

**FEBRUARY 18, 2020**

Present: Mayor Brian Peterson joined at 5:55  
Deputy Mayor Hewitt

Councillors: Bill Guise  
Sandra Miller  
Ed Smith  
CAO: Leona Hanson  
Recording Secretary: Chelsea de Ruiter

1. Deputy Mayor Hewitt called the meeting to order at 5:03p.m.

2. **MOVED** by Deputy Mayor Hewitt to adopt the meeting agenda with the following additions:

8. d. Sports Excellence Awards – March 6, 2020    8. e. Resident Letter    8. f. AUMA – Post Provincial Budget Webinar    10. a. iv. Fiber Optics    Change in order of items to move item 6. Operations to precede item 5. a. Sergeant Ash Brown, RCMP.    **CARRIED 02/20/34**

3. **MOVED** by Councillor Miller that the minutes of the February 3, 2020 regular council meeting be approved as presented.    **CARRIED 02/20/35**

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

Deputy Mayor Hewitt inquired if the notice for the ATCO Franchise Agreement Renewal had been posted in the Town and County News. Administration advised that the advertisement has been posted and will be in the paper for two weeks prior to ATCO's further review. The Franchise Renewal Agreement will then come back to Council for consideration of third reading.

Councillor Guise brought forward an update on the Hythe Legion Banner Project. The project is moving forward and there is a lot of interest in the memorial banners.

5. Operations Update

CAO Hanson provided an update on staff operations to the Council including updates on Spray Park that noted the research progressing and the Hythe Agricultural Society's interest in partnering on the project.

Deputy Mayor Hewitt would like to have a minimum of three (3) companies provide a quote on the project. Administration advised that upon conclusion of the survey request

to other municipalities with spray parks being conducted by Community Development Clerk, de Ruiter pre-qualification of service providers will be in the next steps.

The Village of Hythe has been selected as a pilot municipality to try out the resources available through BoxofDocs for a 10-week period. BoxofDocs which includes document templates, sample policies, bylaws, RFPs, and related municipal information will work closely with Administration over the pilot timeframe.

Public works is conducting the last section of sewer flushing in the Village. There is currently back alley pickup for garbage and this has been brought forward as a potential hazard by staff and the disposal company due to overhead power lines. This issue will require further investigation and viewing of garbage trucks in operation to determine the next steps.

Council was provided with the Village of Hythe's Council Remuneration Policy for reference. As an opportunity to review the Council remuneration policies from a few small urban municipalities can be used for comparative purposes. An update on the operations of the Tourism booth was provided to Council. A meeting with the Historic Society was held to discuss options for operating the Tourism Booth. Concerns around safety were raised at that meeting and it was decided that staff will work with the Society to be able to provide tourism information through a self-serve method. No staff will be hired to work as a dedicated Tourism Coordinator however the volunteers were interested in helping to host the Tack Shop and Museum for select weekends that coincide with special events in the community such as the Legion's 90 th Anniversary Celebration and the Annual Ag Fair.

## 6. Delegations

a. Sergeant Ash Browne, RCMP 5:53-6:51 PM Sergeant Ash Browne joined the Council Meeting at 5:53 to provide an update on RCMP incidents in the Village of Hythe and to look at the plans for the future. Sgt. Browne provided details on the Soaring Eagles Aboriginal Youth Camp that is now accepting applications and the Depot Youth Camp. Engagement with youth is identified as one the RCMP priorities. Beaverlodge RCMP are ensuring communication is open with the schools to ensure school staff are getting the support they need from the local unit. Sgt. Browne reviewed the updated Crime Statistics summary. Sgt. Brown offered to provide an annual report of reports in crime to Council if there is interest and Council confirmed they are in favour of receiving annual reports.

Deputy Mayor Hewitt requested follow up to the last meeting with Sgt. Browne about response time delays. Sgt. Browne had reviewed the incident and determined the responding unit came from Wembley and that the delay was reasonable considering the distance traveled. Sgt. Browne provide additional information and assured Council that the RCMP are putting forward their best efforts to follow up with individuals who report incidents as part of their procedures.

Mayor Peterson enquired about staffing after a conversation with the Justice Minister. Sgt. Browne confirmed the Beaverlodge RCMP are full staffed with one member on recruit training for another 3.5 months. Sgt. Browne also referenced the anticipation of provincial funding to fill an additional position.

Sgt. Browne will be doing another Town Hall meeting through Live Feed on Facebook on February 27 th . Sgt. Browne extended the offer for further engagement and referenced that the RCMP are interested in participating in events in the Community and encouraged the Village to send invites in order to place the dates in their calendar.

The RCMP Regimented Ball is scheduled for October 3 rd , 2020. This is a fundraiser and the selected charities for this year are “Talk to Me Foundation” and “Victims Services”.

## 7. Business & Information

a. Beaverlodge RCMP: for review. Provided for information and discussed by Sergeant Browne during Item 6. Delegation.

i. Stats – 2019 vs 2018

ii. Town Hall – Live Facebook Event

iii. RCMP Soaring Eagle Youth Camp

iv. RCMP Depot Youth Camp

b. County Enforcement Services January 2020 Report – provided for review

c. GPREP Emergency Management Bylaw 550

An updated Bylaw 550 was provided to Council for review. The bylaw will come into effect April 1, 2020 pending approval by all participating municipalities.

