

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT BONNYVILLE NO. 87

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS April 13, 2011

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

□#1 2011 Budget Approved– The Municipal District of Bonnyville Council approved a balanced \$74.6 million budget. Reeve Ed Rondeau said road improvements continue to be the top priority in 2011. “The new Council made the commitment to put a major portion of M.D. dollars into road improvements. With the tender for the Administration building addition and renovation coming in at a cost of \$5 million, Council agreed to debenture construction costs if required to take economic advantage before prices increase as the economy heads into overdrive.”

Road construction, and maintenance, on 2,600 km of road takes up the largest slice of the budget pie. Rondeau says the 2011 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 regional partnerships. By putting \$28 million into roads, \$1.6 million into landfill operations, and \$4.57 million into regional partnerships we are serving our residents. Regional partnerships and projects, such as the Beaver River Regional Waste Management Commission, Regional Fire Authority, Bonnyville and Cold Lake Family and Community Support Services, Kinsoo Ridge, roundabout at Highways 55 and 892 intersection, and the Bonnyville and District Centennial Centre, service M.D. residents and residents from neighbouring municipalities.”

In 2011 the Farm mill rate increases slightly to 3.8000, from 3.7000 in 2010. The Residential mill rate decreases slightly to 2.7663 from 2.8339 in 2010. The Non-residential mill rate increases slightly to 11.000 from 10.7971 in 2010. The latter mill rate includes funds for the Regional Community Development Agreement. In 2011 the M.D. will pay out \$1.9 million to the Town of Bonnyville (\$756,973); Village of Glendon (\$117,102) and the City of Cold Lake’s grant of \$1,030,467 will be set aside in the event they sign the agreement.

Rondeau says Council’s focus has been to keep the amount of residential taxes collected as low as possible. “Though Council has reduced the residential mill rate, some M.D. residents may see an increase in their property taxes in 2011 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.”

Other items in the 2011 budget include the Administration Office renovation/expansion for \$4 million (with the balance being paid out in the 2012 budget), public works equipment for \$2.0 million, a new ladder truck for the Bonnyville Regional Fire Authority funded over five years by the oil industry for \$1.0 million, School Requisitions of \$9.14 million and Lakeland Lodge requisition of \$220,000.

□#2 Resource Road Grant Received And Road Paving Tender Approved – The M.D. received a Resource Road Grant from the provincial government, up to a maximum of \$3 million, for seven miles of base paving on Wolf Lake Road. Subsequent to that announcement, Council awarded the 2011 Road Paving tender to E Construction Ltd. for \$8,243,894.97. The 2011 Paving Program consists of 10 miles of base paving – seven

miles on RR 473 from Hwy 55 to Twp 644 (Wolf Lake Road) and three miles on Twp 622 from Hwy 41 to RR 462 and from RR 465 to RR 470 (Dupre Road).

☐#3 Main Office Tender Awarded – The tender for the Main Administration Office/Renovation was awarded to GenMec ACL Inc. for \$4,989,800.00.

☐#4 Donations Policy Approved – Council passed a Donations and Recognitions policy. The policy states that the M.D. will support local youth sports teams who qualify for provincial, national and international level competition to a maximum amount of \$250. Individual youth will receive \$100. Local youth teams hosting events at those levels can receive up to \$500. Grade 12 graduating classes may receive \$500 for drug and alcohol free graduation events. Certificates or plaques will be given for certain birthdays and anniversaries as outlined in the policy.

☐#5 Ground Squirrel Control – The 2 percent liquid strychnine for Ground Squirrel Control will only be sold until June 17, 2011. More on-farm inspections by provincial officials will also occur to ensure that the product is being used properly. Strychnine is available for purchase by farmers at the ASB office.

☐#6 Funding Support – Ardmore Senior Citizens Society, Flat Lake Community Hall, Alexander Recreation Society and the Cherry Grove Recreation and Agricultural Society received their \$15,000 annual Operating Grants. North Shore Heights Community Society received its annual Operating Grant of \$5,000 and a Special Projects Grant of \$5,000 for playground equipment replacement. Ardmore Golf and Country Club received its \$5,000 annual Operating Grant. Beaverdam Community Society received a \$5,000 Special Projects Grant for kitchen renovations. The Cold Lake Agricultural Society received a \$3,000 grant to assist with the covering the costs of the 43rd Annual Cold Lake Stampede on June 16-19. Council purchased a \$400 table for eight at the Cold Lake Hearts for Hospital Gala. Council will enter a team at the Cold Lake RCMP Annual Charity Scrabble at a cost of \$85 per person. The Glendon School boys and girls volleyball teams received \$250 each to cover travel costs to provincials in Calgary and Ryley respectively. Kinosoo Performing Arts received a \$100 grant.

☐#7 Transportation and Utilities Update – The seasonal equipment changeover has begun as spring thaw arrives. One patch truck is working on a limited basis (due to colder temperatures) to fill emerging pot holes. Two steamers are unplugging culverts and dealing with flooding issues across the M.D. Brushing crews continue to work on various areas. Fort Kent Main Street Reconstruction will be phased in over two years due to drainage issues that need to be rectified and costs increasing. The M.D. will proceed with the north portion of the project and complete the base paving and the south portion of the project in 2012 pending Council approval.

☐#8 Briefs, Briefs, Briefs – Public Safety Peace Officers issued 114 traffic violation tickets and 31 written warnings in March. The Coyote and Wolf Reduction Program ended March 15th with a total of 1,174 coyotes and 24 wolves brought in. Alexander Hall

received approval for two 6 Yard Garbage Bins to be placed in the parking lot for community use and for those people using the ball diamonds.

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.