

The regular meeting of the Lacombe County Council was called to order by Reeve Law at 9:00 a.m. on May 28, 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 Community Services, K. Boras; Director of Operations, B. Cade; Director of Planning, D. Freitag; Manager of Finance, W. Wiebe; Fire Chief, D. Bussiere, and Administrative Executive Coordinator, L. Turnbull.

**C/247/20
Agenda**

Mrs. Law inquired if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. There were two additions and one amendment to agenda.

5.1 COVID-19 Update
5.7 Public Attendance at Council Meetings – Memorandum from Dr. Hinshaw
9.2 Move Item to Follow Administrative Report

Moved by Mr. Wigmore that the agenda be approved as amended.

Carried Unanimously.

**C/248/20
Minutes**

Moved by Mrs. Kreil that the minutes of the April 23, 2020 meeting be approved as presented.

Carried Unanimously.

**C/249/20
Minutes**

Moved by Mr. Ireland that the minutes of the April 24, 2020 meeting be approved as presented.

Carried Unanimously.

**C/250/20
Administrative
Report**

Mr. Timmons, Mr. Boras, Mr. Freitag, Mr. Cade and Ms. Wiebe provided an overview of their department activities as presented in the Administrative Report.

Moved by Mr. Wigmore that the Administrative Report as at May 28, 2020 be received for information.

Carried Unanimously

**C/251/20
Monthly Statement**

Moved by Mrs. Knight that the Monthly Statement as at April 30, 2020 be received for information.

Carried Unanimously.

10:00 a.m. Mrs. Wiebe and Mr. Stephenson withdrew from the meeting.

**C/252/20
COVID-19
Update**

Mr. Bussiere provided an update on the activities, strategies and plans that Lacombe County has implemented with regard to the relaunch strategy as per the COVID-19 pandemic. A question and discussion period took place throughout the presentation.

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

Carried Unanimously.

10:35 a.m. Mr. Cade and Mr. Freitag withdrew from the meeting.

**C/253/20
Hamlet of Mirror
Land Sale**

Mr. Boras advised that an offer to purchase Lot 22, Block 98, Plan 7159A1 within the Hamlet of Mirror has been received from Walter and Helen Albers. This lot was acquired by the County through the dissolution of Mirror in 2004. The lot does not have access to water or sewer servicing.

Policy AD(8) Land Sales in the Hamlet of Mirror does not address the sale of unserviced lots in the Hamlet therefore it is requested that Council consider this offer. Mr. Boras addressed questions of Council.

Moved by Mrs. Knight that the County Manager be authorized to accept Walter and Helen Albers offer to purchase Lot 22, Block 98, Plan 7159A1 in the Hamlet of Mirror for a total price of \$3,500 plus G.S.T. subject to the condition that Lot 22 be consolidated with Lots 19-21.

Carried Unanimously.

10:40 a.m. Dion Burlock and Jalene Makus entered the meeting.

***C/254/20
Eckville Emergency
Services Building –
Generator Funding***

Mr. Bussiere commented that the Town of Eckville and Lacombe County jointly own the Eckville Emergency Services building and equally fund capital purchases for the building. A request has been received by the Town for 50% funding of an emergency generator for the Emergency Services building. The current generator was recently repaired and tested and has proven to be undersized for the needs of the building.

In the agreement with Alberta Health Services for the municipalities' space in the building there is a requirement to have emergency back-up power supplied to the building. As such, the current generator should be replaced with a suitable and reliable permanent generator.

Moved by Mr. Wigmore that the County Manager be directed to fund the replacement of the Eckville Emergency Services Building emergency generator as requested by the Town of Eckville up to a maximum of \$20,000; and further, that this funding be provided from the Protective Services capital reserve.

Carried Unanimously.

10:44 a.m. Mr. Bussiere withdrew from the meeting.

***C/255/20
Policy RC(9)
2020 Funding In-
place for 2021***

Mr. Timmons advised that under the County's Recreation Policy RC(9), the County allots funding on an annual basis for community events in the County and surrounding urban municipalities. In 2020, the County awarded \$34,287 in funding to 26 groups, with events occurring throughout the year.

