Council wrestles with its own pay policies

The town of Morinville has sent its council pay issue to a third party to determine whether it is showing up at council meetings now — long before the consultant’s report is complete.

While the audited financial statements show total council pay (including expenses and benefits rising) the five members of council who attended the March 19 committee of the whole meeting appeared focused mainly on trying to find a way to compensate councillors for attending formal and informal public events to encourage citizen pride in the community.

However none of the councillors offered a resolution recommending either a dollar amount as a flat monthly pay or a per diem pay figure to address the issue.

A council tried to refer the topic back to a regular council meeting, administration repeatedly pointed out that no direction was being offered by the committee meeting so the same discussion would just take place at council.

Every council did provide some direction to administration to bring a recommended policy to council which would compensate councillors for representatives, expense claims at various additional functions such as parades. As well the recommendation is to continue ads and groups for various expense claims to administration before going to the Mayor for final approval.

Coun. Rebecca Balko said that Redwater council shows up at summer parades with its vintage firetruck and canopy that all councillors and other dignitaries ride on — she felt it was time Morinville showed a stronger presence to promote civic pride in the community, and that councillors should have a per diem to event compensate for pay further — to offset the cost of attending such events.

She wanted more than one councillor to attend such events promoting the town.

Coun. Scott Richardson asked administration to bring stats showing council pay for the past five years, suggesting if council is now trending to the low end then the topic can be considered but if council is already at the high end, it should not be increasing the pay further.

Coun. Elaine Labonte said those figures can be prepared but from his observation he would say council is now at the lower end of the pay level.

According to the audited financial statements, Richardson’s question appears to be on the mark. The trend has been upward. In 2014 salary and benefits totalled $197,347 for all councillors and the Mayor, in 2015 it was $205,365; in 2016 it was $202,022, in 2017 it was $211,659. The audited financial statements also indicate the benefits have been rising steadily, but from the fourth quarter report prepared by the town of Morinville, only the voluntary and benefits for council were to be $264,859 for the year. However, the 2018 figures may be comparing apples to oranges, depending upon whether they include fringe benefits, expenses and figures in their expenses as the town does in its financial accounting.

The issue has been ongoing since last fall when council failed to offset the loss of the one third income tax benefit being eliminated in 2019 by the federal government. While the impact is only the impact of the income tax, councillors will now have to contribute on one third of their council pay, some councils and councillors throughout the region have been over-stating the take home pay impact of the loss of the federal perk. This has added to confusion around the issue.

The council pay policy is not expected to make it on to a regular council meeting agenda until April 23.

Disclosures:

ADVERTISING DEADLINES
Thursday 2 p.m. for Tuesday edition
More candidates, party affiliations added as deadline neared to be on ballot

A few additional candidates have filed to be on the ballot in area ridings and some previously listed independent candidates now officially represent the Alberta Independence Party (AIP) in the April 16 provincial election. The AIP received official party status from Elections Alberta on March 20. Mike van Velzen in the Morinville-St. Albert riding and Gordon McMillan in the Lac Ste. Anne-Parkland riding, who were previously listed as independent candidates on the Elections Alberta website, are now AIP candidates.


March 29 was the last day candidates could register. The Morinville-St. Albert riding covers the east half of Sturgeon County, but has its greatest number of voters residing in St. Albert. The Lac Ste Anne-Parkland riding has Hwy 2 as its eastern border and it runs west beyond Mayerthorpe.
Thursday April 4th

noon until 5 pm.
LUNCH SERVED FROM NOON TIL 2 PM

A bunch of our best vendors will be on site from noon till 5 pm to demo their products and answer your questions about your next project.

Doors close at 5:30 pm for our Builders/Contractor Open House

8804 - 95 Street, Morinville, AB
780-939-1700

Mon. - Fri. 8am - 5:30pm
Sat. 8am - 4:30pm
Sun. - CLOSED

Thursday April 4th

noon until 5 pm.
LUNCH SERVED FROM NOON TIL 2 PM

A bunch of our best vendors will be on site from noon till 5 pm to demo their products and answer your questions about your next project.

Doors close at 5:30 pm for our Builders/Contractor Open House

8804 - 95 Street, Morinville, AB
780-939-1700

Mon. - Fri. 8am - 5:30pm
Sat. 8am - 4:30pm
Sun. - CLOSED

Thursday April 4th

noon until 5 pm.
LUNCH SERVED FROM NOON TIL 2 PM

A bunch of our best vendors will be on site from noon till 5 pm to demo their products and answer your questions about your next project.

