

The regular meeting of the Lacombe County Council was called to order by Reeve Law at 9:00 a.m. on May 14, 2020 in the Council Chamber of the Lacombe County Administration Office.

Present

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

Mrs. Law inquired if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. There were no changes to the agenda.

**C/216/20  
Agenda**

***Moved by Mr. Wigmore that the agenda be approved.***

***Carried Unanimously.***

**C/217/20  
Minutes**

***Moved by Ms. Shepherd that the minutes of the April 9, 2020 meeting be approved as presented.***

***Carried Unanimously.***

**C/218/20  
COVID-19 Update**

Mr. Bussiere provided an update on the activities, strategies and plans that Lacombe County has implemented with regard to the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Bussiere also reviewed the Provincial action items that are in place. A question and discussion period took place throughout the presentation.

***Moved by Mr. Stephenson that the update on the COVID-19 pandemic as it relates to Lacombe County be received for information.***

***Carried Unanimously.***

9:20 a.m.

Mr. Bussiere withdrew from the meeting.

**C/219/20  
Operating Budget  
Approval**

Mr. Minchin commented that the 2020 interim operating and capital budgets were approved by Council at its budget meeting in November 2019. At the April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Council meeting Council provided direction on the 2020 municipal tax rates.

Mr. Minchin advised that the County's 2020 assessment values have now been confirmed and the 2020 school requisition has been received. At this time, Council is in a position to consider approval of the County's 1) final 2020 operating and capital budgets, and 2) the 2020 tax rate bylaw.

Mr. Minchin and Mrs. Wiebe provided an overview of:

- Property Assessment & Taxation
- Municipal Taxation
- 2020 Policing Levy
- 2019 & 2020 Education Requisition Comparison
- 2020 Designated Industrial Property Requisition
- 2020 Lacombe Foundation Requisition
- Combined Tax Rate Summary
- 2020 Operating & Capital Budget Amendments
- Bylaw No. 1325/20 – Tax Rate Bylaw

Questions and discussion took place throughout the presentation.

***Moved by Mr. Wigmore that the Lacombe County 2020 operating budget which provides for 1) total revenue of \$68,306,860 comprised of \$60,799,950 in operating revenue, \$7,506,910 in reserve transfers, including a \$551,180 transfer from the Tax Rate Stabilization Reserve, and 2) total operating expenses of \$68,306,860 comprised of \$37,444,960 in operating expenses, net inventory costs of (\$64,620), capital transfers of \$14,062,320 and reserve contributions of \$16,864,200, be approved.***

***Carried Unanimously.***

**C/220/20  
Capital Budget  
Approval**

***Moved by Mrs. Knight that Council approve the Lacombe County 2020 capital budget which provides for revenues and expenditures of \$ 33,546,220.***

***Carried Unanimously.***

**C/221/20  
Operating Budget  
Forecast 2021-2023**

**Moved by Mr. Stephenson that the Lacombe County 2021 – 2023 operating budget forecast be received for information. Carried Unanimously.**

**C/222/20  
Bylaw No. 1325/20  
2020 Tax Rates  
First Reading**

**Moved by Mr. Wigmore that Bylaw No. 1325/20 providing for the establishment of the 2020 Tax Rates as follows:**

<b><u>Municipal</u></b>	<b><u>Tax Rate</u></b>
<i>Residential</i>	2.557
<i>Farmland</i>	5.358
<i>Non-residential</i>	5.463
<i>Machinery &amp; Equipment</i>	5.463
<b><u>Policing Levy</u></b>	<b><u>Tax Rate</u></b>
<i>All Assessment Classes</i>	0.0448
<b><u>Alberta School Foundation Fund</u></b>	<b><u>Tax Rate</u></b>
<i>Residential/Farmland</i>	2.577
<i>Non-residential</i>	3.617
<b><u>Lacombe Foundation</u></b>	<b><u>Tax Rate</u></b>
<i>All Assessment Classes (excluding Provincial GIL)</i>	0.0613
<b><u>Designated Industrial Property</u></b>	<b><u>Tax Rate</u></b>
<i>Designated Industrial, M&amp;E &amp; Linear Properties</i>	0.0760
<i>be now read a first time.</i>	

