

Public Works Committee Meeting

May 20, 2014

The Public Works Committee is a standing Committee of Council responsible for developing and evaluating matters of policy and providing oversight and recommendations for Transportation Services, Utilities and Solid Waste and Resource Recovery Management.

- Manager of Transportation, Brian Shapka, reported on the status of the department's current capital projects—including Beaver Hill Road, where final construction is underway with completion expected by the end of summer—and an update on daily departmental activities.
- Council discussed allocating more County resources to keeping the municipality free of litter. Council entertained such options as assigning more summer student man hours to cleaning up the litter along County's roads and green spaces, and the possibility of community groups adopting certain areas of the County to keep free of litter as part of the municipality's community grants program.
- The County's street cleaning program was explored, with Council requesting a greater focus on removing the dirt and gravel from the hamlet's streets. Mr. Shapka reported that the municipality's sole street cleaning vehicle is out in residential neighbourhoods during the morning and afternoon when residents are at work, and along downtown streets during the early morning and late evening hours, indicating that working around parked cars was a factor in the dirt that remains in the hamlet. Mr. Shapka committed to focusing more resources on the County's street cleaning program.
- In response to a citizen request, Council discussed the speed limit for Egg Lake Road. Currently the speed limit is 80 km/h and residents in the area have requested the speed limit be raised to 100km/h. Mr. Shapka informed Council that Egg Lake Road does not meet design standards for a 100km/h designation though 90 km/h might be possible. Council passed a motion for Administration to investigate the feasibility of increasing the speed limit to 90 km/h on Egg Lake Road.
- To improve the drainage along the lake in Holowachuk Estates, Council passed a motion for Administration to explore the cost of the pre-engineering required for an update to the storm water and road design in the subdivision.
- In the interest of assessing the current condition of the County's roads, Council decided to schedule a "road tour" in June. Each councillor will make a list of the roads in their Ward that residents have indicated are in poor condition. Administration will also compile a list of roads that need attention. Council and staff will take a tour of these roads, and make plans

and priorities for future maintenance and repair. Council also plans to take a tour of County's utility facilities, including the new Biological Nutrient Removal waste water treatment plant, in July.

- Manager of Utilities, Gary Siebold, reported on the status of the department's current capital projects—including the installation of the Highway 55 Gravity Sewer—and an update on daily departmental activities.
- Mr. Siebold requested Council's direction with respect to the rates charged for sewage disposal at the County's Biological Nutrient Removal waste water treatment plant, in order to improve cost recovery at the multi-million dollar facility. After discussing the rates in neighbouring municipalities, Council passed a motion that Administration bring forward amendments to Lac La Biche County's sewage disposal fees as follows:
 - \$5 per cubic metre for in-County commercial disposal
 - \$10 per cubic metre for out-of-County commercial/industrial disposal.
 - \$10 per cubic metre for in-County and out-of-County industrial work camp disposal.

The \$1 per cubic metre fee for residential disposal amended on May 1 will remain the same. The new fee amendments will come back to a Regular Council Meeting for final approval.

Council deferred the agenda items listed for Solid Waste and Resource Recovery Management until the Public Works Committee's next meeting on June 17, 2014.