Doors close at 5:30 pm for our Builders/Contractor Open House

8804 - 95 Street, Morinville, AB
780-939-1700

Mon. - Fri. 8am - 5:30pm
Sat. 8am - 4:30pm
Sun. - CLOSED

Thursday April 4th

noon until 5 pm.
LUNCH SERVED FROM NOON TIL 2 PM

A bunch of our best vendors will be on site from noon till 5 pm to demo their products and answer your questions about your next project.

Doors close at 5:30 pm for our Builders/Contractor Open House

8804 - 95 Street, Morinville, AB
780-939-1700

Mon. - Fri. 8am - 5:30pm
Sat. 8am - 4:30pm
Sun. - CLOSED
Preparing for the Spring Melt

Sturgeon County Transportation Services takes a pro-active approach to drainage. Crews start to clear problem areas early in the year before spring thaw arrives.

To reduce the chance of any potential drainage issues on your property, here are some tips:

- Check your culverts and clear snow to help open up any blockages
- Keep stormwater drains clear of debris and ice
- Clear debris out of eavestroughs and direct downsputs away from your home.
- Make sure your sump pump and weeping tile is working properly.

If you have concerns, please contact Transportation Services at 780-939-8252 or online through Report a Road Concern at sturgeoncounty.ca

Fluctuating Temperatures Create Thin Ice

With last week’s warm temperatures, ice is thinning out and is not safe to walk on.

Sturgeon County DOES NOT permit or regulate recreational use of storm ponds. Please practice safety and stay off frozen bodies of water as they can be unpredictable.

Spring Offers from Agriculture Services

Sturgeon County Tree Program
Order by April 12

Residents have an opportunity to purchase tree and shrub seedlings at a reduced rate through the Sturgeon County Tree Program.

There are a variety of native and ornamental species of coniferous and deciduous trees to choose from, as well as shrubs like the Silver BuffaloBerry, High Bush Cranberry and the Northline Saskatoon.

Rain Barrels and Composters Available
Order by April 19

Do you want to conserve water and reduce waste? An easy way to do that is by saving rain water and composting. Order your rain barrels and composters from Agriculture Services by April 19 and pick up in May:

- Rain Barrels $55
- Composters $45 (while supplies last)
- Windiggers $515 (while supplies last)

Information on either of these programs is available online at sturgeoncounty.ca by email agricultureservices@sturgeoncounty.ca or call 780-939-8325.
Sturgeon County Residents Wanted for

Citizen Task Force on Elected Officials’ Remuneration

Get Involved!

We are seeking Sturgeon County residents who are interested in serving on a newly formed Citizen Task Force on Elected Officials’ Remuneration, tasked with making recommendations regarding the compensation for elected officials of Sturgeon County.

Who are we looking for?

- Current residents of Sturgeon County
- The ability to commit a minimum of 20 hours in April and May, 2019
- Board and governance experience an asset
- Skills in business, financial services or human resources would also be considered an asset but not a requirement.

Apply before April 12, 2019.

Please submit a resume or letter that explains your interest in serving on the Task Force to hr@sturgeoncounty.ca

For more information please contact Legislative Services at 780-939-8377.

Please note: Current Sturgeon County Employees are not eligible to serve on the Task Force.

sturgeoncounty.ca
Bunker gear support

On March 9 North West Upgraders representative Terri Lynn Saunders presented a cheque to the Gibbons Fire Department for $11,000 for the outfitting of three Fire Fighters from Head to toe in Bunker Gear. The Gibbons Fire Department appreciates NWR for the support and assistance.

TRACTORS & FIELD EQ:
- JD 8970 w(9023hr), 520/85 R42 Triples • FORD 8646 w (7675 hrs), (20,000 on Inframe), Large Capacity Hyd Pump, Auto Steer, 20.8 R42 duals • New Super Org 48x70 R30 PTO and 710/75 R38 Duals • JD 2560 w (7321 hr), Cap, 3pt, JD 146 Loader • 50+ McFarlane HDL 1000 Double B D Harrow Bar • 670 Fesl FS18 Harrow Banker Bar • 670 Allied D Harrow Bar 30’ WLRICH Field Cult • 28’ JD Disc • 24’ JD Disc in 19’ DISCS • 2005 Flexi Coil 33’ Air seeder in double chyle, 3’ Dutch Openers, JD 787 Tank in cameras • 16” de CUIF

