

Regular Meeting of the Village of Alix Council, to be held on
Wednesday, March 17, 2021 at 6:00 P.M.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Agenda: Amendments and Adoption
3. Adoption of the Minutes: a) Minutes of Regular Meeting – Wednesday, March 3, 2021 – 6:00 P.M.
4. Delegation: a) Daniel Luymes, CPA, CA Senior Manager – Accounting & Assurance, BDO Canada LLP – Presentation of 2020 Financial Statements
5. Bylaws: None
6. Unfinished Business: None
7. New Business: a) Reserves – Request for Decision 21-20
b) Village Vehicle Use Policy 16 Amendment – Request for Decision 21-18
c) Outdoor Movie Screen System – Request for Decision 21-17
d) Sound System – Request for Decision 21-19
8. Financial Reports: a) Accounts Payable Cheque Listing – February 18 – March 4, 2021
b) Bank Reconciliation – February 28, 2021
c) Tax Trial Balance – March 11, 2021
9. Committee Reports: a) Alix Public Library Board – Councillor Gilliat
b) Red Deer River Municipal User Group – Councillor Besuijen
c) Lacombe Foundation Board – Councillor Gilliat
d) Lacombe Regional Waste Services Commission – Councillor Gilliat
e) Parkland Regional Library System – Councillor Gilliat
10. Administrative Reports: a) CAO Report
b) Admin Support Staff
c) Cyberus Protection Services
11. Correspondence and Information: a) Alberta Municipal Affairs – Disaster Recovery Program (DRP)
b) Crowsnest Pass – President’s Summit on Policing
c) Campaign for a Smoke Free Alberta
d) Emission Reductions – Discussion Guide
12. Closed Meeting a) FOIP Section 25 – Economic Interests of the Public Body – Re: Municipally Owned Commercial Lots
13. Adjournment

This Regular Meeting of the Village of Alix Council will be held virtually. The link to join the meeting as well as the agenda package can be found on the Village of Alix website. www.villageofalix.ca

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Village of Alix Council, held on Wednesday, March 3, 2021 at 6:00 P.M., virtually.

Present: Mayor Rob Fehr, Councillors Barbara Gilliat, Tim Besuijen and Edwin Cole

Regrets: Councillor Vicki Soltermann

Also Present: Michelle White, Chief Administrative Officer

Call to Order: Mayor Fehr called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Amendments/Deletions to Agenda: Mayor Fehr called for amendments to the agenda.

Approval of Agenda:

Resolution #045/21: Moved by Councillor Besuijen that the Village of Alix Council approve the agenda with the following amendments:

Add: Committee Reports: a) Regional Fire Services – Mayor Fehr
Correspondence: g) Alberta Municipal Affairs

CARRIED

Minutes: a) Regular Meeting – February 17, 2021

Resolution #046/21: Moved by Councillor Cole that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Village of Alix Council held on Wednesday, February 17, 2021, be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

Delegation: None

Bylaws: None

Unfinished Business: a) Municipal Operating Support Transfer (MOST) Funding Requests – Request for Decision 21-16

Resolution #047/21: Moved by Councillor Gilliat that the Village of Alix Council hereby grants Municipal Operating Support Transfer funds to the following organizations in the amounts shown below to help cover lost revenue due to COVID-19:

Alix United Church Women	\$4,500.00
Alix Public Library	\$1,838.00
Alix Wagon Wheel Museum	\$3,000.00
Alix Lion's Club	\$5,000.00
Alix Figure Skating Club	\$4,000.00
Alix Fire Medical Association	\$5,000.00

CARRIED

New Business: a) Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) Funding Request – Request for Decision 21-15

Resolution #048/21: Moved by Councillor Cole that the Village of Alix Council hereby grants Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) funding to the Alix Family and Community Services Society as follows; \$2,400.00 for the Alix Inform program and \$4,000.00 for the Moms and Tots Program.

CARRIED

New Business: (cont.)

Resolution #049/21: Moved by Councillor Besuijen that the Village of Alix Council hereby grants \$11,000.00 in Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) funding to the Alix Mirror Wellness Supports Society. This amount is to be paid out as \$5,500.00 in the first quarter of 2021 and \$5,500.00 in the second quarter of 2021.

CARRIED

b) 2021 – 2023 Interim Operating Budget Proposed Amendments

Resolution #050/21: Moved by Councillor Gilliat that the Village of Alix Council accept the 2021 – 2023 Interim Operating Budget Proposed Amendments as information.

CARRIED

Financial Reports: None

Committee Reports: a) Regional Fire Services Committee – Mayor Fehr

Resolution #051/21: Moved by Councillor Gilliat that the Village of Alix Council accept the Committee Report as presented.

CARRIED

Administrative Reports: None

Correspondence and Information:

a) Alix Wagon Wheel Museum Association

b) Wolf Creek Public Schools ThoughtExchange January/February 2021 Summary

c) Alberta Municipal Affairs – 20th Annual Minister's Awards for Municipal Excellence Submissions

d) Government of Alberta – SafeRoads Alberta

e) Farm Safety Centre

f) Westlock County – Changes to Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) Directive 067

g) Alberta Municipal Affairs – Grant Program Updates

Resolution #052/21: Moved by Councillor Besuijen that the Village of Alix Council accept Correspondence Items (a) through (g) for information.

