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

#1 Public Safety Patrols Increase – Starting June 22, 2014 Public Safety Industry Officers will increase patrol time coverage to seven days a week, including Sunday and holiday coverage. Council put more funds in the budget to improve patrol coverage because M.D. roads are seeing an increase in industry traffic, and oilfield businesses operate seven days a week. Ward Officer shifts will not change. Officers are doing at least three quad patrols of the Iron Horse Trail a week. The patrols are done in the evening on weekdays and during the day and evening on the weekends. Officers are also patrolling M.D. campgrounds on Friday and Saturday evenings.

#2 Agricultural News – Roadside mowing and spraying will begin this week. Mowing the first pass will begin in the subdivisions first and then move to the rural roads. The spray crew will concentrate on brush control on recently brushed areas done by Transportation and Utilities staff. Crews will target areas with large patches of noxious weeds. Total claims to the Veterinary Services Incorporated (VSI) Program for the first quarter from January 1 to March 31 are $11,883. The claims are slightly higher than in previous years due to the fact that semen testing in bulls has increased. There are 384 producers enrolled in the VSI Program. Beaver control has been challenging with the recent rains. Staff have been trying to keep ahead of the problems created by the critters, but water regulations have slowed down blasting in creeks. Upgrades to the Crane Lake East bin site have been completed and staff are waiting for the Dupre site to dry out before that work can be started.

#3 Transportation And Utilities Update – Rain, rain, go away. That has been the refrain in the T&U Department during the last couple of weeks. When the sun shines all crews are working, but work has been delayed. Culvert settlements in the La Corey area were completed. The Road Construction Crew has completed Range Road 481 and Range Road 473. The crew is currently working on Range Road 485 and will move on to Range Road 453 when that work is done. Murphy Road overlay should be completed this week. Road gravelling is 70 percent complete. Trail building equipment has been ordered, locations are being scouted and staff will be hired when equipment arrives. Council agreed to donate a Model S650 Bobcat to the Bonnyville Seed Cleaning Plant to be used for site maintenance. After hearing from a delegation that lives in a rural subdivision – owned by the M.D. but accessed by a Town of Bonnyville road – namely 34 Street North of Highway 659, Council has agreed to provide dust suppressant for the 2014 spring and summer season.

#4 Planning and Development Update – In May, 48 Development Permits and 20 new Residential Building Permits were issued, with a year-to-date total of $23,787,643. Year-to-date housing starts include 47 Single Family Dwellings and nine Mobile Homes. Council gave Final Reading to Bylaw No. 1573, the Osprey Ridge Area Structure Plan for a multi-lot residential subdivision located at SW 19-64-2-W4. The development on Little Bear Lake will have a 30-metre Environmental Reserve owned by the M.D. and an
extra 20-metre Environmental Easement owned by the purchaser that will have extra conditions put on it to prevent buildings being erected too close to the lake and stop trees from being cut down. Administration will also ask the federal government to mandate that no motor boats be allowed on Little Bear Lake. Council agreed to close Part of Road Plan 203CL, Township Road 615A, within NE 33-61-3 W4M and return it to the quarter section. First Reading was given to Bylaw No. 1577 to close and sell a service road adjacent to Plan 092 0257 along Secondary Highway 881. Council passed a motion that the developer of the Woodhaven development in the Hamlet of Ardmore must pay the full cost of providing water and sewer services for the 20 single family service connections as per Schedule 6.0 of the March 25, 2014 Ardmore Phase II 52nd Street Underground Tender Awarded Contract, including the cost of engineering, contingency and change orders. The balance of the contingency will be refunded if not required. Should full payment not be received by 12:00 p.m. (noon) on Wednesday, June 18, 2014, services will be stubbed in on each end of 52nd Street Ardmore to provide for future hookups.

#5 New Fire Services Fees Approved – Council approved a new Schedule of Fees for the M.D. of Bonnyville Fire Services Bylaw No. 1522. Alberta Transportation has reviewed and increased the fees they pay for highway emergency responses by municipal Emergency Services. As part of their review, they have established an annual fee adjustment process to address inflationary factors encountered in the provision of emergency services. The revised schedule increased the response charge to $610 per hour and includes the ability to charge for cancelled calls. On April 1 of each year, this hourly rate will be increased based on the highway construction cost index used by the province.

#6 Funding Support – The Riverhurst Community Hall and the Land of the Lakes Recreation Board (Iron River) received their $35,000 annual Operating Grant. The Glendon Agricultural Society received its annual $20,000 Operating Grant. The Bonnyville and District Chamber of Commerce received an annual $9,000 grant to help cover staffing costs for the Visitor Information Centre. North Shore Heights/Shay Cho Bay Community Society received its $5,000 Operating Grant. Council agreed to provide a $1,500 donation to the Bonnyville Centralized High School grad committee to assist with the two-day rental costs for the Bonnyville and District Centennial Centre.

#7 Brief, Briefs, Briefs – Chicken Hill Lake M.D. park has three new pull-through sites which can accommodate units over 25 feet long. Council agreed to hire the Chartered Accounting firm Hawkings EPP Dumont for a three-year contract ending in 2016 for the cost of $48,100, $49,500 and $51,200 for each respective year.

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. Visit: www.md.bonnyville.ab.ca Follow us on Facebook and Twitter @MDBville.