

Krista Gardner Councillor Report

April 2024

April 2nd- Regular Council Meeting

April 4th - Alberta Interim Police Advisory Board (ABmunis representative)

April 10th- Alberta Municipalities Executive Committee Meeting with City of Calgary Council

April 15th- Regular Council Meeting

April 18th- Capital Region Southwest Water Services Commission Annual General Meeting

Mayor Carnahan, Councillor Faulkner, CAO Losier and I attended the AGM. The 2023 Annual Report was presented, and a brief presentation was given by Commission Manager Sean Olson and Operations Manager Rick Sereda as to activities during the past year. We then approved the 2023 Annual Report. The Board also approved the 2023 Auditors Report and Financial Statements. A key point to highlight is the growth of the CRSWSC in 2023 with the start of construction for the Nisku Booster Station and an additional ~\$700 000 of water sales over budget. The CRSWSC remains in a strong position.

April 19th- Calmar Volunteer Appreciation

I was pleased to attend this drop in event along with Mayor Carnahan and Councillor Faulkner celebrating the efforts and contributions of volunteers in our community. I enjoyed meeting many of our volunteers and hope to see this event get bigger and better every year. The many opportunities we have available in Town are due to the passion and commitment of volunteers and I am so grateful for them!

April 24th- Committee of the Whole Meeting

April 24th- Alberta Municipalities Board Meeting

April 25th- Alberta Municipalities Board Meeting

April 25th- Calmar Recreation Board Meeting

The Rec Board received the same presentation from Recreation Coordinator Miller as Council at the COW. The Rec Board then debated what features we considered to be essential and what could be foregone. We then discussed plans for our summer event season and made a recommendation to adjust our Farmer's Day event to occur earlier in June, moving it to a Sunday afternoon BBQ format and in conjunction with our Annual Report presentation. I'm looking forward to another successful summer of activities in Calmar.

April 26th- Alberta Municipalities Municipal Governance Committee Meeting

April 29th – May 1st - Community Planning Association of Alberta Conference “Beyond Municipal Borders- Collaborating for Vibrant Communities”

The conference was kicked off with a keynote address from best selling author Chris Turner on “How to be a Climate Optimist”. I then attended sessions on “Enabling Housing Choice in Rural Alberta Communities” by Alyce Wickert and Sean Adams from the Rural Development Network, “Intermunicipal Success Stories: Examples and Best Practices” by Jeneane Grundberg and Whitney Mosley from Brownlee LLP. The next morning, I participated in a very cold and unexpectedly snowy off-site tour of downtown Lacombe with “Downtown Area Redevelopment Plan and Reinvestment in Historic Downtown Lacombe” by Nancy Hackett and Guy Lapointe from the City of Lacombe, “Sessions Beyond Boundaries: Reimagining Communities Through Neighbourly Planning” by Dnyanesh Deshpande and Marcelo Figueira from Green Space Alliance, and finally “How Does This Benefit Us? Regional Collaboration and the Calgary Metropolitan Region Board” by Liisa Tipman, Jordon Copping and Jaime Graves from the Calgary Metropolitan Region Board. A key theme that kept re-emerging was the importance of attitude in intermunicipal relations. Also mentioned multiple times was challenging yourself to find win-win solutions by thinking outside of the box.