

The Lacombe County Council Committee of the Whole meeting was called to order by Deputy Reeve Wigmore at 9:00 a.m. on February 4, 2020 in the Joffre Room of the Lacombe County Administration Office.

Present: Deputy Reeve, K. Wigmore; Councillors, J. Ireland, B. Knight, D. Kreil, 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 Services, D. Freitag; Manager of Agricultural Services, D. Burlock and Executive Administrative Coordinator, L. Turnbull.

Mr. Wigmore inquired if there were any additions to the agenda. There was one addition to the agenda:

11A In-Camera – Legal Issue – FOIP Section 27(1)

### **Solar Power System – Office & Shop**

Mr. Burlock provided a presentation on Solar Economics and Return on Investments highlighting the following:

- Energy Projections
- Solar Energy Prices
- Solar Viability
- Lacombe County Solar Panels
- Limitations
- Original Estimates
- Cash Flow – Valued Delivery
- Range of Payback Periods
- Current Prices
- Hypothetical New System
- Power Prices
- Net Present Value Projection – New System
- Conclusions
- Solar Facility Examples

Mr. Burlock addressed questions of Council throughout the presentation.

9:32 a.m. Paula Law entered the meeting.

The discussion on solar power continued.

Council had a lengthy discussion on the purpose and benefits of holding Committee of the Whole meetings and the future protocol for conducting those meetings.

**RECOMMENDATION: That the County Manager be directed to prepare a discussion paper and recommendation on Solar Economics, to be presented at a future Council meeting.**

10:30 a.m. Mr. Burlock withdrew from the meeting.

### **Councillor Code of Conduct Bylaw**

Mr. Timmons advised that the Councillor Code of Conduct Bylaw has been in place since 2018. However, it does not address pecuniary interest. If a Councillor thinks they have a pecuniary interest they can decide themselves or refer their question to the County Manager, who can decide or he may make an inquiry to the County's legal counsel. Mr. Timmons commented that initial legal opinions are paid for by the County but inquired if a Councillor wants a second opinion should the Councillor be responsible for those costs. This issue could be incorporated into the Councillor Code of Conduct Bylaw.

Council discussion took place.

**RECOMMENDATION: That the County Manager be directed to prepare a report on the Councillor Code of Conduct Bylaw with respect to Councillors paying for second legal opinions regarding pecuniary interest; and further, that this report be presented at a future Council meeting.**

### **Legalization of Cannabis Edibles, Extracts and Topicals**

Mr. Boras advised that currently the unlawful use of cannabis edibles, extracts and topicals is not covered in the County's Community Standards Bylaw. Mr. Boras commented that enforcement of the unlawful use of edibles, extracts and topicals is very difficult.

Council discussion took place.

**RECOMMENDATION: That the discussion on the unlawful use of cannabis edibles, extracts and topicals and the County's Community Standards Bylaw be received information,**

## **RCMP Funding**

Mr. Minchin provided a presentation of the County's costs for future RCMP funding highlighting the following.

- Impact on Lacombe County
- Background
- Cost Impacts to County
- Impact on 2020 County Budget
- Presentation of Costs – Communication to Public
- Presentation of Costs – Separate Tax
- Separate Tax Rate Examples
- Section 82 – Special Tax

A question and discussion period followed Mr. Minchin's presentation.

**RECOMMENDATION: That the County Manager be directed to prepare a report with regard to the future costs to Lacombe County for RCMP policing; and further, that this report be presented at a future Council meeting.**

## **Lacombe County Election, Appointments and Wards – Review**

Mr. Timmons provided a presentation on the 2021 Election with regard to:

- a) Wards (Electoral Districts) Boundary Review
- b) Lacombe County Population by Electoral District
- c) Election of Councillors
- d) Election or Appointment of Chief Elected Official

A question and discussion period followed Mr. Timmon's presentation.