CHARLES PARSONS: 780-674-7704

FARM IS SOLD. EXCELLENT CHOICE OF EQUIP. MANY WITH UPGRADES AUTO HYD WINDER & MORE

DATE: SAT APR 20 AT 1:00PM

780-674-3929 www.parsons-auctions.com

ON SITE: (VILLAGE OF JARVIE) 2.2 Mi N on RR 272

APR 18 / NOON AUCTION
ELBERT BEEKMAN 8-780-954-3847 C-780-674-1327

THURS APRIL 18 AT 12 NOON

FARM IS SOLD. EXCELLENT CHOICE OF EQUIP. MANY WITH UPGRADES AUTO HYD WINDER & MORE

APR 20 / PM AUCTION
FOR: DOUG & CAROL GOERTZ
DATE: SAT APR 20 AT 1:00PM

780-674-3929 www.parsons-auctions.com

ON SITE: (VILLAGE OF JARVIE) 2.2 Mi N on RR 272

APR 23 / NOON AUCTION
F. ROBERT & CAROL GOERTZ (780-674-3929)

ON SITE: (VILLAGE OF JARVIE) 2.2 Mi N on RR 272

THE Wild... The Forever... The Journey... Their dream was good things. They worked hard, they believed in possibility. They believed in making things happen. They believed in putting in the hard work. They believed in the power of hard work. They believed in the power of teamwork. They believed in the power of dedication. They believed in the power of determination. They believed in the power of perseverance. They believed in the power of resilience. They believed in the power ofiosity. They believed in the power of curiosity. They believed in the power of exploration. They believed in the power of discovery. They believed in the power of innovation. They believed in the power of imagination. They believed in the power of creativity. They believed in the power of collaboration. They believed in the power of contribution. They believed in the power of leadership. They believed in the power of inspiration. They believed in the power of motivation. They believed in the power of encouragement. They believed in the power of support. They believed in the power of community. They believed in the power of connection. They believed in the power of, love. They believed in the power of joy. They believed in the power of happiness. They believed in the power of, peace. They believed in the power of compassion. They believed in the power of kindness. They believed in the power of forgiveness. They believed in the power of, gratitude. They believed in the power of, gratitude. They believed in the power of, gratitude. They believed in the power of, gratitude. They believed in the power of, gratitude. They believed in the power of, gratitude. They believed in the power of, gratitude. They believed in the power of, gratitude.
A change in thinking can make sense of regenerative agriculture and create profits while building up soils and livestock health.

“We can do it; we just have to change our minds about how we do things,” said doctor of veterinary medicine Matt Van Steelandt during the Gateway Research Group (GRO) Feb. 22 update. “Regenerative agriculture is a brain transformation, usually spurred by something. For me it was overland flooding and wetlands.”

He has about 500 cattle on Triple V Ranch in the southwest corner of Manitoba. It is a land of native grass, sandhills and wetlands that gets flooded regularly.

Perhaps we might be part of the cause,” said Van Steelandt. “Our management of the landscape has effects.” Those impacts include changes to soil infiltration, water filtration, soil degradation and amount of nutrients in lakes and oceans.

To lessen or reverse those changes, Van Steelandt said a paradigm shift needs to take place to put the land first. He recommended five actions that protect and build soil.

Maintain soil armour—keep soil covered with residue and living plants to reduce erosion, cool the land, suppress weeds and create habitat for critters.

Minimize disturbance caused by grazing, fertilizers and chemicals. Van Steelandt said some of those can be done some of the time, but it’s best to not do all of them all the time.

Create plant diversity on the land because the native perennial polyculture is very different from the annual monoculture found in our traditional agriculture. For example, hissilage consists of peas, oats and radish which gives his polyculture a legume, warm and cool grasses and warm and cool broadleaf plants.

“It’s not just a pretty story,” he said. “It’s science that plant diversity increases plants’ and soil health. A mixture of varieties of plants supplies better nutrition to the soil biology and allows plants to exchange nutrients with each other. Having live roots in the ground as long as possible. Plants feed soil microbes, use the sun’s energy and protect the soil. Cover crops can be grown in the same field, before, during and after annual grain crops. He said fields under regenerative agriculture have shown 20 to 30 percent lower crop yield while making 78 percent more profit than traditionally farmed fields.

Van Steelandt’s fifth recommendation is to integrate livestock into soil management plans. Animals co-evolved with soil ecosystems and are an important part of healthy soil management. Plant variety is important here, too. If a cow will eat something, that’s not a weed, it’s forage.

That doesn’t mean grain farmers have to diversify their operations to include animal husbandry. To maintain soil health Ward and Joanne Middleton, who have an organic grain farm north of Morinville, partnered with an area livestock producer and have that farmer’s animals grazing on their land for part of the year. That helps address their concerns about organic export from their land while organic nutrients get deposited on their fields.

