

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT BONNYVILLE NO. 87

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS April 11, 2012

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

☐#1 Council Passes 2012 Budget – The Municipal District of Bonnyville Council approved a balanced \$82.6 million budget on Wednesday. Reeve Ed Rondeau said road maintenance and construction is the top priority for 2012 and beyond. “With the increase in the Non-residential mill rate to 14.0000 mills from 11.0000 mills, Council has made a definitive commitment to maintaining and improving roads throughout the M.D. This year will be a transition year. The M.D, has ordered the equipment needed to go ahead with the infrastructure upgrade plan, however most of the equipment will not arrive before mid to late summer. The M.D. will maximize existing equipment during the 2012 construction season and Council will do the planning for 2013 and subsequent years. M.D. road crews will hit the ground running in the spring of 2013.”

Rondeau says the 2012 budget emphasizes services to residents as the first priority. “M.D. residents are primarily concerned about road improvements, maintaining our current rural infrastructure, waste management and recreational services. By putting \$40 million into roads: \$7.1 million for gravel roads; \$7.1 million for oiled roads; \$6.0 million for paved roads; \$2.2 million for street improvements; \$10.6 million for gravel/oil road maintenance and \$7.0 million for Public Works Equipment Council has taken the first step in attacking the M.D.’s road deficit.”

Other 2012 budget items include \$1.6 million for landfill operations, the completion of the Administration Office renovation/expansion \$3.6 million, Regional Fire Training Centre \$200,000, Roundabout at Highways 55 and 892 intersection \$2.0 million, Bonnyville and District Centennial Centre \$900,000, Regional Community Development Agreement \$900,000, School Requisitions \$9.9million and Lakeland Lodge requisition \$300,000.

In 2012 the Farm mill rate increases slightly to 4.0000, from 3.8000 in 2011. The Residential mill rate remains the same at 2.7663.

Rondeau says Council’s focus has been to keep the amount of residential taxes collected as low as possible. “Though Council has kept the residential mill rate the same, some M.D. residents may see an increase in their property taxes in 2012 because of the increase in property assessment. Some of the increase is market inflation with properties being worth more, while some of the increase is actual improvements to property.”

“The 2012 budget demonstrates that M.D. Council is committed to fixing our huge road deficit to meet our residents’ needs.” Rondeau says. “Council and residents do not want to burden their children with an infrastructure debt. We want our children and grandchildren to be the beneficiaries of what we lay down here today. Council needs to make sure that the M.D. keeps up with the road maintenance and improvements needed today, and to continue to make annual gains on the overall road deficit.”

☐#2 Road Oiling Priorities Approved for 2012 – Council passed the 2012 Road Oiling Priorities:

Ward 1

Fort Kent new construction

1.0 miles (was cold mix but rebuilt la

RR 454

Twps 610 to Twps 604

2.0 miles Rip and Relay

Ward 2

	RR 471	Hwy 28 to Twp 604A	2.5 miles	New (Road was reconstruct
Ward 3	RR 490	Twp 594 to Twp 600	2 miles	New (Was previously requ
	Twp 604	RR 484 to RR 482	2 miles	New
Ward 4	Twp 644	RR 473 to RR 475	2 miles	Rip and Relay
	RR 464	Twp 622 to Twp 620	2 miles	New(Calcium dust suppress
	Twp 625	Hwy 41 to RR 454	2 miles	Rip and Relay
Ward 5	Twp 640	SH 897 to RR 432(Riverhurst)	5 miles	New(3.5 miles of this road
	Twp 632	SH 892 to 442	1 mile	New(Road Reconstructed)
	RR 444	Twp 632 to Twp 631	1 mile	New
Ward 6	Baywood Road	new construction	0.5 miles	(was cold mix but rebuilt la
	Urlacher Subdivision	main road	0.5 miles	New(oil misting in 2011)
	Twp 630	Cold lake to RR 411 shoulders	2 miles	Rip and Relay spots of 7 mi
Total			<u>25.5 Miles</u>	