**Carried Unanimously.**

**C/223/20  
Bylaw No. 1325/20  
Second Reading**

**Moved by Mr. Ireland that Bylaw No. 1325/20, having been read a first time, be now read a second time. Carried Unanimously.**

**C/224/20  
Bylaw No. 1325/20  
Present for Third**

**Moved by Mrs. Knight that Bylaw 1325/20, having been read a first and second time, be now presented for third reading. Carried Unanimously.**

**C/225/20  
Bylaw No. 1325/20  
Third Reading**

**Moved by Mrs. Kreil that Bylaw No. 1325/20, having been read a first and second time, be now read a third time and finally passed. Carried Unanimously.**

10:00 a.m. Drayton Bussiere and Dennis Cole entered the meeting. Mrs. Wiebe withdrew from the meeting.

**City of Lacombe Fire  
Chief Introduction**

Mr. Bussiere introduced Dennis Cole who has recently undertaken the position of Fire Chief for the City of Lacombe. Council welcomed Mr. Cole to the region.

10:05 a.m. Mr. Bussiere, Mr. Cole and Mr. Cade withdrew from the meeting. Dale Freitag entered the meeting.

**C/226/20  
In-camera**

**Moved by Mr. Ireland that the meeting recess in order to meet In-camera for the purpose of discussing privileged information. Time: 10:15 a.m. Carried Unanimously.**

**C/227/20  
Reconvene**

**Moved by Mrs. Kreil that the meeting reconvene. Time: 10:55 a.m. Carried Unanimously.**

10:55 a.m. Angela Hand, Executive Director and Merry Kuchle, Board Chair for Lacombe Regional Tourism entered the meeting.

**C/228/20  
Deferral of Utility  
Connections – Sylvan  
Lake Communal  
Servicing**

Mr. Boras reported on the proposed deferral of utility connections for the QEII West Project and the Sylvan Lake Communal Servicing Project. Connections for the QEII West Project will be available by January 21, 2021 and that date would be the deadline for connection and the payment of connection fees. Unconnected residents in the Sylvan Lake Communal Servicing Project area have until October 31, 2020 to complete connections.

Mr. Boras advised that the Covid-19 pandemic has placed both physical and economic constraints on these deadlines. Property owners are having difficulty finding contractors to undertake the work and are impacted by the considerable economic effect of this situation. Several requests for deferral of the connection deadlines and fees have been received by affected ratepayers. Mr. Boras addressed questions of Council.

***Moved by Ms. Shepherd that Lacombe County defer the requirement for property owners within the Sylvan Lake Communal Servicing Project area to connect to this system to October 31, 2021.***

***Carried.***

**C/229/20  
Deferral of Water &  
Wastewater Services  
Charges QEII West  
Project**

***Moved by Mr. Ireland that the County Manager be authorized to enter into agreements with the owners of developed properties in the QEII West Servicing Project area for the payment of water and wastewater deferred services charges in accordance with the following payment plan options:***

**Option 1**

***Plan Commencement Date: Upon date of servicing availability.***

***Payment Terms:***

- 1. annual installments over a five-year period based on an interest rate of Servus Credit Union prime rate as of November 1 of the year prior to the payment year, plus 2.5% or,***
- 2. annual installments over a ten-year period with an interest rate of Servus Credit Union prime rate as of November 1 of the year prior to the payment year, plus 2.5%.***

**Option 2**

***Plan Commencement Date: January 1, 2022***

***Payment Terms:***

- 1. annual installments over a five-year period based on an interest rate of Servus Credit Union prime rate as of November 1 of the year prior to the payment year, plus 2.5% or,***
- 2. annual installments over a ten-year period with an interest rate of Servus Credit Union prime rate as of November 1 of the year prior to the payment year, plus 2.5%.***

***Carried Unanimously.***

11:15 a.m. Mr. Boras and Mr. Freitag withdrew from the meeting.

