



Reeve's Report

Jered Serben: Reeve and Councillor for Division 5

April 18, 2024 to May 13, 2024

April 18, 2024 - Métis Nation of Alberta's (MNA) Proposed Supportive Living Facility Development: Healing Waters Treatment Center, held at the National Hall, Smoky Lake (All Council)

- This public engagement session was facilitated by the MNA who provided information about the proposed development alongside the Minister of Mental Health and Addiction to address concerns raised by the public.

April 18, 2024 – HAK School Open House (Jered & Lorne)

- Learned about the programs that HAK has to offer and met with other local agencies who were present to showcase their offerings to the community, such as the RCMP, Volunteer Firefighters, FCSS, and several others.

April 19, 2024 – Smoky Lake Foundation meeting, held at Bar-V-Nook (Jered & Dominique)

- Received updates from the Foundation CAO and Finance, as well as the Occupancy Report and Committees & Working group reports.
- Discussed the maintenance truck in Vilna, operating agreement, a legal fees query, affordable housing and the HVAC Systems at BVN & VL.

April 23, 2024 – RhPAP (Alberta's Rural Health Professions Action Plan) Strategic Plan 2024-2027 Presentation, held virtually (Jered & Domique)

- Tracy Sopkow, RhPAP's CEO, provided a high-level overview of RhPAP's new strategic plan for 2024-2027, outlining their vision, goals, and actions for the upcoming years, with an opportunity to provide feedback and insights to achieve shared goals and drive success in efforts to keep healthcare close to home.

April 24, 2024 - Council Budget Meeting, held in Chambers and virtually (All Council)

- Approved the consolidated 2024-2028 Five-Year Capital Budget including the Capital Bridge Plan and Capital Road Plan expenditures.
- Approved the balanced Year-2024 Municipal Total Function Budget, with a total Revenue in the amount of \$24,120,286 and total Expenditures in the amount of \$26,164,586, not including amortization in the amount of \$2,044,300.
- Gave 3rd Reading to Bylaw No. 1461-24: Year-2024 Tax Rate.

April 25, 2024 – Council Regular Meeting, held in Chambers and virtually (All Council)

- Approved to provide \$526.50 to the "Heartland Training and Support Hub" (formerly known as the Farm Safety Centre).
- Gave 3rd & Final Readings to Bylaw No. 1429-23 – Undeveloped Road Allowance, East Side of River Lot 10, Victoria Settlement & Bylaw No. 1462-24: to Amend Road Closure Bylaw No. 1429-23 – Undeveloped Road Allowance, East Side of River Lot 10, Victoria Settlement.
- Gave 3rd & Final Reading to Bylaw No. 1453-23: to amend the Land Use Bylaw No. 1272-14, to define Supportive Living Facilities.
- Approved to increase the Transportation Routing and Vehicle Information System Multi-Jurisdiction (TRAVIS-MJ), fixed fee from \$25 to \$50.
- Adopted the Federation of Alberta Gas Co-ops Ltd.'s Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Manual, executed the Safety and Loss Management System (SLMS) for the County's Natural Gas System, & adopted the Quality Management Plan issued by Rural Utilities.



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- Approved to close the County Offices on May 24th for the Annual Safety meeting so all staff can attend.
- Approved to provide \$350 to Smoky Lake Holubka Dancers, towards their lunch during their participation in the 2024 highway cleanup.
- Approved to provide \$200 to HAK School, to sponsor the Year-2024 Aspen View Robotics Tournament.
- Approved to waive the landfill fees for Victoria Trail Agricultural Society (VTAS) during their major resurfacing project of the arena in Waskatenau.

April 29, 2024 - Joint Municipalities Meeting, held in Vilna (All Council)

- Received updates from the RCMP, Aspen View Schools & Métis Crossing.
- Recommended exploring a community communication mobile application.
- Recommended regionally applying to the Municipal Climate Change Action Centre (MCCAC), for potentially funding a Municipal Energy Manager.

