

Policy and Priorities Committee Meeting

October 7, 2014

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.

Councillor Reports

- Councillors had their monthly round table. They spoke about their experiences at the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (AUMA) convention, and shared information on the useful workshops they attended. They also talked about lobbying Government of Alberta ministers at the AUMA convention to improve health services and highway safety in our region.

Lac La Biche County Health Foundation Update – October 2014

- Administration contacted residents who had expressed interest in sitting on the health foundation's board. The first meeting for prospective board members is scheduled on Thursday, October 23, 2014 at 7 pm, and it'll take place at the McArthur Place Tea Room.
- Council asked that administration advertise this meeting to make the public aware of this opportunity.

Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties (AAMDC) Aggregated Energy Program

- The County currently pays AAMDC a fixed fee of around \$520,000 per year for electricity, and that cost is frozen. That means electricity costs won't fluctuate with the market. This allows the County to power its buildings, as well as a few of the facilities that the County pays for on behalf of community groups.
- Because this contract expires in 2015, administration sought direction. Should administration renew the contract?
- Council accepted this report as information, and will make a decision at a later date.

Delegation: RCMP Chief Superintendent Randy McGinnis visits Council

- RCMP Chief Superintendent Randy McGinnis discussed our local RCMP detachment with Council.
- Mr. McGinnis said that they've finalized the expansion and renovation plan for Lac La Biche County's RCMP detachment. Work will begin in spring 2015, and should be completed in fall 2016. Once finished, the renovations should allow the County's detachment to house six more members. Mr. McGinnis confirmed that RCMP service should continue as normal during renovations.

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Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Bylaw Review

- Administration presented the current CAO bylaw, seeing if Council wanted to amend it.
- Council discussed adding another provision to the current bylaw. Council will permit the CAO to change the structure of the organization (by, for example, adding new positions), but that Council must approve any changes. This will also be included in Lac La Biche County's Human Resources Policy.
- Council also suggested adding a standard form for employment contracts that the CAO must follow.
- Administration will include these suggestions in a draft bylaw for Council's review, which should happen before November.

Review of Bylaw 14-001 – Procedures and Committees of the Whole Council and Council Committees

- Administration presented a briefing on Council's procedural bylaw and the committees of Council.
- The briefing allowed Council an opportunity to provide feedback on and request changes to the bylaw and committees.
- Council deferred making changes until Council's yearly Organizational Meeting on October 28, 2014. At the Organizational Meeting, Council will schedule committee meeting dates and appoint Councillors to sit on committees.