

The Lacombe County Council Committee of the Whole meeting was called to order by Reeve Law at 9:00 a.m. on April 6, 2021 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 Community Services, K. Boras, Director of Planning, D. Freitag, Manager of Community Peace Officers, Mark Sproule and Executive Administrative Coordinator, L. Turnbull.

9:00 a.m. Staff Sgt. Dan Martin, Blackfalds RCMP, Sgt. Brent Dueck, Blackfalds RCMP, Staff Sgt. Bruce Holliday, Bashaw RCMP District Officer, Superintendent Gord Stewart, Staff Sgt. Brent Meyers, (District Advisory Non-Commissioned Officers for Central Alberta District – DANCO) entered the meeting.

Mrs. Law introduced herself and those present introduced themselves.

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

### **RCMP PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION**

Staff Sgt. Martin, Sgt. Holliday, Superintendent Stewart, Staff Sgt. Meyers, and Sgt. Dueck provided information and comments on the following issues and concerns:

- Repeat Victims
- Detachment Annual Priorities
- Collaboration with Lacombe County and our CPO's/Relationship Building
- Community Consultation
- Organized Crime in Rural Areas
- Restorative Justice System
- Notifying Neighbors of Know Problem Houses/Areas (chop shops, etc.)
- Protocols/Directives re: Increased Policing in Rural Areas
- COVID 19 Impact on 1) Crime Increases/Decreases, 2) Substance Addiction, and 3) RCMP Workloads and Staffing

Questions and discussion took place throughout the presentations.

10:25 a.m. The RCMP members withdrew from the meeting.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**That the presentation by Staff Sgt. Martin, Staff Sgt. Holliday, Superintendent Stewart, Staff Sgt. Meyers, and Sgt. Dueck be received for information.**

### **BILL 48 UPDATE/DISCUSSION**

BILL 48 is the Red Tape Reduction Implementation Act, 2020 passed by the Government of Alberta in December 2020.

Mrs. Knight commented that Bill 48 will have an affect on the County's planning department processes. Mr. Timmons advised that at this time no new information has come forward in this regard.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**That discussion regarding Bill 48 be brought forward at a future meeting when further information is available.**

### **THREE-YEAR TAX-FREE STATUS FOR OIL COMPANIES – PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT**

Mr. Wigmore advised that this issue is more about unpaid taxes from the oil and gas companies. Mr. Wigmore commented that there may be ways to implement road use agreements with costs for those companies that do not pay their County taxes. Mr. Wigmore commented that the Three-Year Tax-Free status for oil companies will affect the County in the future.

Mr. Timmons advised that he is hopeful that the Province will address the issue of unpaid taxes from oil and gas companies. Those unpaid taxes have affected the County profoundly. Mr. Timmons advised that with regard to a road use agreement for such companies a legal opinion would be required. Mr. Timmons commented that companies could be invited to attend a Council meeting and advise why they are not paying their taxes.

Council discussion took place.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**That the County Manager be directed to prepare a report identifying options for recovering taxes from operating oil and gas companies.**

**FIRE BAN**

Mr. Boras advised Council that a Fire Advisory for Lacombe County will be issued later today. Fire Chief Bussiere will monitor the situation to determine if a full Fire Ban is required.

**Adjourn: 11:15 a.m.**