CARRIED

Closed Meeting: None

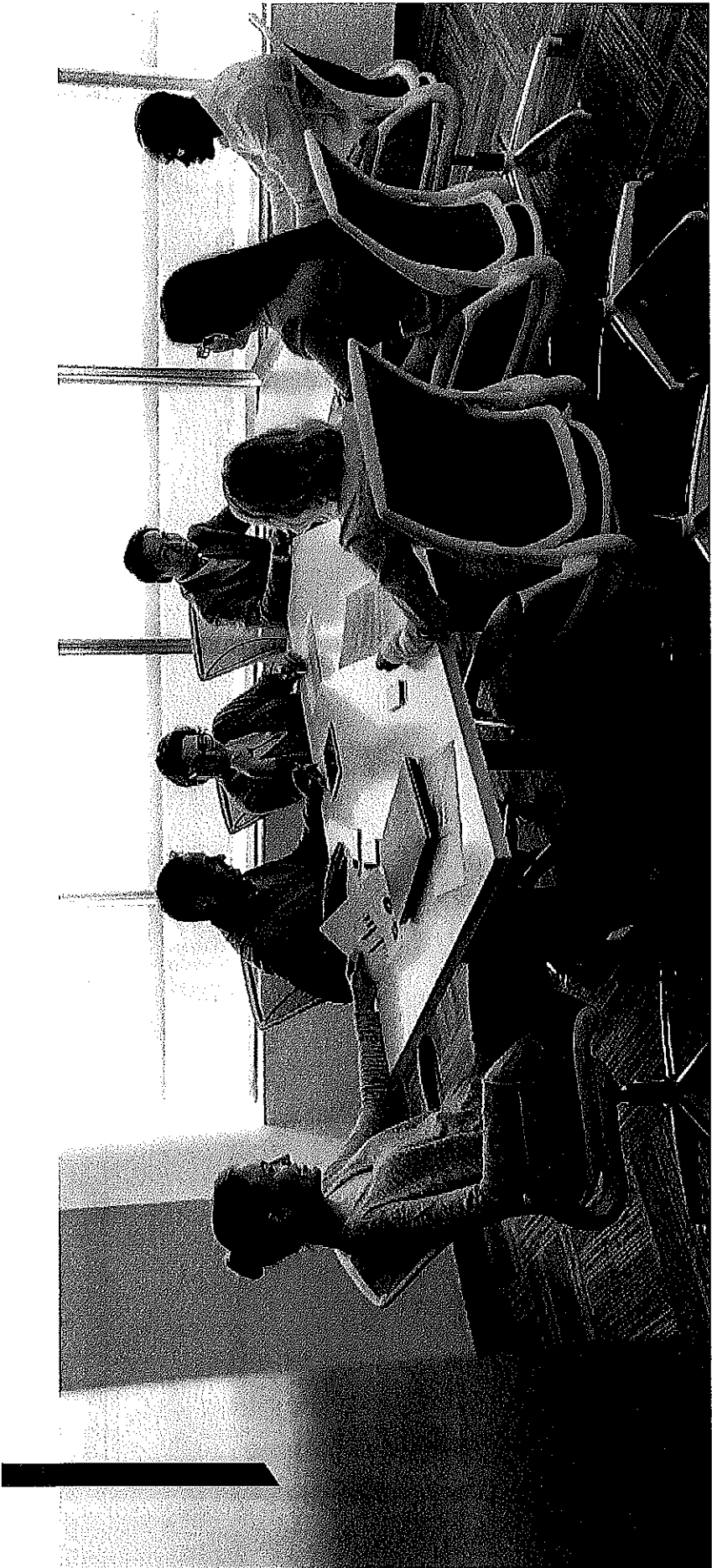
Adjournment:

Resolution #053/21: Moved by Councillor Gilliat that this Regular Meeting of the Village of Alix Council be adjourned at 7:11 P.M.

CARRIED

Mayor

Chief Administrative Officer



VILLAGE OF ALIX

AUDIT FINAL REPORT TO THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

March 17, 2021

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SUMMARY

Our audit and therefore this report will not necessarily identify all matters that may be of interest to the Municipal Council in fulfilling its responsibilities. This report has been prepared solely for the use of the Municipal Council and should not be distributed without our prior consent. Consequently, we accept no responsibility to a third party that uses this communication.

Status of the Audit

As of the date of this report, we have substantially completed our audit of the 2020 consolidated financial statements, pending completion of the following items:

- ▶ Receipt of signed management representation letter
- ▶ Subsequent events review through to financial statement approval date
- ▶ Approval of consolidated financial statements by the Municipal Council.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. The objective of our audit was to obtain reasonable, not absolute, assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free from material misstatement. We have provided our proposed audit report with the draft financial statements.

The scope of the work performed was substantially the same as that described in our Planning Report to the Municipal Council dated January 13, 2021.

Materiality



As communicated to you in our Planning Report to the Municipal Council, preliminary materiality was \$69,000. Final materiality was revised to \$63,000 from our preliminary assessment, as final revenues were lower than revenues per the original accounting records.



Audit Findings

Our audit focused on the risks specific to your business and key accounts. Our discussion points below focus on areas of significant risks of material misstatement, or the following items:

- ▶ Revenue Recognition
- ▶ Management Override of Controls



Internal Control Matters

We are required to report to you in writing, any significant deficiencies in internal control that we have identified. The specifics of this communication are included in our report below.



Independence

Our annual letter confirming our independence was previously provided to you. We know of no circumstances that would cause us to amend the previously provided letter.



Adjusted and Unadjusted Differences

We have disclosed all significant adjusted and unadjusted differences and disclosure omissions identified through the course of our audit engagement. Each of these items has been discussed with management.

Management has determined that the unadjusted differences are immaterial both individually and in aggregate to the consolidated financial statements taken as a whole. Should the Municipal Council agree with this assessment, we do not propose further adjustments.



Management Representations

During the course of our audit, management made certain representations to us. These representations were verbal or written and therefore explicit, or they were implied through the consolidated financial statements. Management provided representations in response to specific queries from us, as well as unsolicited representations. Such representations were part of the evidence gathered by us to be able to draw reasonable conclusions on which to base our audit opinion. These representations were documented by including in the audit working papers memoranda of discussions with management and written representations received from management.



Fraud Discussion

Through our planning process, and current and prior years' audits, we have developed an understanding of your oversight processes. We are not currently aware of any fraud affecting the company.

If you are aware of changes to processes or are aware of any instances of actual, suspected or alleged fraud affecting the Company since our discussions held at planning, we request that you provide us with this information.

Please refer to the Auditor's Responsibilities for Detecting Fraud in the Planning Report to the Municipal Council.

