

The regular meeting of the Lacombe County Council was called to order by Reeve Law at 9:00 a.m. on February 11, 2021 in the Council Chamber of the Lacombe County Administration Office.

Present

Present: Reeve P. Law; 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 Corporate Services, M. Minchin; Director of Planning, D. Freitag; Manager of IT Services, M. Kartusch and Administrative Executive Coordinator, L. Turnbull.

Deputy Reeve, K. Wigmore attended the meeting virtually.

Introductions

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

**C/38/21
Agenda**

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

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

Carried Unanimously.

**C/39/21
Minutes**

Moved by Mr. Ireland that the minutes of January 14, 2021 be approved as presented.

Carried Unanimously.

**C/40/21
COVID-19 Update**

Mr. Timmons reviewed the update on the latest COVID-19 statistics and the ongoing mandatory restrictions introduced by the Province. Mr. Timmons addressed questions of Council regarding the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

Carried Unanimously.

**C/41/21
City of Lacombe
Lacombe County
IDP/ICF Terms of
Reference**

Mr. Timmons advised that the City of Lacombe and Lacombe County Intermunicipal Development Plan/Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework Committee held its first meeting on January 27, 2021. The first item of business was to establish a draft terms of reference for the Committee. Mr. Timmons provided an overview of the terms of reference. The Committee members were supportive of the terms of reference as presented.

Moved by Ms. Shepherd that City of Lacombe and Lacombe County Intermunicipal Development Plan/Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework Committee terms of reference be approved as presented.

Carried Unanimously.

**C/42/21
City of Lacombe
Lacombe County
Joint Economic
Area Agreement**

Mr. Timmons advised that one initiative of the Lacombe County/City of Lacombe Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework (ICF) was revising the Joint Economic Agreement to reflect cost-sharing and area expansion. The proposed revisions were made by City and County Administration and the revised agreement was presented at the January 27, 2021 City of Lacombe-Lacombe County IDP/ICF Committee meeting. The Committee members unanimously supported the proposed revisions. Mr. Timmons addressed questions of Council.

Moved by Mrs. Knight that the City of Lacombe/Lacombe County Joint Economic Area Agreement be approved as presented.

Carried Unanimously.

**C/43/21
LED Lights Shop &
Office Report**

Mr. Boras reported that in 2015 existing light bulbs in the administration building and the shop building were replaced with LED lights to facilitate more energy efficiency. Mr. Boras provided an analysis of the reduction in electricity usage for both buildings. Mr. Boras addressed question of Council.

Moved by Mr. Stephenson that the report regarding the installation of LED lights in the administration and shop buildings and the resulting reduction in electricity use be received for information.

Carried Unanimously.

Committee of the Whole

Mr. Timmons presented the Committee of the Whole meeting notes from February 2, 2021. The following items were presented and discussed at that meeting.

**C/44/21
Economic
Development
Report**

A discussion took place with regard to economic development within Lacombe County.

Moved by Mrs. Knight that the County Manager be directed to prepare a report with regard to retaining a consultant to develop an Economic Development Strategic Plan for Lacombe County; and further, that the report be presented at a future Council meeting.

Carried Unanimously.

**C/45/21
Remote Shops
Usage**

Council discussion took place with regard to the usage of the remote shops by graders and plow/sanding trucks; and further, their use to store salt and sand for area road maintenance.

Moved by Mr. Ireland that the discussion with regard to the usage of the remote shops by graders and plow/sanding trucks; and further, their use to store salt and sand for area road maintenance be received for information.

Carried Unanimously.

**C/46/21
Kuhnen Park
Campground**

A report was provided on the options for the future use of the Kuhnen Park Campground. The Kuhnen family will operate the campground until the end of 2021 camping season and it will then be turned over to Lacombe County.

Moved by Ms. Shepherd that the County Manager be directed to prepare a report on the future use of the Kuhnen Park Campground; and further, that this report be presented at a future Council meeting.

Carried Unanimously.

**C/47/21
Lacombe County
Trails**

The value of trails in Lacombe County and their development in the future was discussed by Council.

