

The regular meeting of the Lacombe County Council was called to order by Reeve Law at 9:00 a.m. on February 25, 2021 in the Council Chamber of the Lacombe County Administration Office.

- Present 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 Corporate Services, M. Minchin; Director of Planning, D. Freitag; Manager of IT Services, M. Kartusch, County Fire Chief, D. Bussiere and Administrative Executive Coordinator, L. Turnbull.
- Introductions Mrs. Law introduced herself and those present introduced themselves. Mrs. Law reviewed the procedures for holding and attending a virtual meeting.
- C/70/21  
Agenda** Mrs. Law inquired if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. There were two additions to the agenda.  
5.9 Unpaid Oil & Gas Taxes – Advocacy Efforts  
14.3 Land Annexation - FOIP Section 24(1)  
**Moved by Mr. Stephenson that the agenda be approved as amended.**  
**Carried Unanimously.**
- C/71/21  
Minutes** **Moved by Mr. Ireland that the minutes of January 28, 2021 be approved as presented.**  
**Carried Unanimously.**
- C/72/21  
COVID-19 Update** Mr. Bussiere reviewed the update on the latest COVID-19 statistics and the ongoing mandatory restrictions introduced by the Province. Mr. Bussiere addressed questions of Council regarding the COVID-19 pandemic.  
9:15 a.m. Dion Burlock entered the meeting.  
**Moved by Mrs. Kreil that the presentation with regard to the COVID-19 pandemic be received for information.**  
**Carried Unanimously.**  
9:19 a.m. Mr. Bussiere withdrew from the meeting.
- C/73/21  
Administrative  
Report** Mr. Timmons, Mr. Cade, Mr. Minchin, Mr. Boras and Mr. Freitag provided an overview of their department activities as presented in the Administrative Report.  
**Moved by Mr. Wigmore that the Administrative Report as at February 25, 2021 be received for information.**  
**Carried Unanimously.**
- C/74/21  
School Resource  
Officer Agreement** Mr. Boras advised that the County has been contributing 25% yearly to the cost of the School Resource Officer (SRO) Program with Wolf Creek Public Schools for the past 25 years. The Lacombe Police Service, in partnership with the City of Lacombe, Lacombe County, and Wolf Creek Public Schools have worked together successfully supporting the School Resource Officer Program.  
During the Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework (ICF) discussions, it was determined there is no current agreement in place. As such, an agreement was to be drafted and executed between the Lacombe Police Service (LPS), Lacombe County, and the City of Lacombe. That agreement has now been drafted and is presented for Council's consideration. Mr. Boras addressed questions of Council.  
**Moved by Ms. Shepherd that the School Resource Officer Agreement between Lacombe County, the City of Lacombe, and the Lacombe Police Service be approved as presented.**  
**Carried Unanimously.**

**C/75/21  
RCMP Detachment  
Lacombe County  
Policing Priorities**

Mr. Boras advised that the RCMP Detachment Commanders in Blackfalds, Rimbey, and Sylvan Lake, as part of their Annual Performance Plans (APP's), have requested that Lacombe County submit three main areas of concern for them to consider for inclusion in their plans.

Mr. Boras commented that the current situation in Lacombe County has a number of issues that can be identified as concerns. Mr. Boras provided a brief overview of those concerns for Council's consideration. Council discussion took place.

**Moved by Mrs. Knight that the following three policing priorities be forwarded to the Blackfalds, Rimbey, and Sylvan Lake RMCP detachment commanders:**

- **Communication with Public**
- **Cooperation/Communication with Lacombe County Community Peace Officers**
- **Movement of Organized Crime into Rural Areas**

**Carried Unanimously.**

**C/76/21  
Agricultural Policy  
Amendments**

Mr. Burlock advised that the Agriculture and Environmental Services Department has recently conducted a review of all policies of the Department. Mr. Burlock provided an overview of the policy amendments. A number of the amendments are grammatical or formatting updates. Mr. Burlock addressed questions of Council.