Van Steelandt’s fifth recommendation is to integrate livestock into soil management plans. Animals co-evolved with soil ecosystems and are an important part of healthy soil management. Plant variety is important here, too. If a cow will eat something, that’s not a weed, it’s forage.

That doesn’t mean grain farmers have to diversify their operations to include animal husbandry. To maintain soil health Ward and Joanne Middleton, who have an organic grain farm north of Morinville, partnered with an area livestock producer and have that farmer’s animals grazing on their land for part of the year. That helps address their concerns about organic export from their land while organic nutrients get deposited on their fields.

Van Steelandt urged producers to be adaptive. Get educated on a biological approach to soil fertilizing; measure things like living microbial biomass and bacterial to fungal ratios. Test for organic as well as inorganic nutrients.

Finally, he addressed carbon tax and the perception that livestock farming is a large contributor to the creation of greenhouse gases.

“Agriulture can sequester carbon,” he pointed out. “We know how to build soil. We don’t need to be the villains; we can be the heroes of the environment.”

Regional 4H Public Speaking award winners. Back row: Mana Middleton - Northlands; Amber Barto - Radway Multi; Hannah Whittal - Bon Accord; Emmeline Lansell - Looma Lights Horse; Emma Kamelchuk - Colinton; Casey Lefebvre - Leduc Beef; Rebecca Palmer - Quilchena; Austin Stein - Radway Beef; Jada Rigney - Golden Sunset Beef; Taylor Janz - Looma Light Horse; Haddie Casey Lefebvre - Leduc Beef; Rebecca Palmquist - Ft Saskatchewan Beef; Emmeline Lansdell - Looma Lights Horse; Emma Kamelchuk - Colinton; Regional 4H Senior Presentations award winners: Judge Wes Nimco, Kianna Sturgeon 4-H District Bartlett - Colinton Multi; Stella Macklin - Radway Multi. --photo by Leona Petherbridge.
The Morinville Historical Society endorsed the town’s Historic and Cultural Heritage Policy and commended the town’s planning department for being on-side with issues related to preserving the town’s significant structures, however the society told council the bottom line is that funds need to be budgeted to achieve the goals contained in the policy.

Murray Knight suggested that council look at budgeting $25,000 annually to build a reserve to use in the preservation of historic buildings. He noted that over a period of years and by leverage grants (which administration indicated a willingness to try to access) there would be resources available to preserve heritage buildings that become available.

He noted that a list of 49 historically significant buildings was created in the 2013 Historical Resource Survey of the town and the society intends to visit these sites with town planning department officials throughout the summer to further evaluate the list, setting priorities on structures that should be preserved.

“We want to show that our town has pride in its heritage,” Knight said.

He also noted the society wants to restore the Jesus statue in St. Jean Baptiste Park that was damaged by vandals several years ago. That involves properly repairing the extended hands which had been broken off (and have had an improvised repair done) and also raising the platform of the statue by about two feet. The Statue of the Sacred Heart was erected by the nuns in recognition of not a single child losing their life locally to the Spanish flu epidemic which arrived in Alberta in 1918.

Mayor Barry Turner commended the Historical Society for its commitment and the engagement with the town to move the issue forward.

Council, meeting as committee of the whole, voted to forward the policy to the next regular council meeting for approval. The policy states the town will “Consider future reserve funding to support future protection and retention of buildings, structures or artifacts that have been determined to have cultural or historical significance to the heritage of Morinville. Contributions to such a fund to be determined during budget deliberations annually.”

The multi-page policy goes into detail on the goals and process to be followed. Meeting chairman Lawrence Griffin advised Knight to bring figures to council for consideration in the 2020 budget.

**SCREENING ASSESSMENTS BEGIN IN MARCH FOR THE 2019/2020 SCHOOL YEAR.**

Do you believe your child may benefit from attending an Enrichment or Headstart program? If so, call our office to book a screening assessment.

**Enrichment**—for children who are 3 years, 8 months as of September 1, and are assessed as being cognitively advanced.

**Headstart**—for children between the ages of 3 years, 8 months and 5 years as of September 1, who have an identified mild to moderate delay in one or more of the following areas: speech—language, fine motor or social skills. Children 2 years, 8 months as of September 1, will be considered if the delays are severe.

**CALL STURGEON PUBLIC SCHOOLS AT 780.939.4341 ext 1257**

**TO BOOK A SCREENING ASSESSMENT**

Children must be screened and quality for this program under Alberta Education guidelines.