AUDIT FINDINGS

As part of our ongoing communications with you, we are required to have a discussion on our views about significant qualitative aspects of the Company's accounting practices, including accounting policies, accounting estimates and financial statement disclosures. In order to have a frank and open discussion, these matters will be discussed verbally with you. A summary of the key discussion points are as follows:

SIGNIFICANT RISKS OF MATERIAL MISSTATEMENT	RISKS NOTED	AUDIT FINDINGS
Revenue Recognition	There is an inherent risk related to revenue recognition and ensuring it is recorded in the correct period.	We reviewed managements' revenue recognition policies and they are in compliance with PSAS. Cut-off testing was performed to ensure all revenues were recorded in the correct period
Management Override of Controls	Management is in a unique position to override or circumvent the controls in place.	Management has represented that the risk of fraud in the entity is considered low, and that they are not aware of any fraud (actual, suspected or alleged) that may have occurred involving the entity's financial statements or other operations during the year ended December 31, 2019 or to date.

APPENDIX A: INDEPENDENCE UPDATE

March 17, 2021

Members of the Municipal Council
Village of Alix

Dear Municipal Council Members:

We have been engaged to audit the consolidated financial statements of Village of Alix (the "Company") for the year ended December 31, 2020.

Canadian generally accepted auditing standards (GAAS) require that we communicate at least annually with you regarding all relationships between the Company and our Firm that, in our professional judgment, may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence.

In determining which relationships to report, these standards require us to consider relevant rules and related interpretations prescribed by the appropriate provincial institute/order and applicable legislation, covering such matters as:

- Holding a financial interest, either directly or indirectly in a client;
- Holding a position, either directly or indirectly, that gives the right or responsibility to exert significant influence over the financial or accounting policies of a client;
- Personal or business relationships of immediate family, close relatives, partners or retired partners, either directly or indirectly, with a client;
- Economic dependence on a client; and
- Provision of services in addition to the audit engagement.

We have prepared the following comments to facilitate our discussion with you regarding independence matters arising since January 13, 2021, the date of our last letter.

We are not aware of any relationships between the Company and our Firm that, in our professional judgment may reasonably be thought to bear on independence that have occurred from January 13, 2021 to March 17, 2021.

We hereby confirm that we are independent with respect to the Company within the meaning of the Rules of Professional Conduct of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Alberta as of March 17, 2021.

This letter is intended solely for the use of the Members of Council, management and others within the Company and should not be used for any other purposes.

Yours truly,

BDO Canada LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants



Tel: 403 342 2500
Fax: 403 343 3070
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BDO Canada LLP
Suite 100 179D Leva Avenue
Red Deer County AB T4E 1B9
Canada

March 17, 2021

Village of Alix
4849 50 Street
Alix, Alberta
T0C 0B0

Dear Ms. White

The objective of an audit is to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of any material misstatement and it is not designed to identify matters that may be of interest to management in discharging its responsibilities. Accordingly an audit would not usually identify all such matters.

During the course of our audit of the financial statements of Village of Alix for the year ended December 31, 2020, we did not encounter any significant matters which we believe should be brought to your attention. This communication is prepared solely for the information of management and is not intended for any other purposes. We accept no responsibility to a third party who uses this communication.

We would like to express our appreciation for the cooperation and assistance which we received during the course of our audit from all client staff.

We shall be pleased to discuss with you further any matters mentioned in this report at your convenience.

Yours truly,

Alan Litster, CPA, CA
Partner through a corporation
BDO Canada LLP
Chartered Professional Accountants

Village of Alix
Consolidated Financial Statements
For the year ended December 31, 2020

Draft for discussion purposes only

Village of Alix
Consolidated Financial Statements
For the year ended December 31, 2020

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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Mayor and Council of the Village of Alix

Opinion

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of Village of Alix and its controlled or owned organizations (the Group), which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as at December 31, 2020, and the consolidated statement of operations, consolidated statement of changes in net debt, and consolidated statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the consolidated financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of the Group as at December 31, 2020 and its consolidated financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Public Sector Accounting Standards.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Group in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the consolidated financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Consolidated Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these consolidated financial statements in accordance with Public Sector Accounting Standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the consolidated financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Group or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Group's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Independent Auditor's Report - continued

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Group's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Group's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Group to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the consolidated financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the consolidated financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the Group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Chartered Professional Accountants
Red Deer, Alberta
To be determined

Village of Alix
Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

December 31

2020

2019

Financial assets

Cash and cash equivalents (Note 1)	\$ 2,346,701	1,987,678
Taxes receivable (Note 2)	107,556	147,031
Accounts receivable	72,430	53,743
Grants receivable	1,037,908	354,073
	<u>3,564,595</u>	<u>2,542,525</u>

Liabilities

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	226,487	178,565
Employee benefit obligation (Note 3)	69,870	70,029
Deposit liabilities	510	550
Deferred revenue (Note 4)	1,593,027	875,377
Long-term debt (Note 5)	2,860,426	2,994,089
	<u>4,750,320</u>	<u>4,118,610</u>

Net debt

(1,185,725) (1,576,085)

Non-financial assets

Tangible capital assets (Note 6)	10,989,235	10,987,222
Inventory for consumption	22,784	23,047
Prepaid expenses	178	5,044
	<u>11,012,197</u>	<u>11,015,313</u>

Accumulated surplus (Note 8)

\$ 9,826,472 \$ 9,439,228

Debenture debt limits (Note 15)

Contingencies (Note 16)

