

# MUNICIPAL DISTRICT BONNYVILLE NO. 87

## COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS December 8, 2010

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

**□#1 2011 Interim Budget Passed** – The Municipal District of Bonnyville is currently looking at a cash deficit of \$6,784,813 in 2011 following Wednesday’s approval of its \$65 million interim budget.

Reeve Ed Rondeau says Council will take a second look at the budget in early 2011, once the year-end is complete and assessment figures are tallied. “Council will still have to do some trimming before the final budget is passed.”

M.D. Council will pass the final 2011 budget in the spring once the provincial government releases its Education Requisition. Based on current numbers the proposed Farm mill rate remains unchanged from 2010 at 3.7. The proposed Residential mill rate is also the same as 2010 at 2.8339. The proposed Non-residential tax rate is the same as 2010 at 10.7971. The latter tax rate is based on an annual tax rate adjustment calculated to provide grant payments to our three neighbouring municipalities under the Regional Community Development Agreement. In 2011 the M.D. has budgeted \$1.9 million for the City of Cold Lake, the Town of Bonnyville and the Village of Glendon. If Cold Lake signs the agreement it will receive \$1,024,414, the Town of Bonnyville will get \$752,527 and Glendon will receive \$116,414. These amounts are slightly lower than last year due to the increase in 2010 tax assessments in Cold Lake and the decrease in assessments in the M.D. This decrease in assessment is a result of the Province lowering the linear and machinery assessment.

The 2011 budget emphasizes services to residents as the first priority and that the M.D. is also an exceptional regional partner Rondeau said. “M.D. residents are concerned about road improvements and maintaining our current rural infrastructure. By putting \$20.4 million into road paving, road construction and oiling, Council is serving the needs and requests of our residents. Regional projects such as the landfill costs and the Beaver River Regional Waste Management Commission (\$1.7 million); Regional Fire Authority (\$451,999); Bonnyville and District Family and Community Support Services (\$182,388); Cold Lake and District FCSS (\$80,696); and the Regional Community Development Agreement (\$1.9 million) service M.D. residents and residents from neighbouring municipalities.”

Rondeau said the budgeted \$2 million cost sharing partnership with the provincial government on the \$4 million roundabout at the intersection of Highways 55 and 892 and the widening of Highway 55 for 7.5 miles west of La Corey is also a benefit for the region as well as M.D. residents who travel the highway for work or leisure.

Road construction and maintenance on 2,616 km of M.D. roads take up 63 per cent of the municipality’s budget pie. Bridge improvements tally up to \$600,000. Public Works equipment is estimated at \$2.1 million. A Fire Department ladder truck is expected to cost \$1 million, with that cost being picked up by Imperial Oil over five years.

“The 2011 Interim budget demonstrates the M.D. is an excellent regional citizen,” Rondeau says. “Council is committed to supporting the Regional Community Development Agreement as well as cost-sharing agreements for fire, ambulance, libraries, FCSS, airport and Part 9 Companies.”

**□#2 Funding For Nurse Practitioner Position** – Council agreed to fund half (77,500) of the total \$155,000 cost of a Nurse Practitioner position at the Bonnyville Medical Clinic. The Town of Bonnyville is expected to pick up the remaining cost. In his presentation to Council, Dr. L. de Freitas said the province presently has no funding model to fund the position and the Primary Care Network would have to make drastic cuts to other programs in order to accommodate the position. The government will not be looking at changing the funding model until 2012. In a recorded vote Reeve Rondeau and Councillor Sinclair, Fox, Johnson, and Kalinski voted to fund the position and Councillors Bamber and Krywiak voted against.

**□#3 Coyote & Wolf Reduction Program Successful** – Residents are responding strongly to the Coyote & Wolf Reduction Program with 250 coyotes and 10 wolves being turned in. The County of Two Hills has also undertaken a similar program.

**□#4 Road Construction Priorities Passed** – The Director of Transportation and Utilities will proceed with engineering design and land acquisitions now that Council has passed the following 2011 Road Construction Priorities:

**2011 Road Construction Priorities**

RR 435 (0.25 miles South of Twp 630 to 0.5 miles South)	0.25
Urlacher Subdivision change access and intersection	0.5
LaCorey North Road (Twp 640 access)	0.25
RR430 (Hwy 55 to Twp 634)	1.0
Twp 620 (SH897 to 1 mile west)	1.0
RR 483 (South of Twp 594)	0.5
RR 485 (North of Twp 622)	2.0
Lessard Hill north side of bridge	0.5
Twp 600 (RR 474 to RR 472)	2.0
RR 412 (Twp 621 to 0.5 miles south)	0.5
RR 452 (Hwy 28 to SH 659) rebuild and redesign curve	2.5
Twp 604 (RR 481 to 0.5 miles east)	0.5
Sandmeyer access road	0.5
Baywood Road	0.5

**□#5 Funding Support** – If the bid is successful, Council agreed to provide funding in the amount of \$50,000 for the next three years to support the 2013 Alberta 55 Plus Summer Games. Council also agreed to approach the neighbouring communities of Cold Lake and the Town of Bonnyville to submit a letter of intent to host the 2015 Western Canada Summer Games if the bid to host the 2013 Alberta 55 Plus Games is unsuccessful. The Lessard Community Hall received a \$15,000 Operating Grant and a \$3,460.50 Special Projects Grant to renovate the hall washrooms. The Ardmore Community Society received a \$5,000 Special Projects Grant to renovate the hall washrooms and upgrade the kitchen. The Bonnyville Canadian Native Friendship Centre and the Tri-Town Emergency Food Bank each received a \$1,000 Christmas donation. The Notre Dame High School volleyball team received \$250 to help defray costs of travelling to Provincial Championships in Three Hills. Council agreed to a \$250

sponsorship of the Family Day activities in Cold Lake. The Zone II Regional Council of the Metis Nation of Alberta Association received a \$250 donation for the Annual Family Boxing Day Talent Show. Council declined to fund the Cherry Grove Big Buck Night, saying it would prefer to give the money directly to the Little Britches Rodeo.

**□#6 Highway 55 and 892 Intersection Roundabout** – In a recorded vote Council approved the partnership payment of \$2 million to Alberta Transportation for the roundabout at the intersection of Highways 892 and 55 and the widening of Highway 55 for 7.5 miles west of La Corey. Pending start and completion deadlines will be negotiated with the province. Councillors Fox and Sinclair voted against the motion. Reeve Rondeau and Councillors Johnson, Bamber, Krywiak and Kalinski voted in favour of the partnering project. Council also voted to have the province tender, construct and manage the roundabout and Highway 55 widening. The M.D. will submit its contribution of \$2 million once the projects are complete.

**□#7 Briefs, Briefs, Briefs** – Council agreed to remain with designing a basement for the new Administration Building, rather than putting on a third floor. M.D. Peace Officers will be maintaining a presence on the La Corey North Resource Road now that winter has arrived. Council agreed to establish a public waste bin site at the Riverhurst Hall, but refused a request to put a public waste bin at the Cherry Grove Hall due to the fact the new bin site is located nearby and they did not want to see the hall inundated with resident's garbage.

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](http://www.md.bonnyville.ab.ca).