Moved by Mrs. Kreil that the discussion with regard to the value of trails in Lacombe County and their development in the future was received for information.

Carried Unanimously.

**C/48/21
Unightly
Properties**

This issue of unsightly properties within the County and County hamlets was discussed; and further, the enforcement timelines for the clean-up of those unsightly properties.

Moved by Mr. Stephenson that the discussion with regard to unsightly properties within the County and County hamlets; and further, the enforcement actions for the clean-up of those unsightly properties be received for information.

Carried Unanimously.

**C/49/21
RCMP Crime
Reduction
Strategy**

RCMP Superintendent Peter Tewfik provided a virtual presentation on the Alberta RCMP Crime Reduction Strategy.

Moved by Mr. Ireland that the presentation on the Alberta RCMP Crime Reduction Strategy be received for information.

Carried Unanimously.

**C/50/21
ASB Conference**

A Council discussion took place regarding concerns raised with respect to the recent virtual Agriculture Service Board (ASB) Conference.

Moved by Mr. Stephenson that the discussion regarding the recent virtual Agriculture Service Board (ASB) Conference be received for information.

Carried Unanimously.

**C/51/21
Committee of the
Whole Notes**

Moved by Mr. Wigmore that the Committee of the Whole meeting notes for February 2, 2021 be received for information.

Carried Unanimously.

**C/52/21
1976 Coal
Development Policy
Correspondence**

Mr. Timmons referred to correspondence received from the Town of High River and Kim Higgins requesting support in efforts to have the Government of Alberta reinstate the 1976 Coal Development Policy. Mr. Timmons commented that the Province recently reinstated the 1976 Coal Development Policy, therefore, no action from Lacombe County is required at this time.

Moved by Mr. Wigmore that the correspondence from the Town of High River and Kim Higgins on the reinstatement of the 1976 Coal Development Policy be received for information.

Carried Unanimously.

**C/53/21
Tax Cancellation
Request**

Mr. Minchin advised Council of a request from a Lacombe County ratepayer regarding the cancellation of the late payment penalties that were levied on her 2020 property tax account. The amount of the late payment is \$108.00 levied on the tax balance for Tax Roll No. 3928172002. 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 approve the cancellation of the \$108.00 late payment penalty levied on Tax Roll No. 3928172002.

Motion Lost.

**C/54/21
RCMP MOU
Enhanced Policing
Position
Lifted from Table**

Moved by Mr. Ireland that the Memorandum of Understanding with the RCMP to govern the supervision and administration of the Enhanced Policing Position for Lacombe County to provide for a Plain Clothes Investigator within the General Investigation Section Unit of the Blackfalds Detachment be lifted from the table.

Carried Unanimously.

**C/55/21
RCMP MOU
Enhanced Policing
Position**

Mr. Boras advised that in September of 2017, Lacombe County entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the RCMP to provide an Enhanced Policing Position to be located in the Blackfalds Detachment. This position provides General Investigative Services in the Central Alberta Region.

As of April 1, 2020, the Alberta Police Funding Regulation came into force effectively eliminating the existing agreements in place for Enhanced Policing Services. The positions, however, remain in place and are now funded by the Government of Alberta. The MOU was presented for Council's consideration at the January 14, 2021 meeting and at that time was tabled for later discussion. Further discussion took place.

Moved by Mrs. Kreil that the Memorandum of Understanding with the RCMP to govern the supervision and administration of the Enhanced Policing Position for Lacombe County to provide for a Plain Clothes Investigator within the General Investigation Section Unit of the Blackfalds Detachment be approved.

Carried Unanimously.

**C/56/21
2021 WCPS
Thought Exchange**

Mr. Timmons referred to the Wolf Creek Public School Board video called 2021 WCPS Thought Exchange Priority Engagement. The Board is requesting local municipal Councils and administration to view the video and then participate in the Thought Exchange to provide feedback to the Board regarding initiatives and decisions outlined in the video. This request was presented at the January 28, 2021 Council meeting at which time it was deferred for consideration to the February 11, 2021 meeting. Council discussed the video and relevant comments.

