



WHEATLAND COUNTY

Reeve Monthly Report

Reeve: Amber Link

Division: 2

Reporting Period: February 2020

Report Date: February 24, 2020

February 3 Municipal Development Plan (MDP) update launch video

Filmed an introduction video for our MDP update.

February 4 Council Meeting

Public Hearings were held and approval for final readings for 2 land redesignations, including one for a Direct Control District for an RV storage business and one for a Public Utility District to accommodate the construction of a municipal sewage lagoon to service the hamlet of Rosebud. First reading and public hearings were scheduled for a land use redesignation and a Land Use Bylaw amendment for Cannabis Stores. A new revised Nuisance and Unsightly Property Bylaw was approved.

Representatives from the RCMP Detachments (Strathmore, Bassano, Gleichen, and Drumheller) provided an overview to Council highlighting their detachment and policing priorities. The following topics were discussed: ongoing issues/concerns related to property crime; importance of consultation with municipal representatives and community engagement; police presence (rural areas); court system (prosecution of crimes); repeat offenders; value of 'watch clerk' positions; value of security systems and lighting to deter crimes; importance of public safety; follow-up to investigations; concerns related to rural crime. During the presentation, RCMP Representatives identified the following as policing priorities: reducing property crime, traffic law enforcement (which increases visibility and can act as a deterrent to other crimes), application of crime reduction strategy; police presence/visibility, community engagement.

I'm pleased we approved direction to draft a Resolution - 'Alberta Farmland Trust' to submit to the Central Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) - District 2 General Fall General Meeting for endorsement consideration for the Fall Rural Municipalities of Alberta Conference Resolution session and South Region Agricultural Service Board (ASB) Conference for endorsement consideration.

A Safety Administrative Directive was provided for information.

As information, D. Young (Community Peace Officer I – Protective Services Division) presented the process for the Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) Audit program and reviewed the CPTED audit conducted on the Carseland Fire Hall after a criminal break-in.

A Development Permit was approved for a Dwelling, Employee in Muirfield – DC7 District.

Wheatland County Administration will submit a 2020/21 Alberta Community Partnership grant application as the Managing Partner in support of the CSMI Regional Stormwater Management Project.

Approval to sponsor the 2020 Canadian Badlands Tourism Development Conference in the amount of \$5,000. (Silver Sponsorship).

Closed session included Land Matter (FOIP - Sec. 24) Appointment with Alberta Environment Representative, including a presentation on Composting Regulations, Legal Matter (FOIP - Sec. 16) - Re: Southern Alberta Energy from Waste Association, Legal Matter (FOIP - Sec. 21) - Re: Spring RMA Meeting Request, Labour Matter (FOIP - Sec. 16) - Re: Calgary Metropolitan Region Board.

February 4 Carseland Town Hall Meeting

An excellent turnout of several hundred residents to discuss rural crime and the postal service.

February 6 Community Futures Board Training

Module 1: Community Economic Development from the Community Futures Leadership Institute

Community Futures plays a significant role in community economic development. Board members will:

- Understand what community economic development is;
- Discuss the objectives, principles and strategies of community economic development;
- Explain the importance of community engagement and accountability in community economic development;
- Distinguish how community economic development differs from other approaches to economic development and community development; and
- Describe the role Community Futures plays in community economic development.

February 7 Rural Municipalities of Alberta District 2 Central Spring Meeting

Gathered at Clearwater County near Rocky Mountain House.

No Resolutions to consider, Wheatland's Alberta First Resolution was not seconded by another municipality.

The FCM Terms of Reference were amended to include cost sharing the per diems associated with the appointed member in addition to already cost shared travel related expenses.

I was elected to have my name stand as Central Rural Municipalities of Alberta District 2 FCM Committee/Board candidate.

Updates from RMA, including federal advocacy, unpaid taxes, reserves and asset management work, assessment model review and its impact on municipal sustainability, rural health, resolution advocacy progress, police advisory board, and police costing.

Education session regarding Development of Environmentally Sensitive Areas, outlining municipal responsibilities surrounding Flood Hazard Areas, Unstable Lands, and Brownfield Development. Noted security funds are the hammer for enforcing development, Development Agreement doesn't run with land, though Development Permit does.

Update from Municipal Affairs representatives, Deputy Minister, Paul Wynnyk and Assistant Deputy Minister, Gary Sandberg - including red tape reduction progress, assessment modelling, and Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks (ICFs).

Paul McLauchlin, Reeve of Ponoka County and our RMA Director for District 2, shared a presentation he has created, Alberta Energy 101. Extremely informative and can be targeted to specific groups.

