

The Lacombe County Council Committee of the Whole meeting was called to order by Reeve Law at 9:00 a.m. on June 2, 2020 in the Council Chambers 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 Services, D. Freitag; and Executive Administrative Coordinator, L. Turnbull.

Mrs. Law inquired if there were any additions to the agenda. There was one addition to the agenda.

13.A Town of Eckville LRWSC Announcement

Allocation to Recreation Capital Assistance Reserve/Regional Recreation

Ms. Shepherd commented regarding the Blackfalds Recreation Board and their request for capital support. Ms. Shepherd further commented that such requests may not be sustainable in the future. Is it time for the County to try to engage our municipal partners on a regional recreation board to determine what facilities there are and what the need is in the future?

Mr. Timmons advised that currently the Recreation Reserve is sustainable and provided an explanation of how this Recreation Reserve is funded. MSI funding is a component of this funding and MSI funding will be discontinued in 2022. The current balance is \$ 1.8 million and covers all projects that the County has committed to. The one outstanding project is Pogadl Park in Sylvan Lake and at this time the Town is still in the initial phases of moving forward.

Mr. Timmons commented that once MSI funding is discontinued funding sources will decrease and at this time it is not clear what funding will be received from the Province. Mr. Timmons advised that discussion regarding a regional recreation plan with the Towns of Blackfalds and Lacombe would be beneficial.

Council discussion took place. Mr. Timmons advised our current recreation plan is what our funding policy is based on. As part of ICF discussions it has come to light that we must work on a collaborative basis. If we can continue to have discussions to work as a broader community this will benefit us in the future. Mr. Timmons advised the County can engage in discussions with all County urbans as well as certain ones outside County boundaries in the future. Council discussion continued.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the County Manager be directed to investigate Lacombe County undertaking regional recreation discussions with the Town of Blackfalds and the City of Lacombe; and further, that a report be presented to Council at a future Council meeting.

That the discussions on allocation to the recreation capital assistance reserve and regional recreation be received for information.

Discussion on Future and Vision of Industrial Subdivisions

Mrs. Knight commented that she feels Red Deer County's gasoline alley is the County's competition for industrial development. Mrs. Knight commented that diversification is required moving forward and active marketing. Mrs. Knight questioned that once the QEII West water and sewer is complete what the County's marketing plan is. Mr. Freitag advised that a report will be presented to Council at the June 11, 2020 Council meeting regarding moving forward with the development and marketing of Lacombe County's industrial and commercial parks. Mrs. Knight advised that the Central Alberta Economic Partnership CAEP has offered to provide a roaming Economic Development Officer (EDO) for County use. Council discussed having CAEP make a presentation to Council regarding the role of an EDO. Further Council discussion took place.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the County Manager be directed to invite a representative of the Central Alberta Economic Partnership to a future Council meeting to discuss economic development services.

10:10 a.m. Drayton Bussiere entered the meeting.

Emergency Management Agency Overview

Mr. Bussiere provided an overview of the Lacombe Regional Emergency Management Agency highlighting the following:

- The activation, set up and role of the ECC for COVID-19
- History of Regional Partnership – Created in 2011
- Overview of the Lacombe Regional Emergency Management Agency (LREMP)
 - Agency consists of an advisory Committee with elected officials and administration from 11 municipalities (includes Summer Villages)

- Directors of Emergency Management (DEMS) from each municipality make operations decisions, changes to plans, etc.
- Plan is written so municipalities manage individually until regional activation is required
- Mr. Bussiere is the Regional Director when LREMP is activated
- Ms. Shepherd is Lacombe County's representative on LREMP
- Mrs. Knight, Mr. Stephenson, and Mr. Wigmore sit on the County's Emergency Services Committee

RECOMMENDATION:

That the overview of the Emergency Management Agency be received for information.

10:25 a.m. Mr. Bussiere withdrew from the meeting. Dion Burlock and Brandon Maier entered the meeting.

Discretionary Use Permits

Mrs. Knight advised that when wedding venues are developed it changes the use in the neighborhood and a pre-circulation of the application to the adjacent neighbors would be beneficial. The venue at Mirror was approved and neighbors were not advised until after the approval and they had concerns and questions. Mrs. Knight commented that this is not a request for all discretionary uses to have notification but for those that may change neighbors' lifestyle.

Mr. Freitag advised that wedding venues are not ordinarily contentious. It is hard to identify what is going to be contentious. Mr. Freitag advised that the County is endeavoring to streamline development applications. Applicants are encouraged to speak with their neighbors prior to making application. Mr. Freitag reviewed those developments that require pre-circulation. Council discussion took place.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the County Manager be directed to amend the Land Use Bylaw during the Matrix review to provide for the pre-circulation to adjacent landowners of the development of campgrounds and community facilities within Lacombe County.

Landowner Field Drainage Projects

Mr. Maier provided a presentation on Landowner Field Drainage Projects highlighting the following:

- What is the County's Current Process?
- Complaint Process - Alberta Environment & Parks
- Draining a Wetland - Before Image
- Draining a Wetland - After Image
- Drainage Work in Alberta Transportation Right-of-Way
- Weeping Tile Outlet into County Ditch
- Summary

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

RECOMMENDATION:

That the report on landowner field drainage projects be received for information.

11:46 a.m. Mr. Maier withdrew from the meeting. Jennifer Berry entered the meeting.

Environmental Improvement Grant

Mrs. Berry provided a presentation on the Lacombe County Environmental Improvement Program highlighting the following:

- Summary of Grant History
- Successful Projects
- Time for A Change – Decreased Interest
- Percentage of Funding Boundaries
- New Program Proposal
- Wetland Education
- Rain Barrels
- Compost Systems
- Pollinator Packages

RECOMMENDATION:

That the County Manager be directed to proceed with a new funding program for the Environmental Improvement Grant; and further, that Policy AD(33) be amended to reflect the changes in the program for 2021.

1:00 p.m. Brandan Maier entered the meeting.

Environmental Action Plan

Mrs. Berry provided Council with an update on the Environmental Action Plan reviewing the following:

- Environmental Steering Committee
- Completed Actions
- Potential New Process
- Sample Environmental Action Plan
- Environmental Management Plan

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Environmental Steering Committee be replaced with an Annual Environmental Action Plan for environmental planning and programming within Lacombe County.

1:10 p.m. Mrs. Berry and Mr. Burlock withdrew from the meeting.

Memorial Tree Park

Mr. Timmons advised that the County has received requests from families of loved ones with regard to placing memorial mementos at public places throughout the County. In considering this request the idea of a memorial tree park at Anderson Park has come forward.

Mr. Cade commented that the County does have a policy with regard to the placement of roadside memorials. If a memorial tree park were established such memorials could be kept in one location. Council questions and discussion took place.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the report on the concept of a Memorial Tree Garden at Anderson Park be received for information.

Dust Control

Mr. Cade provided a presentation on dust control with regard to the following:

- History of Dust Control
- Oil for Dust Control Removed in 2018
- Oil Process for Dust Control
- Calcium Process
- Calcium vs Oil
- Calcium vs Oil Cost

Mr. Cade addressed questions of Council throughout the presentation.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the report on dust control be received for information.

1:40 p.m. Mr. Maier withdrew from the meeting.

Mrs. Kreil referred to an article in the Eckville Echo with regard to proof of residency for use of LRWSC transfer stations. A utility bill with a service address, or a driver's license with a physical address must be shown (no PO BOX, or RR# accepted). Ms. Shepherd advised that Ms. Plewis will be publishing a notice regarding this change on the County's website and social media. The requirement will be effective July 1, 2020.

Adjourn: 1:50 p.m.