Village of Alix
Consolidated Statement of Operations

For the year ended December 31	Budget 2020	2020	2019
Revenue			
Net municipal taxes (Note 10)	\$ 1,432,001	\$ 1,432,753	\$ 1,453,379
Government transfers for operating (Note 11)	65,604	79,046	72,802
Sales and user fees	857,569	841,787	815,573
Franchises and concessions	113,500	119,669	123,001
Investment income	26,000	10,667	26,199
Penalties and costs on taxes	28,000	35,032	48,901
Fines and licenses	11,400	9,166	16,808
Rental	13,800	13,473	14,504
	<u>2,547,874</u>	<u>2,541,593</u>	<u>2,571,167</u>
Expenses (Note 12)			
Legislative	50,850	32,181	42,662
Administration	512,408	377,901	416,240
Protective services	175,807	153,540	174,873
Transportation services	691,283	601,533	568,060
Water and wastewater	664,116	565,796	620,030
Waste management	154,300	151,656	148,244
Planning and development	54,681	55,166	57,839
Recreation and parks	312,612	338,146	369,813
FCSS and Cemetery	50,073	49,014	49,244
Loss on sale of capital assets	-	18,401	60,254
	<u>2,666,130</u>	<u>2,343,334</u>	<u>2,507,259</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures - before other	(118,256)	198,259	63,908
Other			
Government transfers for capital (Note 11)	3,988,574	188,985	841,556
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures	3,870,318	387,244	905,464
Accumulated surplus, beginning of year	9,439,228	9,439,228	8,533,764
Accumulated surplus, end of year	\$ 13,309,546	\$ 9,826,472	\$ 9,439,228

Village of Alix
Consolidated Statement of Change in Net Debt

For the year ended December 31	Budget 2020	2020	2019
Excess of revenue over expenditures	\$ 3,870,318	\$ 387,244	\$ 905,464
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(4,100,574)	(424,409)	(695,448)
Amortization of tangible capital assets	403,995	403,995	371,847
Proceeds on sale of tangible capital assets	-	-	26,322
Write-downs of tangible capital assets	-	18,401	60,254
	173,739	385,231	668,439
Change in prepaid expenses	-	4,866	5,035
Change in inventory for consumption	-	263	362
Net change in net debt	173,739	390,360	673,836
Net debt, beginning of year	(1,576,085)	(1,576,085)	(2,249,921)
Net debt, end of year	\$ (1,402,346)	\$ (1,185,725)	\$ (1,576,085)

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Village of Alix
Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended December 31	2020	2019
Operating transactions		
Excess of revenue over expenditures	\$ 387,244	\$ 905,464
Items not involving cash		
Amortization	403,995	371,847
Write-down of tangible capital asset	18,401	60,254
Changes in non-cash operating balances		
Taxes receivable	39,475	67,972
Accounts receivable	(18,687)	26,963
Grants receivable	(683,835)	(354,073)
Prepaid expenses	4,866	5,035
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	47,922	(97,398)
Inventory for consumption	263	362
Employee benefit obligation	(159)	5,720
Deposit liabilities	(40)	(1,215)
Deferred revenue	17,650	11,254
Liability for contaminated sites	-	(61,590)
	<u>917,095</u>	<u>940,595</u>
Capital transactions		
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(424,409)	(695,448)
Proceeds on sale of tangible capital assets	-	26,322
	<u>(424,409)</u>	<u>(669,126)</u>
Investing transactions		
Restricted cash balances	(38,241)	337,618
Financing transactions		
Repayment of long-term debt	(133,663)	(129,001)
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	320,782	480,086
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	1,432,306	952,220
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	<u>\$ 1,753,088</u>	<u>\$ 1,432,306</u>
Cash and cash equivalents is comprised of:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,346,701	\$ 1,987,678
Less: restricted (Note 1)	(593,613)	(555,372)
	<u>\$ 1,753,088</u>	<u>\$ 1,432,306</u>

Village of Alix
Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

December 31, 2020

**Management's
Responsibility for the
Financial Statements**

The consolidated financial statements of the Village are the responsibility of management. They have been prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles established by the Public Sector Accounting Board of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada.

Basis of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statement reflect the assets, liabilities, revenue and expenses of all municipal organizations, committees and Boards which are owned or controlled by the Village.

The Village has consolidated the Alix Public Library.

**Cash and Cash
Equivalents**

Management considers all highly liquid investments with maturity of three months or less at acquisition to be cash equivalents.

Investments

Investments are recorded at cost unless there has been a decline in the market value which is other than temporary in nature in which case the investments are written down to market value.

**Tangible Capital
Assets**

Tangible capital assets are recorded at cost less accumulated amortization. Cost includes all costs directly attributable to acquisition or construction of the tangible capital asset including transportation costs, installation costs, design and engineering fees, legal fees and site preparation costs. Contributed tangible capital assets are recorded at fair value at the time of the donation, with a corresponding amount recorded as revenue. Amortization is recorded on a straight-line basis over the estimated life, less residual value, of the tangible capital asset commencing once the asset is available for productive use. One half the amortization is calculated in the year of acquisition. No amortization is calculated in the year of disposition. Estimated useful lives of the various asset classes are as follows:

Land improvements	15 to 30 years
Buildings	50 years
Engineered Structures	10 to 75 years
Machinery, equipment and furnishings	5 to 20 years
Vehicles	10 to 25 years

**Excess Collections and
Under-levies**

Excess collections arise from the difference between the actual levy made to cover each requisition and the actual amount requisitioned. If the actual levy exceeds the requisition, the excess collection is accrued as a liability and as a reduction in property tax revenue. Requisition tax rates in the subsequent year are adjusted for any excess collections

Village of Alix
Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

December 31, 2020

**Collection of Taxes on
Behalf of Other Taxation
Authorities**

The Village collects taxation revenue on behalf of other entities. Such levies, other revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities with respect to the operations of entities are not reflected in these financial statements.

The entities the Village collects taxation revenue on behalf of are:
Alberta School Foundation Fund
Lacombe Foundation

Deferred Revenue

Funds received for specific purposes which are externally restricted by legislation, regulation or agreement and are not available for general municipal purposes are accounted for as deferred revenue on the consolidated statement of financial position. The revenue is recognized in the consolidated statement of operations in the year in which it is used for the specified purpose.

Government Transfers

Government transfers, which include legislative grants, are recognized in the financial statements in the period in which events giving rise to the transfers occur, providing the transfers are authorized, any eligibility criteria have been met, and reasonable estimates of the amount can be made.

Revenue Recognition

Taxes are recognized as revenue in the year they are levied.

