

The Lacombe County Council Committee of the Whole meeting was called to order by Reeve Law at 9:00 a.m. on October 1, 2019 in the Joffre Room of the Lacombe County Administration Office.

Present: Reeve P. Law; Deputy Reeve, K. Wigmore; Councillors, J. Ireland, B. Knight, D. Kreil, B. Shepherd, and K. Stephenson; County Manager, T. Timmons; Director of Operations, B. Cade; Director of Corporate Services, M. Minchin; Director of Community Services, K. Boras; Director of Planning, D. Freitag; Manager of Operations, B. Maier and Executive Administrative Coordinator, L. Turnbull.

Mrs. Law inquired if there were any additions to the agenda. There were no additions to the agenda:

PARKS & RECREATION 5-YEAR CAPITAL PLAN

Mr. Timmons advised that all long-range capital plans will be consolidated in 2020 into one long-range plan. Previous to this time there has been no long-range capital plan for Parks & Recreation. The Operations Department has now developed a long-range plan for Parks & Recreation.

Mr. Maier provided a detailed presentation on the County's 5-year Parks & Recreation Capital Plan highlighting the following:

- Previous Years Recreation Capital Projects
- Proposed Recreation Capital Projects
- Potential Funding Sources
- Paved Trail Contribution – Overlaying Current Trails

Mr. Maier and Mr. Cade addressed questions of Council throughout the presentation. Council discussion took place.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the County Manager be directed to prepare a report on the Parks & Recreation 5-year Capital Plan to be presented for Council's consideration at a future Council meeting.

9:55 a.m. Mr. Maier withdrew from the meeting

POLICE COSTING TEST MODEL

Mr. Timmons advised that the Province has asked the County to respond to a police costing test model survey to be completed by October 15, 2019. Mr. Timmons commented that Council can complete the survey today and ratify the final document at the October 10, 2019 Council meeting.

Council discussed and reviewed the following information:

- GOA Police Costing Test Model – RMA Input Summary
- RMA Police Costing Model Engagement Written Submission
- Provincial Policing Costing Models – Impact on Lacombe County & Surrounding Urbans

Council reviewed and completed the Police Costing Test Model Survey as prepared by the Province and to be submitted by October 15, 2019.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the completed Policy Cost Model Survey be presented at the October 10, 2019 Council meeting for endorsement by Council; and further, that a copy of the completed survey be sent to the Solicitor General/Minister of Justice; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and local MLA's.

1:00 p.m. Dion Burlock entered the meeting.

VALUE OF MEMBERSHIP IN PROTEIN ALLIANCE

Mrs. Kreil inquired if it would be advantageous for the County to encourage protein alliance facilities to locate in the County. Mrs. Kreil commented that this could require a membership in the Plant Protein Alliance of Alberta.

Mr. Burlock advised that a Class B non-voting membership in the Alliance would cost of approximately \$ 500 and the County could elect one Director. Mr. Burlock commented that there would be no benefit in a membership unless the County becomes an active and involved member.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Mr. Burlock be directed to contact the Plant Protein Alliance of Alberta to advise that Lacombe County strongly supports protein alliance facilities to locate in Lacombe County.

1:12 p.m. Mr. Burlock withdrew from the meeting.

BILLING FOR FIRE SERVICES

Ms. Shepherd commented on billing for fire services. Ms. Shepherd advised that many insurance companies cover fire service charges and the County currently does not charge to those services. Ms. Shepherd referred to Fire Marque, a company that will undertake billing for fire services for municipalities at a cost per billing. Mrs. Knight commented that this could provide a revenue stream and assist with the funding of fire departments within Lacombe County.

Mr. Timmons commented that the County responds to few structure fires so the revenue realized may be incidental. Mr. Timmons further commented that a number of responses are to motor vehicle accidents and depending on the insurance policy fire response services may or may not be covered. Mr. Boras advised that the Province pays the County for fire services to motor vehicle accidents on provincial highways and then bills the individual involved.

Mr. Boras advised that Mr. Bussiere has investigated Fire Marque's services and advised that such services could be undertaken internally by County staff as per Council's direction. Council discussion took place.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the County Manager be directed to prepare a report regarding the concept of billing for fire departments responses.

POLICY RC(9) COUNTY SUPPORT OF COMMUNITY PROGRAMS, EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Mr. Timmons advised that a review of Lacombe County recreation policies was undertaken at the June 5, 2019 Committee of the Whole meeting. At that time Policy RC(9) was deferred for discussion to a later date.

Mr. Timmons reviewed the parameters of the policy and the various programs, events and activities that the policy has provided with funding. Council discussed the policy and agreed that at this time no changes are required for the policy.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the presentation on Policy RC(9) be received for information.

CONNEX/BOLT/GENERAL TRANSPORTATION

Mr. Minchin advised that the City of Lacombe will no longer fund the BOLT bus system after 2019 due to underutilization by the public.

Ms. Shepherd commented that transportation to industrial areas in the County has previously been discussed and at this time there does not seem to be a demand for bus service, so this is not an issue.

Mrs. Kreil commented the Connex bus only services a certain area of the County and inquired how other areas of the County are being served. Mr. Minchin provided a report on the exact area that the Connex bus serves. Council was advised that through special requests the bus will serve a larger area of the County. There is a fee for service based on distance travelled but it is a subsidized service. Mrs. Kreil commented that the Connex bus does not go to Eckville. A discussion took place on general transportation and needs across the County.

Mr. Minchin commented that the Connex Bus Service will be advertised in County News, so ratepayers are aware of this service.

RECOMMENDATION

That the County Manager be directed to prepare a report on the Connex Bus Service to be presented at a future Council meeting.

ICE HUT REGISTRATION

Mr. Stephenson referred to the letter submitted to the Honourable Jason Nixon, Minister of Environment and Parks from the Sylvan Lake Management Committee (SLMC). The letter requested that Alberta Environment and Parks provide assistance with the Take if Off Program (a voluntary program for the removal of ice fishing huts). This assistance would have Alberta Environment and Parks remove abandoned ice fishing huts.

Mr. Stephenson advised that the SLMC has proposed that fishing license registration be changed to require that the name and phone number of the owner of all ice fishing huts be attached to the hut. Council discussed this initiative and agree that it is a provincial matter that should be addressed by Alberta Environment and Parks.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the report and discussion on Ice Hut Registration be received for information.

Adjourn: 2:20 p.m.