**Moved by Mr. Ireland that Policies AD (32), AD (33), AG (2), AG(3), AG(4), AG(5), AG(6), AG (7), AG (8), AG (9), AG(10), AG (11), AG (12), AG (13), AG (14), AG (15) be adopted as amended.**

**Carried Unanimously.**

**C/77/21  
Community Peace  
Offices Policy  
Amendments**

Mr. Boras advised that the Community Peace Officers (CPO) Services Department has recently conducted a review of all policies of the Department. Mr. Boras provided an overview of the policy amendments. A number of the amendments are grammatical or formatting updates. Mr. Boras addressed questions of Council.

There was a question with regard to Policy EN(4) Code of Conduct. Mr. Boras will review the policy with regard to the inquiry and present Policy EN(4) for Council's consideration at a future Council meeting.

**Moved by Ms. Shepherd that Policies EN (1), EN (2), EN (5), EN (6), EN (7), EN (8) and EN (10) be adopted as amended.**

**Carried Unanimously.**

10:51 a.m. Mr. Burlock withdrew from the meeting.

**C/78/21  
Policy RC(9)  
Application  
Approvals**

Mr. Minchin advised that the deadline for Policy RC(9) funding applications is January 31<sup>st</sup> of each year. This policy provides County support for community programs, events, and activities. This year's applications have been received from all the urban communities within the County, including the Summer Villages. Mr. Minchin provided an overview of the 2021 applications.

Mr. Minchin commented that the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on events in 2020 has influenced funding for 2021. Several events were not held in 2020 and as a result, many groups asked that their 2020 funding be used to host 2021 events. A total of 11 events will have their funding carried over from 2020 to 2021.

**Moved by Ms. Shepherd that Council approve the 2020 Policy RC(9) applications as follows:**

Lacombe County RC(9) Grant Program 2021		
Community	Applicant	Event
Alix	Village of Alix Recreation	Canada Day 2021
Blackfalds	Town of Blackfalds	Blackfalds Day
Eckville	Town of Eckville	Eckville Canada Day
Lacombe	City of Lacombe Arts Endowment Fund	Art in the Park
Lacombe	Lacombe Days Association	Lacombe Days
Lacombe County	Tees Agricultural Society	Spring Chilli Cook-off and Bingo
Lacombe County	Tees Agricultural Society	Christmas Concert and Carol Festival
Lacombe County	Birch Bay Community Association	Family Day, July 1st fireworks, Beach Day BBQ

**Carried Unanimously.**

**C/79/21  
Property Tax  
Cancellation  
Motion Lost**

Mr. Minchin advised that on June 8, 2020 Point Loma Resources Ltd. was placed into receivership. At that time Point Loma had not paid the 2019 or 2020 property taxes for any of its properties or assets in Lacombe County. As such, the County would not recoup any taxes from these sites. The County has established allowances in the event that these taxes would have to be cancelled.

On February 11, 2021, the County was advised that six well sites had been conditionally sold to Silverleaf Resources Inc. Silverleaf is now seeking the cancellation of the outstanding 2019 and 2020 and a portion of the 2021 taxes.

The total amount owing for these properties is \$29,958.51 which includes, the 2019 and 2020 levies as well as penalties for over the same period. The portion of the 2021 levy is estimated to be \$1,536. Mr. Minchin addressed questions of Council.

**Moved by Mr. Wigmore that Council approve the cancellation of the 2019 and 2020 property taxes and penalties for the following well sites related to assessment roll #0000553795:**

License	UWI	Surface Location
0397734	100/02-25-039-28W4/0	02-25-039-28W4
0376832	100/03-13-040-28W4/2	03-13-040-28W4
0399657	100/04-13-040-28W4/0	04-13-040-28W4
0396669	100/08-13-040-28W4/0	08-13-040-28W4
0374624	100/10-11-040-28W4/0	10-11-040-28W4
0402202	100/10-24-039-28W4/00	08-24-039-28W4

**totalling \$31,494.51; and further that Council approve the request of Silverleaf Resources to cancel the 2021 prorated property taxes for the same properties up to February 11, 2021, subject to Silverleaf Resources providing confirmation of the purchase of the assets.**

**Motion Lost.**

**C/80/21  
Telus – Broadband  
Letter of Support**

Mr. Timmons advised that Telus is seeking a letter of support from Lacombe County as part of its application to the Universal Broadband Fund (UBF). The application is seeking funding to improve mobile coverage to the Lacombe County area. As part of this coverage Telus will launch high speed internet access to these enhanced areas. Mr. Timmons addressed questions of Council.