Charges for sewer and water usage are recorded as user fees. Connection fee revenues are recognized when the connection has been established.

Conditional grant revenue is recognized to the extent the conditions imposed on it have been fulfilled. Unconditional grant revenue is recognized when monies are receivable.

Grants for the acquisition of tangible capital assets are recognized in the period in which eligible expenditures are made.

Sales of service and other revenue is recognized on an accrual basis.

**Liability for
Contaminated Sites**

A contaminated site is a site at which substances occur in concentrations that exceed the maximum acceptable amounts under an environmental standard. Sites that are currently in productive use are only considered a contaminated site if an unexpected event results in contamination. A liability for remediation of contaminated sites is recognized when the organization is directly responsible or accepts responsibility; it is expected that future economic benefits will be given up; and a reasonable estimate of the amount can be made. The liability includes all costs directly attributable to remediation activities including post remediation operations, maintenance and monitoring. The liability is recorded net of any expected recoveries.

Village of Alix
Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

December 31, 2020

Use of Estimates

The preparation of consolidated financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from management's best estimates as additional information becomes available in the future.

Draft for discussion purposes only

Village of Alix
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

1. Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2020	2019
Current account	\$ 2,336,232	\$ 1,977,636
Temporary Investments	10,469	10,042
	\$ 2,346,701	\$ 1,987,678

The temporary investments have an interest rate of 1.45% and mature December 2021.

Cash and temporary investments include the following internally and externally restricted amounts:

	2020	2019
Municipal Sustainability Initiative	\$ 493,064	\$ 524,739
Municipal Stimulus Program	65,046	-
Federal Gas Tax	-	2,992
Family and Community Support Services Initiative	1,974	-
Alix Public Library Cash	33,529	27,641
	\$ 593,613	\$ 555,372

2. Taxes Receivable

	2020	2019
Current taxes and grants in place of taxes	\$ 86,970	\$ 115,869
Arrears taxes	20,586	53,644
	107,556	169,513
Less: Allowance for doubtful accounts	-	22,482
	\$ 107,556	\$ 147,031

Village of Alix
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

3. Employee Benefit Obligation

	2020	2019
Accrued vacation pay	\$ 39,870	\$ 40,029
Accrued sick leave benefit	30,000	30,000
	\$ 69,870	\$ 70,029

Accrued vacation pay is comprised of the vacation that employees are deferring to future years.

Sick Leave Benefits

The Village provides paid sick leave at a rate of 1.5 days per month for full-time employees and 1 day per month for part-time employees. Sick leave can accumulate from year to year to a total of 120 work days. Sick leave is not paid out upon termination.

4. Deferred Revenue

	Opening balance	Contributions received or receivable	Revenue recognized	Ending balance
Municipal Sustainability Initiative	\$ 722,385	248,151	(35,692)	\$ 934,844
ICIP	-	453,913	-	453,913
Federal Gas Tax	152,992	50,301	(153,293)	50,000
FCSS	-	25,651	(23,677)	1,974
MOST	-	79,350	(14,304)	65,046
MSP	-	87,250	-	87,250
Other	-	21,622	(21,622)	-
MSI operating	-	19,443	(19,443)	-
	\$ 875,377	985,681	(268,031)	\$ 1,593,027

Grants

Under various grant agreements with the Government of Canada and the Province of Alberta, the Village is required to account for grants provided and to complete the projects or program in accordance with standards detailed in the various agreements. If these requirements are not adhered to, grants provided will become repayable to the source government. Unexpended funds are repayable to the source government upon final accounting. Funds are deferred until related expenditures under the specific grant agreement have been incurred.

Village of Alix
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

5. Long-Term Debt

Net long-term debt reported on the statement of financial position is comprised of the following:

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Alberta Capital Finance Authority Debentures, interest at 2.72% to 4.89% per year, due 2030 through 2048.	<u>\$ 2,860,426</u>	<u>\$ 2,994,089</u>

Principal and interest payments are due as follows:

	Principal Repayments	Interest Payments	Total
2021	\$ 138,501	\$ 97,757	\$ 236,258
2022	143,521	92,737	236,258
2023	148,730	87,528	236,258
2024	154,137	82,121	236,258
2025	159,748	76,509	236,257
Thereafter	2,115,789	612,955	2,728,744
	<u>\$ 2,860,426</u>	<u>\$ 1,049,607</u>	<u>\$ 3,910,033</u>

Debenture debt is repayable to the Alberta Capital Finance Authority and bears interest at rates ranging from 2.72% to 4.89% per annum and matures in periods 2030 through 2048. Debenture debt is issued on the credit and security of the Village at large.

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December 31, 2020

6. Tangible Capital Assets

								2020
	Land	Land Improvements	Buildings	Engineered Structures	Machinery and Equipment	Vehicles	Work in Progress	Total
Cost, beginning of year	\$ 412,806	\$ 337,421	\$ 2,717,026	\$ 12,244,564	\$ 694,406	\$ 695,418	\$ -	\$ 17,101,641
Additions	30,300	-	-	322,495	57,614	14,000	-	424,409
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	(40,001)	-	(40,001)
Cost, end of year	\$ 443,106	\$ 337,421	\$ 2,717,026	\$ 12,567,059	\$ 752,020	\$ 669,417	\$ -	\$ 17,486,049
Accumulated amortization, beginning of year	\$ -	\$ 244,207	\$ 560,349	\$ 4,348,053	\$ 507,667	\$ 454,143	\$ -	\$ 6,114,419
Amortization	-	17,192	53,380	272,880	28,513	32,030	-	403,995
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	(21,600)	-	(21,600)
Accumulated amortization, end of year	\$ -	\$ 261,399	\$ 613,729	\$ 4,620,933	\$ 536,180	\$ 464,573	\$ -	\$ 6,496,814
Net carrying amount, end of year	\$ 443,106	\$ 76,022	\$ 2,103,297	\$ 7,946,126	\$ 215,840	\$ 204,844	\$ -	\$ 10,989,235

