

Mayor Sean Carnahan
Council Report August-November
2024

In addition to regular council meetings, Special council meetings and various correspondence and administration duties

August 16th-17th – Calmar Days – attended Resident BBQ, welcomed all in attendance and thanked our Calmar Days sponsors. Attend pancake breakfast, parade and then opening ceremonies for Calmar days. Volunteered to cohost the Calmar Days slow pitch tournament.

August 28th – Committee of the Whole – heard from delegations; Yellowhead Regional Library, update on activities and return on the towns investment for services with the regional library approach. Heard presentation from Mr. Bernhardt from MCSnet / GigAir High speed internet Service regarding their interest to become an additional service provider in our community. Initiated a public Satisfaction Survey with Catalyst Communication to allow residents an opportunity for input into service levels within our community. Had discussions on the following items, Council Remuneration, draft Ice Allocation Policy & Adult friendly Parks.

August 24th – Spruce Grove AGRA Parade - Attended parade in Spruce Grove to show off the Town of Calmar a great community to chose to live in.

September 12th – Leduc Regional Housing Foundation – attended the Leduc housing foundations finance committee meeting, reviewed financial statement up to August 31 and recommended approval to the board.

September 16th – Calmar & County Fire Services Committee - attend meeting with Councillor Garnder and reviewed Leduc County Fire service budget for 2025 and received clarification where Motor vehicle collision billing is sent. Discussion on response time and equipment used during responses in Calmar, average response times and a demo of what information is tracked in the FirePro incident tracking system. Krista requested that we would like to have a review of the data either quarterly or annually. Asked how the town could support the recruitment of volunteers to the fire services. Reviewed False alarm process and reporting to the town to ensure we are receiving the information need for education or billing requirements when repeat false alarms are being triggered. Reviewed finding from the SCO audit that performed on the fire services in Calmar.

September 19th – Rotary Meeting – attending breakfast meeting with the Rotary club that was hosted in Calmar. Met the members and board members. Discussed support opportunities on how the Rotary may possibly assist in Calmar.

September 19th – Leduc Regional Housing Foundation – attended the board meeting, approved the financial snapshot for the board, received recommendation from the Plainview redevelopment taskforce to increase municipal requisitions to 5 times the current requisition. This recommendation did not come lightly to the board and is a result of holding requisitions at an extremely low level over the past and not properly funding the depreciation of the facility to prepare for a redevelopment or rebuild once the complex reaches its end usable life. The board voted in favor of the recommendation.

September 24th – Library Board – Attended the library board meeting, Reviewed January to August expenditures, Reviewed job description and wage grids for all positions in the library and reviewed and approved the submission of the library budget to the town for inclusion in the town budget.

September 25th – 27th – Alberta Municipalities Conference – Red Deer – attended the annual conference in Red Deer, networked with many other municipal leaders, holding discussions on various topics such as levels of service, recreation structures, and challenges and positives in their communities. Attended the following breakout sessions;

- **Steering the Governance Ship through Election Waters** – this session focused on continuing the governance of the community while maintaining non-partisan operations during an election cycle, strategies for upholding transparency, accountability and trust with the public and stake holders and best practice for transitioning governance structures to prepare candidates and onboarding.
- **Dusting off the ballot box-preparing a successful and positive election in a smaller community** – this session focused on a roadmap to navigate the unique challenges of elections in smaller communities, attracting candidates, addressing misconceptions and safeguarding the community.
- **Towns: Communicating in Times of Trouble** – This session focused on communication effectiveness and engagement with citizens and stakeholders during challenging situations such as infrastructure failures, natural disasters and large scale emergencies and how to deal with polarized communities and misinformation. Heard first hand experience from the Mayor of Jasper, council from Westlock and the Mayor of Milk River.

Heard from both provincial leaders on their topics for what they feel is important for our province, visit the exhibitors trade show to check out what offerings are available for all municipalities. Partook in the annual general meeting of Alberta Municipalities, voted on the many resolutions that are presented each year to help provide guidance to AB munis on what topics should be focused on as a collective body and also partook in the election of new board members that were up for reelection.

Oct 1st – Emergency Management Committee - attended emergency management committee, continued to review emergency management preparedness, reviewed continue training requirements an next steps required for improving our rating with the government on our emergency management plan.

October 21st – Organizational Meeting – attended the annual organizational meeting, established schedule of regular council meetings and committee of the whole meetings, reviewed procedural bylaw, reviewed council code of conduct bylaw, established banking institution, reviewed council remuneration and determined appointments to committees, ,boards, etc.

October 29th – Community Groups Meeting – met with members from the Legion, Zirka Ukrainian Hall, Calmar & District Seniors Association and Calmar Figure Skating to discuss their current status, plans for the future and challenges. Volunteers are a challenge to find for all of the members we met with, cost to keep these organizations viable is also a challenge.

October 30th – Leduc Regional Housing Foundation – attended the board meeting, this meeting was the annual organizational meeting, board positions were filled by internal nominations with Kathy Barnhart remaining Chair and Sean Carnahan being nominated to vice chair. The governance and finance committees were formed and information about the foundation operations was reviewed.

November 21st – Leduc Regional Housing Foundation – attended the finance committee meeting, reviewed the financial results of the board up to October 31 and recommended approval to the board.

Reviewed Request for proposal information for banking and for the next 3 year auditors selection and made recommendations to be forwarded to the board. Reviewed proposal from GOA to transfer Goldage Apartments to Leduc housing foundation, and provided recommendation to the board.

November 22nd – Christmas in the Park – attended Christmas in the park with fellow councillors, MLA Andrew Boitchenko and MP Mike Like. Welcomed all in attendance, thanked our great sponsors and celebrated the lighting of the Christmas light tunnel. Had great conversation with residents that attended and warmed by the fire.

November 26th – Library Board - attended meeting, reviewed directors report, circulation and program numbers. Reviewed and approved revised budget after council had requested no more than a 2% increase in total library budget.

November 28th – Leduc Regional Housing Foundation – chaired the housing foundation board meeting in the absence of chair. Received financial update from finance committee, voted in favour of the recommendation to appoint RSM Canada as the auditors for the foundation for 3 years and to extend current BMO banking arrangement for 1 year. Reviewed asset transfer of Goldage from Government of Alberta to LRHF and voted to request extension to negotiate and if no extension was granted to then decline government offer. Received update from the governance committee on emergency succession and governance terms of reference.