



Reeve's Report

December 7, 2022 to January 16, 2023

December 13, 2022 – Council Departmental Operations, Agricultural Service Board and Natural Gas Meetings, held in Chambers & virtually (All Council in-person)

- Received update reports from managers on activities and projects.
- Cancelled the December 13, 2022 Fire Protective Services Committee Meeting.
- Cancelled the December 13, 2022 Environment & Parks Meeting.

December 13, 2022 – Budget Open House, held virtually (All Council virtually)

- The Finance Manager provided a presentation on the proposed 2023 Budget balanced budget based on the following:
 - No change in service levels
 - Equipment replacement has been deferred and where necessary will be leased or rented
 - Maintenance costs will increase as a result of above
 - The Road Plan is based on feedback from Council and Management
 - The assumption that the MSI grant will be equal to the amount received in 2022
 - The predicted increase in policing costs of 50% (from \$127,404 to \$191,242)
 - Escalation of costs due to inflation
 - No purchase or crushing of gravel
 - Interest rates earned on funds will be approximately 5%

December 14, 2022 – Regular Council Meeting, held in Chambers & virtually (All Council in-person)

- Gave 1st reading to Bylaw No. 1425-22: Village of Vilna and Smoky Lake County Intermunicipal Development Plan (IDP); and to Bylaw No. 1426-22: Town of Smoky Lake and Smoky Lake County Intermunicipal Development Plan (IDP).
- Gave 3rd & final reading to Bylaw No. 1421-22: Waskatenau Intermunicipal Water and Wastewater Servicing.
- Approved to proceed with the surveying and preparation of a Road Plan to rectify the encroachment of the Victoria Trail onto Pt. NW-12-58-18-W4M.
- Adopted Policy #07-08-01: Alberta's Lakeland Destination Marketing Organization (DMO) - Liaison Committee Terms of Reference; and Policy #62-11-01: Lakeland Industry and Community Association (LICA) - Liaison Committee Terms of Reference.
- Approved to transfer the lands known as the Victoria Park Cemetery located on part of River Lot 10 (RL-10, VIC SETTLEMENT) to the Metis Nation of Alberta at no cost to the County.
- Approved to install both the Treaty 6 and Métis Nation Flags at the Victoria District National Historic Site of Canada Plaque Site, on Rive Lot 10.
- Adopted a proposed Resolution for consideration at the Spring 2023 Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) Convention, entitled: Municipal Access to Provincial Open Data.
- As the managing partner, approved the Regional Community Development Committee (RCDC) 2023 Economic Development Budget of \$115,600 with Smoky Lake County's contribution of \$78,030.
- Approved to contribute \$2,500 to the Ukrainian Twinning Committee.
- Adopted Policy Statement No. 02-34-01: Peace Officer: Enforcement Jurisdiction.
- Appointed Tate Murphy to be the designated Bylaw Enforcement Officer for Smoky Lake County.
- Acknowledged receipt Management Policy #01M-19-01: Animal Control – Job Description.
- Gave 1st reading to Bylaw No. 1422-22: Subdivision and Development Appeal Board (SDAB).
- Approved the Five-Year Consolidated Capital Budget including the Bridge and Road Programs for a total cost of \$5,570,095 in 2023, \$10,571,656 in 2024, \$6,194,053 in 2025, \$6,882,889 in 2026, and \$4,286,117 in 2027.



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- Approved the Interim Municipal Capital Budget including the Bridge and Road Programs for a total capital cost of \$5,284,605 and capital revenue of \$3,769,048; and Interim Municipal Budget, with revenue of \$19,688,408 and total Expenditures of \$19,688,408 not including amortization of \$2,020,300.
- Adopted the Natural Gas System Operating Budget with a total revenue of \$3,014,520 and expenditures of \$3,074,520; and Natural Gas System Capital Budget with a total revenue of \$115,500 and expenditures of \$285,500.
- Amended Policy Statement No. 62-22-06: Northlands Farm Family, to include the 2023 recipients.
- Approve to install the Ukrainian Flag in County Council Chambers, in recognition and in honor of the regional twinning relationship with the Kosiv Oblast region.
- Approved to increase the annual contribution to STARS from \$5,000 to \$6,000/year.
- Approved \$1,250 FCSS Grant Funding to Smoky Lake Holubka Dancers; and \$850 to Victoria District Agricultural Society.
- Approved to execute the agreement for maximum FCSS funding for 2023, 2024, & 2025.
- Approved a \$100 donation to the Smoky Lake Food Bank on behalf of the 18th Annual Dart Tournament in Memory of Cathy Bullas.

December 15, 2022 – Joint Health & Safety, held virtually (Lorne virtually)

- Organizational meeting held and appointments to the committee were made.
- Acknowledged no progress was made on rectifying the deficiencies noted in the Alberta Municipal Health and Safety (AMHSA)'s Year-2021 External Safety Audit Action Plan.
- Reviewed results of the Formal Safety Inspections conducted by staff in several County areas/facilities.
- Adopted Policy Statement No. 02-05-01: Contractor Health and Safety Management.
- Received Committee Member reports.

December 15, 2022 – Meeting with IUOE Local 955 Union (Dan, Dominique and Lorne in-person)

- Discussed the issue of inflation relative to wages and the Collective Agreement.

