

Ward 2 Councillor Resigns to Run for Mayor

- Council officially accepted the resignation of former Acting Mayor Robert Richard, who resigned from his position as Ward 2 Councillor last week to run in the Mayoral By-Election on Monday, July 21, 2014. Acting Deputy Mayor John Nowak stepped into the role of Acting Mayor upon Mr. Richard's departure last week.

New Acting Deputy Mayor Appointed

- Councillor Tim Thompson was nominated and appointed to the position of Acting Deputy Mayor of Lac La Biche County, a position that must be filled at all times, according to the Municipal Government Act. Acting Deputy Mayor Thompson will serve in this position until the Mayoral By-Election in July.

Date Set for Ward 2 By-Election

- Council set the date for the by-election to fill former Councillor Richard's Ward 2 vacancy for Monday, August 25, 2014. A budget of \$5,000 was set for the by-election.

Council Meetings Rescheduled

- The June 17, 2014 Strategic Session was cancelled due to the lengthy Public Works Committee Meeting agenda. The June 24, 2014 Regular Council Meeting was cancelled and rescheduled for June 27, 2014 at 10 a.m.

Year-To-Date Financials

- The County's Finance department presented the year-to-date statement of Revenues and Expenditures up to and including May 31, 2014. This was the first financial report made to Council since the County's budget was passed at the end of April, encompassing 42 per cent of the 2014 fiscal year. Council went through the unaudited financial statement and discussed the amounts budgeted for each department for the year, and the actual amounts spent to date.

Sewer Disposal Rates Increased for Work Camps

- Council increased the Utility Sewer Disposal rates at the Biological Nutrient Removal wastewater treatment plant for sewage disposal from work camps within the County, and all loads from outside the County, effective July 1, 2014. Previously the cost was \$5 per cubic metre (or \$25 per axle). After July 1, the cost will increase to \$10 per cubic metre (or \$50 per axle). Rates for commercial and residential sewage disposal will remain the same.

Home-Based Composting Pilot Program Approved

- Council approved a waste reduction pilot initiative for Lac La Biche County that will see at least 40 households take part in a home-based, County-supported composting program. Since 35 per cent of the waste going to County landfills is organic and compostable, this pilot program will promote and encourage more residents to compost at home. Interested residents will sign up for the program, and be provided with a composter and kitchen organics container, along with training and workshops. Depending on participation and success, this program may be continued and expanded in the future.

New Parks and Open Spaces Policy Approved

- Council approved a new Parks and Open Spaces Policy, setting out clearer priorities and goals for Parks staff. In the interest of equality and clarity, Council requested that Administration return to Council with a briefing regarding the current outdoor maintenance schedule for all of County's community halls.

Commissions to Realtors on Municipal Land Sales

- In the interest of encouraging local realtors to offer County-owned land to prospective buyers in order to facilitate County land sales, Council approved a realtor commission rate based on market norms. Realtors will be offered a commission rate of 3.5 per cent on the first \$100,000 of the land sale price, and 1.5 per cent on the remaining balance. A commission agreement must be signed by a licensed realtor prior to the submission of any offers.

Council to Consider All Land Sales Offers

- In the interest of transparency, Council amended the County's Land Sale Policy. Previously, all land sale matters were decided by the County's CAO. With the new amendment, all offers for municipal land sales will be reviewed by Council and are subject to approval by Council.



Regular Council Meeting
June 10, 2014

Hiring Freeze Placed on Peace Officer Program

- Council approved a hiring freeze on Peace Officer program vacancies until a review of the program could be considered by Council.