Financial report.

February 8 Fair Deal Panel MLA Town Hall hosted by Minister Leela Aheer in Cheadle

Spent some time listening at a Fair Deal Panel MLA Town Hall in Cheadle hosted by Honourable Leela Sharon Aheer, MLA Chestermere- Strathmore.

Alberta Fair Deal panelists Stephen Lougheed and Donna Kennedy Glans were in attendance and indicated considered remedies may be legal, constitutional or economic.

The Fair Deal Panel is listening to Albertans and their ideas for Alberta's future.

Specific areas being explored include:

- * Establishing a provincial revenue agency to collect provincial taxes directly by ending the Canada-Alberta Tax Collection Agreement, while joining Quebec in seeking an agreement to collect federal taxes within the province.
- * Creating an Alberta Pension Plan by withdrawing from the Canada Pension Plan.
- * Establishing a provincial police force by ending the Alberta Police Service Agreement with the Government of Canada.
- * Emulating Quebec's practice of playing a larger role in international relations, in part by seeking Alberta representation in treaty negotiations that effect Alberta's interests.
- * Emulating Quebec's legal requirement that public bodies, including municipalities and school boards, obtain the approval of the provincial government before they can enter into agreements with the federal government.
- * Using the existing provincial power to appoint the Chief Firearms Office for Alberta.
- * Opting out of federal cost share programs with full compensation, such as the federal government's proposed pharmacare program.
- * Seeking an exchange of tax points for federal cash transfers under the Canada Health and Social Transfers.
- * Establishing a formalized provincial constitution.

If you were unable to attend and would like to have input to the panel please share your thoughts here:

<https://www.alberta.ca/fair-deal-panel.aspx>

February 11 Municipal Planning Commission

One development permit, for a dwelling accessory, was approved.

February 11 Fire Training Debriefing in Rosebud

Members of Council, administration, Fire Chiefs, and Firefighters met to debrief a fire training exercise from July 2018.

February 13 Wheatland Housing Management Board SWOT Analysis and Board Meeting

During SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) Analysis we discussed background and current situation, reviewed objectives, and held round table break out sessions identifying potential strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. A report will be circulated.

Social Housing and Lodge Financial Reports, Maintenance Supervisor Report, Social Housing, Resident Manager, and CAO Report, reviewed options and chose a new logo. Update on bargaining request, policy approval, letter from Wheatland County, and Resident and Family Survey results.

Two Notice of Motions:

1. To set a Hospice requisition at the March 12th, 2020 board meeting. Pending ministerial approval of the Wheatland & Area Hospice Society (WAHS) to be added as a member of Wheatland Housing Management Body (WHMB) Board.
2. Notice of Motion: Requisition money would be turned over to the WAHS for hospice operating costs. A requirement for monthly reporting must be brought to the table.

February 18 Council Meeting

A Public Hearing and Bylaw readings for a redesignation of land to Direct Control for an Automotive & Equipment Services Business.

Public Hearings and Bylaw Readings for our Intermunicipal Development Plans (IDP) with the Villages of Hussar and Rockyford.

First Reading and scheduling of Public Hearing for 2 Land Redesignations, one for future industrial development and one for Industrial for a stair construction business.

Recreation Manager for the Town of Strathmore, Mark Pretzlaff, presented an update on the Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre partnership, reviewing the first year of operations.

Approval of request to extend IDP timeline with Rocky View County.

Approval of Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework (ICF) with Newell County.

Approval of 2 new members to the Economic Development Board, Audra Reinhardt and Christina Stender.

Report on CP Holiday Train event and authorization to send thank you letter to Canadian Pacific.

Two new stop signs were approved.

Fire Guardians were appointed.

Council met with 3 MLAs who represent portions of Wheatland County:

Honourable Nathan Cooper, Speaker of the Legislature, MLA, Olds - Didsbury - Three Hills

Angela Pitt, Deputy Speaker and Chair of Committees, MLA, Airdrie East

Joseph Schow, Deputy Whip, MLA, Cardston - Siksika

Our MLAs updated on their activities and Council had an opportunity to share some of our most pressing issues and potential areas we would appreciate advocacy on our County's behalf.

February 19 Southern Alberta Energy from Waste Association (SAEWA) Board Meeting

Attended the Board Meeting to hear the siting report and site selection process results for a potential energy from waste facility. While Wheatland County had been short listed, the potential site in Wheatland was not identified as a preferred site. The siting evaluation process was a complex comparative analysis, comprised of detailed constraints-based analysis, including desktop studies, field reconnaissance and investigations, GIS data and analysis, consultation with utility companies, regulators/agencies, potential energy users, railways, and host municipalities.