**Moved by Mrs. Knight that Lacombe County provide Telus with a letter in support of its application to the Universal Broadband Fund.**

**Carried Unanimously.**

**C/81/21  
Advocacy on Unpaid  
Oil & Gas Taxes**

The RMA has requested municipalities to advocate regarding the issue of unpaid oil and gas taxes. Mr. Timmons advised a report has been prepared by RMA and they are suggesting we do press and media releases for the public and make this a major issue with our MLA's (through letter or have them attend Council). Council discussion took place.

**Moved by Mr. Stephenson that the County Manager be directed to prepare a report on the advocacy effort on the unpaid oil and gas issue; and further, that this report be presented at a future Council meeting.**

**Carried Unanimously.**

**C/82/21  
Monthly Statement**

**Moved by Ms. Shepherd that the Monthly Statement as at January 31, 2021 be received for information.**

**Carried Unanimously.**

**C/83/21  
Agenda Item  
Follow-up**

**Moved by Mrs. Kreil that the Agenda Item Follow-up for February 11, 2021 be received for information.**

**Carried Unanimously.**

**C/84/21  
Letter to Premier  
Jason Kenney –  
MELT Training**

**Moved by Ms. Shepherd that a letter be forwarded to Premier Jason Kenney in support of extending timelines, offering various training locations across the province, and easing the financial burden to acquire Class 1 Mandatory Entry-Level Training (MELT) certification for agricultural sector workers.**

**Carried Unanimously.**

**C/85/21  
Consent Agenda**

**Moved by Mrs. Kreil that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented.**

**Carried Unanimously.**

Committee of the  
Whole

Future Committee of the Whole Agenda Items:

- Three-year tax-free status for oil companies by Provincial Government – Mr. Wigmore

Councillor Inquiries

Mr. Stephenson commented that Phase 2 of Pogadl Park in Sylvan Lake has been approved. Phase 2 includes the spray park and playground. Mr. Stephenson inquired if the County will be required to pay operational costs for these facilities. Mr. Timmons advised that the County has executed a five-year operational cost sharing agreement with the Town of Sylvan Lake for recreational facilities, as such, anything newly developed is not included in that agreement.

Mrs. Knight advised that she has been having discussions with ratepayers about the Canadian Grain Farmers Code of Practice. Mrs. Knight commented that there are mandatory requirements and inquired if more information regarding the Code of Practice could be shared with County producers. Mrs. Knight will forward information regarding her inquiry to Mr. Timmons.

Ms. Shepherd commented that the new manager at the Ellis Bird Farm is endeavoring to get the Farm maps and trail system on GPS and inquired if the County has GPS equipment to assist with this initiative. Mr. Kartusch advised that the County has two units that could be of assistance. Ms. Shepherd will coordinate this with Mr. Kartusch.

Mrs. Kreil inquired if there is a proposed community hall being built at the Joffre Trailer Park. Mr. Freitag advised that there has been an application for a community hall area in a proposed building and the application should be finalized in the near future. Mr. Freitag added that the trailer park is a legal non-conforming use but it cannot be expanded.

**C/86/21  
In-camera**

**Moved by Mr. Wigmore that the meeting recess in order to meet In-camera for the purpose of discussing a land sale and In-camera items update.  
Time: 11:31 a.m.**

**Carried Unanimously.**

**C/87/21  
Reconvene**

**Moved by Mr. Ireland that the meeting reconvene.  
Time: 12:01 p.m.**

**Carried Unanimously.**

**C/88/21  
Land Purchase  
Agreement Doef's  
Greenhouse**

**Moved by Mr. Wigmore that the County Manager be authorized to execute the land purchase agreement with Doef's Greenhouse Ltd. for the purchase of the Pt. SE 11-41-28 W4M.**

Mrs. Knight request a recorded vote.

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>
Mr. Ireland	Mrs. Knight
Mrs. Kreil	
Mrs. Law	
Ms. Shepherd	
Mr. Stephenson	
Mr. Wigmore	

**Carried.**

**C/89/21  
Adjourn**

**Moved by Mr. Stephenson that the meeting adjourn.  
Time: 12:02 p.m.**

**Carried Unanimously.**

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Reeve

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County Manager