

Council Highlights

Delegation: Lac La Biche County Library Board – Annual Report

- Ms. Maureen Penn and Ms. Loraine Anderton joined Council to deliver the library board's annual report. Library services in the County are delivered for free, with over 2000 active accounts. Users are not charged late fees. Moreover, those with library cards can use them all over Alberta.
- Ms. Penn and Ms. Anderton also gave an overview of the free programs that they offer to adults, families, and children.

Public Hearing: Bylaw 16-017 which amends Bylaw 12-024

- A public hearing for Bylaw 16-017 was held, which then allows Council to proceed with second and third readings. If passed, it would amend Bylaw 12-024 (the Land Use Bylaw). Bylaw 16-017 expands the definitions of campgrounds and campsites in order to restrict temporary accommodations (like parked and lived in recreational vehicles) on private property. The Land Use Bylaw will now specify when a recreational vehicle (RV) requires a development permit to be occupied. It also deletes 'campground' and 'campsite' as terms in the bylaw, replacing them with the more specific 'campground major', 'campground minor', and 'campground tourist.'
- The bylaw is not intended to address recreational vehicles (RVs) used as housing for construction projects. It is also not intended to restrict established campgrounds from continuing to operate.
- A letter of support for the bylaw was read into record. Council discussed the item. They then asked that Bylaw 16-017 be brought back to a regular Council meeting in September, after working in feedback from the public input session.

Unbudgeted Funding Request for Solid Waste Plan

- The Environmental Services department has a solid waste plan that outlines strategies to meet Lac La Biche County's goal of recycling or diverting 40% of our solid waste. A review of the County's waste and recycling operations noted that we're diverting between 10% and 12% of waste at the moment. The curbside program recycle rate is about 4%.
- Council approved up to \$40,000 in funding for the Environmental Services department to work with XCG Consulting Ltd. and Sonnevera International Corp. to generate a solid waste and recycling plan that will explore up to a maximum of three waste disposal options, a recommendation for recycling and diversion percentages, and strategies to attain these goals.

Dust Abatement Program

- Council increased the 2016 operating budget by \$30,000 for the dust abatement program.

McArthur Park Storm Water Outfall Design

- The Public Works Committee, administration, and representatives of V3 Companies discussed adding a storm water outfall at McArthur Park. The outfall will slow runoff from entering Lac La Biche Lake, and should provide aesthetically-pleasing access to the water's edge.
- Council looked at several design options. They motioned that V3 Companies should attend a future Council meeting to discuss storm outfall relocation options.

Water Treatment Plant Improvements Project

- With the help of MPE Engineering Ltd., the County identified improvements that needed to be made to the water treatment plant's system. In December 2015, the County approved proceeding with \$1,516,000 of work. Through the Alberta Municipal Water/Wastewater Partnership grant approved on June 17, 2016, the province committed to covering 55.26% of the estimated project costs. The total cost of plant upgrades eligible for funding was \$3,674,000, and grant money covered \$2,030,252. With the County's share of \$1,516,000 added to the grant dollars, there would still be a shortfall of \$127,748.
- County Council approved an additional \$127,748 in capital funding for the water treatment upgrade project.

The Estates of Aborfield Area Structure Plan

- The Estates of Aborfield Area Structure Plan (ASP) proposes 45 residential lots in a parcel approximately 6.6 km east of the hamlet of Lac La Biche.
- Council gave the ASP third and final reading.

Additional Costs to 2016 Operating Budget

- Council added \$10,000 for contracted services in Human Resources' operating budget for the performance management project. The performance management project will provide staff with a clearer tool for evaluating staff's growth and work performance.
- Council also added \$10,000 to Environmental Services' operating budget for the production of the annual Green Initiatives Calendar, a calendar that highlights County programs and services for preserving the environment.