



Council Notes February 11, 2020

Ron Gorr Memorial (Torrington) Arena Project

Agenda Item 3.1, 9.2; YouTube Livestream: [54:41](#), [2:26:52](#)

Council was presented with an overview of the Torrington Arena upgrades and improvements that were completed in collaboration with the Torrington Ag Society in 2019, and the carry-forward projects planned for the Arena in 2020. [The full presentation is available in the Council package.](#)

Decision:

Council received the Ron Gorr Memorial (Torrington) Arena Project presentation as information.

Bylaw 1810, Town of Three Hills/Kneehill County IDP

Agenda Item 4.1, 9.1 YouTube Livestream: [1:54:10](#), [2:24:34](#)

A proposed Intermunicipal Development Plan draft Bylaw was created, reviewed and revised by the administration and Committee from both Kneehill County and the Town of Three Hills. Landowners within the plan area were then notified regarding the proposed IDP, and the next step in the process was to provide an opportunity for public comments and feedback at a Public Hearing, prior to passing the Bylaw.

Decision:

Following the Public Hearing, Council passed Bylaw 1810, Town of Three Hills/Kneehill County Intermunicipal Development Plan.

Draft Land Use Bylaw 1808

Agenda Item 5.3.1; YouTube Livestream: [24:40](#)

Kneehill County's Land Use Bylaw has been reviewed and revised in order to reflect Council's current Strategic Plan and vision for the County. Some changes to the Bylaw includes new land use districts, new definitions, changes to subdivisions and new regulations that allow for RV storage facilities and hens in Kneehill County hamlets.

A summary of proposed changes to the Land Use Bylaw is available for viewing on Kneehill County's website: <https://kneehillcounty.com/2209/Planning-Tools>.

Decision:

Council held first reading of draft Land Use Bylaw 1808, and directed administration to schedule public engagement for the Bylaw, prior to holding a Public Hearing.

Tax Cancellation Request

Agenda Item 6.1; YouTube Livestream: [38:58](#)

The Provincial Government provides credits for the Education Requisition and Designated Industrial Property Requisition amounts owing on uncollected taxes. In order to be credited for these requisitions, Kneehill County must cancel the property tax and penalties owing on the associated tax rolls. The associated tax rolls belong to companies that no longer exist.

Decision:

Council cancelled the property taxes in arrears in the amount of \$1,485,335.53 for the specified rolls, as listed in the Council Package. Council then directed administration to apply for the Provincial Education Requisition Credit (PERC) for Uncollectable Education and Property Taxes on Oil and Gas Properties.

Bylaw 1816- Short-Term Borrowing

Agenda Item 6.2; YouTube Livestream: [45:19](#)

The County has banking arrangements which provide for temporary short-term borrowing to ensure cash is available to meet the County's financial obligations. While the need for temporary borrowing is not anticipated for 2020, it is good financial planning to have the option in place. This yearly bylaw is required by the bank.

Decision:

Council passed Bylaw 1816, authorizing the short-term borrowing of funds as needed.

For information on this publication, contact Communications Officer at communications@kneehillcounty.com

2019 Preliminary Operating Budget Results

Agenda Item 8.3; YouTube Livestream: [1:12:15](#)

This 2019 Preliminary Operating Budget Results report provided Council with the expected year-end operating results for 2019. While the 2019 Budget was adopted in a balanced position (income equaling expenses), the projected surplus for 2019 is \$3,732,332.00 (this includes \$1.2 million in tax penalties that will not be fully collectable.)

The variance is due to a number of factors. Extra revenue was generated from successful grant applications, unanticipated water access fees (water sales), rental income, a high return on investments and additional Water Service Area Connections. Savings were also realized as a result of changing management practices designed to find cost efficiencies such as changes in grader contracting. Other factors such as mild weather allowing for less fuel usage, purchases below budget, and staff vacancies also contributed to lower expenditures.

Administration recommended the following disposition of the 2019 surplus:

Initial Projected Surplus	\$3,732,332.00
Contribution to Revenue Stabilization Reserve (To pay for Transtor Bins as required by Drumheller and District Solid Waste Management Board)	\$145,000.00
Contribution to Water Service Area (WSA) Reserve (The revenue realized from water is annually placed in a dedicated Reserve for replacement of water infrastructure.)	\$55,000.00
Contribution to Revenue Stabilization Reserves (To fund anticipated tax write-offs related to challenges in the oil and gas industry.)	\$1,500,000.00
Unallocated Balance	\$2,032,332.00

Administration also recommended that the unallocated balance be contributed to the Road Reserve to fund future projects planned for in the next five years, with the final amount dependent on audited financial results. The County's long range financial plan requires additional funds dedicated to roads in order to replace and maintain the road system.

Decision:

Council approved the recommended additional reserve contributions in the 2019 Operating Budget, with the remaining balance of the surplus to be allocated to the Roads Reserve.

[\(Full 2019 Operating Budget Report available in Package.\)](#)

Kneehill Area Community Discovery Nights

Agenda Item 8.1; YouTube Livestream: [2:16:45](#)

An invitation was received from FCSS to attend the 2020 Kneehill Area Community Discovery Nights. Staff (Community Peace Officers) will participate as an exhibitor, and in the past members of Council have taken advantage of this opportunity to engage with the community as well. Scheduled dates are:

Carbon	Tuesday	March 3, 2020	5:30p.m.- 7:00 p.m.	Carbon Community Hall
Acme	Thursday	March 12, 2020	6:30 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.	Acme Community Hall
Linden	Thursday	March 5, 2020	6:30 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.	Linden Cultural Centre

Decision:

Council authorized the attendance of Councillors to the Kneehill Area Community Discovery Nights being held in Acme, Linden and Carbon.

Kneehill County/Mountain View County ICF Committee

Agenda Item 8.2; YouTube Livestream: [2:19:13](#)

Administration recommends that Council appoint three members and an alternate to the Kneehill –Mountain View Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework Committee. The recommendation for three members corresponds with the number of Divisions that border Mountain View County. Administration has been working on a draft ICF document for the Committee to review.

Decision:

Council appointed Deputy Reeve McGhee, Councillor Christie and Councillor Keiver to the Kneehill- Mountain View Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework Committee, and appointed Reeve Wittstock as alternate.

Cancellation of the February 18, 2020 Committee of the Whole Meeting

Agenda Item 8.3; YouTube Livestream: [2:22:02](#)

At the 2019 Organizational Meeting, Council approved Tuesday, February 18, 2020 as a Committee of the Whole Meeting Date. As there are no agenda topics for this meeting scheduled, Administration recommended this meeting date be cancelled.

Decision:

Council cancelled the Committee of the Whole meeting scheduled for February 18, 2020.

Closed Session

Agenda Item 12.0, 13.0; YouTube Livestream: [2:30:55](#)

(FOIP Section 16) Disclosure Harmful to Business Interests of Third Party
(FOIP Section 21) Intergovernmental Relations

NEXT Council Meeting: February 25, 2020 at 8:30 am in Council Chambers
1600, 2nd Street NE, Three Hills, Alberta.
Agendas are available at www.kneehillcounty.com