



Yellowhead County

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS March 9, 2010

Keeping You Informed of the Business, Development and Services that Affect YOU!

#1 Evansburg RCMP Update – Council heard a presentation from Staff Sergeant Carol Spears of the Evansburg RCMP. The detachment covers the eastern portion of Yellowhead County, as well as sections of Parkland and Lac St. Anne Counties. Spears stated that the main goals of the detachment in 2009 were traffic enforcement, reducing family violence and increasing the RCMP presence in local schools. As part of the third initiative, they continued to work with Yellowhead County Peace Officers to present the DARE program. Spears also talked about the new detachment that is currently under construction in Evansburg, with a planned occupancy date of fall 2010.

#2 Mayerthorpe request for funds – Council heard a request from Councillor Kate Patrick and CAO Karen St. Martin from the Town of Mayerthorpe. The two presenters outlined the plans for the new multi-use facility in the town, including a new arena and outdoor swimming pool. St. Martin stated that they were having difficulty raising the funds necessary for the facility and would like Yellowhead County to pickup some of the cost. Yellowhead County currently cost-shares with Edson and Hinton, both of which are located within Yellowhead County boundaries. The costs are determined by capita on a yearly basis. Usage rates for the county were less than 3 per cent at Mayerthorpe facilities, which council felt was comparable to the usage rates of Mayerthorpe residents at Evansburg and Wildwood recreation facilities. Council chose not to support the request.

#3 Peers Local Improvement Bylaw – Council gave three readings to Peers Local Improvement Bylaw 15.10. The bylaw incorporated the final cost of the Peers Water Distribution System, and will replace the previous local improvement bylaw passed in July 2008. The local improvement was determined on a per lot basis and final notices have been sent to all the landowners. The charge of approximately \$13,300 can be paid in full by owners, or split up over a 25 year period to be paid with their annual municipal tax notice.

#4 New fire tanker for Wildwood – Council approved the purchase of a new tanker truck for the fire station in Wildwood. A tanker truck is basic engine supplied to all Yellowhead County fire stations. A previous tender had been accepted in November 2009, but was ultimately deemed non-compliant after the closing date. Fire Services re-tendered the proposal and received 6 bids, one of which was compliant. Council awarded the tender to Hub Fire Engines out of British Columbia for approximately \$320,000. Fire Chief Cory Chegwyn stated that there were many Hub brand engines within the county roster, and fire services had a very good working relationship with the company.

#5 Evansburg-Wildwood Gravel Supply – Council awarded the Evansburg-Wildwood Gravel Supply tender to Jones Trucking and Backhoe Service Ltd. of Winfield, AB, in the amount of \$383,500. The tender was the lowest of three bids submitted, after factoring in a calculated adjustment dependant on how far the gravel would need to be hauled from each company's location. Jones Trucking is the same company that provided the Evansburg-Wildwood Supply to Yellowhead County in 2009.

#6 Grande Prairie Trail and Pinedale Collector Road – Council approved a road tender for the resurfacing and grading of Grande Prairie Trail. Earth and Iron Inc. of Drayton Valley submitted the lowest of seven tenders, with a bid of approximately \$2 million. With contingencies, the cost will be approximately \$2.85 million, which remains under the budgeted amount for the project. The work, which will include sideslope shaping, subgrade preparation, roadway stabilization, drainage improvements and other work, will be completed this summer. Council also voted to proceed with a detailed design and tender preparation for Pinedale Collector Road (Township 534 from Wolf Creek Road to Rosevear Road). This length of road was highlighted to be a strategic connector road in the area by the Hwy 16 - Hwy 32 to McLeod River Access Management Review that was approved by council in January 2010.

#7 West Yellowhead Regional Waste Management Authority – Council adopted the 2010 operating and capital budgets for the West Yellowhead Regional Waste Management Authority. The Authority represents Yellowhead County, the Town of Hinton and the Town of Edson and coordinates waste management between the three municipalities. The operating budget has increased by \$51,000 from 2009 and the estimated cost for capital budgets is \$1,025,000.

#8 Home Support Pilot Program – Council gave three readings to Home Support Program Fee Services Bylaw 16.10, which set up the fee structure for the pilot home support program that will begin April 1, 2010. The hourly rate charged to the senior will be based on their income levels. The pilot program will provide housekeeping and light maintenance, with the goal of enabling seniors to remain living in their own homes.

#9 Briefs – Council approved a Member Municipality Satisfaction Survey completed by administration regarding the Yellowhead Regional Library. The YRL serves all three Yellowhead County libraries; Green Grove, Wildwood and Evansburg. Administration stated that the libraries were pleased with the services overall, but would like to see faster response times when technical problems arose. The next council meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 23, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. in the Council Chambers.

For more information contact Catherine Adair, Communications Coordinator toll free at 1-800-665-6030 or 780-723-4800.

Did You Know... Our website is a useful way to get the information that you need.

Visit: www.yellowheadcounty.ab.ca