---

**Historical Society agrees with town policy -- but needs a budget to be able to save heritage buildings**

---

**Business & Professional Directory**

**Home & Retail**

**Dunrite Eavestroughing Ltd.**

If you want it done right, call Dunrite

**Top Quality & Continuous Eaves**

**Over 100 Colours to Choose From:**

- Aluminum
- Copper
- Stainless
- Galvanized
- Decorative
- Ornamental
- Complete Garage Kits

- 24 Hour Aesthetic
- Santco Service
- Storm Door Window Glass Clean

**1-800-265-3600**

---

**TW Construction Co. Ltd.**

- Kitchen, Bathroom & Basement Design & Install
- Hardwood, Vinyl Plank, Tile & Marble Flooring
- Fine Finishing & Woodwork
- Drywalling & T-Bar Ceiling
- Texturing & Painting
- Theatre Rooms

780-719-7158
twc7158@gmail.com

---

**CAN-DALE VACUUM SERVICES**

**Residential & Industrial Carpet Cleaning**

**Dale Gabere**

780-598-3519

---

**NEW & USED FIREARMS**

**PAL TRAINING & TESTING**

(780) 939-5593

10126 - 100 Ave.,
Morinville, Alberta T8R 1R9
cxshooters@gmail.com
cxshooters.ca

---

**MARIO'S PLUMBING & HEATING**

780.953.2673

call us at 780-719-7158

---

**Leather, plastic, vinyl, fabric lino floors**

**Restore, Redye and Refurbish**

**Phone:** 780-942-2125 **Fax:** 780-942-3061

---

**Sturgeon Plumbing & Heating**

780.266.6887 • sturgeonplumbing.ca

**Residential • Commercial • Service & Repair**

**Leading Edge Sharpening Services**

Sherry Kramer
Certified Sharpener

24 Edna Avenue
Sturgeon County, Alberta
780-916-6309

www.leadingedgesharpening.ca

Contact us for all your sharpening needs.
MP discusses priorities with Gibbons council

Sturgeon River—Parkland Conservative MP Dane Lloyd expects a robust federal budget this election year because the federal government collected increased taxes last year, particularly from small businesses, but he has not heard of any monies being put towards the funding priorities in this area.

Lloyd shared some of his ideas with Gibbons council March 13. He listed his priorities as increasing access to broadband internet for residences, businesses and schools, having enough housing spaces for people with dementia, and support of major Heartland projects such as Pembina’s propane processing and the Sturgeon Refinery.

His proposed bill, McCann’s Law, would deny parole for anyone convicted of murder who refused to provide information on the location of the body. It is named after Marie and Kyle McCann of St. Albert who were killed in 2010, but their bodies have never been recovered. Travis Vader was found guilty of second degree murder in their deaths in 2017.

Lloyd said he’s working against the proposed Bill C-69 which would broaden the scope of the environmental assessment process and add enhanced consultation with groups that may be affected. He feels the current federal government does not consider the energy sector, especially in Alberta, as a priority.

“Climate change is its central policy at the expense of other sectors,” Lloyd said. He pointed out that the energy sector can be part of the solution for addressing climate change as shown by the Sturgeon Refinery’s built-in carbon capture process.

Coun. Darren McCann said he would like the regulatory approval process streamlined in energy hubs such as the Heartland. “An investor with billions of dollars takes three to five years to get approvals,” he said, adding that “we go to the United States where in 18 months they have shovels in the ground.”

“We don’t want a free for all,” added mayor Dan Hees. “We have good regulations. Let’s use them and move forward.”

Their discussion also touched on the carbon tax, especially how it impacts agriculture with the added expense of heating barns and drying grain. As well, they briefly discussed federal gun regulations which seem to target legitimate gun owners while making little impact on criminals who don’t register their weapons.

Lloyd was elected in an October 2017 by-election. Both federal and Alberta provincial general elections are expected to be held this year.

Councillor wants hazards assessment for all school bus stops in Morinville

At least one Morinville town councillor wants a safety evaluation of all school bus stops in the town.

Councillor Lawrence Griffin provided the following letter of motion which was to be considered at the March 26 council meeting.

“I move that Council direct Mayor Turner to write a letter to Sturgeon School Division and Greater St. Albert Catholic School Division asking for a comprehensive hazard assessment of all school bus stops, including but not limited to, the assessment of risks, risk reduction measures taken to date, and a listing of current school bus stop locations within the Town of Morinville.”

The March 26 regular council meeting was cancelled by the town without explanation.