December 16, 2022 – Council Committee of the Whole - Planning, held in Chambers & virtually (All Council in-person)

- The Planning Department presented "Five Small 'Big Ideas'" to Underpin a New Land Use Bylaw (LUB) & Municipal Development Plan (MDP), including: modernizing of the 'front-end' or administrative matters, making is easy to understand, updating maps & graphics, Indigenous engagement & relationship building, and Land Use District that are informed by data & sound rational.

December 16, 2022 – Council Special Meeting, held in Chambers & virtually (All Council in-person)

- Discussed two issues in Executive Session: (1) Legal and Personnel Issue, in respect to the Collective Agreement between Smoky Lake County and the Operating Engineers Local 955, under the authority of the FOIP Act, Section 24 Advice from Officials and Section 27 Privileged Information; and (2) Personnel Issue, in respect to a public complaint against an employee, under the authority of the FOIP Act, Section 24 Advice from Officials and Section 27 Privileged Information.
- Acknowledged the public complaint against an employee matter as resolved.
- Approved a one-time 1% non-cumulative wage increase, effective January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023, for the Employees under the Operating Engineers Union Local 955 Collective Agreement.



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December 19, 2022 – Highway 28/63 Regional Water Services Commission, held in Chambers & virtually (Lorne & Dan in-person)

- Received updated from the Commission Manager, Finance Manager, & Engineers.
- Gave 3rd & final reading to Bylaw No. 008-2022 for the purpose of governing the operations and provision of services of the Commission.
- Confirmed the 2023 Member water rates will remain the same as 2022.
- Approved to increase rate of the fee for services from Utility Operators and Utility Manager.
- Next meeting is to be February 2, 2023.

December 20, 2022 – Smoky Lake Region Ukrainian Twinning Committee Meeting, held virtually (Lorne & Linda virtually)

- Received update on fundraising, silent auction etc.
- Fundraising Gala rescheduled for February 25, 2023.
- Set budget of \$5000 for 2023.

December 20, 2022 – Regional Community Development Committee (RCDC) Meeting, held in Chambers & virtually (Lorne & Jered in-person)

- Received update from Community Economic Development Officer (CEDO) verbally and as per CEDO Monthly Activity Report.
- Approve action taken for CEDO work on Silverskate Grant Support Letter.
- Invite was sent out to Invest Alberta to attend a future RCDC Meeting.
- Boat and Sportsman Show booth work is taking place.
- Discussed and approved to advertise with Go East.
- Working on Business Retention and Expansion of Veterinary Services for Smoky Lake Region.

December 22, 2022 – MCC Meeting, held in virtually and at Metis Crossing (Lorne in-person)

- Introductions of all MCC Partners and Legal at meeting.
- Reviewed Shareholder agreement with legal and MCC Partners.

January 9, 2023 – Budget Workshop held in Chambers (All Council in-person)

- Administration provided a breakdown of the 2023 proposed budget per department to clarify what items could be subject to reduction.

January 10, 2023 – Munis101 refresher & Strategic Plan Workshop held in Chambers (All Council in-person)

- Reviewed the role of Council as legislated by the MGA & County Code of Conduct Bylaw.
- Reviewed the draft Strategic Plan and process to finalize it.

January 11, 2023 – Regional Community Development Committee (RCDC) Meeting, held in Chambers & virtually (Lorne & Jered in-person)

- Received update from Community Economic Development Officer (CEDO) verbally and as per CEDO Monthly Activity Report.
- Discussed/ brainstormed application ideas for the Northern and Regional Economic Development (NRED) Grant with 3 applications going forward for the Smoky Lake Region.
- CEDO presented her resignation as of January 31, 2023 which was accepted with regret.
- Discussed next steps regarding the CEDO position and the RCDC Committee function etc.



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- Next RCDC Meeting will be held in the very near future with possibly bringing in Unstoppable Conversations to the meeting.

January 11, 2023 – Lakeland Communities Health Advisory Council, held virtually (Lorne & Dominique virtually)

- This was a Community Learning Opportunity, featuring Brenda Herchmer from Campus for Communities, to provide information about 'Campus for Communities' to help to demystify and provide strategies to ensure future readiness and to help determine what's next, and what's best. To help understand that health, social, economic, and environmental challenges are intrinsically linked and how to position for future readiness.

January 16, 2023 – Northeast Regional Mayors, Reeves and Indigenous Leaders Caucus Meeting in Cold Lake – Kinosoo Ridge Ski Resort (Lorne and Dan in-person)

- Round table introductions took place.
- Discussion was held on Highway 28 required work such as resurfacing, additional lanes etc. and a subcommittee was developed to work on this topic.
- Discussion was held on Medical Services such as Doctor, Nurse/Medical Staff and Large Animal Veterinary Recruitment.
- AHS - EMS North Zone Leader gave a presentation on current status with current/future changes taking place to remedy/ improve EMS Services.
- RCMP and Alberta Provincial Policing (APP) was discussed with update on APP in Alberta, expecting nothing to take place until after the Spring Election.
- Broadband was discussed with attendees on what if anything is being done in other areas such as the Town of Vermillion installing fibre to location.
- Local Government Framework Funding (LGFF) which is taking over for MSI was discussed with the importance of predictable timely funding.
- Invites will be sent out to RMA and AMA Region Representatives and applicable GOA MLA's and Ministers and/or Premier to the next meeting which will be held in Vegreville.

For more information, please visit the Smoky Lake County Website under Council Meeting Minutes and Agendas. www.smokylakecounty.ab.ca

Yours Truly,
Lorne Halisky, Smoky Lake County Reeve, and Councillor Division 4