

Council Report

Don Faulkner

May 21, 2024

High Performance Governance is all about our **Organizational Ability to Lead, Imagine New Possibilities and Achieve Operational Excellence.**

Apr. 2/24, Regular Council Meeting

- Please refer to Calmar Web Site for agenda and minutes.

Apr. 9-12/24, EDA Xperience 2024 Leaders' Summit & Conference

- First morning was a session on; What is Community Economic Development (CED)? They referred to **4 Key Elements**, Process, Suitable, Balanced Growth, and Wealth. They talk about the **Pillars of Community Sustainability**, Environmental Protection, Economic Development and Social Development. They asked the question, why invest in economic development, and drew some linkage to the benefits. Had some discussion on where the strategic economic development plan fits in, highlighting Council Priorities/Administration Business Plan/Department Business Plans. The importance of "Vision, Mission, Priorities, Policies". Process such as SWOT (community needs assessment), Asset Inventory (turning opportunities into strategies) and Pursuing Opportunities to Overcome Barriers (Gap Analysis). All of these phrases and more are just scratching the surface and we need to pursue some council and community awareness about having a solid economic development strategy to move us forward. I know that **Sandra has been working very hard in this regard, I still feel we need to do more to understand and move forward economic development (education and sharing of ideas and thoughts).**
- Another session centered on "What is a pitch and why prepare one?" Having a ready to use "pitch" helps with sending a clear message and having some focus on what you are doing. How often have you been asked, "what's new in Calmar" or "how are things going in Calmar"? If we had a "pitch" that we all had on the ready, it would go a long way to tell those who are interested in us, what are we up against or generate some excitement to those who know us and those who what to know us. There are pit falls and some dos and don'ts, but we can overcome those with the right process of developing our "pitch".
- Yet another session was "Funding Economic Development, business and economic development organizations in Alberta constantly seek innovative ways to access funding and improve their products, services, and programs. These sessions usually had panelists giving their perspectives and experiences in addressing these challenges.

Apr. 12/24, MPC Meeting

- Development Applications for; The development of a dwelling addition. For the development of an addition and new deck. For the replacement of a sign. Refer to public documents for further information.

Apr. 15/24, Regular Council Meeting

- Please refer to Calmar Web Site for agenda and minutes.

Apr. 18/24, Capital Region Southwest Water Service Committee, AGM

- Message from the Chair, Lars Hansen; He emphasized the significant achievements and successes of the Commission throughout the past year. The highlights of his speech include: the construction of the Nisku Booster Station, praising the Administration's dedication to diligent project management and collaboration. The seamless incorporation of Leduc County East upgrades into the Maple Reinders Nisku Booster Station contract, optimizing operations and fostering a partnership with a contractor familiar with the Commission's operations and staff. Expressed gratitude to Mayor Bill Daneluik, the outgoing Chair, for his exemplary leadership and dedication to the Commission during his tenure from 2022 to 2023. Welcomed Councillor Kelly-Lynn Lewis as the incoming Vice-Chair for the 2023 to 2024 term. Extended sincere appreciation to the dedicated City of Leduc Management and Operations team for their continued hard work and commitment. Expressed confidence in the collective efforts of Commission Members and the steadfast support of the Administration team to continue achieving remarkable milestones and upholding the commitment to excellence in the face of the opportunities and challenges of 2024.
- 2023 Financial Statements and Auditors Report and Financial Discussion; Chris Cholak, Partner, MNP LLP, presented an overview of the 2023 Financial Statements and Auditors Report. Mike McCormak, CFI Investigative and Forensic Services, MNP LLP. presented on the topic of unethical conduct and fraud. These are available upon request.
- The meeting concluded with Shawn expressing gratitude to Chris and Mike for their contributions and thanking everyone for attending. He acknowledged the Board for their trust and support over the past year, attributing the organization's exceptional performance to collaborative efforts. Rick highlighted the effectiveness of teamwork during a water break incident and thanked the operators. Shawn thanked Katherine O'Dwyer for organizing the meeting and recognized Lauren Padgham for her 5 years of service, inviting Chair Hansen and Vice-Chair Lewis to present her with a token of appreciation. Chair Hansen expressed appreciation to Lauren and expressed confidence in her successor, Gerard Del Rosario.

Apr. 19/24, Volunteer Appreciation Event

- First attempt at this format and I believe it has some merit. Good job Heather for all your hard work and thanks to Morgan for her help with it. Heather has some feedback and combining that with some of her ideas, we can expand what we do and how we do it. It was nice to see the folks that showed up.

Apr. 24/24, Committee of the Whole

- Please refer to Calmar Web Site for agenda and minutes.

Apr. 24/24, Leduc & District Regional Waste Management Committee

- Presentation, **2023 Draft Audited Financial Statements** (Chris Cholak, Matthew Hardy, MNP). We are doing things right and the audit was good.
- **Managers' Report:** PDO Project, the electrical and mechanical work have been awarded with work commencing in the coming weeks. Organics Processing, in March, we received 250 MT of organics, both commercial and municipal, annually we are down slightly. Cell 5 Update, the spreading of the initial layer has been delayed. Site Activities and Security, March 2024 invoices for landfilling services were \$700 less than in 2023. Assessments on the Transfer Building floor will begin at the end of April with geotechnical investigation of the slab subsurface condition. Training for the 2024 Bird Program started on April 2. Waste Tonnage, 2024 continues to trend slightly down from 2023, with a drop of 835 MT and 529 less customers accessing the site. Site Improvements, the unattended commercial scale encountered a conflict between hardware and software which prevented it from zeroing after each transaction. Dynamic Scale were on site and have since corrected the issue. RFID cards are being tested with a small number of drivers prior to a wider rollout. Collaboration with other Regions, this collaborative group now includes representation from Leduc, Morinville, Lethbridge, Westlock, Peace River, Lac La Biche, Red Deer, Drumheller and Drayton Valley. Soil Inventory, Soils stockpiles will be heavily utilized over the next few months as they occupy airspace needed for waste placement. In 2024, a balance will be determined between soil needed for cover and the amounts needed for revenue. Health and Safety, no health and safety incidents occurred during this reporting period. Site Inspection, a site inspection was conducted on March 20, 2024. Goodwill, A License Agreement for a period of 5 years has been drafted and is in the final stages of approval.
- **Business Arising out of the Minutes:** Public Education and Communications Strategy, Goodwill, a media release has been prepared, and will be released to media outlets on April 25, 2024, Promotional Items for the LDRWMC Public Open House which is scheduled for June 15, 2024, will be speckled ceramic mugs. Recycled Plastic Sign, commission members chose a design which just happened to be the choice of customers and staff. Diversion Initiatives (Drywall), seeking to increase our level of diversion on site, the Board had instructed Administration to determine if there were viable offtakes for drywall in the area, after much research it was decided to not move forward with this at this time.

- **New Business:** Credit Card Borrowing Bylaw 03-2024 & Policy, Administration drafted a credit card policy for our on-site manager to help facilitate consistent and clarified rules to help with day-to-day transactions. Procedure Bylaw 04-2024, While drafting Credit Card Borrowing Bylaw No. 03-2024, Administration took the opportunity to review the Commission's existing Bylaws, Bylaw No. 01-2021 Establishment of Regional Services Commission Bylaw, and Bylaw No. 02-2022 Procedure Bylaw. Upon review, Administration noted that clause 22 of Procedure Bylaw 02-2022 does not reflect current practice, adjustments have been made. Non-profit disposal program, we will continue the existing Non-Profit Disposal Program, where member municipalities approve requests from their respective non-profit organizations and are responsible for the costs of disposal.