

Council Highlights



Regular Council Meeting of July 12, 2023

Council Highlights briefly identify decisions made by Council. Council encourages its residents, businesses and stakeholders to keep in touch with Council news.

Preliminary Engineering — Bridge File 01459

Council approved budgets of \$60,000 in 2023 and \$38,000 in 2024 for the geotechnical site investigation and engineering for Bridge File 01459 – NW 18-42-11 W4 (south of Lougheed), to be funded by the MSI capital grant. The single-span bridge structure is 60 years old, which exceeds the normal service life for this type of structure. An inspection identified major repairs required in the next three to five years at an approximate cost of \$335,000. These repairs would extend the life of the structure by approximately 10-15 years. However, due to the high cost of the repairs, it has been recommended to look at alternatives, such as replacement with a large-diameter culvert, which would incur similar costs but provide an increased service life of 50-plus years.

Custom Spraying on Provincial Highways

Council approved to perform roadside spraying along all provincial highways within Flagstaff County where noxious weeds are present, to be reimbursed by Alberta Transportation on a full cost-recovery basis. The Weed Control Act states that noxious weeds must be controlled while prohibited noxious weeds must be destroyed. The Act includes the requirement for weed control along provincial highways, which is the responsibility of Alberta Transportation. However, over the past several years, the Government of Alberta's vegetation management program has been underfunded, which has impacted summer maintenance programs such as roadside mowing and weed control. Flagstaff County weed inspectors have observed areas along the provincial highway system within the County this summer that require weed control. Currently, the County's roadside spraying program is on track and able to complete this additional spraying.

Records Management

Council approved to enter into a five-year contract with Government Frameworks for the purchase of an automated records management storage and process management solution to include one-time implementation costs of \$55,000 (plus GST) and annual costs of \$91,840 (plus GST) for training and development and the software subscription to be funded by the MSI operating grant in 2023. Records management is a critical organizational function for municipalities, which involves creating a level of efficient and systematic control over the creation, use and disposition of substantive records. This cloud-based solution will eliminate the capital purchase of a new server. It is also anticipated to be more cost-effective and secure.

Once approved, the full Council Meeting minutes can be found at www.flagstaff.ab.ca under the "Council" tab and in the "Meetings and Minutes" section.