



Council Notes October 27, 2020 Regular Meeting

Policy Reviews

The following Policies were presented to Council as part of an ongoing review of current policies--in particular policies that have not been reviewed for over four years.

- Policy 1-30, Soil Conservation- Stubble Burning
Agenda Item 6.3.1; YouTube Livestream [3:01:39](#)
 - Council confirmed Policy 1-30 Soil Conservation- Stubble Burning as recommended by the Agricultural Service Board. This policy was brought forward as part of regular policy review, with no changes needed.
- Policy 1-30-1, Soil Conservation—ASB Equipment Rental
Agenda Item 6.3.2 YouTube Livestream [3:03:29](#)
 - Council deleted Policy 1-30-1 Soil Conservation-- ASB Equipment Rental, as the Rental Equipment Program was discontinued in March of 2019.
- Policy 1-29-3 Agricultural Pests- Clubroot
Agenda Item 8.1; YouTube Livestream [5:14:36](#)
 - Council approved Policy 1-29-3 Agricultural Pests - Clubroot as presented. Changes include clarifications and recommendations for lands that receive notices to continue with proper cropping rotations and resistant crop varieties after the notice term completes.
- Policy 11-2, Letter of Support
Agenda Item 9.6; YouTube Livestream [5:39:24](#)
 - Council approved Policy 11-2, Letter of Support as presented. This policy provides the procedures for individuals & organizations to request a Letter of Support, and provides guidelines for the CAO to approve them.

Pine Cliff Energy

Agenda Item 3.2 & 10.2; YouTube Livestream: [2:37:18](#)

Representatives from Pine Cliff Energy Ltd. joined Council via video conference to request continued scheduled payments on their municipal tax levy.

Decision: (From Closed Session)

Council agreed to enter into a Tax Agreement with Pine Cliff Energy for the payment of 2020 taxes over a 12-month payment plan, from Oct 21, 2020, to Sept 30, 2021, with no penalties to be assessed.

Proposed Land Purchase in Hesketh

Agenda Item 6.1.1; YouTube Livestream: [2:55:32](#)

The applicant purchased this home in Hesketh in February of 2017, and has now approached Kneehill County to consider a subdivision that would allow him to purchase the portion of his access and yard owned by the municipality.

Decision:

Council approved the assessed land value of \$1750.00 for subdivision KNE200140 for the applicant to purchase his access and yard.

Horseshoe Canyon Focus Group Appointments

Agenda Item 6.3.3; YouTube Livestream: [3:05:00](#)

At the July 21st, 2020 Regular Council meeting, Council approved the Terms of Reference for the Horseshoe Canyon Focus Group to review the Horseshoe Canyon Masterplan and make recommendations to Council as to next steps. A total of 14 applications for the Focus Group were received and reviewed for ability to meet requirements, eligibility and experience prior to being interviewed. Following the interviews, 5 members-at-large were recommended to Council by the third party consultant conducting the selection process.

Kneehill County Council would like to thank everyone who applied to the Focus Group for their interest and initiative. Those who were not appointed will be contacted for comments and suggestions to take forward to the Focus Group for discussion.

Decision:

Council appointed Cathy Price, Cathy Prohl, Dennis Dey, Kim Pliva, and Robert Long to the Horseshoe Canyon Focus Group, as recommended to Council by the third-party consultant.

Disposal of Fire Apparatus

Agenda Item 6.4.1; YouTube Livestream: [3:27:37](#)

With the recent purchase of new fire engines, there are two in-service engines and one spare that need to be disposed of. K2 requires major repairs to be useful, E11 is past its life cycle, while E21 has low maintenance issues and could still be used for out of service (repairs/training).

Due to their age and repair needs, administration recommends donating K2 and E11 to the Alberta Society for Firefighters Abroad, and keeping E21 for temporary out-of-service replacement and training purposes.

Decision:

Council approved the donation of K2 and E11 Fire Engines to Alberta Society for Firefighters Abroad, and keeping the E21 Fire Engine for training and temporary out-of-service replacement, but will no longer fund E21 on the Capital Replacement Plan.

Quarterly Financial Reporting

Agenda Item 7.1; YouTube Livestream: [4:56:00](#)

The Quarterly Financial Reports are intended to inform Council of financial transactions to-date and how these expenditures, revenues and other financial indicators compare to the annual operating budget and plan that Council had previously approved. The following reports are for the period ending September 30, 2020 (3rd Quarter).

Click to view:

- Quarterly Financial Report RFD: <http://ow.ly/Z2qK50C4iHQ>
- Appx A Operating Variances: <http://ow.ly/JqRh50C4iHO>
- Appx B Project Report: <http://ow.ly/ZJa750C4iHP>
- Appx C Investment Report: <http://ow.ly/bBV050C4iHN>
- Appx D Reserve Continuity: <http://ow.ly/Sy6x50C4iHM>

Decision:

Council received the Quarterly Financial Reporting for information.

Tax Cancellation- Industrial Accounts

Agenda Item 7.2; YouTube Livestream: [4:49:17](#)

Due to bankruptcy, \$1,052,001.95 in taxes must be written off, as municipalities have no means to collect on unpaid Oil and Gas Properties. The penalties on these rolls must also be cancelled, for an additional \$268,306.00. The County can apply for the uncollectable Designated Industrial Property Requisitions through the PERC Program (Provincial Education Requisition Credit) which will reimburse \$146,492.00.

