

The regular meeting of the Lacombe County Council was called to order by Reeve Shepherd at 9:00 a.m. on January 13, 2022 in the Council Chamber of the Lacombe County Administration Office.

Present

Present: Reeve B. Shepherd; Deputy Reeve, J. Ireland, Councillors, B. Knight, D. Kreil, K. Weenink and A. Wilson; County Manager, T. Timmons; Director of Operations, B. Cade; Director of Community Services, D. Burlock; IT Application Coordinator, A. Guse; County Fire Chief, D. Bussiere and Administrative Executive Coordinator, L. Turnbull.

Councillor West, Mr. Minchin and Mr. Freitag attended the meeting virtually.

Introductions

Ms. Shepherd introduced herself and those present introduced themselves. Ms. Shepherd reviewed the procedures for holding and attending a virtual meeting.

**C/01/22
Agenda**

Ms. Shepherd inquired if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. There were no changes to the agenda:

Moved by Mrs. Knight that the agenda be approved as presented.

Carried Unanimously.

**C/02/22
Minutes**

Moved by Mr. Ireland that the minutes of the December 16, 2021 meeting be approved as presented.

Carried Unanimously.

**C/03/22
COVID-19 Update**

Mr. Bussiere reviewed the update on the latest COVID-19 restrictions and the current status of cases and vaccine statistics. Mr. Bussiere addressed questions of Council regarding the COVID-19 pandemic.

Moved by Mr. Wilson that the presentation with regard to the COVID-19 pandemic be received for information.

Carried Unanimously.

**C/04/22
Road Plan 3593J
Closure & Sale**

Mr. Timmons advised that Road Plan 3593J is a road diversion within the SW 8-41-24 W4M. The County has received a request from Martin and Gaylene Van de Pol requesting the closure and sale of the road plan for consolidation with the lands that lie north and east of the road plan within the SW 8-41-24 W4M. The proposed closure will see 4.17 acres consolidated with the SW 8-41-24 W4M.

At the November 30, 2021 Council meeting the County Manager was directed to proceed with the process to close and sell the above noted road allowance and this proposal was circulated to all interested parties for comments. There have been no objections to the road closure by adjacent landowners or interested parties.

As per the MGA the Council of a municipal district may by resolution, with the approval of the Minister of Transportation, close the whole or any part of a road described in a survey road plan that the Council determines is no longer required for use by the travelling public owing to the existence of an alternate route.

Moved by Mrs. Knight

IN THE MATTER of the closure to public travel and canceling a public highway in accordance with Section 24 of the Municipal Government Act, Chapter M-26, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, as amended;

WHEREAS the land hereafter described is no longer required for public travel;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of Lacombe County does hereby close the following described road, subject to the rights of access granted by other legislation or regulations:

- 1) ***Plan 3593J lying within the SW 8-41-24 W4M (4.17 acres +/-)***

Excepting Thereout All Mines and Minerals

for the purpose of the consolidation of the 4.17 acres +/- with the lands in the Certificate of Title 202 096 153 +1 for the SW 8-41-24 W4M.

Carried Unanimously.

C/05/22

**Thompson Fishpond
Dock Project Letter of
Support**

At the December 1, 2021 Joint County meeting of the City of Lacombe and Lacombe County, the Lacombe Fish and Game Association presented an update on their activities for the year. The Association presented the two Councils with a proposal to construct a larger more accessible dock at the Len Thompson Fishpond.

The Association is intending to apply for a Community Facility Enhancement Program grant. This Provincial grant could provide up to \$115,000 toward the project. The Association has indicated that the project budget is \$320,000. At this time the Association is not asking for a financial commitment from the County or the City but is seeking a letter of support from both Councils.

Moved by Mr. Ireland that Lacombe County provide a letter of support to the Lacombe Fish and Game Association for their application to the Community Facility Enhancement Program for funding for the proposed Len Thompson Fishpond Dock Project.

Carried Unanimously.

C/06/22

**Tax Late Payment
Penalty Cancellation
Request**

Mr. Minchin presented a request from David Numan that Lacombe County cancel the late payment penalty of \$ 357.50 levied on his property in December 2021. Council was provided with an overview of the circumstances resulting in the non-payment of this tax account by the tax payment deadlines.