Village of Alix
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

6. Tangible Capital Assets (continued)

	2019							
	Land Improvements	Land	Buildings	Engineered Structures	Machinery and Equipment	Vehicles	Work in Progress	Total
Cost, beginning of year	\$ 412,806	\$ 337,421	\$ 2,729,829	\$ 11,632,610	\$ 690,638	\$ 786,267	\$ -	\$ 16,589,571
Additions	-	-	-	682,280	13,168	-	-	695,448
Disposals	-	-	(12,803)	(70,326)	(9,400)	(90,849)	-	(183,378)
Cost, end of year	\$ 412,806	\$ 337,421	\$ 2,717,026	\$ 12,244,564	\$ 694,406	\$ 695,418	\$ -	\$ 17,101,641
Accumulated amortization, beginning of year	\$ -	\$ 227,096	\$ 521,230	\$ 4,086,239	\$ 492,604	\$ 512,205	\$ -	\$ 5,839,374
Amortization	-	17,111	39,119	261,814	21,016	32,787	-	371,847
Disposals	-	-	-	-	(5,953)	(90,849)	-	(96,802)
Accumulated amortization, end of year	\$ -	\$ 244,207	\$ 560,349	\$ 4,348,053	\$ 507,667	\$ 454,143	\$ -	\$ 6,114,419
Net carrying amount, end of year	\$ 412,806	\$ 93,214	\$ 2,156,677	\$ 7,896,511	\$ 186,739	\$ 241,275	\$ -	\$ 10,987,222

Village of Alix
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

7. Equity in Tangible Capital Assets

	2020	2019
Tangible capital assets	\$ 17,486,049	\$ 17,101,641
Accumulated amortization	(6,496,814)	(6,114,419)
Debenture debt	(2,860,426)	(2,994,089)
	\$ 8,128,809	\$ 7,993,133

8. Accumulated Surplus

	2020	2019
Equity in tangible capital assets	\$ 8,128,809	\$ 7,993,133
Unrestricted surplus	714,681	450,222
	8,843,490	8,443,355
Restricted surplus		
Fire	78,109	79,000
Roads, streets, walks and lighting	240,994	240,994
Water	192,186	192,186
Wastewater	191,880	191,880
Cemetery	20,000	20,000
Arena	213,034	225,034
Parks and playgrounds	3,000	3,000
Community halls	41,529	41,529
Library	2,250	2,250
	982,982	995,873
	\$ 9,826,472	\$ 9,439,228

The investment in tangible capital assets represents amounts already spent and invested in infrastructure. Reserve funds represent funds set aside by bylaw or council resolution for specific purposes.

Village of Alix
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

9. Change in Accumulated Surplus

	Budget	Unrestricted surplus	Restricted surplus	Equity in tangible capital assets	2020	2019
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 450,222	\$ 450,222	\$ 995,873	7,993,133	\$ 9,439,228	\$ 8,533,764
Excess of revenue over expenses	3,870,318	387,244	-	-	387,244	905,464
Net operating transfers to (from) restricted surplus	48,354	12,891	(12,891)	-	-	-
Debenture principal payments	(133,663)	(133,663)	-	133,663	-	-
Acquisition of capital	(4,100,574)	(424,409)	-	424,409	-	-
Disposals and write-down of assets	-	18,401	-	(18,401)	-	-
Amortization	403,995	403,995	-	(403,995)	-	-
Change in accumulated surplus	\$ 88,430	\$ 264,459	\$ (12,891)	\$ 135,676	\$ 387,244	\$ 905,464
Balance, end of year	\$ 538,652	\$ 714,681	\$ 982,982	\$ 8,128,809	\$ 9,826,472	\$ 9,439,228

Village of Alix
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

10. Taxation - Net

	Budget 2020	2020	2019
Residential property	\$ 795,924	\$ 796,175	\$ 846,203
Machinery and equipment	498,389	498,389	496,766
Linear property	25,451	22,666	25,224
Government grants in place of property taxes	1,815	1,815	-
Non-residential property	327,285	330,383	311,073
Designated Industrial Property	105	105	107
	<u>1,648,969</u>	<u>1,649,533</u>	<u>1,679,373</u>
Requisitions			
Alberta School Foundation Fund	210,679	210,596	219,579
Lacombe Foundation	6,184	6,184	6,308
Designated Industrial Property Requisition	105	-	107
	<u>216,968</u>	<u>216,780</u>	<u>225,994</u>
Available for general municipal purposes	<u>\$ 1,432,001</u>	<u>\$ 1,432,753</u>	<u>\$ 1,453,379</u>

11. Government Transfers

	Budget 2020	2020	2019
Operating			
Provincial government	54,004	67,305	58,745
Other local government	11,600	11,741	14,057
	<u>\$ 65,604</u>	<u>\$ 79,046</u>	<u>\$ 72,802</u>
Capital			
Provincial government	\$ 3,988,574	\$ 188,985	\$ 841,556
Total government transfers	<u>\$ 4,054,178</u>	<u>\$ 268,031</u>	<u>\$ 914,358</u>

Village of Alix
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

12. Expenses by Object

	Budget 2020	2020	2019
Salaries and wages	\$ 796,230	\$ 715,976	\$ 746,772
Contracted and general services	662,582	538,686	618,763
Materials, goods and utilities	585,030	484,252	524,960
Transfer to local agencies	91,598	78,272	78,052
Bank charges and short term interest	200	102	94
Interest on long-term debt	102,595	101,890	106,517
Amortization	403,995	403,995	371,847
Write-down/ loss on tangible capital assets	-	18,401	60,254
Other expenditures	23,900	1,820	-
	<u>\$ 2,666,130</u>	<u>\$ 2,343,334</u>	<u>\$ 2,507,259</u>

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December 31, 2020

13. Municipal Employees Pension Plans

Local Authorities Pension Plan

Certain employees of the Village are eligible to be members of the Local Authorities Pension Plan (LAPP), a multi-employer pension plan which is covered by the Public Sector Pension Plans Act. The Plan serves about 200,000 people and over 400 employers. It is financed by employer and employee contributions and investment earnings of the LAPP Fund. The plan provides defined pension benefits to employees based on their length of service and rates of pay.