□#3 Agricultural Update – The Municipal District of Bonnyville is still asking groups to sign up to do Roadside Clean-Up on rural roads and hamlets. The municipality will pay from \$40 to \$100 per kilometre – depending on the road that is being cleaned. The Agricultural Department will direct groups to the areas that need to be cleaned. Sales of Strychnine to control the infestation of Ground Squirrels has been brisk. The Agricultural Department is encouraging producers to use the product at this time of year as the uptake by the rodents is good before the grass turns green and the animals have other food options. K & K Metal Recycling collected metal at the M.D.’s six landfills in March with a high success rate. The M.D. does not pay a fee for this service and may get some funds back based on the amount of metal collected. Over 2,000 tires were shipped to Cutting Edge Tire Recycling in Edmonton, with another couple of thousand set to be shipped in the upcoming weeks.

□#4 Weed Woes – The M.D. will be writing a letter to our neighbouring urban municipalities to ask for their cooperation in eliminating such weeds as Scentsless Chamomile and ornamental plants such as Himalayan Balsam. The M.D. has eradicated much of the Scentsless Chamomile within its borders, but is assisting the urban areas get the weed under control in some infested areas. Staff are also assisting the Town of Bonnyville with an infestation of Himalayan Balsam in Jessie Lake. The weed cannot be sprayed as it grows in water – it has to be pulled annually for five to eight years to eradicate the seed bed. The weed is also appearing in Moose Lake. The M.D. asks acreage residents to keep noxious ornamental plants within their flower beds and not let them grow into lawns and neighbouring lands.

□#5 Planning and Development News – Third and final reading was given to Bylaw LU 503 to rezone NW 27-61-1 W4M from Country Residential (CR2) to Agricultural (A) and Bylaw LU 504 for NW 23-61-5 W4M to rezone from Agricultural (A) to Rural Industrial (RI). Council did not approve Bylaw LU 506 for SE 1-61-6 W4M to rezone from Agricultural (A) to Rural Industrial (RI).

□#6 Transportation and Utilities Update – Council awarded the \$3,475,223.50 tender for the 6.4 km of Gurneyville Road paving to Knelsen Sand & Gravel Ltd. The total project budget is \$4,131,122.85. The Industry Liaison Officer is working to get the M.D. system to coordinate with TRAVIS – the Alberta Transportation permit application system, as well as land acquisition for the re-construction of the Beartrap Road and liaising with CNRL in regards to the Wolf Lake development where there are currently 129 4th quarter wells pending approvals. Preconstruction meeting for the Highways 55 and 892 Roundabout is scheduled for April 18. Township Road 600 was added to the Road Construction Priority List and the Old Gurneyville Road (Range Road 460 and Township Road 601A and 595) removed from the list.

□#7 Funding Support – The Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFGB) received a \$500 donation to assist with the expenses of growing a local grain plot. Proceeds from the grain and cash donations are distributed worldwide based on need. The CFGB is among the largest non-profit food-aid providers in the world. The Cold Lake Ice Junior “B” Hockey Team received \$250 to assist with travel expenses to attend the Provincial Championships. Council agreed to provide a letter of support, on the condition that the Bonnyville Community Church take over management control, to the Bear Trap Cemetery Group in their efforts to request the province to make the old cemetery active.

□#8 Briefs, Briefs, Briefs – The M.D. of Bonnyville had to pay an additional \$166,128 to cover its portion of the 2011 Bonnyville and District Centennial Centre deficit for a total of \$833,986 for 2011. Permits for burning barrels will not be allowed in any areas of the M.D. served by door-to-door garbage pickup.

For more information contact Diane Jenkinson, Communications Coordinator at 780-826-3171. Our web site is a useful way to get the information you need. Visit: www.md.bonnyville.ab.ca.