Evaluation was based on multiple evaluation criteria including:

Cost and Constructability

Required infrastructure

Upgrades to existing infrastructure

Property ownership

Required permits, approvals, and agreements

Potential end users

Waste haulage

Environmental

Air Quality

Water bodies

Wetlands

Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs)

Species at Risk

Social and Cultural

First Nation reserves

Parks and recreational areas

Rural residential and urban residential areas

Historic resources

Sensitive receptors

Land Use

Zoning

Land Uses

Airports and heliports

Technical

Design flexibility

Land surface gradient (topography)

Power plants and substations

Transmission lines

Natural gas pipelines

Water supply

Roads

Railways

Traffic

It was noted a Fairness Committee oversaw the engineering firm's work to provide oversight.

Next steps were reviewed.

February 21 Calgary Metropolitan Region Board Governance Committee

Attended in Councillor Koester's place as he was away.

Public Engagement Policy discussed and recommended for Board approval. Discussion regarding consolidating Land Use and Intermunicipal Servicing Committees, question regarding Vice Chair as there's currently two (idea to elect 1 after annual term expires). Committee Terms of Reference, brief discussion, invitation to provide feedback and will come back again. Discussed Performance evaluation process for Chair and Chief Officer. Continued discussion regarding an appeal/dispute resolution process (lack of which is one of the fundamental issues with the Board currently in my opinion), further research will be undertaken, perhaps checking with the Municipal Government Board (MGB) to see if separate tract could be established to address timeliness, lengthiness and cost of MGB recognized, however they are a body with planning experience, I asked for consideration of a two step process where reconsideration by the board would occur in the event of a process error or missed or new information as well as the possibility for an actual appeal to a third party such as the MGB, consensus was asking the Minister of Municipal Affairs to decide an appeal was not a preferred option. Discussion around Edmonton Region model. Letter to be sent to Municipal Affairs to follow up on September 2019 meeting with Minister Madu.

February 21 Calgary Metropolitan Region Board

City of Calgary Mayor Nenshi presented the city's Municipal Context Report.

Q4 actuals were reviewed, showing 20% under budget for 2019, expected to be closer to budget in subsequent years. Audited Financial Statements were reviewed with the auditor and approved, good clean audit.

Lengthy discussion regarding the Conflict of Interest Policy and Procedure, which included a clause regarding “Outside Activities”, which concerned me due to the possibly interpretation of our work towards advocating for our own municipal best interests and autonomy. The clause read:

“Members must avoid participating in outside activities that conflict with the interests and work of the CMRB. Members will discuss any potential conflicts with the CMRB Chair and/or the Chief Officer.”

This clause will be referred to the Governance committee for further review, the rest of the policy and procedure were approved.

The Regional Employment Analysis was approved, though the attached report indicated the errors contained in the analysis had been corrected, that was not evident in our 2018 base year employment numbers estimated on page 5 of the Final Report, our employment is estimated at 1549, it should be noted that number is close to double our estimated population in our portion of the County included in the Calgary Metropolitan Region.

Recreation Servicing Technical Advisory Group Options for Enhancing Regional Recreation framework was approved, with the important understanding that it is in no way binding, approval does not suggest agreement to act on the suggestions.

A Public Engagement Plan update was provided. CMRB Messaging Platform was approved. Special Study Areas overview was provided. Legal opinion on Municipal Development Plan alignment with the Growth Plan was provided. Growth and Servicing Plan update. Committee updates. Visioning work plan approved; another consultant will be hired to facilitate further visioning.

February 24 Gleichen Community Association AGM

Audited financial statement review, updated bylaw review, and review of year’s activities.

February 25 Province of Alberta Speech from the Throne

It was my distinct honour to be invited by Honourable Nathan Cooper, MLA and Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta to the Speech from the Throne.

February 26 Meeting with SAEWA Executive Delegation

Review site selection process and outcomes.

February 26 Wheatland Family and Community Support Services (WFCSS) Board Meeting

Indirect program requests for funding, financial reports, CAO report, client rates, and outcome measures for indirect program applicants.

February 27 Province of Alberta Budget Release

It was my distinct honour to be invited by Honourable Leela Aheer, Minister of Culture, Multiculturalism and Status of Women, MLA, Chestermere – Strathmore to the Provincial Budget Day at the Legislative Assembly of Alberta.