

July 27, 2018

Mayor and Council Report

For presentation at the “Annual General Meeting”

Introductions:

- Introduction of Council & Administration
 - Mayor – Gerry Keane
 - Deputy Mayor – Nick Tywoniuk
 - Councilor – Gregg Drechsler
 - Administration
 - Administrator – Marion Bancroft and assistant Kim Bancroft
 - Development Officer – Garth Bancroft
- Introduction of guests
 - Westlock County Councilor Fred Slobodian, Division 6.
 - Members of the RCMP may attend depending on their duties.
 - Cst. Andrew VEINOT and Cst. Steve SANDERS
- Introduction of new residents to the lake.

Council and Mayor’s update:

Individuals acknowledged and thanked for their service to the community:

- Those who let their names stand for a position on councilors last year.
- Ken Schoenburger for his work on council over the previous 10 years and his volunteer work in the summer village.
- Nadia Scott for taking care of the library.
- Koni Getschel for taking over the librarian’s job.
- Tony Galiwoda for taking down dangerous trees and mowing the grass and generally keeping the summer village looking beautiful.

Addressing issues that arose from last year’s AGM

- RV Policy explanation and clarification:
 - No more than 2 RVs permitted on a lot on a regular basis

- No RV to be on a lot without authorization for more than 10 days, throughout the year unless it is used for storage only.
 - Policy change 2016 allowed permanent residents to use their RV on the lot without charge.
 - Weekend visitors are exempt from the charge as long as their RV does not exceed 10 days over the year.
 - Concerns have been raised that:
 - They do not want the property sites to become trailer parks.
 - On some lots there are far too many visitors for the lots resulting on parking on the roadways, in the ditches and not in the properties they are visiting. This causes concerns for emergency vehicles.
 - Visitors parking their RVs on summer village roads and allowances.
 - There should be equity for property owners and permanent residents.
 - Want to thank individuals that have come forward to address the problem and for making a presentation to council.
 - As a result we are looking into the issues and address the problem and may amend our current policy.
- Road work (sealing). The contractor has finally finished sweeping and for the most part it seems to be good. We've had to put up with the dust and gravel for quite some time but it's finally done. In spite of the wet fall and wet spring the road is holding up quite well.
 - Bear warning. Bears have been seen in and near the summer village in the early spring. Reminder to all residents not to attract them with bird feeders and compost.
 - Website (SVLarkspur.ca)
 - Council has hired Kim Bancroft to update the website.
 - The site is a work in progress and she has done a great job.

- Please have a look and if you have suggestions send them to administration.
- Municipal Affairs want to ensure that all municipalities are getting the best bang for their buck and where possible collaborate on services being provided by adjoining and adjacent municipalities. This has taken a lot of time and we have had meetings in Ponoka, Westlock, Athabasca and elsewhere.
 - They created what is called
 - Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework, (ICF) and
 - Intermunicipal Development Plan (IDP)
 - The purpose is to have each municipality identify their neighbours and how they may work together to best use services. Services such as roads and maintenance, snow clearing, garbage disposal (waste management) fire protection and firefighting etc.
 - The county of Westlock is our only neighbor we must develop a ICF and IDP with and we have had several meetings with them in that regard.
 - There are also some services provided by the County of Athabasca for our summer villages (waste management).
 - All municipalities must develop the framework within 2 years of the Act coming into force. That leaves us about 1 ½ years to finish that part up.
 - The ICF is a high level agreement on what services will be shared and the IDP looks at land use, water use, location of infrastructure, servicing areas and future land use by all parties. It is imperative that we look at the services keeping in mind environmental matters.
 - After looking at alternatives for developing the ICF and IDP we have hired Kim Bancroft to complete a draft.
 - We plan to meet with Westlock County this fall and begin to address all shared services and incorporate them into our bylaws.
 - Once the IDP is complete we must adopt matching bylaws with our neighbours, but before we can do that we must do public engagement and provide a process for anybody affected to provide input by holding a public meeting.

- From the meetings we have had to date we are sure that we will have a mutual benefiting framework and plan in place.
- New bylaws passed
 - Another item received from MA is that we review and pass specific updated bylaws. We have done that recently and these bylaws are on our website.
 - **Code of Conduct**
 - **Alternative method of Advertising**
- FireSmart program – phase 3
 - The program is continuing and has been well received from most of the residents.
 - Surveyors were brought in again to mark the boundaries of the walkways and reserves so that cleaning of deadfall and dangerous trees on the reserves could be done.
 - Side issue is that there are outbuildings playthings identified by the surveyors.
 - Letters have been sent to the various owners advising they must move them.
- FireSmart – “Are you Prepared” presentation by Nick Tywoniuk.

Gerry Keane, Mayor
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