Mike Cowley/Edmonton Journal
New administrators were appointed for the 2019-20 school year at Camilla School in Riviere Qui Barre. Sturgeon Public School Division Superintendent Mary Lynn Campbell announced Rick Dawson will be principal and Kristen Molzahn vice-principal.

As a lifelong learner, I am very excited to be continuing my journey as an educational leader with Sturgeon Public Schools, where I can be part of a team which will build and shape the future of our kids,” said Dawson.

After completing his Bachelor of Education Degree at the University of Alberta, Dawson’s first teaching placement was a small school in Red Earth Creek, Alberta, followed by Hardisty, which was a stepping stone to school leadership. In 2017 he accepted a position of assistant principal with Grande Yellowhead Public Schools. He is now part of Sturgeon division where he is looking forward to his role as principal at Camilla School.

Molzahn has worked with the division since 2013 as a Headstart Teacher and Occupational Therapist. She has served as Program Unit Funding Initiative (PUFI) coordinator and acting vice-principal at Morinville Public School.

Prior to working with this division Molzahn taught grade six with Buffalo Trail Public School Division.

She holds an undergraduate Degree in Elementary Education as well as a Master’s Degree in Occupational Therapy from the University of Alberta.

I am excited for the opportunity to support the students and staff at Camilla School as Vice-Principal,” says Molzahn.

Camilla, serves 500 students from Headstart to grade nine.

Current acting principal Jennifer Brunsmun is moving to a vice-principal position at Sturgeon Composite High School. Vice-principal Tracy Upham is moving to vice-principal at Morinville Public.

As Morinville town council continues to dance around the issue of replacing, eliminating, or replacing photo radar in the community nothing of significance is going to change if the situation remains the same after the March 19 council committee of the whole is any indication.

Council members were discussing the council resolution on the issue and have learned to expect council noise but no action — you get the picture.

Speed infractions are down to 1,870 tickets being issued (68 being withdrawn or quashed) during 2018 with an average fine of about $135. This volume is down from a peak of about 9,000 annually when it was first introduced earlier this decade.

Director of Community and Protective Services Dave Schaefer presented the meeting with options for the future of the Automated Enforcement Officer System: “Option 1- Continue to operate with existing contract; Option 2- End Program by implementing 30 day notice; Option 3- Look at an in house or regional Automated Enforcement program; Option 4- Move away from an automated traffic enforcement program and replace with implementation of a traffic enforcement officer program; Option 5- Council to provide different direction.”

An erratic discussion ensued that weaved through the potential ban of photo radar by the province, to speed transition distance compliance, to false reading bugs by the speed display signs and the potential impact on the validity of data being collected, to the reason it takes longer for live enforcement to issue ticket issues than photo radar.

Mayor Barry Turner’s motion to send the issue to council recommending a combination of Option 1 (continuing existing system) and Option 3 (study in house or regional system) passed unanimously by the five councillors present. The issue isn’t expected to make it to a regular council meeting until May 14.

 Classified Ads

LIVESTOCK

FOR SALE - 1 YEAR OLD free run brown laying hens. $2.00 each. Pick up near Two Hills Apr 13-20. Call 780-603-9047

20 ANGUS BULLS - Excellent quality black & red angus yearling bulls. Moderate frame, high performance. Select now for spring possession. Clegg Angus, St. Albert. 780-447-1127

REAL ESTATE

CAPECOD BUILT 2006 house for sale. 2000sqft two stories, heated garage, central vacuum, 5 appl. gas bbs, 3 decks, 4 bath, 4 bedroom, high performance. $135,000. Phone 780-942-2365

2011 NISSAN JUKE - 1 yearling bulls. Moderate frame, high performance. $2.00 each. Pick up near Two Hills Apr 13-20. Call 780-603-9047

SEED


CERTIFIED SEED: Wheat, CDC Go Early, CDC Lancer, CDC Lancer Early, CDC Lancer Mid, CDC Mustang, AC Mustang, CS Camden, Derby, Barney, AC Robin, AC Robin Early, CDC Copeland, CDC Maverick, Sundre, Very Early Yellow Pea, CDC Early, CDC Wineroot, CDC Spring Trifolium. Free deliv- ery Alberta. Contact 403-556-2609.

RENTALS

MORINVILLE - Chauvet Apartments - 1 bedroom and 1-27 Excellent quality black & red angus Colour Therapy you. Oral & Holly Unland 780-999-6105

COLLECTIONS OF COINS

140,000kms. $5000. Phone 780-942-2365

2011 NISSAN JUKE - 4 cyl. turbo, 140,000kms. $5000. Phone 780-942-2365

WANTED

COLLECTIONS OF COINS, stamps, artwork, antique books, toys, sterling silver, gold jewelry. Will come to you. Oral & Holly Unland 780-999-9105


File destruction. Free consultation 1-800-347-2540; loss? Travel/business opportunities? Be embarrassed?