Since the onset of the current pandemic situation seven groups have carried out all or a portion of their annual events, eight have cancelled their events for 2020 and the remaining events are still pending or have been postponed pending the status of gathering restrictions in the near future.

Mr. Timmons addressed questions of Council.

Moved by Mr. Ireland that municipalities and community groups that received funding through Lacombe County Policy RC(9) County Support of Community Programs, Events and Activities who have cancelled their 2020 events be allowed to retain their funding and use it for their 2021 events; and further, those municipalities and community groups who cancelled their events in 2020 and do not plan to host an event in 2021 be required to return their funding to the County.

Carried Unanimously.

***C/256/20
MOU – ALUS
Motion Lost***

Ms. Makus advised that in 2016 Lacombe County entered into a three-year partnership with Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS) to deliver an Agriculture Conservation and Enhancement Program in the County. The ALUS Program project began in 2017 and includes eight participants and eleven projects.

As the initial three-year term of the ALUS Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has expired the County needs to consider entering into a new three-year MOU. The funding model has been changed from the original MOU with funding not guaranteed annually and requiring renewal on an annual basis. Mr. Makus reviewed the County's in-kind contribution to the Program. Ms. Makus addressed questions of Council.

Moved by Mrs. Kreil that the County Manager be authorized to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Alternative Land Use Services Canada for the three-year period of 2020 to 2022.

Motion Lost.

11:10 a.m. Jackie Northey, Christine Buelow, Bashaw & District Support Services and Trish Verveda, Alix/Mirror Wellness Committee entered the meeting. Ms. Makus withdrew from the meeting.

**C/257/20
Alix/Mirror
Community Resource
Centre/Bashaw &
District Support
Services**

Ms. Buelow, Ms. Northey and Ms. Verveda provided a presentation on the Alix/Mirror Community Resource Centre highlighting the following areas:

- Issue
- Background
- Current Situation
- Recommendations

A further presentation was provided on the Bashaw Regional Wellness Hub highlighting the following areas:

- Background
- Regional Hub Development
- Moving Forward

11:25 a.m. Bill Cade entered the meeting.

Ms. Buelow advised that the Bashaw & District Support Services has worked with the Alix/Mirror Wellness Committee to establish the Alix/Mirror Community Resource Centre.

Ms. Buelow commented that this presentation was to inform Council; and further, that the request today is that Lacombe County become a committed partner and support these initiatives i.e. through funding, in-kind assistance, or consulting through meeting attendance.

A question period followed the presentation.

Moved by Mrs. Knight that the presentations on the Alix/Mirror Community Resource Centre and the Bashaw Regional Wellness Hub 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.

11:45 a.m. Ms. Northey, Ms. Buelow and Ms. Verveda withdrew from the meeting. Trina Dresser and Eleanor Drost entered the meeting.

**C/258/20
Request for Closure
of Reserve Land
South of Bentley**

Ms. Dresser advised Council that she is requesting the closure of reserve land south of the Town of Bentley (Pt. SW 2-40-01-W5) due to the following:

- Dumping spot for stolen vehicles, garbage etc.
- People partying from out of town leaving fires burning
- Taxpayers do not want to pay for police and fire trucks called out and County workers to always clean up the garbage
- Noise all summer long

Questions and discussion took place throughout the presentation.

Moved by Mr. Wigmore that the presentation on the request for closure of reserve land south of the Town of Bentley 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.

12:00 a.m. Ms. Dresser and Mrs. Drost withdrew from the meeting.

**C/259/20
Agriculture Service
Board Program Team
Field Visit**

Mr. Burlock advised that Lacombe County receives an annual Agricultural Service Board Grant to deliver programs identified under the Legislative and Resource Management Funding Streams. The Agricultural Service Board Program Team completes field visits to grant recipients once every five years to comply with recommendations made by the Office of the Auditor General.