**C/230/20  
Lacombe Regional  
Tourism Presentation**

Ms. Hand and Ms. Kuchle provided a presentation regarding Lacombe Regional Tourism's 2021-2022 Strategic Plan highlighting the following:

- Goals
- Current Focus
- Recent Recognition Awards
- Forward Thinking Questions
- What if We Hit the Road?
- Mobile Lacombe Tourism Van
- How do We Pivot?
- Goal/Growth Potential
- Mobile Van Budget Estimate
- Flatiron Lease Change Dollars
- Used Vehicle Options

- Timelines
- Budget Ask for 2021
- 2020 Budget

A question and discussion period followed the presentation.

11:22 a.m. Corey Kusch, Manager of Surface Land & Environment and Chris Kupchenko, Manager of Corporate Development, Enhance Energy entered the meeting.

***Moved by Ms. Shepherd that the presentation on the Lacombe Regional Tourism 2021-2022 Strategic Plan be received for information; and further, that the County Manager be directed to prepare a report for presentation at a future Council meeting.***

***Carried Unanimously.***

11:40 a.m. Ms. Kuchle and Ms. Hand withdrew from the meeting. Bill Cade and Dale Freitag entered the meeting.

***C/231/20  
Enhance Energy  
Presentation***

Mr. Kusch and Mr. Kupchenko provide a presentation with regard to Enhance Energy operations within Lacombe County highlighting the following:

- Alberta Carbon Trunkline Project (ACTL)
- ACTL Project Partners
- CO<sub>2</sub> Enhanced Oil Recovery
- Enhance Energy Purpose
- WTI Price
- Base Operating Margin
- Municipal Burdens – 2019 Actual and Future Estimates
- Investment for Future Generations
- Request for County Council

Mr. Kusch and Mr. Kupchenko addressed questions of Council.

***Moved by Mrs. Knight that the presentation by Enhance Energy be received for information; and further, that the County Manager be directed to prepare a report for presentation at a future meeting.***

***Carried Unanimously.***

The meeting reconvened following lunch with all Councillors, Mr. Timmons, Mr. Minchin and Mrs. Turnbull present.

***C/232/17  
MPC***

***Moved by Mr. Stephenson that the meeting recess in order to conduct a Municipal Planning Commission meeting.***

***Time: 1:00 p.m.***

***Carried Unanimously.***

***C/233/20  
Reconvene***

***Moved by Mr. Wigmore that the meeting reconvene.***

***Time: 2:10 p.m.***

***Carried Unanimously.***

***C/234/20  
Key Action Items  
Implementation Plan***

Mr. Timmons presented an update on the Key Action Items Implementation Plan for 2018 to 2023. The key action items are identified under the Strategic Plan for 2018 to 2023.

***Moved by Mr. Stephenson that the update on the Key Actions Items Implementation Plan for 2018 to 2023 be approved as presented.***

***Carried Unanimously.***

***C/235/20  
Nova Chemical Visit***

Mr. Timmons advised that Ms. Good from NOVA Chemicals has inquired if Council would wish to continue the annual visit with a virtual information session if it could be accommodated. If that is problematic NOVA would provide a written update on current operations and initiatives and address questions that Council might have. Council agreed they have no issues at this time and will reschedule the annual visit for 2021.

***Moved by Mr. Ireland that the annual NOVA Chemicals visit be rescheduled in 2021.***

***Carried Unanimously.***

**C/236/20  
Bylaw No. 1326/20  
Tax Installment/Levy  
Of Penalties**

Mr. Minchin presented Bylaw No. 1326/20, a bylaw of Lacombe County to authorize a tax installment payment plan and the levying of penalties on unpaid property taxes.

Mr. Minchin advised that under various Provincial initiatives changes have been made regarding the payment of property taxes and penalties on unpaid property taxes. As such, the County must amend its tax penalty bylaw. Mr. Minchin advised that as per Bylaw No. 1326/20 the following changes are being proposed:

1. Extending current taxes payment deadline from August 31<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup>.
2. Extending timeline to enroll in Tax Installment Payment Plan (TIPPs) from August 31<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup>.
3. Delaying penalty levies on current years and arrears from September 1<sup>st</sup> to October 1<sup>st</sup>.
4. Clarifying that the recalculation of TIPPs payments is done after tax notices are mailed.

