

For Immediate Release

Council Notes

February 20th, 2018

- 1. Delegations.** The Yellowhead Agricultural Society made a presentation to Council regarding their proposal for a new Agricultural Events Centre at the Edson Rodeo Grounds. They explained the group has outgrown the current indoor riding facility, and plans to construct a building with seating for more than 500 spectators, a main and warm-up arena, concession and more. They're currently seeking support from municipal partners and local business/donors with the hopes of starting construction this spring.
- 2. Road Closure.** Second and third reading was given to Bylaw 2207, to close a portion of road on the west side of 63rd Street, between 8th and 11th Avenues. The road closure is part of a small land swap to properly line up roadway access to 63rd street in that area from the new subdivision
- 3. Hillendale Phase II.** Council has adopted the new lot pricing schedule for Hillendale Phase II, effective immediately. The new schedule reflects a 17% overall decrease in prices to better reflect the appraisals. As well, Council has approved the paying out of the outstanding offsite levies for Hillendale Phase II, with those costs to be incorporated into the actual lot prices. This will allow perspective buyers to better access funds for the lots from lenders.
- 4. Surplus Land.** Two lots east of 63rd Street along 2nd Avenue have been declared as surplus land by Council as per the Policy for Sale of Town Owned Land. Both lots are zoned Highway Commercial and will now be advertised as available for sale.
- 5. Golf Course Tax Exemption.** Council has granted a property tax exemption for the two properties which house the actual golf course. The application for exemption was approved based on Alberta Regulation no. 281 s15(a), non-profit organizations holding property used for sports or recreation (with the exemption of professional sports franchises) must be granted property tax exemptions if certain procedural and eligibility requirements are met. The exemption is in effect for the 2018 tax year and will continue without reapplication for a maximum of three years thereafter.
- 6. Streetlight LED Conversion.** Council has authorized Administration to enter into an agreement with Fortis Alberta for the upgrading of the current HPS streetlight fixtures to LED through the 2018 LED Streetlight Conversion Program. The cost to enter the program is expected to be offset by the energy savings the Town will receive by switching to LED lights. The new lighting system is expected to reduce the Town's annual electricity consumption for streetlights by a minimum of 30%.

Next meetings - The next Committee of the Whole Meeting is scheduled for February 27th, 2018 at 10:00 am in Council Chambers. The next Council Meeting is scheduled for March 6th, 2018 at 7:30 pm.

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