Moved by Mrs. Kreil that Lacombe County cancel the \$ 357.50 late payment penalty levied on tax account #3927242140.

Motion Lost.

C/07/22

**Tax Late Payment
Penalties
Cancellation Request**

Mr. Minchin presented a request from HESC Energy Corp. in which the Company is requesting that Lacombe County cancel the \$ 34,225.28 in late payment penalties levied on the Company's 2021 outstanding tax balance for its oil and gas properties in Lacombe County and accept a payment plan for the balance of taxes. Since the request was received an additional \$ 10,913.98 in penalties was levied in December 2021.

Council was provided with an overview of the circumstances resulting in the non-payment of this tax account by the tax payment deadlines.

Moved by Mrs. Kreil that Lacombe County cancel the \$ 45,139.27 late payment penalties levied on properties owned by HESC Energy.

Motion Lost.

C/08/22

**Tax Late Payment
Penalty Cancellation
Request**

Mr. Minchin presented a request from Wyatt Robinson that Lacombe County cancel the late payment penalty of \$ 135.18 levied on his property in October 2021. Council was provided with an overview of the circumstances resulting in the non-payment of this tax account by the tax payment deadlines.

Moved by Mrs. Knight that Lacombe County cancel the \$ 135.18 late payment penalty levied on tax account #4102031001.

Motion Lost.

C/09/22

**Tax Late Payment
Penalty Cancellation
Request**

Mr. Minchin presented a request from Brad Buchanan that Lacombe County cancel the late payment penalty of \$ 159.00 levied on his property in December 2021. Council was provided with an overview of the circumstances resulting in the non-payment of this tax account by the tax payment deadlines.

Moved by Mr. Ireland that Lacombe County cancel the \$ 159.00 late payment penalty levied on tax account #3925091035.

Motion Lost.

C/10/22

**Strategic Plan
Workshop Dates**

Mr. Timmons advised that at the December 16, 2021 Council meeting it was agreed that Lacombe County would proceed with the development of a new Strategic Plan. By resolution of Council a strategic planning workshop was scheduled for January 11 and 12, 2022.

Due to the current situation with regard to COVID-19 it was agreed to postpone the strategic planning workshop as scheduled to a later date. As such, a new date for the workshop needs to be determined.

Moved by Mr. West that the Lacombe County strategic planning workshop be held on March 8 and 9, 2022.

Carried Unanimously.

***C/11/22
Monthly Statement***

Moved by Mr. Weenink that the Monthly Statement as at November 30, 2021 be received for information.

Carried Unanimously.

***C/12/22
Agenda Item
Follow-up***

Moved by Mr. Weenink that the Agenda Item Follow-up be received for information.

Carried Unanimously.

Councillor Inquiries

Mr. West reported on the following:

- Central Alberta Synergy
- RMA Policing Townhall
- Questions on Road Allowances and Easements

Mr. Wilson reported on the following:

- County Christmas Party
- RMA Policing Townhall
- Blaine Calkins Virtual Meeting
- Excellence in Agriculture Workshop

Mrs. Knight reported on the following:

- RMA Policing Townhall
- Alberta Synergy Executive
- Mirror Ringing of the Bells/Tree Decor

Mr. Weenink reported on the following:

- Keith Boras Retirement Party
- County Christmas Party
- Rural Crime Watch
- RMA Policing Townhall
- Blaine Calkins Virtual Meeting
- Stop Sign [Inquiries](#)^[LT1]

Mrs. Kreil reported on the following:

- Eckville Municipal Library
- Red Deer Restorative Justice
- RMA Policing Townhall
- Blaine Calkins Virtual Meeting
- Medicine River Watershed Society

Mr. Ireland reported on the following:

- County Christmas Party
- RMA Policing Townhall
- CRMA Executive Board
- Alix Municipal Library
- Excellence in Agriculture Workshop

Ms. Shepherd reported on the following:

- Alberta Recycling Extended Producer Webinar – Recycling - Producer Responsible
- RMA Policing Townhall
- Blackfalds & District Parks, Recreation & Culture Board
- Central Zone RMA
- Blaine Calkins Virtual Meeting
- Rural Crime Watch
- Ellis Bird Farm

- Ron Orr Meeting January 14, 2022

C/13/22
Brownlee LLP Law
Seminar

Moved by Mr. Ireland that Mr. Weenink be authorized to attend the Brownlee LLP Municipal Law Seminar being held virtually on February 17, 2022.

