#1 Private Sewage Disposal System Bylaw Passed – Municipal District of Bonnyville Council passed Bylaw No. 1532 to control the disposal of sewage effluent on private property. The bylaw will require that private sewage systems be maintained and fixed as soon as problems arise. The bylaw also governs the installation and use of privies or outhouses for both new and existing units. All privies will require an approved holding tank. The bylaw governs the disposal of effluent from recreational trailers, as well as requirements for private sewage installers to ensure permits and inspections are completed to the code of practice.

#2 It’s Snowing and We Are Plowing – It is “all hands on deck” within the Transportation and Utilities Department. There are 16 graders and four trucks on the roads plowing away the snow, with three more trucks poised for delivery. When the snow is dealt with, crews are brushing the roadways to provide improved sightlines. Construction crews are done for the season, but planning is underway for next year’s projects. Council will be meeting with Kehewin First Nations Council to discuss the construction of Wolf Lake Phase II.

#3 Slow Down, You Move Too Fast – The Public Safety Department is asking residents, and oil industry employees, to slow down and drive according to weather conditions. Peace Officers are handing out a lot of speeding tickets during the early morning and evening drive times, even during severe weather conditions. One driver was caught going 160 km/h on the La Corey North Resource Road. Another driver received a ticket for travelling 150 km/hr in a 100 km/h zone on Highway 660, with bald tires on a snowy road.

#4 Equipment Purchase – Council approved the tender and purchase of the following Public Works equipment with total costs not to exceed $3,586,000: three replacement graders; two replacement scrapers; two new light-duty trailers; one pallet lift; one new patcher attachment; one new tractor for roadside mowing; one new mower with wet kit; one replacement mower; one new side arm; two new electronic sign boards; one new pad foot packer; one new skid steer; one replacement skid steer and one 50-ton iron worker for bending metal.

#5 No Water Sales Outside M.D. Boundaries – Council passed a motion to discontinue selling bulk water to users outside the M.D. boundaries, or to companies who are taking the water outside the municipality’s borders. The M.D. is concerned about the number of tanker trucks who are hauling water daily from the Ardmore and Fort Kent bulk water fill stations, depleting the hamlets’ reservoirs in the process. These tanker trucks, which are hauling water to the Air Weapons Range oil operations, will be redirected to the City of Cold Lake’s bulk fill station. The M.D. will monitor the trucks using the hamlets’ bulk water fill stations through individual log books.
Planning and Development Update – As of the end of November, 33 development permits and 13 new residential building permits were issued in the M.D., with a year-to-date total of $94,365,166, surpassing last year’s year-end value of $55,644,430. Year-to-date housing starts include 135 Single Family Dwellings and 26 Mobile Homes.

Recycle Your Plastic Twine – The M.D. is collecting plastic twine at all of our landfills and plastic bags for twine are available as well. Administration is looking at the feasibility of putting a bin at the Bonnyville Seed Cleaning Plant to allow easy access for producers in the Bonnyville area. Currently, the M.D. has over 20 cubic metres of bags full of twine from last year. The Agricultural Department is in discussion with a contractor from the United States for disposal of the twine.

Funding Support – Council will be meeting with the Village of Glendon Council, MLA Genia Leskiw, MP Brian Storseth and the Glendon Agricultural Society to discuss the Glendon Arena Renovation Project and how funding can be maximized to cover the $500,000 cost. Therien Community League received its 2013 Annual Operating Grant of $35,000. Bonnyville Victim Services and Cold Lake Victim Services Societies each received a $3,000 grant to assist with the delivery of their programs in the urban and rural areas. The societies provide a free service to the victims of crime and tragedy through trained victim service advocates. The Town of Bonnyville received a $2,500 grant to assist with Canada Day Celebrations. Council agreed to purchase two tables for $2,000 at the Dancing Under The Stars Gala fundraiser for STARS Ambulance and the Bonnyville Royal Canadian Legion.

Briefs, Briefs, Briefs – Council approved the purchase of a $10,150 snowmobile by the M.D. Parks Department to set cross country ski trails at Muriel Lake Campground. The January 23, 2013 Council Meeting was cancelled due to a conflict with a provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference in Edmonton.

For more information contact Diane Jenkinson, Marketing and Communications Manager at 780-826-3171. Our web site is a useful way to get the information you need. Visit: www.md.bonnyville.ab.ca