



Council Notes October 11, 2022

Non-County Resident Water Connection

Agenda Item 4.1 YouTube Livestream: [32:30](#)

As per policy #14-17, the Village of Linden has made a request for a connection to a County operated rural waterline. If Council approves the recommended motion, the first step in the process will be to submit the water application to a 3rd party consultant to run a water model study. This study will verify the capacity of the waterline and the impacts, if any, that adding this new service connection may have on the existing users of the system. If the results of the water model are favourable, Kneehill County operations will install the service and make the connection to our waterline. The curbstop will be located on the property line of the potential user and from this point it will be the responsibility of the potential user to install a waterline to connect from this point to the residence. The Village of Linden will be the utility account holder and County administration will send the utility bill to the Village for payment. As this is a non-residential connection, it is recommended by administration that connection be completed when meter lift pits are available for installation.

Decision:

Council approved the application, on the condition that the water modeling confirms that there is sufficient capacity in the system for this additional connection.

Bylaw 1863-Redesignation from Ag District to Country Residential

Agenda Item 5.1.1; YouTube Livestream: [38:18](#)

The applicants are looking to create two specific uses on the SW-16-30-25-W4. They would like to redesignate a portion of their land to Country Residential District and another portion to Recreation District. The public hearing for this parcel was held on September 13th, 2022. The planning department recommended removing the low-lying area from the lands designated for the proposed country residential development. This would allow for a minimum 5-lot country residential development. Concerns were raised during the public hearing regarding a confined feeding operation by and adjacent landowner and this development potentially affecting future expansion.

Decision:

Council lifted from the table motion #297/22, and provided Third Reading to the bylaw.

Summer Fire Incidents Report

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

Council discussion at the September 13th Regular Meeting took place and resulted in a request for statistics for all fire departments throughout the summer.

Decision:

Council received the report for information.

Three-Year Operating & Five-Year Capital Forecasts

Agenda Item 6.1; YouTube Livestream: [55:50](#)

The Municipal Government Act (MGA) requires municipalities to prepare both three-year operating and five-year capital forecasts. These forecasts must be presented and approved by Council annually. These forecasts are not budgets, and do not provide administration with the authority to spend the forecasted funds. However, they are intended to provide Council with a forward-looking view of the upcoming financial challenges and opportunities facing the municipality. This report contains the 2023-2025 Operating Forecast (Appendix A), a Summary of Funding Pressures for each year (Appendices B-D) and the Five-Year Capital and Project Forecast (Appendix E).

Decision:

Council approved the 2023-2025 Three-Year Operating & Five-Year Capital forecasts as presented.

[View Appendix A-E here](#)

Tax Cancellation-Industrial Accounts

Agenda Item 6.2; YouTube Livestream: [1:11:00](#)

The ability for the municipality to collect on tax arrears relating to industrial and linear tax accounts has become extremely difficult based on decisions of the Courts. The Virginia Hills decision regarding the validity of linear tax

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arrears has made it impossible for municipalities to collect any amounts owing. The Redwater decision has also affected the oil & gas sector due to the expectations of any monies left from a bankruptcy be paid first to the AER for reclamation purposes. Municipal collections are no longer a priority as legislation provided for in the past due to these decisions.

Decision:

Council approved the expense and cancellation of \$33,813.35 on the designated rolls, as well as directing administration to apply for the Provincial Education Requisition & Designated Industrial Requisition Credit Grant on the same rolls.

Tax Cancellation-Trident Exploration

Agenda Item 6.3; YouTube Livestream: [1:17:00](#)

The ability for the municipality to collect on tax arrears relating to industrial and linear tax accounts has become extremely difficult based on decisions of the Courts. Administration continues to work with our legal firm to collect a portion of the funds left available for the Receiver acting on behalf of Trident Exploration. Other funds will not be recoverable. The County will retain the outstanding arrears on the active producing assets that continue to be assessed, however, we can apply for the requisitions to be repaid by the province until the program is cancelled. The 2022 balances will be included in the financial report under our Allowance for Doubtful Accounts.

Decision: Council moved to expense and cancel \$29,456.31 on the designated rolls, as well as approving administration to void the 2022 penalties on the same rolls, and directed administration to submit an application under the Provincial Education Requisition & Designated Industrial Requisition Credit Grant on the designated rolls.

2023 Budget Guidelines

Agenda Item 6.4; YouTube Livestream: [1:45:30](#)

Administration is seeking Council's direction regarding the preparation of the 2023 Operating and Capital Budget, the 2024-2026 Operating Forecast, and the 2024-2028 Capital Forecast. The following proposed budget guidelines are similar to the guidelines followed for the 2021 and 2022 budgets. These guidelines provide administration with a formal set of guidelines for the budget and forecasting process.

Decision: Council moved that the 2023 Operating and Capital Budgets, the 2024-2026 Operating Forecast and the 2024-2028 Capital Forecast, be prepared in accordance with the guiding principles as detailed in the report.

Bylaw 1864- Repeal of Obsolete Bylaws

Agenda Item 7.1; YouTube Livestream: [1:56:30](#)

To provide good governance, Kneehill County administration has been actively reviewing the current Bylaw database to ensure compliance with current legislation. During the review, 90 obsolete or redundant Bylaws were found that need to be repealed (10 at each Council meeting). Once all the obsolete Bylaws have been removed, a four-year cycle will be created to review all current Bylaws and keep the database updated.

Decision:

Council gave First, Second, and Third reading to pass Bylaw 1862, a bylaw to repeal obsolete, redundant, and outdated Bylaws.

Central Alberta Economic Partnership Board Member

Agenda Item 7.2; YouTube Livestream: [1:59:50](#)

The Central Alberta Partnership sent out a request for Board Member Nominations. CAEP is Central Alberta's Regional Economic Development Alliance (REDA). Kneehill County is a paid member of the organization and works closely with them to stimulate economic growth through strategic regional partnerships. CAEP connects members to tools, resources, training and people. Representing over 45 municipalities and organizations, CAEP is a collaborative approach to accelerate a sustainable and innovative economy in Central Alberta. There are 4 Board Member seats open for election at the November 23, 2022 Fall General Meeting, including one 3-year position for a Counties/Municipal Districts Representative

Decision:

Council approved Councillor McGhee for nomination for the Central Alberta Economic Partnership Board at their
For information on this publication, contact Communications Officer at communications@kneehillcounty.com

2023 General Annual Meeting.

NEXT Council Meeting: October 25, 2022, at 8:30 am in Council Chambers
1600, 2nd Street NE, Three Hills, Alberta.
Agendas are available at www.kneehillcounty.com