Moved by Ms. Shepherd that the Wolf Creek Public School Board 2021 WCPS Thought Exchange be received for information; and further, that a letter be sent to the School Board thanking them for the opportunity to comment on the video.

Carried Unanimously.

**C/57/21
AER Directive 067**

Mr. Timmons referred to the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) Directive 067 which is to provide feedback to AER on energy licenses and approvals. Council reviewed the draft Directive 067 and discussion took place.

Moved by Mrs. Knight that Lacombe County provide feedback to the Alberta Energy regulator Directive 067 that all municipal property taxes in Alberta be current in order for licenses to be issued.

Carried Unanimously.

**C/58/21
Strategic Plan
Review**

Mr. Timmons advised that in 2018 Council and Administration undertook a complete overhaul of the Lacombe County Strategic Plan. Following that overhaul Council and Administration committed to a one-day update of the Strategic Plan in the spring of 2021. A further commitment was made to do a full two-day review of the Plan in the spring of 2023.

As such, Council is requested to set a date for the one-day update of the Strategic Plan.

Moved by Mrs. Kreil that the one-day update of the Lacombe County Strategic Plan be held on April 29, 2021 commencing at 9:00 a.m. in the Lacombe County Council Chambers.

Carried Unanimously.

10:55 a.m. Cajun Paradis and Peter Duke entered the meeting.

**C/59/21
RMA Top Issues
For County**

Mr. Timmons commented that Amber Link, Director for Zone 2 of the RMA, is requesting that the member municipalities provide the top three to five issues they are currently experiencing.

Moved by Ms. Shepherd that the following issues be provided to Ms. Link, Director for Zone 2 of the RMA:

- 1) **Unpaid Property taxes**
- 2) **Provincial Policing**
- 3) **Clarification of Bill 48**
- 4) **Lack of Consultation Between Province and Municipalities**
- 5) **Municipal Sustainability and Long-Term Funding**

Carried Unanimously.

**C/60/21
Bylaw No. 1319/20
Sylvan Lake IDP
Third Reading**

Ms. Paradis presented the final draft of the Sylvan Lake Intermunicipal Development Plan (IDP). The partnering municipalities including Lacombe County, Red Deer County, Town of Sylvan Lake, Summer Village of Birchcliff, Summer Village of Halfmoon Bay, Summer Village of Jarvis Bay, Summer Village of Norglenwold, and the Summer Village of Sunbreaker Cove have been working on the IDP since 2017.

The IDP is an important opportunity to confirm the shared vision for the Plan Area and harmonize development expectations. Centered around Sylvan Lake, this plan will guide future growth and development while protecting the unique environmental and cultural characteristics.

A public hearing hosted by all eight municipalities was held on November 21, 2020. The Steering Committee has reviewed all comments, questions, and clarifications in determining if revisions would be made to the plan. Following that review one minor change was made to add to 2.4 Project Scope. The Committee is now recommending third reading from all eight municipalities.

Ms. Paradis provided an overview of the draft Sylvan Lake IDP and presented Bylaw No. 1319/20, a bylaw of Lacombe County for the purpose of adopting the Sylvan Lake Intermunicipal Development Plan.

Moved by Mr. Stephenson that Bylaw No. 1319/20, a bylaw of Lacombe County for the purpose of adopting the Sylvan Lake Intermunicipal Development Plan, having been read a first time and second time, now be read a third time, and finally passed.

Carried Unanimously.

**C/61/21
Bylaw No. 1328/20
Buffalo Lake IDP
Third Reading**

Mr. Duke presented Bylaw No. 1328/20, a bylaw of Lacombe County to amend the Buffalo Lake Intermunicipal Development Plan (BLIDP). Bylaw No. 1328/20 was given first reading on July 9, 2020 and a public hearing was held on September 10, 2020. Second reading was given to the bylaw on December 10, 2020.

Mr. Duke advised that the majority of the amendments to the Plan are to clarify concepts and simplify the reading of the document. The overall intent of the Plan has not changed. Mr. Duke provided a summary of the proposed amendments to the Plan. Mr. Duke addressed questions of Council.

