

Council Highlights

Delegations

Review of Modified Solid Waste Transitional Plan

- Members of the County's Environmental Services department and hired consultants explained a review of the municipality's Solid Waste Transitional Plan. The plan required a review and update to remain consistent with the County's waste reduction goals and programs.
- Ms. Christina Seidel of Sonnevera International Corp. presented current waste management practices and statistics. Over 9,000 tonnes of waste were disposed of in Lac La Biche County last year.
- Ms. Seidel also presented proposed future strategies for waste reduction, including increased education and communication, infrastructure enhancements, regulatory approaches and more.
- Mr. Phil Auclair of XCG Engineering then presented an economic analysis of the updated Solid Waste Transitional Plan. His presentation included analyses of different waste management options, including the possibility of hauling waste outside the County.
- Now that the consultants have presented their findings, matters pertaining to waste management and waste reduction will be discussed further at future Council meetings.

Stewards of Lac La Biche Watershed

- At the regular Council meeting on March 14, it was decided that a strategic session should be held for the purpose of reviewing and updating the Lac La Biche Watershed Management Plan (WMP). The WMP is meant to encourage the protection and responsible management of

- water in the lands around Lac La Biche Lake.
- Mr. Brian Deheer and Mr. Michael Schulz, representing the community group called Stewards of Lac La Biche Watershed, approached Council to speak about issues that are facing the watershed and about reviewing the WMP.
- The group has expressed a desire to assist and cooperate with the County in reviewing the WMP. A meeting for councillors to begin reviewing the plan has not been scheduled yet.

New Business

Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for the Period Ended February 28, 2017

- Mr. Dan Small, Senior Manager of Finance & Grants, presented a report outlining the County's revenues and expenditures up to the end of February. In the interests of financial accountability, reports of this kind on a regular basis have become standard practice for Lac La Biche County.
- The report compares official budgeted amounts to actual revenues and expenditures, to give councillors an idea of the County's progress. The report has been accepted as information.
- The County's budget for 2017 was formally passed on March 14. Audited financial statements for 2016 will be presented to Council in April and released to the public on or before May 1.

Continued on page 2





Appointment of Returning Officer for 2017 Lac La Biche County General Election

- Lac La Biche County's general municipal election will take place on Monday, October 16, 2017.
- Administration recommended appointing the County's Community Liaison, Colette Borgun, as Returning Officer for the upcoming election. Ms. Borgun has previous experience as Returning Officer for municipal elections in the former Village of Plamondon.
- Councillors voted unanimously to appoint Ms. Borgun as Returning Officer, in accordance with Alberta's *Local Authorities Election Act*.
- Administration has begun preparations for the general election in the fall. Nomination Day for election candidates is Monday, September 18.

Public Swim Times on Sundays

- At the regular Council meeting on March 14, councillors requested information on the possibility of opening Portage Pool on Sundays. The last time the pool offered public swim times on Sundays was in the summer of 2015.
- Aquatic Services Coordinator Tegan Chislett explained that low staffing is an ongoing challenge at the pool. Open swims, for example, require a minimum of three lifeguards. The Recreation & Community Enhancement branch, which manages Aquatic Services, has been working on staffing and outreach strategies.
- After a discussion, Council voted to have Administration quantify projected costs and develop a recruitment strategy necessary to open the pool on Sundays. These will be presented at Council's meeting on April 11.

Lifejacket Loaner Station

- The County's Aquatic Services department is planning to operate a lifejacket loaner station this summer, in partnership with the Lifesaving Society. The station will be a kiosk where members of the public can borrow lifejackets

free of charge. There will also be a public education component.

- Councillors had previously requested information about this upcoming program. The loaner station will be set up at the lakefront in McArthur Park. It will operate from late May to September.

Leaf and Yard Waste Organics Recycling Pilot Program

- Administration presented options for a leaf and yard waste organics recycling pilot program to the County's Public Works Committee earlier this month. The committee's recommendation, which was presented to Council, was to proceed with a pilot program using curbside pickup service.
- After a discussion, a motion to implement a collection program for certain properties in the hamlet of Lac La Biche was defeated.
- Council then voted to have Administration create a survey for all households currently receiving curbside pickup service in Lac La Biche and Plamondon. The survey will gauge the respondents' support for curbside leaf and yard waste collection.

Surveillance Cameras for Downtown Lac La Biche

- At a special Council meeting in January, Administration was directed to research options and costs for surveillance equipment in the hamlet of Lac La Biche's downtown area.
- Manager of Information Technology Travis Simmons presented two options to Council. The first was for the County to provide a grant for businesses and building owners to install cameras, and the second was for the County itself to install and manage a camera network.
- Councillors voted to defer further consideration of this matter until a future Council meeting.

Next Regular Council Meeting date: April 11, 2017