The Village is required to make current service contributions to the LAPP of 9.39% of pensionable earnings up to the year's maximum potential earnings under the Canada Pension Plan and 13.84% on pensionable earnings above this amount to an annual maximum pensionable earnings of \$172,221. Employees of the Village are required to make current service contributions of 8.39% of pensionable earnings up to the year's maximum potential earnings under the Canada Pension Plan and 12.84% on pensionable earnings above this amount to an annual maximum pensionable earnings of \$172,221.

Contributions for the year were:

	2020	2019
Employer contributions	\$ 46,897	\$ 48,271
Employee contributions	42,243	43,467
	<u>\$ 89,140</u>	<u>\$ 91,738</u>

As this is a multi-employer pension plan, these contributions are the Village's pension benefit expense. No pension liability for this type of plan is included in the Village's financial statements. The most recent valuation as at December 31, 2019 indicates a surplus of \$7.9 billion for basic pension benefits (2018 - \$3.5 billion). The actuary does not attribute portions of the unfunded liability to individual employers.

Village of Alix
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

14. Salary and Benefits Disclosure

Disclosure of salaries and benefits for municipal officials and designated officers as required by Alberta Regulation 313/2000 is as follows:

	Salary	Benefits & Allowances	Total 2020	Total 2019
Mayor Fehr	8,100	-	8,100	7,875
Councillor Besutjen	4,425	-	4,425	5,225
Councillor Gilliat	5,975	-	5,975	9,735
Councillor Soltermann	6,075	-	6,075	6,000
Councillor Cole	5,275	-	5,275	5,000
Chief Administrative Officer	100,605	1,830	102,435	97,583
Designated Officers	49,107	-	49,107	48,586

Salary includes regular base pay, bonuses, overtime, lump sum payments, gross honoraria and any other direct cash remuneration.

Benefits and allowances includes the employer's share of all employee benefits and contributions or payments made on behalf of employees including health care, dental coverage, group life insurance, dental coverage, and vision coverage.

15. Debt Limits

Section 276(2) of the Municipal Government Act requires that debt and debt limits as defined by Alberta Regulation for the Village be disclosed as follows:

	2020	2019
Total debt limit	\$ 3,818,415	\$ 3,856,751
Total debt	2,860,426	2,994,089
Total debt limit available	957,989	862,662
Debt servicing limit	636,403	642,792
Debt servicing	236,258	236,258
Total debt servicing limit available	400,145	406,534

The debt limit is calculated at 1.5 times revenue of the Village (as defined in Alberta Regulation 255/00) and the debt service limit is calculated at 0.25 times such revenue. Incurring debt beyond these limitations requires approval by the Minister of Municipal Affairs. These thresholds are guidelines used by Alberta Municipal Affairs to identify municipalities which could be at financial risk if further debt is acquired. The calculation taken alone does not represent the financial stability of the municipality. Rather, the financial statements must be interpreted as a whole.

Village of Alix
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

16. Contingencies

The Village is a member of the Alberta Local Authorities Reciprocal Insurance Exchange. Under the terms of the membership the Village could become liable for its proportionate share of any claim losses in excess of funds held by the exchange. Any liability incurred would be accounted for in the year the losses are determined.

The Village is a member of the Lacombe Regional Waste Services Commission, the Highway 12/21 Regional Water Commission, and the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association. Under the terms of the membership the Village could become liable for its proportionate share of any losses incurred by these organizations. Any liability incurred would be accounted for as a current transaction in the year of settlement.

17. Budget

The budget adopted by Council on April 15, 2020, was not prepared on a basis consistent with that used to report actual results (Public Sector Accounting Standards). The budget was prepared on a modified accrual basis while Public Sector Accounting Standards now require a full accrual basis. The budget anticipated use of surpluses accumulated in previous years to fund current year operation and capital activities. Amortization was not budgeted. The budget expensed all tangible capital expenditures. As a result, the budget figures presented in the statements of operations and change in net debt represent the budget adopted by Council on April 15, 2020, with adjustments as follows:

	2020
Operating budget surplus	\$ 200,430
Add debenture principal payments	133,663
Net operating transfers to accumulated surplus	(48,354)
Less Amortization expense included in budgeted numbers	(403,995)
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures before other	\$ (118,256)
Capital budget deficit	-
Add:	
Capital expenditures	4,100,574
Less:	
Budgeted transfers from operating	(112,000)
Budgeted capital surplus	\$ 3,988,574
Budgeted combined surplus	\$ 3,870,318

December 31, 2020

18. Segmented Information

The Village is a diversified municipal government institution that provides a wide range of services to its citizens. Distinguishable functional segments have been separately disclosed in the segmented information. The nature of the segments and the activities they encompass are as follows:

Protective Services

Protective services is comprised of police, bylaw enforcement and fire protection. This service area is responsible for the overall safety of the public through various prevention and enforcement activities.

Transportation Services

Transportation services is responsible for the delivery of municipal public works services related to the planning, development and maintenance of roadway systems, the maintenance of park and open space, and street lighting.

Water and Wastewater

Water and wastewater provides drinking water to the Town's citizens and collects and treats wastewater. The Village processes and cleans sewage and ensures the water system meets all Provincial standards.

Waste Management

Waste management provides collection disposal and recycling programs.

Planning and Development

The planning department provides a number of services including town planning and enforcement of building and construction codes and review of all property development plans through its application process.

Recreation and Parks

This service area maintains recreation infrastructure such as parks, arenas, aquatic centres and community centres as well as provides recreational programs and cultural programs at those locations.

FCSS and Cemetery

This service area provides and administers community support programs.

General Government

This service area includes legislative and administrative support to all other service areas and also relates to the revenues and expenses that relate to the operations of the Village itself and cannot be directly attributed to a specific segment.

