

## **Delegations**

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

### Plamondon Playground Group

- Representatives from the Plamondon Playground Group met with Council to request additional funding for the new playground constructed at the Ecole Plamondon School last year. The organization raised \$70,000 to construct the playground, but required an additional \$7,520 to pay an outstanding landscaping fee. The group also requested some new funding from Council to enhance some of the features of the park (extra wood chips for the playground base, benches, etc).

## **Disposition of Delegations**

- Council directed Administration to provide \$7,520 to the Plamondon Playground Group for landscaping fees, acknowledging that the group had already submitted a \$5,000 grant application towards this amount in the 2014 budget that had yet to be remitted. Council also directed the group to submit a grant application for the County's 2015 budget, requesting funds for enhanced park features.

## **New Business**

### Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for the Period Ending October 31, 2014

- Administration presented Council with the monthly Statement of Revenues & Expenditures for the period ending October 31, 2014.

### Water Conservation Policy

- Council approved an updated Water Conservation Policy and Procedure, which outlines the water conservation measures followed by the municipality in the event that the water level drops past a certain point in the County's reservoir. (This can be caused by a serious water main break or other disruptions to water intake or outflow.)

- The only significant change made to the policy is when the County's reservoir has been at less than 40 per cent over a 24-hour period—classified a Yellow Water Conservation Notice—County staff will monitor the Airport and Plamondon truck fills to ensure compliance with the restrictions placed on bulk haulers in the policy. (Bulk haulers are permitted to deliver no more than 500 gallons to any residence in a 48-hour period and only to residences within the County during a Yellow Water Conservation Notice.) Prior to this policy change, truck fills were unstaffed during a Yellow Water Conservation Notice.

#### Pool Policies and Procedures

- Council approved Portage Pool Policies and Procedures relating to the Pool Allocation Policy and the Pool Admission and Supervision Policy.
- The Pool Allocation Policy is intended to assist Administration in coordinating programs and lessons while at the same time considering the needs of multiple user groups, to ensure that the pool is used in an efficient and cost-effective manner for all.
- The Admission and Supervision Policy lays out a consistent process for admission and supervision standards that will increase safety, awareness and education as the pool continues to see an increase in users, including non-swimmers and unaccompanied youth.
- In the interest of safety, patrons between the ages of seven and 11 will be required to complete a swim assessment upon arrival at the pool. Patrons will be required to successfully jump feet first into the water and submerge completely, surface, and swim 25 metres comfortably without stopping or resting, and tread water comfortably for one minute with mouth and nose above the water at all times. If passed, these swimmers will be given a green wristband and will be eligible to swim without the direct supervision of a responsible person. Once the swim assessment has been completed successfully on three separate visits, these swimmers will be given a pass card allowing them to receive a green wrist band upon entry at subsequent visits. If the swim assessment is not successfully completed, patrons will only be permitted in the wading pool and the whirl pool and the shallow end of the main pool. Children six and under must be accompanied at all times by a responsible person within arm's reach.

#### Bold Center Free Admission Day

- The Bold Center recreation facility officially opened its doors on January 3, 2011.
- In honour of the anniversary, and in order to promote free-to-all participation at the facility at least once a year, Administration presented Council with a briefing outlining the plan for a Free Admission Day to be held on January 3, 2015.
- The proposed plan would see all fees waived on Saturday, January 3, 2015. This would include the gym, fieldhouses, child mind services, and skating rinks. There would be Fieldhouse Fun Zone programming led by staff, fitness class demonstrations, and public skating and shinny

hockey times. Administration also mentioned plans to use the County's para-transit bus to help provide transportation to the Bold Center on Free Admission Day.

- Council expressed support for the idea. While the final decision on Free Admission Day will be made at the Regular Council meeting on December 9, Council provisionally green-lit the project and staff is moving forward with plans to organize and publicize the event.

#### Facility Waiver of Fees for Santa's Helpers

- Council approved the waiver of Facility Rental fees for local charitable group, Santa's Helpers.
- Santa's Helpers raises funds for food hampers and collects toys for presents during the holiday season every year in order to help the community's families in need.
- While in the past, the group had used the Lac La Biche fire hall to prepare hampers and wrap toys, the fire hall proved too small to effectively house the activity.
- Santa's Helpers will use Jubilee Hall to prepare and store hampers and gifts free of charge.
- Council also directed Administration to instruct the group to complete the Community Grant application process in the future to request the waiver of fees, in order to ensure that all community groups are following the same process when requesting funding and support from the County.

#### Snow Clearing on Provincial Roads and Highways

- Council discussed the need for improved winter road maintenance on the provincially-maintained highways in the County.
- Due to a lack of resources—whether equipment, materials or man power—the safety of County residents is being compromised as provincial highways in the area are not cleared, nor sanded and salted, to proper safety standards in a timely fashion.
- Council discussed the resources that would be required from the province in order to improve the situation. Satellite salt and sand sheds need to be constructed at intervals along Highways 881, 36 and 55-west to improve sanding. Currently the County's 16,000 square kilometres of roads are serviced out of Lac La Biche, with the exception of a small stockpile on Highway 55 east. This means one-way haul distances of 45 to 90 kilometres for sanding, with the same 45 to 90 kilometres return trip to reload. Additional man power and equipment would also improve the road maintenance situation in Lac La Biche County considerably.
- Council directed Administration to craft a letter to the Premier of Alberta, and send the same letter to the Minister of Transportation, our local PC MLA and other local Alberta Transportation representatives to request improvements to provincial highway maintenance in the area.



**Regular Council Meeting**  
November 25, 2014