Moved by Mrs. Knight that Bylaw No. 1328/20 having been read a first time and a second time now be read a third time and finally passed.

Carried Unanimously.

11:15 a.m. Ms. Cajun and Mr. Duke withdrew from the meeting.

Mr. Minchin presented Bylaw No. 1336/21, a bylaw of Lacombe County to authorize borrowing for the purpose of financing operating expenditures. Pursuant to Section 251(1) of the Municipal Government Act, a municipality may only make a borrowing if the borrowing is authorized by a borrowing bylaw. The County's financial services provider, Servus Credit Union, requires the County to maintain a temporary line of credit borrowing bylaw. Mr. Minchin addressed questions of Council.

**C/62/21
Bylaw No. 1336/21
Borrowing Bylaw
First Reading**

Moved by Ms. Shepherd that Bylaw No. 1336/21, a bylaw of Lacombe County to authorize borrowing for the purpose of financing operating expenditures

be now read a first time.

Carried Unanimously.

**C/63/21
Bylaw No. 1337/21
Second Reading**

Moved by Mr. Ireland that Bylaw No. 1336/21 having been read a first time, now be read a second time.

Carried Unanimously.

**C/64/21
Bylaw No. 1338/21
Present for Third
Reading**

Moved by Mrs. Knight that Bylaw No. 1336/21 having been read a first and second time now be presented for third reading.

Carried Unanimously.

**C/65/21
Bylaw No. 1338/21
Third Reading**

Moved by Mr. Stephenson that Bylaw No. 1336/21 having been read a first and second time, now be read a third time and finally passed.

Carried Unanimously.

**C/66/21
Monthly Statement**

Moved by Mr. Wigmore that the Monthly Statement as at December 31, 2020 be received for information.

Carried Unanimously.

**C/67/21
Agenda Item
Follow-up**

Moved by Mr. Ireland that the Agenda Item Follow-up for January 28, 2021 be received for information.

Carried Unanimously.

Council Reports

Mrs. Kreil reported on the following:

- Medicine River Crimewatch
- Eckville Municipal Library
- Bentley Municipal Library
- Committee of the Whole
- RMA Virtual Zone Meeting
- Provincial ASB Virtual Conference

Mr. Stephenson reported on the following:

- Bentley Ag Society Meeting

Mrs. Knight reported on the following:

- Provincial ASB Virtual Conference

- CAEP
- Nebraska Multi 4H Speeches
- Committee of Whole
- RMA Virtual Zone Meeting
- Alberta Synergy
- Highway 12/21 Regional Water Services Commission
- Tees Ag Society

Mr. Ireland reported on the following:

- Provincial ASB Virtual Conference
- RMA Virtual Zone Meeting
- RDMUG
- Bev Yee, Deputy Minister of Environment and Parks– Coal Discussion
- RDMUG/Red Deer Watershed Society
- Alix Municipal Library
- Canadian Water Network Webinar
- Alix Arena Meeting

Ms. Shepherd reported on the following:

- Governance Workshop - Ellis Bird Farm
- Joffre Outdoor Rink
- Blackfalds & District Recreation & Culture Board
- AUMA Summit on Policing

Mrs. Law reported on the following:

- Provincial ASB Virtual Conference
- RMA Virtual Zone Meeting
- Lacombe & District Recreation & Culture Board
- City of Lacombe/Lacombe County IDP/ICF
- Lacombe Foundation
- Lacombe & District Chamber of Commerce
- Conference Call – Premier Kenney, Dr. Hinshaw, Minister McIver
- Lacombe Regional Tourism
- Kids Sport Chapter Development in Lacombe

Mr. Wigmore reported on the following:

- Mary C. Moore Public Library
- Regional Fire Services
- NRDRWSC
- Committee of the Whole

**C/68/21
Consent Agenda**

Moved by Ms. Shepherd that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented. Carried Unanimously.

Future Committee of the Whole Agenda Items:

- Bill 48 Discussion

**C/69/21
Adjourn**

Moved by Mrs. Knight that the meeting adjourn. Time: 11:55 a.m. Carried Unanimously.

Reeve

County Manager