



GRAPEVINE

OCTOBER 2020



Scheduled Meetings

County meetings are open to the public.
To virtually attend, visit our website's
Calendar or Agenda & Minutes Page.

www.smokylakecounty.ab.ca/p/meeting-minutes-agendas

Natural Gas

Fire Protection Services

Environmental Operations

Agricultural Service Board

October 14, 2020 at 9:00 AM
Virtual Zoom Meeting

Regional Fire & Rescue Committee

October 15, 2020 @ 1:00 PM
Virtual Zoom Meeting

County Council Organizational &
Regular County Council Meeting

October 22, 2020 @ 9:00 AM
Virtual Zoom Meeting

Public Hearing:

Proposed Road Closure Bylaw 1380-20
October 22, 2020 @ 1:15 PM
Virtual Zoom Meeting

Committee of the Whole: Planning

October 29, 2020 @ 9:00 AM
Virtual Zoom Meeting

Smoky Lake County
Main and Public Works
Offices will be

CLOSED

Monday,
October 12, 2020
for Thanksgiving



Box 310
4612 McDougall Drive
Smoky Lake, Alberta
T0A 3C0

Main Office

Phone: 780-656-3730
Fax: 780-656-3768
Toll Free: 888-656-3730

Natural Gas

Phone: 780-656-3037

Public Works

Phone: 780-656-3755
Fax: 780-656-3743

www.smokylakecounty.ab.ca

Connect With Us



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Public Hearing will be held on **October 22, 2020 at 1:15 PM** virtually, through Zoom for the Proposed ROAD CLOSURE BYLAW 1380-20. For information on how to participate and to view the proposed bylaw visit our website: www.smokylakecounty.ab.ca

Donations

- \$300 from the Grants to Individuals and Organizations to the Smoky Lake Holubka Dancers towards the cost of lunch during the Annual Highway Cleanup.
- 12 Tonnes of reject sand plus delivery to the Descent of The Holy Spirit Ukrainian Catholic Church of Waskatenau.
- \$2,000 of FCSS Funding to Smoky Lake Minor Hockey Association towards the 'Respect in Sport Program'.

SMOKY LAKE COUNTY APPOINTS CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER



Smoky Lake County Council is pleased to announce the appointment Gene Sobolewski as the organization's Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) effective September 24, 2020.

Mr. Sobolewski has been working in the municipal field for 35 years in various capacities, starting in construction and later in senior management. For the last 17 years he has worked as a senior project manager for a large engineering firm specializing in municipal infrastructure, regional water systems, sewer systems, roads and bridges. Gene brings to the position a wealth of experience in local government as he also served on a municipal council as a Councillor for three terms and then as a Mayor for two terms.

Gene is an avid musician playing rhythm guitar, bass and vocals spanning across many genres of music.

"I have been working for the County and Commission since 2011 as an engineering consultant and am looking forward to the opportunity to take the position as the County's CAO." - Gene.

TAX REMINDERS

Deadline to pay taxes without penalty is

October 31, 2020



A 12% penalty will be **added** to all tax arrears on **November 1, 2020**.

***Please note: October 31, 2020 is a Saturday. The last day to make in-person payments is Friday, October 30, 2020.**

If you require further information, please call the County Office at 780-656-3730.

Helpful Tips:

- Property taxes can be paid in person at the Smoky Lake County Main Office, by on-line banking or at your financial institution.
- If paying online, please use your Roll Number as listed on your tax notice as your account number.
- If paying in person, it is helpful to bring in **ALL** your tax notices. This ensures that no parcels get missed.

TAX INSTALLMENT PAYMENT PLAN

As per Bylaw No. 1128-05 all property tax payers of Smoky Lake County may apply to pay their property taxes under the "Tax Installment Payment Plan".

Pre-authorized debits in the amount of the previous years taxes divided into 12 monthly installments, are paid on the TWENTIETH day of each month beginning with January 20.

In June, the Monthly payment will be adjusted to reflect the actual taxes owing for that year.

Smoky Lake County must receive the Pre-Authorized Debit Form for Property Taxation Monthly Payment Plan no later than **NOVEMBER 15, 2020**.

For more information please contact: **Debbie Hackman**, Accounting Clerk
780-656-3730 or dhackman@smokylakecounty.ab.ca

Victoria District Economic Development Strategy

Town Bylaw 006-2020 and County Bylaw 1372-20



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION for the **Business Plan** starts in early October!

Stay tuned: <http://www.smokylakecounty.ab.ca/p/victoria-district-economic-development-strategy>

SNOW FLAGS

As per Policy 3-35: Snow Clearing, the County provides snow clearing services to Smoky Lake County residents for their residential driveways under the following terms and conditions:

- ~ Flags may be purchased at the County's Public Works Shop between 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday.
- ~ Eligible general public individuals may buy a seasonal flag entitling the purchaser to snow clearing for the full winter season.
- ~ County staff will attach the snow flag to the residential signs.
- ~ All flag purchasers must sign a "Hold Harmless Agreement".