Decision:

Council moved to expense and cancel \$1,052,001.95 in property taxes for the specified rolls, directed administration to apply under the Provincial Education Requisition Credit (PERC) for the uncollectable requisition, and voided all corresponding 2020 penalties.

Community Grants to Non-Profit Organizations

Agenda Item 9.1; YouTube Livestream: [5:19:54](#)

At the October 20th, 2020 Committee of the Whole Meeting, Council discussed the 2020 Round Two Community Grant Applications and recommended that Council approve the following:

- Three Hills Figure Skating Club- \$1,169.99
- Huxley Community Association- \$865.20

Decision:

Council approved the Round Two Community Grants to Non-Profit Organizations funding to the Three Hills Figure Skating Club, and Huxley Community Association. Congratulations!

Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) Fall Resolutions

Agenda Item 9.2; YouTube Livestream: [5:21:22](#)

The Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) advocates on behalf of rural municipalities. At the upcoming RMA Fall 2020 Convention, the following resolutions will be presented during the resolution session: <http://ow.ly/jQ4e50C33ws>

Decision:

Council received the 2020 Rural Municipalities of Alberta Fall Resolutions Listing for information.

2021 Kneehill Regional FCSS Budget and Allocations

Agenda Item 9.3; YouTube Livestream: [5:25:46](#)

At their September 10, 2020 meeting, the Kneehill Regional FCSS Board approved increasing the municipal requisition by 1.6% to cover the cost of living increase in 2021. Kneehill County's contribution in 2020 was \$48,052.00 and if the FCSS budget is approved, the cost will be \$48,821.00 in 2021

Decision:

Council approved the Kneehill Regional Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) 2021 Budget and Allocations as presented.

Kneehill Adult Learning Request

Agenda Item 9.4; YouTube Livestream: [5:30:45](#)

Administration received a request from Kneehill Adult Learning requesting sponsorship in the amount of \$2,600.00 to assist with the costs of hosting a Suicide Prevention Safe Talk Workshop.

Decision:

Council directed administration to bring back more information on the Kneehill Adult Learning request.

Kneehill Regional Partnership

Agenda Item 9.5; YouTube Livestream: [5:34:46](#)

For the past several months Kneehill County has been working with regional partners (Towns of Three Hills and Trochu, Villages of Acme, Carbon, and Linden) to revamp the Kneehill Regional Partnership, to find ways that regional municipalities can work together on new initiatives and find efficiencies in services provided. The Partnership Protocols have been revised, and once approved, will be finalized for signing by all parties involved.

Decision:

Council authorized the Reeve and CAO to sign the October 15th, 2020 Kneehill Regional Partnership Protocol once a final editing has been completed, and appointed Deputy Reeve McGhee as primary, and Councillor Christie as alternate members.

Assessment Model Review Outcomes

Agenda Item 9.7; YouTube Livestream: [5:44:25](#)

The Province has recently announced outcomes of the Assessment Model Review. While none of the original four scenarios were chosen, the following outcomes were announced by the Minister of Municipal Affairs:

- A comprehensive review will be postponed for 3 years
- New pipelines and wells will have a three (3) year tax holiday after being built. This will apply to builds in 2021 and the holiday will be for 2022, 2023, and 2024.
- The elimination of the Well Drilling Equipment Tax (WDET)

On top of these announcements, the County received additional information regarding the lowering of property assessments on Oil and Gas wells for three years. From the Province's calculations this will result in approximately \$650,000 less in tax revenue. The impact of these changes combined is a loss of over \$1 million dollars so far, with additional losses anticipated in future years. This is a less negative impact than the original proposed changes, but will continue to put pressure on the County's revenue.

Decision:

Council accepted the report on the Assessment Model Review for information.

Transfer of Land to Alberta Transportation

Agenda Item 9.8; YouTube Livestream: [5:59:02](#)

Alberta Transportation has been working in the Drumheller area to repair slides. As part of that work, Kneehill County has granted AB Transportation permission to enter County land, which is highly sloped and unusable by the County as it's located between two Provincial roadways. Transferring this land to AB Transportation would allow them access without needing County approval.

Decision:

Council directed administration to transfer Lot: 1ER Block 2 Plan: 8210253 to the Province.

Council and Committee Reports

Agenda Item 11.0; YouTube Livestream: [6:02:22](#)

Council and Committee Reports include Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes from September 15, 2020, and a verbal report on Community Futures Wildrose.

Decision:

Council received the Council and Committee Reports as information.

Closed Session

Agenda Item 13.0; YouTube Livestream: [6:05:40](#)

Council moved the meeting into Closed Session. (Section 25, Section 17 FOIP)

Motions from Closed Session:

Council approves a Tax Agreement with Corse Energy Corp. for payment of 2020 taxes in four payments, October to January, with no penalties to be assessed.

Council agrees to enter into a Tax Agreement with Pine Cliff Energy for the payment of 2020 taxes over a 12-month payment plan, from Oct 21, 2020, to Sept 30, 2021, with no penalties to be assessed.

Council authorizes the CAO to sign the October 27th Memorandum of Understanding.

NEXT Council Meeting: November 10, 2020 at 8:30 am in Council Chambers
1600, 2nd Street NE, Three Hills, Alberta.
Agendas are available at www.kneehillcounty.com