

Policy and Priorities Committee Meeting

January 6, 2015

The Policy and Priorities Committee is a standing Committee of Council responsible for reviewing policies, bylaws, plans, studies and other County activities that are in a draft or planning stages in order to provide Administration with direction. Recommendations may be made during Policy and Priorities (POP) meetings, but final decisions regarding bylaws and policies must be referred to future Regular Council Meetings.

Delegations

Delegations are individuals or groups who request permission to appear before Council to speak on a particular issue.

Lakeland Country Outdoors

- Representatives from Lakeland Country Outdoors, an arm of the Riverland Recreational Trail Society—the non-profit organization that owns and operates the Iron Horse Trail—met with Council to discuss collaborating with the County to raise funds to expand the trail network into Lac La Biche County. The group promotes healthy lifestyles and the development of economic diversity in conjunction with environmental protection with their trail systems.
- The group requested a letter of support from the County, as well as representatives from Council to sit on a Lakeland Country Regional Trail System working group that is in the planning stages and will include representatives from other neighbouring municipalities.
- Council directed Administration to bring forward a Request for Decision (RFD) to a Regular Council Meeting regarding Council appointments to the working group.

New Business

Land Use Bylaw

- At a previous meeting, Council reviewed the draft Land Use Bylaw (LUB), which is in the process of being updated. The LUB is an important zoning document that ensures development in the County occurs strategically, efficiently and safely. It governs what kinds of land use activities can happen in a particular area.
- Council had flagged a list of questions for the consultants working on the LUB and Administration brought forward answers for Council's review.
- The draft LUB will be available for public review and input on January 27, 2015. It will be available online, along with a survey to record feedback. There will also be two open houses for residents—one in Plamondon at the Festival Centre on January 27, 2015 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. and one in Lac La Biche at McArthur Place on January 28, 2015 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Jubilee Hall Basement Renovation

- Administration briefed Council on work that will be done to clean and repair the basement in Jubilee Hall in order to allow user groups to utilize the space.
- Earlier this year Council approved \$50,000 to perform upgrades and renovations to the first floor of Jubilee Hall, including new exterior doors, roof patching, exterior LED lighting and structural upgrades.

Lac La Biche County 2015-2018 Communications Plan

- Administration presented the County's revised three-year Communications Plan to Council.
- The updated plan—which was the work of a committee comprised of County staff and members of Council—lays out strategies for ensuring well-coordinated communication procedures for the County. The goal is to improve practices for responding effectively and efficiently to the information needs of Council, staff, residents and potential employees.
- The plan contains 16 strategies with assigned tactics and will be reviewed and updated annually.
- The 2015-2018 Communications Plan will be brought forward during a Regular Council Meeting for adoption by Council.

Pre-Incident Site Planning

- The County's Manager of Fire Services, John Kokotilo, brought forward information about the Pre-Incident Site Planning inspections the Fire Services department intends to carry out in the near future.
- As per Section 6.4 of the County's Fire Protection Bylaw, the Fire Services department has the authority to carry out fire inspections for businesses and public buildings.
- The inspections will give fire fighters knowledge of the layout and construction materials used in public buildings in the community. This will help fire fighters respond more effectively in the event of a fire or other emergency, increase the safety of Fire Services staff and minimize property damage.

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Lac La Biche Regional Health Foundation Update

- Administration presented the monthly Health Foundation update to Council.
- At the October meeting of the Health Foundation, board members agreed on the name of the organization—the Lac La Biche Regional Health Foundation.
- At the November meeting, board members met with Tom Gillespie, Foundation Relations Manager with Alberta Health Services (AHS) via teleconference to discuss final revisions of the foundation's bylaws.
- Once final changes are made, the bylaws will be sent in to the Minister of Health for approval.
- Future plans for the board include a possible tour of the William J. Cadzow Health Care Centre.
- The next meeting of the Health Foundation board will be held once the bylaws have been approved.