Cost: \$350.00 if purchased prior to October 31.
\$400.00 if purchased after October 31.

Eligible seniors and handicapped individuals may buy a seasonal flag for the cost of \$125.00 if purchased prior to October 31. After October 31, the cost to purchase a flag is \$150.00.

More information on Policy 3-35: Snow Clearing, can be found on-line at:
<http://www.smokylakecounty.ab.ca/p/policies>

WATER DRAINAGE

Agricultural producers cannot purposely or knowingly move water from their own land into the County ditch or onto a neighbour's land.

All diversions of water are regulated under the *Water Act of Alberta*. Any type of water diversions or drainage can only occur if approval is obtained from Alberta Environment, as well as, the necessary water license, as required under the *Water Act*.

Ditching or cultivating in the County road-right-of-ways (ditches) is illegal and violators can also be fined under Smoky Lake County *Bylaw 1186-09: Respecting Road Rights-of-Ways*. The deep grooves present a dangerous situation for someone accidentally leaving the main road surface, as well, to road maintenance equipment.



Violators are subject to a \$500.00 fine per occurrence.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES GRANTS



Smoky Lake County has funds available under the FCSS granting program. Eligible organizations will need to apply funds to projects that qualify under Policy 08-17-01 using a prescribed application form.

Final reports and surveys for each grant will need to be submitted.

To receive funding programs must either develop awareness with regard to social needs; help individuals develop independence and strengthen coping skills; and, provide supports that help sustain people as active participants in the community.

For more information please contact:

Brenda Adamson, Finance Manager,
780-656-3730 or badamson@smokylakecounty.ab.ca

Words of thanks

Thank you

Thank you was received from ratepayers in regard to the 'amazing job done in resolving a culvert issue at Garner Lake Resort, in good due time, with clean, professional results'.

Did you know cooking is the No. 1 cause of home fires and home fire injuries?

Fire Prevention Week™ is Oct. 4-10.
Learn more at fpw.org.



SERVE UP
Fire Safety
IN THE KITCHEN!



Smoky Lake County Waste Transfer Station Winter Hours

Effective November 1st, 2020 to March 31st, 2021

Smoky Lake Landfill	Tuesday & Saturday 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Spedden Landfill	Wednesday & Sunday 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Bellis Transfer Station	Wednesday & Saturday 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Vilna Transfer Station	Tuesday & Saturday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Waskatenau Transfer Station	Saturday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM



PUBLIC NOTICE LAND SALE

NOTICE is hereby given that Smoky Lake County is offering for sale, by Public Bid, lands described as follows:

Roll	Legal Description	Area	Title No.	Size	Electoral Division	Zoning
22010123	Plan 1955CL; Block 1; Lot 23	Spedden	032019319	+/-0.14 acres	1	HG- Hamlet General



TERMS: Cash plus G.S.T. Each parcel offered for sale is subject to approval by Council, and to the reservations and conditions contained in the existing Certificate of Title including caveats and/or easements. The purchaser is responsible for the cost of all services including water, sewer, roads, power, natural gas, sanitary and storm sewer where applicable, and for any and all other costs associated with the sale of the lands (including Transfer of Land).

The minimal accepted bid shall be \$3,000.00 (plus GST).

Person(s) interested must submit the required Expression of Interest Form in a sealed envelope marked "EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM TO PURCHASE PROPERTY".

The aforementioned property is being offered for sale on an "AS IS" basis and the County makes no representation and gives no warranty whatsoever as to the adequacy of services, soil conditions, absence or presence of environmental contamination or the developability of the subject lands for any intended use by the Purchaser.

No offer will be accepted where the Purchaser attempts to attach conditions precedent to the sale of any parcel. No terms or conditions of sale will be considered other than those specified by Smoky Lake County.

Smoky Lake County Council has the full right to reject any or all Expressions of Interest

Note: The Expression of Interest Form can be obtained online at www.smokylakecounty.ab.ca or at the Smoky Lake County Office during normal business hours. For information please contact Jordan Ruegg, Planning & Development Manager at 780-656-3730 or 780-650-5207.

Deadline for submitting an interest is Wednesday October 14, 2020 at 12:00:00 noon.

Please submit to: Lydia Cielin, Assistant Chief Administrative Officer
Smoky Lake County
4612, McDougall Drive, Box 310
Smoky Lake County, Alberta T0A 3C0

Slow Down for Wildlife



As autumn approaches, various species of wildlife are on the move, such as garter snakes in the North Saskatchewan River Valley, and along Victoria Trail – please drive safely, SLOW DOWN, and avoid wildlife on roadways.

For information on Snakes in Alberta visit:
<https://open.alberta.ca/publications> (search for snakes)

Thank you to all our

Small Businesses

Your vision, confidence and hard work help to make our communities a wonderful place to call home.

Celebrating Small Business Week October 18-24, 2020