Carried Unanimously.

C/14/22
LAPA Gala

Moved by Mrs. Knight that Lacombe County purchase a table for the LAPA Gala being held on March 5, 2022.

Carried Unanimously.

C/15/22
Consent Agenda

Mr. Timmons advised that an invitation has been received to meet with the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Ric McIver at the RMA Spring Convention in March, 2022. Council agreed not to meet with the Minister at this time.

Moved by Mr. Wilson that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented.

Carried Unanimously.

Committee of the
Whole

Committee of the Whole

Highway 604 – Mr. Weenink
Red Deer County Police Committee – Ms. Shepherd

Councillor Inquiries

Mr. Wilson commented that his solar panels do not generate power when covered with snow. Mr. Wilson inquired if the solar panels on the County Shop are monitored. Mr. Burlock commented that there was a reduction in power in the last few days, but it was a hardware issue. Mr. Burlock advised that staff endeavor to determine when the panels are covered with snow but find that the reduction in power is more due to lack of sunlight.

11:00 a.m. Chris Kupchenko and Candice Paton, Enhance Energy entered the meeting virtually.

C/16/22
Enhance Energy
Presentation

Mr. Kupchenko and Ms. Paton provided a presentation on Enhance Energy activities and initiatives highlighting the following:

- Carbon capture utilization and storage (CCUS) in the world
- Enhanced Oil Recovery
- Saline Sequestration
- Alberta Carbon Trunk Line Project
- How Project Started
- Alberta's Opportunity
- CCUS in Central Alberta
- CAEP Presentation – January 19, 2022

Mr. Kupchenko and Ms. Paton addressed questions of Council.

Moved by Mrs. Knight that the presentation on Enhance Energy's activities and initiatives be received for information.

Carried Unanimously.

11:30 a.m. Mr. Kupchenko and Ms. Paton withdrew from the meeting.

Councillor Inquiries

Mrs. Knight advised that she has had an inquiry if the County still puts up snow fencing. Mr. Cade advised the County does not put up snow fencing unless requested to do so by a landowner or if a problem area is identified. In that case the landowner would be contacted for permission to install a snow fence.

Mrs. Knight inquired regarding the status on road allowance closure for Timothy and Wanda Bullick. Mrs. Turnbull advised she recently contacted Alberta Transportation as to the status of the closure and they are looking into it.

Mr. Weenink inquired regarding the discussion on fast tracking economic development. Mr. Timmons advised that this issue will be discussed at the April 5th Committee of the Whole meeting.

Mr. Ireland referred to an email from RMA regarding municipalities engaging RMA to provide employee benefit packages. Mr. Timmons advised that a thorough review of the County benefit package was recently undertaken, and brokers (including the RMA) were invited to present proposals. The RMA proposal has not been successful.

Mr. Ireland advised that signage at Highway 11 and Range Road 23.4 reads 23.5. Mr. Cade advised that a request for service has processed this request.

Mr. Ireland advised that a ratepayer is trying to set up an app which is like a better business bureau contact for companies (i.e., service companies). Would this service be of any benefit to Lacombe County and can we provide tax default information for the app. Mr. Timmons advised the County cannot disclose that information due to FOIP.

Mr. Ireland inquired if all affected landowners have been notified of the Area Structure Plan meeting on February 28, 2022 at the Haynes Hall. Mr. Freitag advised all landowners have been notified and it has also been advertised in the County News.

**C/17/22
Alberta Community
Crime Prevention
Assoc. Conference**

Moved by Mrs. Knight that Councillors be authorized to attend the Alberta Community Crime Prevention Association Conference to be held May 9 to 11, 2022 in Canmore.

Carried Unanimously.

**C/18/22
Adjourn**

**Moved by Mr. Ireland that the meeting adjourn.
Time: 11:50 p.m.**

Carried Unanimously.

Reeve

County Manager