WILMINGTON TREATMENT SERVICES

"Helping to achieve balance and wellness in all stages of life."

Phone: 780-909-0375
Suites 102, 1007, 100 - Ave, Morinville

Squaw Creek Memorial Services

Photo Radar continues to generate revenue

Rural Alberta Radar (a public service company) is operating in Alberta as a pilot. It is collecting $5,600 of fine revenue per week, and if the market price was the same, it would be closer to a $200,000 per week.

As Morinville town council continues to talk about radar continues to generate revenue Speed infractions are down to 1,870 tickets being issued (68 being withdrawn or quashed) during 2018 with an average fine of about $135. This volume is down from a peak of about 9,000 annually when it was first introduced earlier this decade.

Director of Community and Protective Services Dave Schaefer presented the meeting with options for the future of the Automated Enforcement Officer System: “Option 1- Continue to operate with existing contract; Option 2- End Program by implementing 30 day notice; Option 3- Look at an in house or regional Automated Enforcement program; Option 4- Move away from an automated traffic enforcement program and replace with implementation of a traffic enforcement officer program; Option 5- Council to provide different direction.”

An erratic discussion ensued that weaved through the potential ban of photo radar by the province, to speed transition distance compliance, to false reading bugs by the speed display signs and the potential impact on the validity of data being collected, to the reason it takes longer for live enforcement to issue ticket issues than photo radar.

Mayor Barry Turner’s motion to send the issue to council recommending a combination of Option 1 (continuing existing system) and Option 3 (study in house or regional system) passed unanimously by the five councillors present. The issue isn’t expected to make it to a regular council meeting until May 14.

Camilla School will have new administrators in the fall

Camilla School will have new administrators in the fall

New administrators were appointed for the 2019-20 school year at Camilla School in Riviere Qui Barre. Sturgeon Public School Division Superintendent Mary Lynn Campbell announced Rick Dawson will be principal and Kristen Molzahn vice-principal.

As a lifelong learner, I am very excited to be continuing my journey as an educational leader with Sturgeon Public Schools, where I can be part of a team which will build and shape the future of our kids,” said Dawson.

After completing his Bachelor of Education Degree at the University of Alberta, Dawson’s first teaching placement was a small school in Red Earth Creek, Alberta, followed by Hardisty, which was a stepping stone to school leadership. In 2017 he accepted a position of assistant principal with Grande Yellowhead Public Schools. He is now part of Sturgeon division where he is looking forward to his role as principal at Camilla School.

Molzahn has worked with the division since 2013 as a Headstart Teacher and Occupational Therapist. She has served as Program Unit Funding Initiative (PUFI) coordinator and acting vice-principal at Morinville Public School.

Prior to working with this division Molzahn taught grade six with Buffalo Trail Public School Division.

She holds an undergraduate Degree in Elementary Education as well as a Master’s Degree in Occupational Therapy from the University of Alberta.

I am excited for the opportunity to support the students and staff at Camilla School as Vice-Principal,” says Molzahn.

Camilla, serves 500 students from Headstart to grade nine.

Current acting principal Jennifer Brunsmun is moving to a vice-principal position at Sturgeon Composite High School. Vice-principal Tracy Upham is moving to vice-principal at Morinville Public.

Council continues to talk, photo radar continues to generate revenue

As Morinville town council continues to dance around the issue of replacing, eliminating, or replacing photo radar in the community nothing of significance is going to change if the situation remains the same after the March 19 council committee of the whole is any indication.

Council members were discussing the council resolution on the issue and have learned to expect council noise but no action — you get the picture.

Speed infractions are down to 1,870 tickets being issued (68 being withdrawn or quashed) during 2018 with an average fine of about $135. This volume is down from a peak of about 9,000 annually when it was first introduced earlier this decade.

Director of Community and Protective Services Dave Schaefer presented the meeting with options for the future of the Automated Enforcement Officer System: “Option 1- Continue to operate with existing contract; Option 2- End Program by implementing 30 day notice; Option 3- Look at an in house or regional Automated Enforcement program; Option 4- Move away from an automated traffic enforcement program and replace with implementation of a traffic enforcement officer program; Option 5- Council to provide different direction.”

