



Council Notes April 26, 2022

Delegation- BDO Canada LLP, 2021 Audited Financial Statements

Agenda Item 3.1; YouTube Livestream: [56:53](#)

Delegations from BDO Canada LLP presented Council with a high-level overview of Kneehill County's audited Financial Statements from 2021.

Delegation- Strategic Steps, Draft Strategic Plan

Agenda Item 3.2; 7.3; YouTube Livestream: [1:24](#); [31:38](#)

Kneehill County Council recently participated in a Strategic Planning session, which included in-depth discussions on the County's mission, vision, and values to develop the County's future strategic priorities and goals. Strategic Steps, the facilitator of the session, compiled two drafts of Kneehill County's 2022-2026 Strategic Plan and is seeking Council's feedback and further direction for finalizing the document.

[View the Drafts in the Council Package \(Item 7.3\)](#)

Decision:

Council directed administration to continue preparing the finalized version of the 2022 Kneehill County Strategic Plan, as presented by Strategic Steps.

Policy 5-17, Food Truck & Mobile Vendor Policy

Agenda Item 5.1.1; YouTube Livestream: [27:14](#)

Policy 5-17 guides the application and operational requirements for food trucks and other mobile Vendors to operate at County-owned and operated parks, campgrounds, and other open space areas (Horseshoe Canyon, Keiver's Lake.)

Decision:

Council approved Food Truck & Mobile Vendor Policy 5-17 as presented.

Kneehill Regional Partnership Broadband Project- Phase One

Agenda Item 5.4.1; YouTube Livestream: [33:26](#)

On March 30, 2022, the Kneehill Regional Partnership (municipalities from Carbon, Acme, Linden, Three Hills, Trochu, & Kneehill County) voted to proceed with a Regional Broadband Study. Phase One of the project will determine the needs and desired outcomes of the regional partners and help identify the direction of the study (information collection and education). If the Kneehill Regional Partnership determines the project is viable following Phase One deliberations, two additional phases (the actual Study, followed by strategy & implementation) will be presented to the Partnership and Council for further consideration.

Decision:

Council approved a maximum budget of \$2000 towards the first phase of the Kneehill Regional Partnership Broadband Project (information collection and education).

Kneehill Regional Partnership- Explore Kneehill 2.0

Agenda Item 5.4.2; YouTube Livestream: [1:42:00](#)

On March 30, 2022, the Kneehill Regional Partnership voted to continue with the Explore Kneehill Tourism project (2.0) social media campaign. Explore Kneehill 2.0 will be a scaled back version of the 2021 project, utilizing existing branding and strategy guidelines to help direct and attract tourism to the region.

Decision:

Council confirmed Kneehill County's participation in the Kneehill Regional Partnership's 2022 Explore Kneehill tourism project and provided a letter of support for the Travel Alberta Cooperative Grant application.

2021 Audited Financial Statements

Agenda Item 6.1; YouTube Livestream: [2:00:51](#)

The County is required by the MGA to prepare annual Financial Statements following accounting principles for municipal governments. The financial statements also require an auditor's report, which was completed by Kneehill County's appointed auditor, BDO of Red Deer. These statements provide information on the County's financial position and reflect the previous approvals and direction of Council. The overall financial position of the County as presented in these statements for December 31, 2021, is positive and reflects Council and Administration's ongoing focus on prudent financial management.

Decision:

Council accepted the 2021 Audited Financial Statements as presented by auditor BDO Canada.

[View the Statements Online.](#)

2022 Tax Rate Bylaw

Agenda Item 6.2; YouTube Livestream: [2:04:14](#)

The County is required in the Municipal Government Act (MGA) to approve a Tax Rate Bylaw which reflects the expenditures as approved by Council in the 2022 Operating and Capital Budgets. Under the Bylaw, modest changes to residential, farmland, and non-residential tax rates will ensure current service level standards are maintained in response to increased provincial budget pressures. [Tax Rate 2022 News Release.](#)

Decision:

Council passed Bylaw 1848, 2022 Tax Rates.

Local Improvement Bylaw Amendments

Agenda Item 6.3; YouTube Livestream: [2:15:40](#)

To apply the special benefitting tax levy for water service areas, a water riser bylaw was written detailing the roll numbers affected. When new rolls numbers are assigned to each area due to subdivisions, these bylaws require amending to include the new roll number and to delete the old one.

Decision:

Council passed Water Service Area Project Bylaws 1850- Grainger/Hesketh, 1851- Selkirk, and 1852- Sunnyslope Pressure, which were updated due to subdivision activity.

2022 Trochu Recreation Area Special Tax

Agenda Item 6.4; YouTube Livestream: [2:10:59](#)

Each year Council approves a levy to be charged against certain properties within a given area as a recreation tax. This tax is collected and forwarded to the Town of Trochu as payment at year end, funding 50% of the costs to operate their pool facility..

Decision:

Council passed Bylaw 1849, 2022 Trochu Recreation Area Special Tax.

Master Rates Bylaw 1854

Agenda Item 7.1; YouTube Livestream: [2:23:13](#)

Kneehill County's Master Rates Bylaw establishes rates, fees, and charges for various County operations, products, permits, and services, reviewed annually and updated each year. In 2022, changes were made to:

- Location Filming Fees (Policy 5-18)
- Special Events Fees (Bylaw 1847)
- Certain fees listed in the Land Use Bylaw
- Dust Control Fees
- Water Charges - Flat Maintenance Fees

View changes to fees for [2022 in the Council Package.](#)

Decision:

Council passed Bylaw 1854, Master Rates.

RMA Member Visit

Agenda Item 7.2; YouTube Livestream: [2:31:21](#)

The Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) takes part in engagement initiatives each year. These include member visits, in which the RMA Executive and some staff visit member municipalities to become better acquainted with the municipality and its needs. Kneehill County is hosting the RMA Board for a member visit in early May.

Decision:

Council accepted the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) Member Visit discussion for information.

Council & Committee Reports

Agenda Item 9.0; YouTube Livestream: [2:57:20](#)

Council and Committee reports include Community Futures Wild Rose and Drumheller & District Solid Waste.

Decision:

Council received the Council and Committee Reports for information as presented.

Closed Session

Agenda Item 11.0; YouTube Livestream: [3:23:30](#); [32:48](#)

Council moved the Meeting into Closed Session (Confidential Appraisals, Section 19, FOIPP).

NEXT Council Meeting: May 10, 2022, at 8:30 am in Council Chambers
1600, 2nd Street NE, Three Hills, Alberta.
Agendas are available at www.kneehillcounty.com