

Krista Gardner Councillor Report

March 2025

Mar 1st- Leduc, Nisku, and Wetaskiwin Chamber of Commerce Annual Business Awards Gala

I was thrilled to attend this event with Councillor Mckeag-Reber and celebrate local businesses. We did our best to speak to all Calmar or Calmar adjacent attendees. Congratulations to all of the nominees and winners. Sepcial Shout out to Start Up Business of the Year Nurtured Minds Wellness (who offers services at the Calmar Medical Buidling). I had great conversations with other regional municipal elected officials as well as our MP Mike Lake and MLA Andrew Boitchenko.

Mar 3rd – Regular Council Meeting

See meeting minutes at www.calmar.ca.

Mar 5th- Alberta Municipalities President’s Summit on Civility

Mar 6th & 7th- Alberta Municipalities Spring Municipal Leaders Caucus

Mar 10th- Edmonton Chamber of Commerce Provincial Budget Luncheon featuring Finance Minister Nate Horner (as Alberta Municipalities Board Member)

Mar 11th- Special Council Meeting

See meeting minutes at www.calmar.ca.

Mar 13th- FCSS and Recreation Meeting

As volunteers, Councillor Mckeag-Reber and I met with staff to propose volunteer-led and delivered children’s programming in Town. Thank you to Recreation Coordinator Miller and FCSS Coordinator Leibel for the encouragement and feedback on our ideas. I was thrilled the Town allowed me to put on very successful drop in programming over Spring Break in April. More details will be reported in my April report.

Mar 17th- Leduc County Fire Services Advisory Committee Meeting

Mar 17th- Municipal Roundtable Panel Discussion with Chris Brown on Cross Border Network

I sat down with Journalist Chris Brown and ABmunis President Tyler Gandam to talk all things municipal. Anyone interested can check it out here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-0yGLzfkjAc>

Mar 17th- Regular Council Meeting

See meeting minutes at www.calmar.ca.

Mar 20th- Capital Region Southwest Water Services Commission Board Meeting

Administration conducted hazardous materials testing at facilities used by the Commission for operations in response to an incident in December 2024. Inspection and testing took place the week of February 24-28, 2025, visiting all Commission rooms/facilities and the municipal member facilities containing Commission rooms/assets. Results of the testing will be shared once available. This testing identifies if there is a hazard, however it would be up to each individual building owner (Commission Member) to correct anything if deemed necessary. The CRSWSC has initiated procurement of emergency repair components—such as lightning rods, power filters, and additional protective measures—to safeguard Commission facilities against electrical surges and lightning strikes. Additionally, the Beaumont transmission line emergency response plan has been finalized, and we are currently awaiting delivery of the necessary repair parts. The financial reports have been prepared up to Feb 28, 2025. After two months of operations, there should be approximately 17% of the budget spent/earned. Overall, the commission is on track with respect to expenses with an overall budget spent of 16%. Management expenses are under budget with 9% of the budget spent and Operating expenses are on budget for the year with 17% of the budget spent. Capital expenditures are below budget with 2% of the overall budget spent due to the timing of capital projects. The Commission Auditors, MNP LLP, are still conducting their audit work at the writing of this report. The audit report and findings along with the Commission’s final financial results will be presented at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on April 17, 2025. The Board of Directors also passed Bylaw 03-2025 – Line of Credit Borrowing Bylaw, 2025. This bylaw enables the commission to apply for a line of credit to avoid redeeming investments to finance operating expenditures of the commission. The Board then moved to retain Associated Engineering as the Commission Engineer for a two year term with an option to renew annually until the next Water Master Plan Update.

Mar 21st- Leduc, Nisku, and Wetaskiwin Chamber of Commerce Tariff Talks Breakfast
Councillor Mckeag-Reber and I attended this session at the Leduc COunty Business & Entrepreneur Centre where speakers provided insights and strategies to assist local businesses in adjusting to uncertain circumstances involving tariffs with the US.

Mar 21st- Municipality Member Visits with Town of Blackfalds and Town of Ponoka (as Alberta Municipalities Board Member)

Mar 26th- Committee of the Whole Meeting
Please see meeting minutes at www.calmar.ca.

Mar 26th- Special Council Meeting
Please see meeting minutes at www.calmar.ca.

Mar 27th- Policy and Bylaw Committee Meeting

Mar 28th- FCSS Seminar “Fraud Alert: Protecting Yourself From Scams and Decpetion”
I was pleased to bring greetings on behalf of the Town and make the Land Acknowledgement. The session was well attended despite a significant spring storm

making travel less than desirable. I stayed for lunch and sat with the ladies from the Thorsby and Leduc Victim Services departments, discussing the ways their services can be better utilized by Calmar residents. Great job, FCSS!

Mar 28th- Current and Prospective Developers Meeting

I was thrilled to attend this meeting with Councillors Mckeag-Reber and Faulkner as well as CAO Losier, Development Officer Agube and Economic Development Officer McIntosh. Several developer and builders listened to CAO Losier to present recent changes in policy to encourage development in Calmar. The changes were warmly received and I'm excited to see what happens in Calmar over the next couple of years. I had some great conversations with local investors about how we can work together for the benefit of our community.