**RECOMMENDATION: That the report on a review of Lacombe County Election, Appointments and Wards (Divisions) be received for information.**

## **Discussion re: Committee, Board & Commission Appointments**

### **SDAB/LARB/CARB – Council to Interview Applicants**

Council discussed the matter of Council interviewing applicants for the SDAB/LARB/CARB Boards.

**RECOMMENDATION: That the County Manager be directed to prepare a report regarding the process for the appointment of SDAB/LARB/CARB; and further, that this report be presented at a future Council meeting.**

### **Clive Seed Cleaning Coop – Representation**

Council discussed the role and history of Council representatives on the Clive Seed Cleaning Coop. Currently there are two Council representatives appointed to the Coop.

**RECOMMENDATION: That the discussion on the role and history of Council representatives on the Clive Seed Cleaning Coop be received for information.**

## **Ponoka Rural Crime Watch/Burnt Lake Rural Crime Watch- Representation/Economic Development Boards/Chamber of Commerce/Alix Arena/Ag Society Recreational Facility Committee**

### **Ponoka and Burnt Lake Rural Crime Watch Groups – Representation**

Mrs. Law commented that the Ponoka Rural Crime Watch group has not held a meeting for over a year, Mr. Stephenson advised that he attends the Burnt Lake Rural Crime Watch's annual meeting. Council discussion took place. Council agreed representatives will stay appointed in the event that meetings should occur in the future.

### **Economic Development Boards – Representation**

Mrs. Law advised that as there is no Economic Development Board in Clive that appointment should not be made at future Organizational meetings. The County Manager will make a note of this for the next Organizational meeting and confirm with the Village of Clive that there is no Economic Development Board in place.

### **Chambers of Commerce – Representation**

After discussion Council agreed that Council representation will remain status quo on the Chamber of Commerce Boards.

### **Alix Arena Board /Agriculture Society Recreational Facility Committee – Representation**

Mr. Ireland advised that discussion has taken place with regard to the Alix Arena Board and the Agricultural Society Recreational Facility Committee amalgamating in the future. As such, Mr. Ireland will remain as a representative to both Committees.

**RECOMMENDATION: That the discussion with regard to representation on the Ponoka Rural Crime Watch/Burnt Lake Rural Crime Watch; representation on Economic Development Boards; representation on Chambers of Commerce and representation on the Alix Arena Board and Agricultural Society Recreational Facility Committee be received for information.**

### **Budget – Citizen Engagement**

Mrs. Kreil commented that other municipalities involve their citizens in pre-budget engagement. Mrs. Kreil inquired if the County should give citizens an opportunity to comment on the budget by perhaps holding a pre-budget open house. Mr. Minchin provided an overview of the City of Lacombe process for budget citizen engagement. Council discussed the concept of citizen engagement for the County.

**RECOMMENDATION: That the County Manager be directed to prepare a report regarding citizen engagement for the County's budgeting process; and further, that this report be presented at a future Council meeting.**

### **Policy OP(16) Road Maintenance**

Mrs. Knight advised that she has had inquiries regarding how snow plowing on rural roads is determined. Mrs. Knight commented that she has received complaints regarding too much grader time removing snow and maintaining gravel roads, as well as the icy conditions of roads.

Mr. Cade provided an overview of Policy OP(16) Road Maintenance. This policy determines the protocol for the grading and maintenance of County roads on a year-round basis. A question and discussion period took place.

**RECOMMENDATION: That the overview of Policy OP(16) Road Maintenance be received for information.**

1:35 p.m. Mr. Timmons, Mrs. Turnbull, Mr. Boras, Mr. Minchin, Mr. Cade and Mr. Freitag withdrew from the meeting.

### **Council Self Evaluation**

Council undertook their self evaluation.

2:39 p.m. Mr. Timmons entered the meeting.

***Moved by Mr. Stephenson that the meeting recess in order to meet In-camera for the purpose of discussing a legal matter.***

***Time: 2:40 p.m.***

***Carried Unanimously.***

***Moved by Mrs. Kreil that the meeting reconvene.***

***Time: 3:13 p.m.***

***Carried Unanimously.***

**Adjourn: 3:13 p.m.**