Mr. Burlock reviewed that draft schedule for the tour and requested that Council set a date for the field visit by Program Team. Mr. Burlock addressed questions of Council.

Moved by Mrs. Knight that the County Manager be directed to arrange a field visit for the Agriculture Service Board Program Team for the first or second meeting of June 2020.

Carried Unanimously.

1:00 p.m. Michael Kartusch entered the meeting.

**C/260/20
Virtual Meetings of
Council**

Mr. Timmons advised that to date Lacombe County has allowed the public to attend Council meetings as per Provincial requirements. Mr. Timmons commented that currently a maximum of fifteen people are allowed to participate in Council meetings, which includes Council and staff.

Mr. Timmons advised that in the future there may be a time where there is a request for more public participation than allowed. In order to accommodate such a circumstance Council could allow the public to attend Council meeting through Zoom video conferencing. This would provide an opportunity for the public to comment on matters if permitted by the Chair.

Mr. Kartusch reported that the County's existing equipment can accommodate Zoom video conferencing. The County currently subscribes to a monthly Zoom license which can accommodate up to 100 people. Mr. Timmons and Mr. Kartusch addressed questions of Council.

Moved by Mr. Wigmore that the public be authorized to participate in Council meetings and public hearings by virtual means during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Carried Unanimously.

1:17 p.m. Mr. Kartusch withdrew from the meeting.

**C/261/20
Agenda Item
Follow-up**

Moved by Mr. Ireland that the Agenda Item Follow-up for May 14, 2020 be received for information.

Carried Unanimously

Future Committee of the Whole agenda items:

Future initiatives/projects to replace the ALUS Program – Mrs. Shepherd
Council Lunches – Mrs. Knight

Councillor Inquiries

Ms. Shepherd inquired with regard to the Fire Services Agreement with the City of Lacombe and the fire services review that is being undertaken. Mr. Timmons advised that Lacombe County is participating in the review and a report will be presented in the future. Due to the review the current Fire Services Agreement is for a period of three years.

Ms. Shepherd commented that in ICF discussions with the Town of Blackfalds the Town had indicated they wish to expand their fire department's fire service area. Ms. Shepherd inquired that if the Lacombe Department expanded their service within the County if the Blackfalds Department could also expand their service area. Mr. Timmons commented that a discussion will be held with Council about fire services and this will include the Town of Blackfalds' request to expand their fire service boundaries.

Mr. Ireland inquired if the County has had a response from the Province with regard to the County's inquiry regarding Telus lines/cables in ditches. Mr. Timmons advised that the County has had contact with Telus, and have provided an inventory of exposed lines and they are to be addressing the issue. Mr. Timmons commented that he will confirm Telus' actions with Mr. Cade.

Mrs. Kreil commented that as the County representative on the Parkland Regional Library (PRL) Board she is unable to attend meetings as they are held on the same day as Council meetings. Mrs. Kreil inquired if the County could forward a letter to PRL requesting that they consider reviewing their meeting dates.

**C/262/20
PRL Board –
Reviewal of Meeting
Date**

Moved by Mrs. Kreil that a letter be forwarded to the Parkland Regional Library Board requesting that they review the dates of their Board meetings.

Carried.

Councillor Inquiry

Mr. Wigmore inquired if internal County meetings such as Fire and Emergency Services etc. will be going forward in the future. Mr. Timmons advised he will look into this matter and report back to Council. Mr. Wigmore will provide Mr. Timmons with a list of meetings that he is referring to.

Mr. Wigmore referred to the paving of the Spruceville South Road and inquired what the intention is for the intersectional treatment. Mr. Timmons advised there will be intersectional improvements and he will check with Mr. Cade to see what category the intersection will be. Mr. Wigmore inquired if stops signs could be erected that light up when cars approach to avoid crashes. This would help make people aware of a new intersection. Mr. Timmons commented that rumble strips will be installed and illuminated stop signs could be considered.

**C/263/20
Adjourn**

Moved by Mrs. Knight that the meeting adjourn.

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Carried Unanimously.

Reeve

County Manager