

Delegations

Delegations are individuals or groups who request permission to appear before Council to speak on a particular issue, or with whom Council has requested a meeting.

Red Hat Rockers

- Representatives from the local Red Hat Society chapter—the Red Hat Rockers—met with Council to discuss their organization and to observe the process of a Council meeting. They also brought snacks.

Lac La Biche County Library Board

- Representatives from the Lac La Biche County Library Board met with Council to discuss their successes in 2015 and plans for 2016.
- There are two libraries in the County—one in Plamondon and another in Lac La Biche—offering a total of 96 hours of library access weekly. This is a very high level of service for rural Alberta. The County provides funding for both library operations.
- The Library Board presented their plan of service for 2016 to 2020:
 - Enhancing early literacy with children from infancy to five years old.
 - Encouraging health, wealth and other positive life choices.
 - Encouraging life-long learning.
 - Stimulating imagination with options to enhance leisure time.
- Other priorities for 2016 include maintaining current hours and quality of service, increased programming for all-ages, and hosting more videoconferencing seminars.
- Library funding will be part of Council's 2016 budget discussions starting in November.

New BusinessRevisions to the Draft Land Use Bylaw

- The preparation of a new Lac La Biche County Land Use Bylaw has been underway for nearly two years. County Council has met with Planning and Development staff as well as Land Use Bylaw (LUB) consultants numerous times to review proposed changes and provide feedback.
- Open Houses were held in January 2015 to gain feedback from the public on the draft LUB.
- Consultants have been working to implement the feedback from Council and the public. Key issues for both Council and residents have been the location of work camps, hamlet parking requirements and residential RV storage.

- Council discussed the draft LUB with the new Senior Manager of Planning and Development, who committed to a thorough review of the document, with the intention of bringing a finalized draft before Council in January 2016. Once the draft LUB is given first reading by Council, a public hearing will be held to give residents another opportunity to provide feedback prior to final adoption.

Amendments to Lac La Biche County Municipal Development Plan

- Council adopted a Municipal Development Plan (MDP) in 2013 in order to provide long-term strategic direction for new development in the County over the next several years.
- Planning and Development staff plan to amend the MDP to improve clarity for developers, particularly in the section regarding Area Structure Plans.
- Council directed Planning and Development staff to prepare recommendations that will address issues of clarity in the MDP.

Child Mind Program Infant Care

- Upon receiving feedback from parents in the community, the County's Family and Community Support Services and Community Development department recommended a pilot program offering infant care at the Bold Center's Child Mind Service from now until December 31, 2015.
- Currently, the Child Mind Service offers short-term child care for children aged 2 to 12. The service is offered to allow parents to use the Bold Center facilities to work out or play a sport while their children are being supervised by child care professionals.
- The pilot program will offer infant care for babies aged 6 months to 2 years.
- There will only be space for two infants at a time, as it is necessary to ensure that provincially-regulated ratios of staff to children are observed. At peak times, no infants will be accepted.
- Parents can call ahead to schedule infant care on a first come, first serve basis. Parents can also drop in to see if there are spaces, however, without registering in advance, there is no guarantee.
- Infant care will cost \$5 per half-hour.
- Council approved the pilot program and will assess the success and viability of the program in the new year to decide whether the service will be continued.

Plamondon Arena Fees and Administration

- The Plamondon Arena was turned over to the County in July 2015 by the Plamondon Agricultural Society. A budget of \$249,400 was approved by Council to fund the remainder of the fiscal year in order to complete repairs and prepare the arena for the upcoming hockey season.
- Administration provided Council with an update on how operations would proceed over the next year:
 - Letters will be sent to local user groups notifying them of changes to the booking process, and general use policies and procedures—which will follow the same policies and procedures as the Bold Center.
 - Advertisements looking for interested parties to run the concession operations will be prepared by the end of November.
 - The County will honour all existing fees for the Plamondon Arena during the first year of transition. Staff will research the fees at comparable facilities in Alberta to prepare a fair fee structure for future years, which will come before Council for ratification next year.

Public Works Committee Revised

- Council approved a new, revised structure for the Public Works Committee, made up of three members of Council and the Mayor as ex-officio. Previously the Public Works Committee (and the Policy and Priorities Committee) were committees of the whole. This means Council as a whole met to discuss matters pertaining to public works and County policies and procedures.
- As of September 29, 2015, the Policy and Priorities Committee was rescinded and a smaller Policy Review Committee was struck, in order to provide direction on matters of policy in a more efficient format.
- Council as a whole will now meet only for two Regular Council Meetings a month, and any scheduled Strategic Session or Special Council Meetings.