An erratic discussion ensued that weaved through the potential ban of photo radar by the province, to speed transition distance compliance, to false reading bugs by the speed display signs and the potential impact on the validity of data being collected, to the reason it takes longer for live enforcement to issue ticket issues than photo radar.

Mayor Barry Turner’s motion to send the issue to council recommending a combination of Option 1 (continuing existing system) and Option 3 (study in house or regional system) passed unanimously by the five councillors present. The issue isn’t expected to make it to a regular council meeting until May 14.

North Point Monuments

All types, sizes and designs of granite and Cremation Monuments

* Best Selection * Best Prices * Best Service

Now offering Cemetery lettering of Final Date $300

Visit us at: www.northpointmonuments.com

780-913-1555

Squeezes

We have met the memorial needs of many families and would consider it a privilege to serve you.

Call or Text 780-911-5425

www.rosecitymemorials.com

Family Owned with Family Pride since 1961
Morinville single and multi-family housing starts totaled 36 units in 2018, only one better than the 13 year low of 35 units in 2016. This breaks down to 31 single family homes with a building permit value of $7,762,000 last year compared to 55 in 2017 with a value of $13,145,000. Duplexes also dropped to only two housing units with the permit value of $500,000 compared to 6 in 2017 valued at $1,170,000. Multi-unit developments remained about the same with 3 units in 2018 at a permit value of $546,000 compared to 4 units valued at $500,000 in 2017.

“Based on the population forecasts in the Municipal Development Plan (MDP), the desired growth rate for 2018 is documented to be 67 housing starts (single detached and multi-family starts combined),” states the fourth quarter report to council. The 36 housing unit starts in 2018 amounts to about 1% growth rate.

“To maintain healthy growth through 2019, we continue to work with developers on ensuring land development keeps pace in several areas of Morinville and ensuring an investment attractive environment for new development,” states the report from Planning and Economic Development director Brad White.

Morinville council goes into closed session to review their year of secrets

Morinville town council is known for its secret proceedings and the lack of substantive debate in public sessions, however it hit a new milestone on March 12.

The council closed session included, “A year in Review.” Council and staff are paid with revenue from taxpayers of the town, who were barred from attending the session.

The town also had its usual “Council Dialogue” in camera session so it could talk about anything without resident or taxpayer oversight.

County approves $680,690 contract to replace water meters

With about 80% of their 2,450 water meters at the end of their 20 year life span Sturgeon County Council awarded the water meter replacement contract to Neptune Technology Group as the lowest compliant bidder at a contract price of $880,690. Council made the decision March 12.

The contract includes the purchase of 2,450 water meters, project management, installation services, appointment coordination and future proofing (software support).

Funding for the replacement program is through the County’s Vehicle & Capital Reserve with a repayment period from the Utility Capital Reserve not exceeding five years.

Utility Services Manager Jeff Yanew pointed out around the 10 to 15 year mark meters start to lose their accuracy on water consumption reporting with the inaccuracy resulting in potential inaccuracy of water consumption and loss of revenue for the County’s utility. He estimated with 80% of the meters and a 5% inaccuracy the loss annually to the County could be $114,000 in water revenue and $50,000 in wastewater revenue.

The County ordered 38 Neptune water meters on a trial basis in 2018 and installed them in customers experiencing continual high-water consumption issues. Yanew said they received positive feedback from the resident users and the pilot project was deemed a great success by staff.

He added the Neptune meters have improved low flow accuracy, are quieter, have software capable of troubleshooting issues and retain 90 days data.

Council concluded conservation, conservation, conservation is important going forward.

Morinville single and multi-family housing starts totaled 36 units in 2018, only one better than the 13 year low of 35 units in 2016. This breaks down to 31 single family homes with a building permit value of $7,762,000 last year compared to 55 in 2017 with a value of $13,145,000. Duplexes also dropped to only two housing units with the permit value of $500,000 compared to 6 in 2017 valued at $1,170,000. Multi-unit developments remained about the same with 3 units in 2018 at a permit value of $546,000 compared to 4 units valued at $500,000 in 2017. Based on the population forecasts in the Municipal Development Plan (MDP), the desired growth rate for 2018 is documented to be 67 housing starts (single detached and multi-family starts combined), states the fourth quarter report to council. The 36 housing unit starts in 2018 amounts to about 1% growth rate. To maintain healthy growth through 2019, we continue to work with developers on ensuring land development keeps pace in several areas of Morinville and ensuring an investment attractive environment for new development, states the report from Planning and Economic Development director Brad White. The report was presented to council March 12. No councillor raised the low figures in the report before accepting it as information.