



## Council Notes January 12, 2021

### Policy Reviews

The following Policy was 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 16-7, Investment Policy  
*Agenda Item 6.2; YouTube Livestream [1:15:27](#)*
  - Council deleted current Policy 16-7, & adopted updated Investment Policy 16-7. The updated policy is in full compliance with the MGA, has been modelled on the Government Finance Officers Associations Best Practices and incorporates features other municipalities use that would enhance investment returns for the County.

### STARS Air Ambulance

*Agenda Item 3.1 & 10.1; YouTube Livestream: [26:31;1:55:44](#)*

Glenda Farnden from STARS Air Ambulance joined Council virtually to provide an annual STARS update, including COVID-19 impacts, and Kneehill County mission statistics. View the presentation in the [Council Package](#).

#### **Decision:**

Council received the presentation from STARS Air Ambulance for information.

### Project Amendment Torrington Gravel Pit

*Agenda Item 4.1; YouTube Livestream: [38:30](#)*

A new assessment of the Torrington Gravel Pit has discovered another 600,000 tonnes of gravel than was originally estimated, for a total of 2,200,000 tonnes, which will supply Kneehill County with 15 years of road crush material. Additional funds are needed to extract the extra gravel, including reclamation of the land and gravel agreement fees. \$650,000 will be funded through the Gravel Reserve and \$600,000 will be funded through the Roads Reserve to cover the additional costs.

#### **Decision:**

Council authorized a budget amendment from \$5.25 million to \$6.5 million to the Torrington Gravel Pit project for the purpose of extracting additional pit-run.

### Planning & Development Statistical Summary

*Agenda Item 5.1.1; YouTube Livestream: [44:03](#)*

Kneehill County's Planning & Development department presented Council with a Year-in-Review summary, including development stats and trends over the last year. View the report in the [Council Package](#).

#### **Decision:**

Council accepted the Planning & Development statistical summary as information.

### Municipal Planning Commission- January 28, 2021 Meeting Cancellation

*Agenda Item 5.1.3; YouTube Livestream: [56:36](#)*

As no applications were received by the deadline to be considered by the Commission, administration is recommending the January 28, 2021, MPC meeting be cancelled.

#### **Decision:**

Council cancelled the January 28, 2021 Municipal Planning Commission meeting.

## Postpone Public Hearing Bylaw 1828, Keiver's Lake Road Closure

*Agenda Item 5.1.3; YouTube Livestream: [58:15](#)*

The Public Hearing for Bylaw 1828, Keiver's Lake Road Closure, was scheduled for January 12, 2021, at 10:00 am, however, the Kneehill County office is currently closed to the public due to the extension of COVID-19 restrictions. Administration recommended postponing the Public Hearing to allow for in-person attendance from the public.

### **Decision:**

Council rescheduled the Public Hearing for Bylaw 1828 to February 9, 2021, at 10 am.

## Interim Agricultural Fieldman

*Agenda Item 5.3.1; YouTube Livestream: [1:00:14](#)*

The Agricultural Fieldman position is required under the Agricultural Service Board (ASB) Act. In the past, the Manager of Parks and Ag Services was appointed to this role, however, that position is currently vacant. Kneehill County's Land Care Coordinator, Fallon Sherlock has recently achieved her Certified Agricultural Fieldman and brings a strong understanding of the Provincial Acts and legislated requirements for this interim appointment.

### **Decision:**

Council appointed Fallon Sherlock as interim Agricultural Fieldman for Kneehill County.

## Fire Ban Information

*Agenda Item 5.3.1; YouTube Livestream: [1:04:08](#)*

The Protective Services department presented Council with an overview of the current Fire Ban Process in the County. Kneehill County's CAO, in consultation with the County Fire Chief, issues Fire Bans or Restrictions in the County, historically with input from local area fire chiefs and guardians. Each time a ban is issued, it is issued County-wide for ease of notification. (County fire bans do not apply to towns, villages, or provincial campgrounds within our borders. Three Hills, Trochu, Linden, Acme, Carbon, and Linden issue their own fire bans for their municipality.)

### **Decision:**

Council received the report on Fire Ban processes as information.

## Short-Term Borrowing Bylaw 1830

*Agenda Item 6.1; YouTube Livestream: [1:11:10](#)*

Bylaw 1830, Short-Term Borrowing authorizes the short-term borrowing of funds, from time to time, as may be necessary to meet the financial obligations of Kneehill County. The County has not needed to use the temporary borrowing capacity in over ten years, and it is not anticipated to be used in 2021, however it is good financial planning to have the Bylaw in place if required.

### **Decision:**

Council gives first, second, and third reading, passing Bylaw 1830, Short Term Borrowing.

