



Council Notes June 23, 2020

Policy 13-18, Land Agreements

Agenda Item 5.1; YouTube Livestream: [17:51](#)

Policy 13-18 was discussed and recommended to Council at the June 16th Committee of the Whole meeting. Amendments proposed in the policy provide a fair minimum rate based on the compensation of land purchasing, crop damages, borrow pit and back sloping, raised to reflect increasing land values within the County. The proposed amendments also provide guidelines for Fence Compensation.

Decision:

Council approved Policy 13-18, Land Agreements.

Policy 13-20-2, Building Standards

Agenda Item 5.2; YouTube Livestream: [20:46](#)

Policy 13-20-2 was discussed and recommended to Council at the June 16th Committee of the Whole meeting. Proposed amendments to the policy allow for clarity of road classifications, and sets guidelines and standards for future County road construction and rebuilds.

Decision:

Council approved Policy 13-20-2, Building Standards.

Policy 13-20-4, County Blade Grade Road Standards

Agenda Item 5.3; YouTube Livestream: [25:03](#)

The standards outlined in Policy 13-20-4 have been updated in other policies, rendering 13-20-4 outdated and redundant. Deleting this policy allows for one main policy to outline the guidelines and standards for road construction within Kneehill County.

Decision:

Council rescinded (deleted) Policy 13-20-4, County Blade Grade Road Standards.

Non-County Residential Connection to Rural Waterline

Agenda Item 6.2.1; YouTube Livestream: [27:13](#)

The proposed policy enables non-county residents the ability to apply and receive (upon approval) a connection to a Kneehill County rural waterline. This policy was created as the result of Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework negotiations and will allow for the County and our urban partners to work together to provide services to residents. The fee for a non-County resident to connect would be \$15,000.00, plus the direct construction costs to install the connection. This fee would be reviewed annually as part of the Master Rates Bylaw review.

Decision:

Council accepted Policy 14-17, Non-County Residential Connection to Rural Waterline.

Horseshoe Canyon

Agenda Item 6.3.1; YouTube Livestream: [34:28](#)

At the June 16, 2020 Committee of the Whole Meeting, the Committee recommended that Council direct administration to proceed with a day-use washroom facility, a small retail/café space, and charge parking as approved in the 2020 budget. The Committee also recommended that a focus group/task force of County residents be assembled to review the Horseshoe Canyon Masterplan, and make recommendations to proceed with the development of options for Council review and approval.

Decision:

Council directed administration to proceed with constructing a day-use washroom facility with small retail/café space at Horseshoe Canyon, to prepare for implementing charge parking in 2021 at the Horseshoe Canyon parking lot, (as approved in the 2020 budget), and to develop a Terms of Reference for Council's consideration to form a focused Task Force for the further development of Horseshoe Canyon, utilizing a third party to facilitate. For information on this publication, contact Communications Officer at communications@kneehillcounty.com

Provincial Campgrounds

Agenda Item 6.3.2; YouTube Livestream: [52:15](#)

After the 2020 Provincial budget release the Province announced the partial or full closure of over 184 provincial parks and campgrounds. Four of these are located within Kneehill County: Bleriot Ferry Recreational Area, Dry Island Buffalo Jump, Tolman Bridge Campground (West), and Bigelow Dam Recreational Area. These sites catered to numerous local users as well as visitors to the region.

Decision:

Council directed administration to actively pursue further details on a partnership opportunity with the Province for the potential management of the Bleriot Ferry and Tolman West Campgrounds.

Emergency Communications System Upgrade Project

Agenda Item 6.4.1; YouTube Livestream: [1:12:16](#); [2:35:08](#)

A recent assessment of the County's Emergency Communications System showed areas of poor coverage in all of the fire districts, and countywide problems with communications on fire scenes, potentially putting our first responders at risk. Following the assessment of the system, an RFD was taken to Council in March 2020 to move forward with Request for Proposals for a "Digital Emergency Communications System with AFRRCS option." In order to award the contract, administration is proposing to amend the Budget to purchase system and components outright.

Decision:

Council directed administration to bring back further information regarding funding options for the Emergency Communications System Upgrade (Capital Project B1943). (***See Motions from Closed Session***)

Annual Tax Cancellations

Agenda Item 7.1; YouTube Livestream: [16:45](#)

In June 2016, Council approved Policy 16-15 which gave direction to cancel taxes to Gas Co-ops operating within the County. In 2020 the tax amount for Gas Co-Op owned properties is \$3,720.77. As well, a property in the County qualifies for the provincial Grants in Place of Taxes program, allowing for the cancellation of their 2019 (\$125.65) & 2020 (est. \$130.00) taxes.

Decision:

Council approves the cancellation of 2020 taxes for Gas Co-Op owned properties and as part of the provincial Grants in Place of Taxes program.

Newspaper Delivery Program

Agenda Item 9.1; YouTube Livestream: [0:00](#)

Due to an increase in Canada Post mailing rates, the Three Hills Capital has had to change the way they deliver their newspapers to County ratepayers. Those outside of the County no longer receive a paper copy in the mail, but have access to the Capital for free online.

At the June 16, 2020 Committee of the Whole Meeting, the Committee recommended that Council direct administration to provide a program for ratepayers outside the County to aid in the transition.

Decision:

Council approved the Newspaper Delivery Transition Program as presented. Kneehill County will offer ratepayers who live outside the County a mailed copy of the Three Hills Capital for the rest of 2020, to aid in the transition to online delivery.

2020 Discovery Fair and Ratepayer Evenings

Agenda Item 9.2; YouTube Livestream: [6:33](#)

Two Discovery Fair and Ratepayer Evenings were planned for August of 2020, but with current COVID-19 restrictions in place, these events will need to be modified or postponed to ensure safety of residents and staff. Administration is seeking direction from Council on how they'd like to proceed with these meetings.

Decision:

Council moved to host two Discovery Fair Ratepayer Evening events in 2020, to be scheduled based on relaxation of COVID-19 restrictions.

Acme Funding Request

Agenda Item 9.3; YouTube Livestream: [21:21](#)

The Village of Acme has submitted a request for \$200,000 in funding to assist with repairing infrastructure damage sustained during recent flooding. A one-time grant would be consistent with past County decisions.

Decision:

Council approved a grant of \$200,000 (funded from the Gravel Reserve) for the Village of Acme, to be used for infrastructure repairs from damage sustained during recent flooding.

Council and Committee Reports

Agenda Item 11.0; YouTube Livestream: [24:50](#)

Council and Committee Reports include Community Futures Wild Rose, Committee of the Whole Minutes from May 19, 2020, and verbal reports on the Doctor Recruitment and Retention Committee, and Drumheller and District Solid Waste Association.

Decision:

Council received the Council and Committee Reports as information.

Closed Session

Agenda Item 13.0; YouTube Livestream: [2:31:45](#); [2:35:08](#)

Council moved the meeting into Closed Session. (Section 16 & 25) (Section 24)

Motions from Closed Session:

Council moved that the outstanding taxes and any taxes accrued prior to the proposed purchase of well 02/07-16-034-22W4 be cancelled.

Council authorized the budget amendment of \$310,000 to \$960,250 for the Emergency Communications System, with funds to come from the Contingency Reserve, with an additional \$300,000 to be included in the 2021 Capital Budget for the potential purchase/replacement of the Trochu Tower.

NEXT Council Meeting: July 21, 2020 at 8:30 am in Council Chambers
1600, 2nd Street NE, Three Hills, Alberta.
Agendas are available at www.kneehillcounty.com