April 30, 2024 – Physician and Health Care Professionals Committee Meeting, held Town Council Chambers (Jered & Linda)

- Received an update on the "Let's Go Rural" event held on March 1, 2024 at the Complex, with stations including Lab/Digital Imaging, Injections, EM, Pharmacy and Senior's Care. The overall satisfaction rate from students was 4.8/5 with 100% strongly agreeing that it was a worthwhile learning experience.
- Acknowledged the Rural Health Professionals Action Plan Rhapsody Awards submission was unsuccessful.
- Received an update on Doctor Esterhuizen's completed 1st half of her practicum.
- Discussed other potential uses for the Vilna Health Care Centre.
- Approved to a donation \$750 to George McDougall Healthcare Centre to support renos to nurse's break room; and deliver cookies to the Bar-V-Nook Lodge, Vilna Lodge and the Vilna Clinic on May 31, 2024, in honour of Rural Health Care Week.
- Recommended attending the RhPAP - Rural Community Health Provider Attraction and Retention (A&R) Conference in October 8-10, 2024 in Wainwright.
- Acknowledged receipt of RhPAP's Strategic Plan 2024-2027.

April 30, 2024 – Regional Community Development Committee (RCDC) Meeting, held in Chambers and virtually (Jered, Lorne, & Linda)

- Discussed and received information about Alberta Advantage Immigration Program (AAIP), as part of the Rural Renewal Stream, from delegates and guests representing: Smoky Lake Region Chamber of Commerce, Town of Slave Lake's Economic Development, and Town of Two Hills' Economic Development & Tourism.

May 6, 2024 – Smoky Lake Agricultural Society, held at the Smoky Lake Ag Complex (Jered)

- Will be installing a new HVAC system and will be applying for grant funding.
- Discussions was held regarding the Pumpkin Fair as well as filling ice time in the arena.
- County of Sturgeon - Legal is major reno time slots
- The STARS fundraiser held on April 13th made \$117,000

May 7, 2024 – Aspen View Robotics Competition, held at HAK School (Jered)

- Volunteered to attend as a judge for the 2024 competition.



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May 7, 2024 – Rural Crime Watch Annual General Meeting, held at the Curling Rink (Jered)

- Volunteered to attend and become a member.

May 9, 2024 – Regular Council Meeting, held in Chambers & virtually (All Council)

- Approved to fund the Bellis 4-H Beef Club trophy belt buckles from the Agricultural Budget, in the amount of \$1,225.
- Approved to engage Cortex Vegetation Controls, to perform licensed vegetation control services from June 15 to September 1 this year at a cost of \$9,147 for approximately 300 miles.
- Appointed Kierstin Dubitz as a Weed and Pest Inspector for Smoky Lake County.
- Refused the 2024 safe grad party to be held at Victoria Picnic Grounds site on Hwy 855, due to it not being owned by the County and the extent of liability risk is unknown.
- Approved \$6,500 of FCSS grant funds to the Smoky Lake County Year-2024 Junior Fire Summer Day Camp.
- Amended Policy Statement No. 15-01-03: Discipline Policy.
- Approved to endorse a letter of support to become a Designated Community under the Rural Renewal Stream (RRS) through the Alberta Advantage Immigration Program.
- Approved to accept the Smoky Lake Holubka Dancers as an Additional Named Insured (ANI) with RMA under the County's Insurance Umbrella.

May 9, 2024 – MCC for the Smoky Lake Development Corp. Annual Meeting of Shareholders, held in the Town of Smoky Lake Chambers (Linda, Jered, Lorne, Dominique, Dan)

- Held general discussion about the condition of the Corporation.
- Received the Compiled Financial Information Period Ended December 31, 2023, & the Statement of Operations January 1 to December 31, 2023.

May 16, 2024 - Northeast Alberta Alliance for Growth and Opportunities (NAAGO), with Brian Jean Minister of Energy & Minerals, who previously served as the Minister of Jobs, Economy and Northern Development, (Jered)

- MLA - Jackie Armstrong-Homeniuk (Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville), Garth Rowswell (Vermilion-Lloydminster-Wainwright) and Scott Cyr (Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul), were in attendance, Glenn van Dijken (Athabasca-Barrhead-Westlock) was absent.
- Discussion was about requesting our own North East Zone for healthcare, as we have issues and would like to offer solution.
- MLAs Garth Rowswell (Vermilion-Lloydminster-Wainwright) and Scott Cyr (Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul), will come to the next NAAGO meeting to take notes and bring the information forward to the Minister.

For more information about County meetings, minutes, agendas, bylaws, policies, or departments, please visit: www.smokylakecounty.ab.ca