***Moved by Ms. Shepherd that Bylaw No. 1326/20, a bylaw of Lacombe County to authorize a tax installment payment plan and the levying of penalties on unpaid property taxes***

***be now read a first time.***

***Carried Unanimously.***

**C/237/20  
Bylaw No. 1326/20  
Second Reading**

***Moved by Mr. Stephenson that Bylaw No. 1326/20, having been read a first time, be now read a second time.***

***Carried Unanimously.***

**C/238/20  
Bylaw No. 1326/20  
Present for Third**

***Moved by Mr. Wigmore that Bylaw 1326/20, having been read a first and second time, be now presented for third reading.***

***Carried Unanimously.***

**C/239/20  
Bylaw No. 1326/20  
Third Reading**

***Moved by Mrs. Knight that Bylaw No. 1326/20, having been read a first and second time, be now read a third time and finally passed.***

***Carried Unanimously.***

**C/240/20  
Monthly Statement**

***Moved by Mrs. Kreil that the Monthly Statement as at March 31, 2020 be received for information.***

***Carried Unanimously.***

**C/241/20  
Financial Report**

***Moved by Ms. Shepherd that the First Quarter 2020 Financial Report be received for information.***

***Carried Unanimously.***

**C/242/20  
Investment Report**

***Moved by Mrs. Kreil that the Investment Report as at March 31, 2020 be received for information.***

***Carried Unanimously.***

**C/243/20  
Agenda Item  
Follow-up**

***Moved by Mr. Ireland that the Agenda Item Follow-up for April 23, 2020 be received for information.***

***Carried Unanimously.***

**Council Reports**

Mr. Stephenson reported on the following:

- Sylvan Lake Management Committee
- Bentley Ag Society - Bentley Rodeo and Fair Cancellation

Mrs. Kreil reported on the following:

- Town Hall with RMA Resolutions
- Parkland Regional Library
- Eckville Library – Zoom meeting
- Sylvan Lake Regional Wastewater Commission

Mr. Wigmore reported on the following:

- Mary C. Moore Public Library – Zoom Meeting
- RMA Resolutions
- Rural Crime Watch
- Blackfalds Economic Development Committee

Ms. Shepherd reported on the following:

- Red Deer/Lacombe Rural Crime Watch
- Lacombe Emergency Management Advisory
- Blackfalds & District Recreation, Culture & Parks Board
- RMA Update
- Ellis Bird Farm
- Burbank Internet Tower

Mrs. Knight reported on the following:

- Synergy Alberta
- Mirror Community Group
- Bashaw Mental Health Initiative
- Highway 12/21 Regional Water Services Commission
- RMA Resolutions
- CAEP
- Red Deer River Watershed
- Mirror Library

Mr. Ireland reported on the following:

- PAMZ
- Highway 12/21 Regional Water Services Commission
- RMA Resolutions

Mrs. Law reported on the following:

- Lacombe Regional Tourism
- RMA Resolutions
- Lacombe and District Chamber of Commerce
- Lacombe Foundation

Committee of the Whole Future Agenda Items:

- Dust Control – Mrs. Kreil

**C/244/20  
Consent Agenda**

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

***Carried Unanimously.***

Council Inquiries

Mr. Stephenson inquired that with the current price of oil whether the County should be using oil instead of calcium for dust control. Mr. Timmons stated that this matter will be placed on the agenda for a future Committee of the Whole meeting.

Mr. Stephenson inquired if the County should be doing the West Area Sewage Project during the current economic times. Mr. Timmons advised that the project has already commenced.

Mrs. Knight advised that WestJet has refunded the cost of her flight to the FCM.

Ms. Shepherd inquired why the RMA holds two conventions each year. This is at considerable cost for both the municipalities and the sponsors. The recent virtual resolution session proves this can be successful.

**C/245/20  
RMA – Letter RE:  
One Convention**

***Moved by Ms. Shepherd that a letter be written to RMA requesting consideration be given to hosting only one convention per year.***

***Carried.***

**C/246/20  
Adjourn**

***Moved by Mr. Ireland that the meeting adjourn.  
Time: 3:17 p.m.***

***Carried Unanimously.***

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Reeve

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Manager