**MOVED** by Councillor Smith to approve first reading of Bylaw 550 GPREP Emergency Management **CARRIED 02/20/36**

**MOVED** by Mayor Peterson to approve second reading. **CARRIED 02/20/37**

**MOVED** by Councillor Smith to consider third reading. **CARRIED 02/20/38**

**MOVED** by Councillor Guise to approve third & final reading. **CARRIED 02/20/39**

d. GPREP – State of Local Emergency Quick Reference Guide. State of Local Emergency Quick reference was provided for information and records. It contains the phone numbers of the Director of Emergency Management for each municipality and the procedure to be followed in the event of a local emergency. e. Borrowing Bylaw 551

– Fiber Optics was presented for review. This bylaw was written to allow the municipality to borrow \$662,000 being 70% of the cost of the Fiber Optics project with repayment of debt to be on a cost recovery basis through user fees.

**MOVED** by Councillor Smith to approve first reading. **CARRIED 02/20/40**

f. State of Region Address – Request for Decision

The City of Grande Prairie Mayor Bill Given is reaching out to municipalities in the Region to seek interest in the opportunity to deliver a ‘State of the Region Address’. Each year the Grande Prairie Chamber of Commerce has hosted luncheons for a similar purpose, one that has the Mayor from the City give a ‘State of the City Address’, one where the Reeve of the County gives a ‘State of the County Address’, and another where the Reeve of the MD of Greenview give a ‘State of the MD of Greenview Address’. The understanding is that this address would be co-presented with March 24, 2020 being the planned event date. Administration requested Council to provide direction as to the interest to participate in a ‘State of the Region Address’.

**MOVED** by Deputy Mayor Hewitt that the Village of Hythe accepts the City of Grande Prairie’s invitation to participate in a ‘State of the Region Address’. **CARRIED 02/20/41**

8. Correspondence

a. Passionate Hearts Awards Announcement – provided for information and updates on who received the awards.

b. Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance – Wapiti Watershed Source Water Protection Plan – correspondence received. Planning for the engagement event is in place and planned for the fourth week of March in Grande prairie.

c. Reading File – provided for Council review

d. Sports Excellence Awards – March 6, 2020 – Grande Prairie Sport Connection provided 2 complimentary tickets for Village of Hythe Council members who would like to attend.

e. Resident Letter – Correspondence was received from Mrs. Joy Juneau requesting Council to consider a reduction in utility bills.

**MOVED** by Deputy Mayor Hewitt that correspondence be sent to Mrs. Juneau declining the request for a reduction in utility bills. **CARRIED 02/20/42**

f. AUMA – Post Provincial Budget Webinar – The Provincial Budget Day is scheduled for February 27, 2020. AUMA has invited municipalities to join them for a webinar presenting their perspectives on the provincial budget and municipal impacts on

February 28 from 2:00-3:30 PM. Registration is required, Council is requested to let the Administration know if they are interested in participating.

## 9. Meetings Attended and Members' Business

Deputy Mayor Hewitt Was unable to attend the Community Futures meeting. Attended a meeting in Grande Prairie on water wells in the community.

Councillor Smith Councillor Smith would like to investigate the possibility of purchasing an old well near the racetrack if the other Councilors support the research. It could be a possible source of energy to the arena if the LSM plant was purchased. Deputy Mayor Hewitt enquired if there is the ability to take gas off a well without purchasing it from ATCO, and what the liability is.

Council supported Councillor Smith in further investigating the old well site and the possible uses. A local oil company is interested in the water volumes. Administration is able to provide unqualified numbers to start with and will pursue a meeting. Councillor Smith offered to assist Public Works with obtaining some measurements to provide further information.

Councillor Guise Attended a meeting in Grande Prairie on water wells in the community. Councillor Guise recommended advertising for the campground attendant as an on-site contract.

**MOVED** by Councillor Guise that the Village of Hythe advertise for an on-site campground attendant with terms to be negotiable. **CARRIED 02/20/43**

Mayor Peterson Attended a meeting in Grande Prairie on water well in the community. Attended the Breakfast Reception with the provincial cabinet Ministers and MLAs from the government Caucus. Premier Kenney was not in attendance however several cabinet Ministers were. Mayor Peterson was able to meet with the Justice Minister on rural crime. He also met with the Minister of Municipal Affairs and voiced the challenge of having less funding available in conjunction with increased costs, and further shared how the Village of Hythe provides services beyond the residents of Hythe and the downward negative impact to municipalities as a result of decades of funding allocation changes to municipalities. The Minister of Municipal Affairs requested a letter be provided to lay out the details of the situation and its impact.

Councillor Miller Attended a Library Board meeting – the board is happy that the budget is approved. They are working on getting policies in place. The Friends of the Library has a Casino coming up on June 19 & 20, if you are nterested in volunteering please contact Cathy Jones.

**MOVED** by Deputy Mayor Hewitt to go in-camera at 7:41 PM **CARRIED 02/20/44**

## 10. In Camera

a. Contracts    i. IDP    ii. Land    iii. RFP    iv. Fiber Optics

**MOVED** by Deputy Mayor Hewitt to go Out-of-Camera at 9:37 p.m. **CARRIED 02/20/45**

**MOVED** by Deputy Mayor Hewitt to opt out of the Inter Municipal Development Plan with the County of Grande Prairie as per a new option made available by the Provincial Government and to revisit working on an Inter Municipal Development Plan at a later date. **CARRIED 02/20/46**

**MOVED** by Councillor Smith to renew the Real Estate Agreement with Remax for the property at 10004 – 100 St. **CARRIED 02/20/47**

**MOVED** by Councillor Miller to award the Marketing and Branding RFP and negotiate and enter into an agreement with Image Design to perform the work outlined. **CARRIED 02/20/48**

11. Adjournment

**MOVED** by Councillor Guise that the meeting be adjourned. **CARRIED 02/20/49**  
Time of adjournment was 9:40 p.m.