



Council Notes May 11, 2021

Road Closure at Horseshoe Canyon Bylaw 1823

Agenda Item 5.1.1; YouTube Livestream: [26:27](#)

Kneehill County holds a 3.56-acre title to an area directly south of Horseshoe Canyon that has been fragmented by road plan 834 LK. This parcel contains portions of the parking lot and a small portion of the canyon itself. The portion of undeveloped Twp Rd 28-4 runs through the parking lot, the turn around, a portion of the canyon and some of the enhanced trail down to the base. Administration recommended Council pursue the closure and consolidation of these roads so the land can be utilized more efficiently.

First Reading of Road Closure Bylaw 1823 was given on July 21, 2020, and a Public Hearing for the Bylaw was held August 18, 2020, with no feedback or comments from the public received. After the public hearing, the bylaw and road closure package were forwarded to Alberta Transportation for their sign off. Administration recently received the package back from Alberta Transportation and are now ready to finalize the road closure process.

Decision:

Council gave second and third reading of Bylaw 1823, passing the Bylaw to close and consolidate a portion of Township Road 28-4 and road plan 834 LK into descriptive plan 091 0342, Block 1, Lot 2 at Horseshoe Canyon.

Cancellation of the May Municipal Planning Commission Meeting

Agenda Item 5.1.2; YouTube Livestream: [32:36](#)

As no applications were received by the deadline to be considered by the Commission, administration is recommending the May 27, 2021, MPC meeting be cancelled.

Decision:

Council cancelled the Municipal Planning Commission Meeting scheduled for May 27, 2021, as no applications have been received in time for May's meeting. The next MPC meeting is on June 24, 2021.

Proposed Animal Control Bylaw

Agenda Item 5.4.1; YouTube Livestream [34:20](#)

Kneehill County's Animal Control Bylaw provides for the licensing, regulating, and control of dogs and animals. The Bylaw needs to be updated to reflect changes to the Land Use Bylaw, which now allows for hens in hamlets. Other changes proposed would allow for more enforcement tools when dealing with animals at large or otherwise in contravention of the Bylaw, potentially applying to Agriculture Districts as well as Hamlets.

Decision:

Council tabled the proposed Animal Control Bylaw and directed administration to make changes and bring the Bylaw back to a future Council meeting.

Canada Revenue Agency Authorization

Agenda Item 6.1.; YouTube Livestream: [1:15:35](#)

To update contact information with Canada Revenue Agency, Council's approval is required. Updated contact information is necessary so staff can continue to conduct business with the CRA on behalf of the County.

Decision:

Council authorized the following staff to conduct County business with the Canada Revenue Agency on behalf of Kneehill County Council-- Mike Haugen, CAO; Bill McKennan, Director of Corporate Services; and Marika von Mirbach, Financial Planning Coordinator.

Disposition of Surplus Lands Policy 16-16

Agenda Item 6.2; YouTube Livestream: [1:18:41](#)

Policy 16-16 was presented to Council as part of an ongoing review of current policies. The policy has been updated to provide clearer guidelines for the determination and potential disposal of any surplus lands and indicates that all surplus land proceeds are to replenish the County's reserves unless otherwise directed by Council or Legislation.

Decision:

Council approved the Disposition of Surplus Lands Policy 16-16, as presented.

2021 Tax Rate Bylaw 1834

Agenda Item 7.1; YouTube Livestream: [1:38:48](#)

First and Second reading of the 2021 Tax Rate Bylaw were passed at the April 27, 2021 Council meeting. As unanimous consent to provide third reading was not received, the Bylaw was brought back to Council for third and final reading. Under the Bylaw, changes to residential, farmland, and non-residential tax rates remain modest and competitive with other rural municipalities. View the [2021 Tax Rate Bylaw News Release](#) for more information.

Decision:

Council gave third and final reading to Bylaw 1834, passing the 2021 Tax Rate Bylaw.

Municipal Elections

Agenda Item 8.1; YouTube Livestream: [1:42:01](#)

Kneehill County is divided into separate Electoral Districts for the purpose of the municipal election. If one or more of those Divisions is acclaimed (unopposed) a polling station would not be necessary in that area, however, the Province still requires polling stations be established so electors can vote in both the Senate Election and Provincial Referendum. Administration is recommending Council authorize the Returning Officer to amend the polling subdivisions within Kneehill County so they can be combined, if needed, with other districts already conducting municipal voting.

Administration is also recommending Council allow a Special Ballot for certain electors, with applications for Special Ballot made to the Returning Officer in writing by telephone, in person, or by email between August 3, 2021 and 4:00 p.m. on Friday, October 15, 2021. The completed Special Ballots must then be received by the Returning Officer no later than 4:00 p.m. on Election Day.

Decision:

Council authorized the Returning Officer to divide the local jurisdiction into voting subdivisions and to alter the boundaries if needed and allowed for Special Ballot to electors who meet the requirements under the Local Authorities Election Act.

Kneehill County Scholarship Policy 15-5

Agenda Item 8.2; YouTube Livestream: [1:54:48](#)

Council reviewed Policy 15-5, Kneehill County Scholarship at the April 20th, 2021 Committee of the Whole meeting. At this meeting, the Committee advised Administration to make the following amendments:

- Changing the criteria amounts to 20% Academic Achievement, 50% Written Essay, and 30% Letters of Reference
- Requiring a list of contributions made to school or community, leadership activities, and personal achievements as part of the application.

Decision:

Council approved Policy 15-5, Scholarship Policy as presented.

Seasonal Road Bans

Agenda Item 8.3; YouTube Livestream: [1:57:17](#)

Councillor Christie requested a discussion on Road Bans in the County, and the possibility of granting Road Ban Exemptions to agriculture businesses unable to haul full loads from their place of business (as banned roads are the only means of exit) which impacts them negatively.

Decision:

Council directed administration to come back to a future Council meeting with options for agricultural exemptions for Road Bans.

Council and Committee Reports

Agenda Item 10.0; YouTube Livestream: [2:25:49](#)

Council and Committee Reports include Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes from January 19, 2021

Decision:

Council received the Report as presented.

Closed Session

Agenda Item 12.1; YouTube Livestream: [2:28:49](#)

Council moves the meeting into Closed Session.
(FOIP Section 17, Section 24)

NEXT Council Meeting: May 25, 2021, at 8:30 am in Council Chambers
1600, 2nd Street NE, Three Hills, Alberta.
Agendas are available at www.kneehillcounty.com