

COUNTY OF ST. PAUL

5015 – 49 Avenue, St. Paul, Alberta, T0A 3A4

phone: 780-645-3301

e: countysp@county.stpaul.ab.ca

www.county.stpaul.ab.ca



Our Mission - To create desirable rural experiences

Council Highlights April 25, 2023

The meetings are live streamed on YouTube under 'County of St. Paul No. 19'. The public is welcome to observe the Council proceedings from the Public Gallery in the Council Chambers located in the Administration Building.

The financial documents can be found on the County website under 'Governance/Financial Statements'

Council approved the **2022 Audited Financial Statements** for the County of St. Paul that was presented by Synergy Chartered Accountants. The County was given a 'clean audit'. In the opinion of the Auditor, taxpayers dollars are well managed by the County: The County is saving money for future needs but is also spending funds, as needed. The County had a successful year with a positive change in accumulated surplus of \$95,043 after transferring \$350,000 to Fire Reserve to fund transition to Alberta First Responders Radio Communications System (AFRRCS) for all four Fire Departments in 2023; transferring \$750,000 to Fire Reserve for future replacement of Fire Equipment; and transferring \$250,000 to Waste Management Reserve for future replacement of Waste Trucks.

Council approved the **2023 Operating and Capital Budget** as per Sections 242(1) and 245 of the *Municipal Government Act*:

Operating and Capital Revenues	\$ 37,137,435
Funding from Reserves for Future Expenditures	\$ 50,000
Funding from Operating Reserves	\$ 140,500
Funding from Replacement Reserves	\$ 350,000
Capital Assets Disposal	\$ 814,573
Operating Expenditures	\$ 28,989,664
Operating Reserves	\$ 200,000
Replacement Reserves	\$ 383,000
Capital Debenture Repayment	\$ 681,534
Capital Expenditures	\$ 8,200,274
Budgeted Surplus	\$ 38,036

Council passed **Bylaw 2023-10 Tax Rate**. Section 353(1) of the *Municipal Government Act* states that Council must pass a property tax bylaw annually. Section 353(2) states that the property tax bylaw authorizes council to impose a tax in respect of property to the municipality to raise revenue to be used toward the payment of (a) the expenditures and transfers set out in the budget of the municipalities, and (b) the requisitions. 2023 property tax increases are a result of any increases to property assessments, and the mandate by the province that all municipalities partially fund policing. The County's contribution to the policing fund in 2023 is \$500,728 up from \$333,580 in 2022. The County covers the cost of this funding by increasing the Municipal Tax Rate across all assessment classes. The increase for the

Municipal Tax rate for policing in 2023 is 0.0838. Council also increase Non-Residential Property Tax Rate by 0.5. This affects all Non-Residential Property owners except those business owners that successfully applied under the Bylaw 2022-20 Non-Residential Small Business Sub-Class. Small Business Non-Residential Properties would be subject to the increase of 0.0838 which is the increase associated with policing.

Council approved the **2023 Operational Update for the 1st Quarter (January to March)**. The update can be viewed on the County's website under 'Governance/Strategic Plan'.

Bylaws can be found on the County website under 'Governance/Bylaws & Policies'

Council passed the **Bylaw 2023-07 Penalties Bylaw** which removed the words 'restricted dogs' to align it with Bylaw 2020-26 Dog Control. Other changes in this bylaw are new penalties for Bylaw 2023-06 Keeping of Animals.

Council approved advertising the submitted **2023 equipment list for sale by sealed bid**. The items will be advertised and available for viewing in the Public Works yard. The items will be advertised on the County's Public Works webpage, Facebook and in the local newspaper.

Council approved a request by Public Works to enter the build list for the build and purchase of a **2024 Kenworth T-880 truck**. The approximate arrival of the truck is April 2024.

Council approved the request by the Town of St. Paul to assist with the construction of a **35x95m soccer field parking lot** at the Town of St. Paul soccer fields with the County's equipment with the contingency that County projects are not affected.

Council approved to tender **18.25 acres of standing hay crop** on NW 17-59-11-W4 (Batty Lake Pit) for a two-year term (2023 and 2024).

Council approved to tender approximately **6 acres of standing hay crop** on Lot A, Block 2, Plan 4339KS in SW 5-57-10-W4 (former Lafond School Site) for a two-year term (2023 and 2024).

Council approved the purchase of four portable toilets at a total cost of \$4,000 (one-time purchase) plus \$300/toilet/year for servicing for use by bin site attendants at Lac Sante, Floating Stone, Lottie Lake and Crestview bin sites, and to re-evaluate the bin site attendant program during 2024 Strategic Planning.

Council **ratified and approved the removal of trees for logging** on the County's right-of-way along Range Road 61 adjacent to SW 25-57-6-W4, NW 25-57-6-W4 and SW 36-57-6-W4 by LARR Management Corporation for the landowner/leaseholder of the noted lands.

Council approved the request from the **Cork Community Hall Association** for \$1,000 to assist with expenses for the 75th Anniversary celebration in June.

Council approved the request from the **St. Paul Gymnastics Club** for a County Municipal Park Camping Voucher for the Club's annual fundraiser on May 13, 2023.

Council approved the request for a letter of support from the **St. Paul Agriculture Society** to accompany their Community Initiatives Program grant application. If successful, the grant would assist with the annual rodeo event.

Council approved supporting Community Futures **Lemonade Day** on June 17 with a \$100 donation and to provide administration support, as required.

Council approved the request from **Ferguson Flats Community Association** for 25 tonnes of delivered gravel.

Council approved the delivery of four loads of gravel screenings to **Stoney Lake Rodeo Grounds**.

Additional Information

The County Council meeting scheduled for May 9 will begin at 9:00 a.m.

May Spring Cleanup Residents can dispose of air conditioning units, dehumidifiers, freezers, fridges and water coolers that contain Freon without paying the \$20 Freon removal fee at the County, Town of St. Paul, and Town of Elk Point Transfer Stations and Evergreen Regional Waste Management location. *The fee waiver is valid only during May 2023.* See the County's website 'Waste Management' for locations and hours. Summer operating hours at the County Transfer Stations begins on May 1.

For more information contact:

Sheila Kitz, CAO, County of St. Paul
Phone 780-645-3301, ext. 1208