

Council Highlights

New Business

Statement of Revenues and Expenditures

- Mr. Dan Small, Senior Manager of Finance and Grants, presented a snapshot of Lac La Biche County's finances so far in 2017.
- After a discussion, Council passed a motion to have Administration present a full financial overview, including capital and operating expenses and reserve allocations for the years 2016 and 2017. This information will be important as Council starts deliberating on next year's budget.

Membership in Alberta Bilingual Municipalities Association

- Lac La Biche County joined the Alberta Bilingual Municipalities Association (ABMA) in 2013. The Association works to promote economic development in bilingual communities.
- Council voted to continue the County's membership in ABMA, and Councillor Colette Borgun was appointed to represent the County at ABMA meetings. Councillor Borgun represents Ward 3 and the hamlet of Plamondon, which has a significant francophone population.

Amendment to Work Camp Regulations in Lac La Biche County's Land Use Bylaw

- As part of adopting a revised Land Use Bylaw for the County, the previous Council implemented a "buffer zone" so that work camps would not be permitted within 20 kilometres of the hamlets of Lac La Biche and Plamondon.
- Councillors discussed the matter and voted to have Administration bring forward information and recommendations with respect to reducing or eliminating the buffer zone.

Tourism Marketing and Economic Development Coordinator Position

- The County has contracted Community Futures Lac La Biche for tourism marketing services for the past several years but now wishes to assume more direct control of providing these services. The current contract with Community Futures is set to expire on December 31, 2017.
- Council agreed to let Administration begin a recruitment campaign for a Tourism Marketing and Economic Development Coordinator. Administration will also approach Community Futures to inquire about retaining their services until February 28, 2018, to avoid missing the opportunity to have representation at trade shows in January and February.

Application for Police Dog Service

- Lac La Biche County has entered into an Enhanced Policing Agreement so that the local RCMP detachment can have additional members, with the County covering the new officers' salaries. The County has the opportunity to apply for Police Dog Service as part of this recruitment.
- Mr. John Kokotilo, Manager of Protective Services, presented a business case for having Police Dog Service in the community. Administration's opinion is that a trained dog would be a great asset in drug enforcement and in tracking and apprehending suspects.
- Council voted in favour of Administration applying for Police Dog Service.

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Inductions into Local Sports Hall of Fame

- The County is establishing a Local Sports Hall of Fame and Inspiration Wall, to recognize the community's prominent athletes and individuals who make great contributions to local sports.
- Mr. Darrell Lessmeister, Senior Manager of Recreation and Community Enhancement, explained that the County received seven nominations for the Hall of Fame this year. Council agreed to induct Barry Chwedoruk, Maurice Richard, Omer Moghrabi, Rene Bourque, Bonnie McDonald, Rene Schaub and Eugene Lebas. Mayor Omer Moghrabi recused himself from the discussion due to a conflict of interest.
- All of the inductees will be recognized with framed portraits and biographies, to be displayed in the Bold Center.

Sponsorship of McArthur Park Gazebo

- A new gazebo is under construction in McArthur Park and is expected to be completed in the spring of 2018. The County received an offer from the Lac La Biche Rotary Club to provide \$50,000 in sponsorship for 20 years of naming rights to the structure.
- After discussing the matter, Councillors voted to accept the Rotary Club's offer. Administration was also directed to bring forward a policy regarding sponsorship for naming rights for future developments.