

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT BONNYVILLE NO. 87

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS January 11, 2012

Keeping you informed of the services, business and development that affect YOU!

□#1 Agriculture Update – The Municipal District of Bonnyville has signed a five year agreement with the province to continue the provincial Rat and Rabies Program. The M.D. also signed a three year agreement with Alberta Agriculture for the Agricultural Service Board Grant, which is the main source of provincial funding for the municipality to educate and enforce provincial acts. The M.D. also signed the Veterinary Services Incorporated (VSI) agreement for 2012 that provides funding to the M.D. for a program to cost share veterinarian procedures with producers with a 60/40 split. Council approved the following equipment expenditures, to a maximum of \$81,500, that were passed in the 2012 interim budget: tree spade; post pounder; quad; two sprayers for the rental fleet; replacement truck; boat and motor.

□#2 Coyote and Wolf Reduction Program Effective – Since starting the Coyote and Wolf Reduction Program in October the Agricultural Department has had no predation complaints come into the office. Residents have brought in over 600 coyotes and 24 wolves. In 2011 a total of six producers used the coyote toxicant program, well below the average of previous years.

□#3 Transportation and Utilities News – Council agreed to a new land purchase rate of \$1,500.00 an acre. The contract with REDA Enterprises Ltd. for the supply of ¾ inch road gravel to the M.D. yard was extended. The amount left is 11,563.63 tonnes at \$16.45 per tonne totaling \$190,221.71. Council approved the following equipment expenditures, to a maximum of \$2,049,000.00, that were passed in the 2012 interim budget: one replacement grader; one replacement tractor; one new tractor; two mowers and side arms; one brushing header; one six inch or larger water pump; one used man lift; four replacement pickups; two replacement large trucks with attachments; one new large truck with attachments and one used water truck. Tenders were approved for the supply of 150,000 tonnes of ¾ inch crushed gravel; supply of 35,000 tonnes of ¾ inch cold mix and gravel crushing at the M.D. base pit to a maximum of 150,000 tonnes.

□#4 Waste Woes – The Agricultural Department has initiated an education program to inform residents about the new initiatives regarding waste reduction and recycling. The department has created three new brochures: *Recycling*, *Municipal Landfills* and *Unsecured Loads – The Law, Our Landfills and You*. The brochures will be displayed at information boxes at the bin sites and will be distributed to rural mail boxes. During the holiday season the garbage truck was operating six days a week because of the increased volume. Staff are also seeing an increase in illegal dumping around the two urban municipalities since fees went up at their transfer sites. The M.D. is urging people not to litter the ditches with garbage, please utilize the waste facilities provided by the four regional municipalities.

□#5 Planning and Development Information – The 2011 permit value total for the M.D. of Bonnyville was \$55,644,430.00. “It was a very good year” says Director John

Foy. Year-to-date housing starts are 122 Single Family Units and 13 Mobile Homes. Council did not approve the requested road lease by JMB Crushing for the purpose of mining the gravel from the right-of-way as the M.D. is in constant need for gravel resources. Third and final reading was given to Road Lease Bylaw 1513 SE 24-60-3 W4M; Road Lease Bylaw 1514 SE 20-62-8 W4M and Road Lease Bylaw 1515 NE 34-60-4 W4M. Council did not approve a request to take ownership of the Bear Trap burial site as it is under the control and protection of the Crown and there are a number of different religious denominations providing this service to our communities within the M.D. Council agreed to pay 50 per cent of the total cost of \$214,340.00 (\$107,170.00) for an industrial subdivision intersection entrance onto Secondary Highway 660 and Highway 41 at NW 19-61-5-4. Council had previously agreed to cost share on intersection treatments on Highways 41 and 55. For new developments in 2012, accessing primary highways will be the sole responsibility of the developer, the M.D. will no longer cost share in these upgrades to intersections.

□#6 Briefs, Briefs, Briefs – Council agreed to pay 48.82 per cent of the Bonnyville and District Centennial Centre’s 2012 budget based on the Town of Bonnyville’s figure of \$1,436,400.00 for a total M.D. contribution of \$701,250.48. All of Council will now sit on the Policy Committee. The Parks Department started laying the cross country ski trails at Muriel Lake, but unfortunately the rain and warm temperatures have wreaked havoc on the initial work. Parks staff are waiting for the temperatures to drop and snow to fall in order to do further work on the trails. All Town Hall Boards will be meeting on Monday, January 23 to discuss the new hall funding procedures.

For more information contact Diane Jenkinson, Communications Coordinator at 780-826-3171. Our web site is a useful way to get the information you need. **Visit:** www.md.bonnyville.ab.ca.