#1 Letter Of Support – Council agreed to cosign a letter to the Environment and Sustainable Resource Development Minister – along with the Moose Lake Watershed Society, the Town of Bonnyville, the Beaver River Watershed Alliance and the Summer Village of Bonnyville Beach – requesting an Environmental Review of Moose Lake. The report would provide best management options and practices for Moose Lake and its watershed, as well as outlining the costs associated with those practices. The report would enable the Moose Lake Watershed Society and the community as a whole, to take an educated and proactive approach to finding long term solutions to the cyanobacteria issue in Moose Lake.

#2 Agricultural Update – The Municipal District of Bonnyville’s Pest Control Officer is providing assistance in the County of Cypress (outside of Medicine Hat) to aid in the eradication of Norway Rats in their regional landfill site. Locally the M.D. of Bonnyville continues to do yearly checks along the Saskatchewan border and responds to any rat sightings in the municipality. The first pass of the roadside mowing has been completed and staff will now undertake the second mowing of subdivisions and arterial roads. Crews have been busy throughout the summer opening up culverts and removing dams throughout the M.D. The Pest Control Officer has removed more than 80 beaver dams since June. Priority for staff is private and public property being destroyed by the excessive water, including our infrastructure of roads and culverts. The next priority is agricultural cropland and range and pasture to keep flooding down to a minimum. Beaver dam removal will continue into the fall.

#3 Transportation and Utilities Update – Council agreed to use the contractor expanding the bin site at North Shore Heights to build a safer access into the improved waste location. The Dust Suppressant Crew has placed MG 30 on 100 miles of road. The chemical supplier has provided some fly ash, at his cost, to use as a trial for additional road stabilization that has been placed on Secondary Highway 897 from the Birch Ridge Estates turnoff approximately one kilometer south. Pothole patching trucks are assigned to Wards 3 and 5 and will move to Wards 4 and 6 on August 27. The construction crew is completing work on Range Road 470 and will be moving to Township Road 611 next. The crew is also reworking Fort Kent north and a section of Range Road 485. The Road Oiling Crew is working on the Hilda Lake Road – Township Road 640 east of Secondary Highway 892 – and will be moving to Range Road 471 north of Eastbourne Hall next. Both reclaimers are out working, one on township Road 644 and the other on a repair at Goodridge. The next project to be completed is Range Road 454. Three miles of Beartrap Road have been completed, with the work to be finished at the end of September. The M.D. will be consulting with the region’s First Nations on the process for Wolf Lake Phase II. The M.D. continues to work collaboratively with our industry partners on the maintenance of industry traffic routes.
Public Safety Update – Community Peace Officers are responding to a dramatic increase in dog complaints from the Moose Lake subdivisions, already filling the Bonnyville SPCA a few times with stray dogs. Patrol Officers have also dealt with an increase in the number of complaints from the M.D. campgrounds. The most common complaints are that people are skipping out of the campgrounds without paying and stealing firewood.

Planning and Development – As of the end of June, 50 development permits and 27 new residential building permits were issued in the M.D., with a year-to-date total of $33,823,571. Year-to-date housing starts include 68 Single Family Dwellings and nine Mobile Homes. First Reading was given to Bylaw No. 1527 for the Area Structure Plan for a multi-lot residential subdivision at SW 01-62-6 for 31 three acre lots and for Bylaw LU513 to rezone the same section of land from Agricultural “A” to Country Residential “CR”. First Reading was also given to Bylaw LU514 to amend Section 14 of the Land Use Bylaw to clarify that the location and use of garbage bin sites for a public service will not require a development permit.

Funding Support – Council approved the annual $35,000 Operating Grant for the Flat Lake Community Hall. Council agreed to provide a $500 sponsorship to the Bonnyville Agricultural Society for the September 8 Harvest Fair & Country Market at the Bonnyville Museum Grounds.

Briefs, Briefs, Briefs – Council agreed to name a new park just north of Vezeau Beach “Klyne Park” with the sign also stating “Dedicated to Clement and Simone”.

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.