



Council Highlights

Delegations

North Parkland Power REA Ltd.

- A delegation from North Parkland Power REA Ltd. came before Council to introduce themselves and discuss potential partnerships. North Parkland is a cooperative-values based business and a local member-owned utility, providing power from Morinville to Lac La Biche.
- North Parkland representatives Ms. Vicki Zinyk, Mr. Charles Newell, and Mr. Harvey Yoder delivered a presentation.
- Council thanked the representatives for their presentation.

New Business

Tax Rate Bylaw (Bylaw 18-008) and Use of Additional 2018 Property Tax Revenue

- At the April 24, 2018 meeting, Council motioned for Administration to bring back the following mill rate scenario to the May 1, 2018 meeting:
 - Farm and Residential: 3.0000 mills
 - Urban Non-Residential: 10.0000 mills
 - Rural Non-Residential: 18.5585 mills
- That scenario raises an additional \$613,530 of municipal taxes, with residential property taxes increasing between 5.7% and 8.3%. The tax rate ratio would go from 7.35 to 6.19, bringing the County closer to the 5:1 ratio that the modernized *Municipal Government Act* requires.
 - The use of additional property tax rate revenue briefing at the May 1, 2018 meeting was written with that specific scenario in mind. Council motioned to accept that briefing as information, but chose to go in a different direction with the mill rates.
- At the May 1, 2018 meeting, Council asked Administration to bring back two different mill

rate scenarios (two possible versions of Bylaw 18-008) for consideration that same day. The first scenario is as follows:

- Farm and Residential: 3.0000 mills
- Urban Non-Residential: 10.0000 mills
- Rural Non-Residential: 18.0000 mills
- The second scenario is as follows:
 - Farm and Residential: 3.0000 mills
 - Urban Non-Residential: 10.0000 mills
 - Rural Non-Residential: 18.4600 mills
- Ultimately, Council voted on the first scenario (the version of Bylaw 18-008 with mill rates of 3, 10, and 18). They gave Bylaw 18-008 (the version with mill rates of 3, 10, and 18) first and second readings. In order to proceed with giving the bylaw third and final reading at the same meeting, Council had to vote unanimously to submit it for third and final reading.
- The tax rate bylaw was not submitted for third and final reading. Instead, it will be brought forward to the May 8, 2018 Regular Council Meeting for Council's consideration.

Council Code of Conduct Bylaw (Bylaw 18-002)

- The Alberta *Municipal Government Act* requires all municipalities to adopt a Council Code of Conduct Bylaw by July 23, 2018.
- The policy is intended to encourage the highest standards of ethical behaviour, uphold public trust, maintain the integrity of Council, and establish accountability mechanisms.
- Council gave the Code of Conduct third and final reading.

Municipal Lease: Humane Society

- In January, the Humane Society requested a land lease to operate their animal shelter.
- At April 24, 2018's Regular Council Meeting,



Regular Council Meeting May 1, 2018

Council endorsed a 20-year term with the Lac La Biche Regional Humane Society, and motioned to have the lease agreement brought back with the option of the County funding servicing of lot. They further motioned to waive the cost for the land lease agreement, subject to approval of the development permit application.

- At the May 1, 2018 meeting, Council motioned to endorse the terms of the land lease agreement with the Lac La Biche Regional Humane Society, with an amendment setting the annual lease rate to \$1.
- Council also motioned to allocate funding in the amount of \$17,500 from the unallocated surplus to the Utilities Department budget for utility hookup to the proposed Humane Society.

Tourism Strategy: Terms of Reference

- Council wishes to develop short and long-term strategies to promote local and regional tourism. These strategies will be outlined in an official Tourism Strategy document.
- The County will be seeking requests for proposals to develop the Tourism Strategy. In order to help a committee choose the best service provider to develop the Strategy, Council wished to see a terms of reference. The terms of reference document outlines the scope of work in developing a Tourism Strategy, along with ideal outcomes.
- Council motioned to approved the Tourism Strategy terms of reference, and directed Administration to proceed with seeking requests for proposals.

Urban Forestry Policy & Procedure: Request for Decision

- Lac La Biche County furnishes numerous parks, boulevards and green spaces with trees. Because trees are valuable and make the community more attractive, it's important to have an effective and efficient Urban Forestry

Management Program. The Program will provide guidelines to protect existing trees, and ensure new trees are planted in appropriate areas.

- Council motioned to approve the Urban Forestry Policy and Procedure.

Ball Diamonds in Lac La Biche County

- Lac La Biche County owns and operates three ball diamonds in McArthur Park. With the increasing number of baseball participants and teams in the past few years, there has been a growing need for ball diamonds in the County.
- Because of safety concerns with ball diamond #3 (located next to the Paul Richard Memorial Spray Park), Administration suggested dismantling ball diamond #3 and moving the existing netting to ball diamond #2, at an estimated cost of \$17,000.
- To make up for the shortage of ball diamonds, Administration proposed completing repairs to both ball diamonds near Aurora Middle School, at an estimated cost of \$23,300.
- Council motioned to request Northern Lights Public School Division permission to complete repairs and maintenance to the Aurora ball diamonds. They also motioned to move \$41,000 out of general revenue to Parks and Open Spaces to repair the ball diamonds.