

COUNTY OF ST. PAUL

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Our Mission - To create desirable rural experiences

Council Highlights June 13, 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.

From the May 23 Public Works Meeting

Council awarded the contract for **Bridge File 70647- Willow Range Road** to Prairie Erectors Int. Inc for \$988,775. This along with engineering and material costs bring the total of the project to \$1,610,619 which is approximately \$131,619 over the original budget determined in 2021 when the bridge grant was applied for. Council determined that the unfunded and unbudgeted portion of the project be funded from Unrestricted Surplus. The County received Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program (STIP) funding for this bridge file from the Alberta government which covers 75% of the eligible expenses of the project for a maximum amount of \$1,109,250.

Council passed **Utility Bylaw 2023-11** which increases the cost for the Elk Point Regional System from \$1.03 per cubic meter to \$1.26 per cubic meter as of May 1, 2023. The increase is a result of the Elk Point/St. Paul Regional Water Commission setting the 2023 water consumption rate.

Council approved proceeding with the removal of the existing **Garner Lake Boat Launch**, subject to approval by Alberta Environment and Parks, at an estimated cost of \$15,000 to be funded from Unrestricted Surplus. The launch was constructed with articulated concrete and cinder blocks which have degraded, heaved in the frost and crumbled causing this launch to be in a state of disrepair.

Council approved the negotiation of a **new phone system** for the County with cost of up to \$12,000 in 2023 to be funded from Unrestricted Surplus. There are many challenges with the current system such that residents/customers cannot hear staff members they are trying to speak with.

Council approved a contribution in the amount of \$4,791.35, the Municipal portion of the property taxes, to the **Mann Lake Golf Course** to offset their operating costs. The contribution will allow the golf course to continue to offer reasonable fees for their customers and offer children (ages 10 and under) the opportunity to golf for free under the supervision of an adult.

Council approved supporting the **Lakeland District Soccer Association** with a \$1,000 grant as per the County's ADM-24 Community Organizations Grants Policy. The Association will be hosting the Lakeland Cup Outdoor 2023 for ages U13 to U19.

Council approved the request to sponsor the **St. Paul 4-H Sheep Club** with \$80, as requested, for their show that was held on May 31.

From the June 13 Council Meeting

Council passed a resolution to remove the **Municipal Reserve Designation** from Lot 16MR Block 1 Plan 232 0742 at Vincent Lake for the purpose of re-subdivision of properties. After the re-subdivision process is complete the remainder of Lot 16MR Block 1 Plan 232 0742 will be redesigned as Environmental Reserve.

Council gave 1st Reading to Bylaw 2023-12 that would **rezone part of SE-25-58-10-W4** from Agriculture District to Light Industrial Residential District, allowing Santech Diesel Performance Ltd. to apply for the appropriate development permit for the business they currently operate. Santech Diesel Performance Ltd.'s business has outgrown the development permit that was issued to them in 2021. A public hearing is scheduled for July 25, 2023.

Council approved the requests and entered into another lease agreements with **Bell Canada** for a term of five years for the period of August 18, 2023 up to and including August 17, 2028 at the following: SW 27-59-11-W4, Ashmont, Roll #11927423; SE-25-60-10-W4, Mallaig, Roll #10025375; and NW-22-55-4-W4, Heinsburg, Roll #4522548. The annual lease amount on each lease is \$3,105 + GST.

Council approved STEP Economic Development Alliance to work with Azimi Consulting Ltd. on a grant application pertaining to funding for planning and design, and capital projects under the **Rural Transit Fund** by the County of St. Paul and on behalf of the County, Town of St. Paul, Town of Elk Point, Summer Village of Horseshoe Bay when the application process opens in the fall. The purpose is to develop a local transit plan.

Council approved setting the price of gravel for **CNRL** at \$30/tonne as agreed to by CNRL and the Heavy Oil Committee at their meeting on May 30, 2023.

Council moved to complete the repair of the **Lac Sante Boat Launch** at an estimated cost of \$23,550.88 in 2023 subject to Alberta Environment approval.

Elemental Energy presented information to Council on a proposed **Northern Valley Wind project**. Elemental Energy is planning a Public Open House later this summer for the public to learn more about the project and to provide input.

Council approved a \$1,200 transportation grant for the **St. Paul Centennial Senior Citizen's Opportunity Club** for 2023.

Additional Information

Reminder: Property Taxes are due on/by Friday, June 30, 2023 The first penalty date for the 2023 taxation year is July 1, 2023 with a 3% penalty on the current tax amount. See 'Payment Options' on the County website. Administration Office Hours are Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to noon/ 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. *If you have paid your County property taxes - Thank you!*

The **July Council and Public Works meetings** will be incorporated into one meeting to be held on Tuesday, July 25, 2023 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Scholarship/Bursary Deadlines:

The Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) is designed to encourage young rural Albertans to pursue further education. A \$1,000 scholarship is presented to one successful applicant from each of the five districts. Applications will be accepted until August 31, 2023. More information can be found at <https://rmalberta.com/about/awards-recognition/rma-scholarship-program/>

The Association of Agricultural Fieldmen (AAAF) bursary is intended for Alberta students continuing their education at a college or university. Students must be enrolled in an agricultural or environmental science program. The \$1,000 bursary is available in each of the five provincial regions of the AAAF. The deadline for applications is September 1. See information at <https://www.county.stpaul.ab.ca/agriculture/>

For more information contact:

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