## Policy 15-13, Rural Community Hall Funding

*Agenda Item 8.1; YouTube Livestream: [1:33:05](#)*

Per Rural Hall Policy 15-13, the amount of funding a community hall receives every year is dependent on the number of rentals made, however, as hall rentals were severely impacted in 2020 due to COVID-19, administration is recommending that the County provide those halls the same level of funding in 2021 as they received in 2020 (based on 2019 rentals.)

### **Decision:**

Council directed administration to provide the Rural Community Halls listed in Policy 15-13 the same level of funding in 2021 as they received in 2020.

## Rural Development Network (RDN) Rural Immigration Project

*Agenda Item 8.2; YouTube Livestream: [1:35:26](#)*

Kneehill County was invited to take part in a “Rural Development Network (RDN) Rural Immigration Project” for Central Alberta. The program provides training for organizations and private industry in the region to better support newcomers, creating a healthier ecosystem for foreign workers.

### **Decision:**

Council directed administration to sign a Letter of Support for use by the Rural Development Network in application of the Community Capacity for Newcomer Integration Grant.

## Kneehill Regional Partnership- Partnership Exploration

*Agenda Item 8.2; YouTube Livestream: [1:45:22](#)*

The Kneehill Regional Partnership is a group composed of representatives from Kneehill County, Town of Three Hills, Town of Trochu, Village of Linden, Village of Acme, and Village of Carbon, which seeks opportunities to provide services or programs jointly to increase efficiencies and reduce costs. The Partnership has asked members for ideas they would like the Partnership to explore. Ideas forwarded to the membership must be backed by a Council resolution.

### **Decision:**

Council moved to submit the following initiatives to the Kneehill Regional Partnership as options for exploring regionalization or regional partnerships:

1. Regional Marketing and Tourism Campaign
2. Review of Doctor Recruitment and Retention Task Force

## Kneehill Regional Partnership- Training Partnerships

*Agenda Item 5.3.1; YouTube Livestream: [1:49:53](#)*

The Kneehill Regional Partnership is a group composed of representatives from Kneehill County, Town of Three Hills, Town of Trochu, Village of Linden, Village of Acme, and Village of Carbon, which seeks opportunities to provide services or programs jointly to increase efficiencies and reduce costs. The Partnership has asked members for training ideas they would like the Partnership to organize. Ideas forwarded to the membership must be backed by a Council resolution.

### **Decision:**

Council moved to submit the following initiatives to the Kneehill Regional Partnership as options for exploring regionalization or regional partnerships:

1. Prospective Councillor Training
2. Purchasing Law

## Council and Committee Reports

*Agenda Item 11.0; YouTube Livestream: [1:56:32](#)*

Council and Committee Reports include Kneehill Regional FCSS.

### **Decision:**

Council received the Council and Committee Reports for information.

## Closed Session

*Agenda Item 12.0; YouTube Livestream: [1:58:20](#)*

Council moved the meeting into Closed Session:

- Intergovernmental Relations (FOIP, Section 21)
- Third Party Business Interest (FOIP, Section 16 & 25)
- Third Party Business Interest (FOIP, Section 16 & 25)
- Personnel (FOIP, Section 17)

### **Motions from Closed Session:**

- Council accepted as information the Emergency Communications System Upgrade Project, and directed administration to come back to the January 26th Council meeting with options.

- Council agreed to enter into a Tax Agreement with Lynx Energy ULC for the payment of 2020 taxes over an 18- month payment plan, beginning January 31, 2021. No penalties will be assessed, the 2020 penalties will be voided.
- Council agreed to enter into a Tax Agreement with Canstone Energy Ltd. for the payment of tax arrears & 2020 levies. The agreement shall not exceed 36 months, no further penalties will be assessed, and the 2020 penalties be voided.
- Council agreed to enter into a Tax Agreement with Perisson Petroleum Corp. for the payment of tax arrears & 2020 taxes. The agreement shall not exceed 12 months; no further penalties will be assessed & 2020 penalties will be voided.
- Council agreed to enter into a Tax Agreement with Vantage Point Resources Inc. for the payment of tax arrears & 2020 taxes. The agreement shall not exceed 27 months; no further penalties will be assessed & the 2020 penalties will be voided.
- Council agreed to enter into a Tax Agreement with High Point Oil Inc., for the payment of tax arrears and 2020 taxes. The agreement shall not exceed 36 months for full re-payment of the tax arrears and 2020 levies, no further penalties will be assessed, and the 2020 penalties be voided.
- Council moved to pay the Southern Alberta Energy for Waste Association invoice for the 2021 budget year.
- Council directed administration to request a specific and precise request from the Trochu Housing Corporation.

NEXT Council Meeting: January 26, 2021, at 8:30 am in Council Chambers  
1600, 2nd Street NE, Three Hills, Alberta.  
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