

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT BONNYVILLE NO. 87

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS February 11, 2015

Keeping you informed of the services, business and development that affect YOU!

□#1 Doctor Recruitment Program Huge Success – Dr. Hendrik van der Watt, President of the Medical Staff at the Bonnyville Health Centre, told Municipal District of Bonnyville Council that the Physician Recruitment Program is a huge success. Dr. van der Watt thanked Council for its funding support of the program, saying six new physicians should be in Bonnyville by June 2015. The M.D. and the Town of Bonnyville agreed in 2014 to jointly fund the recruitment program. Dr. van der Watt said the sustainable funding has allowed the recruitment committee to put a program in place that attracts physicians to the community for the long term. He said additional physicians will allow the medical community to provide primary healthcare to all residents and decrease wait times in the ER.

□#2 Snow Clearing Policy Passed – The Snow Clearing Policy states the M.D. will keep all priority routes clear of snow and sanded during the winter months. Priority routes are reviewed annually and revised as required. In general, snow plowing shall commence on paved/oiled roads when snow accumulation exceeds five centimetres (two inches), and on gravel roads when snow accumulation exceeds 10 centimetres (four inches). In the event of an extreme winter storm resulting in large amounts of snow accumulation and/or drifting, M.D. roads will be opened (single pass only) within four consecutive days from completion of the snow event. Sand will be placed at roadway intersections when, in the opinion of the Sand/Truck Operator, Foreman or Transportation Manager, sand is required to provide a reasonably safe driving surface. The decision to place, or not place sand, will usually be based on the observations at various locations in the M.D.

□#3 Agriculture and Waste Services Update – Total 2014 expenditures for the Veterinary Services Incorporated (VSI) Program were \$74,782, slightly under the budgeted \$81,000. To date, 390 producers have registered in the program. As the Coyote and Wolf Reduction Program enters its fourth month, animals are continuing to be brought in, with 927 coyotes and 30 wolves to date. Since the program began in October, the M.D. has received two predation complaints.

□#4 Bonnyville Regional Fire Authority Upgrades – Council approved the purchase of a Cold Lake Tanker and a Goodridge Rescue Truck from Fort Garry Fire Trucks for \$555,888 and Self Contained Breathing Apparatus and Vehicle Extrication equipment for the sum of \$114,000.

□#5 Planning and Development Update – Bylaw No. 1597 to renew a road lease on NW 15-64-3 W4M received final reading. Council agreed to proceed with the up-sizing of the Moose Lake Water and Sewer Service Lines within NE 10-61-6 W4M for future development capacity to serve the local area to a maximum cost of \$94,000. Subsequent connections to the line will require the approval of the Town of Bonnyville after a water

study is conducted by both municipalities. In January, 10 Development Permits and one new Residential Building Permit were issued, with a year-to-date total of \$1,101,500.

□#6 Economy Not Slowing Down Drivers – Despite the impression that our local economy has slowed down because of the drop in oil, Public Safety Officers were busier in January 2015 than in 2014. Officers have been dealing with numerous complaints and calls for service, as well as a high number of traffic violations. In January 2015, Officers handed out 348 tickets and 119 Written Warnings, compared with 166 tickets and 46 written warnings in 2014.

□#7 Funding Support – Council agreed to donate \$10,000 to the Sixth Annual Hearts For Healthcare Gala on May 2 and purchase one table for \$800.

□#8 Briefly – Council declined an invitation from the City of Cold Lake to sit on the Energy Centre Design Development Steering Committee.

For more information, contact Diane Jenkinson, Marketing and Communications Manager at 780-826-3171. Our website is a useful way to get the information you need.

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