

Wheatland County

Request for Decision

Regular Council Meeting

December 15, 2020

Report prepared by: Alyssa Robb, Environmental Coordinator



Gravel Operations Policy Update

Recommendation from Administration

That Council approve amendments to Gravel Operations Policy 9.3.1 as reflected in the attached draft.

Chief Administrative Officer's Comments

N/A

Report

Division County-wide

Amendments to Gravel Operations Policy 9.3.1 have been recommended primarily to modify policies and procedures for gravel sales. Key updates include reduction of per ratepayer maximum from 400 to 200 tonnes of gravel purchased per year, addition of a definition for ratepayer to clarify how much gravel may be purchased and by whom, and the initiation of a three sale per year structure to reduce the impact of sales on regular gravel operations. Gravel prices were removed from the policy, and instead would be updated in Wheatland County's Master Schedule of Fees. Additional changes were recommended to better align with current processes and new policy formats, as reflected in the attached clean and redline draft policy documents.

Relevant Policies, Practices, and Legislation

Gravel Operations Policy 9.3.1

Alignment with the Strategic Plan

N/A

Response Options

Option 1: THAT the proposed recommendation is accepted/approved.

Option 2: THAT the proposed recommendation is not accepted/approved.

Option 3: THAT an alternate recommendation is accepted/approved.

Implications of Recommendation

General

Accepting the policy updates as recommended will change the procedures for ratepayer access to gravel through sales. Gravel will no longer be available year-round, and the maximum purchase amount will be reduced. These changes have been recommended to help ensure best use of County aggregate and staff resources, and they align more closely with the practices of other municipalities when it comes to gravel sales.

Organizational

This recommended policy change will modify processes regarding gravel sales. This will reduce the staff workload associated with gravel sales, allowing staff to better respond to other priorities.

Financial

The policy changes as presented may impact the budget slightly due to reduced tonnage permitted and increased per tonne fees. These changes are anticipated to be negligible. Any change to gravel costs would occur in Wheatland County's Master Schedule of Fees.

Environmental, Staff, and Public Safety

Moving to a three sale per year structure will improve safety of staff and the public in active gravel pits. The ability for ratepayers to purchase gravel year-round does not allow for appropriate staff attention to the presence of members of the public on active work sites. Under the recommended policy, administration will be able to dedicate time and resources on sale days to have procedures in place to ensure safety.

Follow-up Action / Communications

If approved, this policy will be updated internally and on the County website.

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Gravel Operations Policy Update.docx
Attachments:	- 9.3.1 Gravel Operations FINAL DRAFT Clean.docx - 9.3.1 Gravel Operations FINAL DRAFT Redline.docx
Final Approval Date:	Dec 7, 2020

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'MZ' followed by a long, sweeping horizontal stroke.

Michael Ziehr

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Brian Henderson' in a cursive script.

Brian Henderson