$1.2 million. They also directed administration to apply for a grant of \$500,000 with the Canada 150 Infrastructure Program, covering just over 40% of the project's cost, should the application be successful.



New Dance Studio and Boxing Space Budget

- The construction of the new high school gave the County a shell space of 7,000 square feet.
- The space isn't yet being used for anything. Administration proposed renovating it into a new, larger dance studio and boxing space, since both community groups have growing memberships.
- Subject to signing a 10-year lease agreement with the Northern Beat Dance Academy that will recoup \$170,000 of the project's cost, Council approved \$250,000 to construct the new space.

Repurposing Council Chambers in County Centre

- After renovations are completed in August, Council will move to the second floor of McArthur Place. Several County departments will move with Council to McArthur Place, including the CAO and Assistant CAO offices, Communications, and Legislative Services.
- The Planning and Development department will move from McArthur Place to County Centre. Administration proposed renovating the former Council Chambers in County Centre to give Planning and Development a private workspace for their information-sensitive work.
- Council approved \$135,000 to renovate the former Council Chambers into Planning and Development's office.

Area Structure Plans and Outline Plans

- Council asked administration to brief them on the difference between area structure plans (ASPs) and outline plans. Administration gave a presentation on the differences and triggers that could cause an area structure plan or outline plan to be required for a new development.
- An outline plan contains a higher level of detail on a smaller area than an ASP. An ASP can contain one or more outline plans, where the outline plans go into greater detail

in that portion of the ASP. An outline plan is adopted by resolution of Council, whereas ASPs must be passed as a bylaw. Both outline plans and ASPs, however, require public consultation and feedback, and have a similar structure (including introductions, site contexts, policy contexts, development contexts, etc.).

- Administration will prepare a Request for Decision for a future meeting that will propose triggers that cause either an ASP or outline plan to be required for development.

Modernized Municipal Government Act

- On May 31, 2016, the Minister of Municipal Affairs presented Bill 21 to the Provincial Legislature. Bill 21 proposed major changes to the Municipal Government Act (MGA), which governs how Albertan municipalities provide services, tax residents, and make decisions.
- The Alberta Government has been consulting with Albertans and municipalities to get input, including Lac La Biche County.
- Administration briefed Council on how some of the major amendments may affect the County, and noted administration will be seeking Council's input at the June 28, 2016 Council meeting. Administration will use Council's input to craft a letter that will communicate the County's position on key changes, then send the letter to Alberta Municipal Affairs, the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts & Counties, and the Alberta Urban Municipal Association.