

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT BONNYVILLE NO. 87

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS February 8, 2012

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

☐#1 Transportation and Utilities Update – Canadian Natural Resources Ltd. has agreed to reconstruct six miles of the Bear Trap Road. The road will be based paved once the upgrade is complete. Municipal District of Bonnyville Council agreed to apply for a provincial Resource Road Grant for the Bear Trap Road. Council agreed to send a letter to Transportation Minister Ray Danyluk requesting partnership funding to base pave Gurneyville Road (Range Road 460) from Township Road 594A to Township Road 602. The M.D. is seeking funding for the 6.4 km of road north of Kehewin First Nation that Council upgraded in 2007. With mild snow conditions, crews have been out in full force working on the brushing problems in the M.D. A small crew is working on blind spots and minor concerns. The hydro axe crew is doing larger jobs, and the larger equipment is working on Range Road 462A. Council made a motion to decline to construct fencing in the brushed area for a local producer. A contractor was hired to remove snow in Fort Kent and Ardmore from areas that have no room for piles of the white stuff. Council is inviting the Northern Lights School Division Transportation Manager to come to Council to discuss the process of erecting bus stop signs in the rural area. Issues regarding the signs cropped up at the majority of Town Hall meetings and continue to be an issue with M.D. ratepayers.

☐#2 Coyote and Wolf Reduction Program Extended – Council agreed to extend the Coyote and Wolf Reduction Program until March 15. The program has reached the original budget limit of \$15,000, with 1,000 animals brought in. The program was started in the fall of 2011 to help producers keep the coyote and wolf population in check. With the decrease in fur prices, the M.D.'s goal was to increase the harvest of these two animals during the trapping period set out by the province. Predation calls for livestock are down since the M.D. started the reduction program. Over 70 people have participated in the program, with the majority of those being involved in the trapping industry.

☐#3 Planning and Development News – Council agreed to transfer the title of Reserve Lot R, Plan 2742 NY to the City of Cold Lake. The narrow strip of land is along the shore of Cold Lake and within the city's boundaries. When the city was incorporated this lot was not included in the Ministerial Order. Bylaw 1517 to close and lease a road allowance East of SE 10-63-3 W4M was tabled to allow M.D. administration to negotiate the access of a portion of the gravel under the roadway. Bylaw 1518 to renew a three year lease on a road allowance West of NW 20 & SW 29-65-3 W4M was passed.

☐#4 Paint and Electronic Recycling a Success – The M.D. disposed of 7,530 liters of paint, 300 aerosol cans, 200 liters of toxic liquid and 24,675 pounds of electronics in 2011. The M.D. works in partnership with e-cycle and DBS Environmental to conduct the e-waste and paint recycling programs. There are large bins set up at seven landfill sites to dispose of these products in an environmentally safe way.

□#5 Funding Support – Sandy Rapids Hall and Willow Prairie Agricultural Society received their annual Operating Grant of \$35,000. The Bonnyville & District Historical Society & Museum and the Cold Lake Museum Society each received a \$17,500 annual Operating Grant. Council purchased two tables for \$1,400 to the Bonnyville Oilmen’s Lobster Fest. Council purchased one \$360 table for the Lakeland Centre for FASD Annual Fundraising Dinner and Auction. Council purchased a \$280.00 table for the Valentine Gala hosted by the Minnie Lake Conservation Society.

□#6 Producers Accessing VSI Program– The 2011 total expenditures of \$61,193.00 for the Veterinary Services Incorporated (VSI) Program came in a smidgeon over the projected amount. The largest increase in claims was for pregnancy testing. Based on the 2011 expenditures, the Agricultural Department has set a 2012 projected target of \$61,000.00 at the 60 per cent coverage level. To date 356 farmers have registered in the VSI Program.

□#7 Briefs, Briefs, Briefs – Council agreed to cancel a \$794.07 late penalty on a bulk water utility account because the Christmas holiday hours of the post office and M.D. office may have caused the mailed payment to be posted late.

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.