December 31, 2020

18. Segmented Information (continued)

The accounting policies of the segments are the same as those described in the summary of significant accounting policies. In measuring and reporting segment revenue from transactions with other segments, inter-segment transfers have been eliminated. The revenues and expenses that are directly attributable to a particular segment are allocated to that segment. Taxation revenue has been allocated to general government except where specific tax revenues can be directly allocated to a service area.

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Village of Alix
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

18. Segmented Information (continued)

For the year ended December 31	Protective Services	Transportation Services	Water and Wastewater	Management	Waste	Planning and Development	Recreation and Parks	FCSS and Cemetery	General Government	2020 Total
Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,432,753	\$ 1,432,753
Taxation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Government transfers for operating	14,304	-	-	-	-	36,100	28,642	-	-	79,046
Government transfers for capital	-	-	188,985	-	-	-	-	-	-	188,985
Sales and user fees	70,398	-	554,522	164,535	-	23,614	2,825	3,360	119,669	841,787
Franchises and concessions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,667	10,667	10,667
Investment income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35,032	35,032	35,032
Penalties and costs on taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,473	13,473	13,473
Rentals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,810	2,810	2,810
Fines and licenses	6,356	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,166
Contributed assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	91,058	-	743,507	164,535	24,974	222,533	59,714	31,467	1,617,764	2,730,578
Expenses										
Salaries and wages	1,900	168,416	92,274	24,974	154,691	-	-	273,721	-	715,976
Contracted and general services	88,202	97,890	54,575	123,178	65,724	14,805	14,361	79,951	14,361	538,686
Materials, goods and utilities	39,488	109,872	221,915	3,504	50,693	9,972	3,078	45,730	29,596	484,252
Transfer to local agencies	6,000	-	-	-	42,676	-	-	-	-	78,272
Bank charges and short- term interests	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	102	-	102
Interest on long-term debt	1,643	22,618	38,145	-	7,392	30,389	1,643	-	-	101,830
Amortization	16,307	202,737	158,887	-	16,970	-	336	8,758	-	403,995
Write-down/loss on capital assets	18,401	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18,401
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,820	-	1,820
	171,941	601,533	565,796	151,656	338,146	55,166	49,014	410,082	1,820	2,343,334
Net surplus (deficit)	\$ (80,883)	\$ (601,533)	\$ 177,711	\$ 12,879	\$ (278,432)	\$ (32,633)	\$ (17,547)	\$ 1,207,682	\$ -	\$ 387,244

Village of Alix
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

18. Segmented Information (continued)

For the year ended December 31	Protective Services	Transportation Services	Water and Wastewater	Waste Management	Planning and Development	Recreation and Parks	FCSS and Cemetery	General Government	2019 Total
Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,453,379	\$ 1,453,379
Taxation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Government transfers for operating	-	-	-	-	-	42,698	30,104	-	72,802
Government transfers for capital	-	-	841,556	-	-	-	-	-	841,556
Sales and user fees	21,821	4,271	557,432	163,982	12,596	46,313	475	8,683	815,573
Franchises and concessions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	123,001	123,001
Investment income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26,199	26,199
Penalties and costs on taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	48,901	48,901
Rentals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,504	14,504
Fines and licenses	13,358	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,450	16,808
Contributed assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gain on disposal of assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	35,179	4,271	1,398,988	163,982	12,596	89,011	30,579	1,678,117	3,412,723
Expenses									
Salaries and wages	3,600	177,431	93,103	25,787	-	169,607	-	277,244	746,772
Contracted and general services	93,710	101,496	89,201	119,881	19,201	61,204	14,559	119,511	618,763
Materials, goods and utilities	51,545	91,670	248,648	2,576	7,605	69,921	3,076	49,919	524,960
Transfer to local agencies	6,000	-	-	-	-	42,456	29,596	-	78,052
Bank charges and short- term interest	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	94	94
Interest on long-term debt	1,677	23,869	40,712	-	31,033	7,549	1,677	-	106,517
Amortization	18,341	173,594	148,366	-	-	19,076	336	12,134	371,847
Write-down/ loss on capital assets	-	60,254	-	-	-	-	-	-	60,254
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	174,873	628,314	620,030	148,244	57,839	369,813	49,244	458,902	2,507,259
Net surplus (deficit)	\$ (139,694)	\$ (624,043)	\$ 778,958	\$ 15,738	\$ (45,243)	\$ (280,802)	\$ (18,665)	\$ 219,215	\$ 905,464

Village of Alix
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

19. Approval of Financial Statements

Council and Management approved these financial statements.

Draft for discussion purposes only

ADMINISTRATION REPORT



Date: March 11, 2021 RFD 21-20
Memo To: Village Council
From: Michelle White
Subject: Reserves

1. **PURPOSE** – To determine if Council would like to move surplus 2020 funds to reserve accounts.
2. **BACKGROUND** – Typically at or near year end, administration recommends moving some or all surplus funds from the prior year to reserve accounts. These reserves are held for future projects and/or unexpected expenditures. The Village's reserve accounts are set up by resolution of Council and can be added to, used or reallocated by resolution at any time.
3. **OPTIONS** –
 1. To leave surplus funds in general revenue as an unrestricted surplus.
 2. To move surplus funds to various reserve accounts.
4. **DISCUSSION** –
5. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS** – The 49th Street Infrastructure project was tabled from 2020 to 2021 because bid prices came in too high last year. This project was budgeted to use \$146,411 from the 2020 tax base. If the project is to go ahead in 2021, we will need to have at least that much on hand to do it and the 2021 operating budget cannot support that expense.

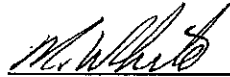
The Fire Department capital purchase of the SCBA packs (\$49,244.66) in 2020 came from reserves. In order to have enough funds available in 2031 to pay the Village portion of a new fire truck, that amount needs to be put back into reserves (in addition to our budgeted \$7,500 per year transfer amount).

In 2017, \$195,437 of unfunded General Reserves was eliminated by resolution of Council. If the Village maintained a much smaller (funded) General Reserve amount, it could be used for unanticipated expenses (legal fees, appeal board hearings etc.). This would mean we would no longer need to budget for this type of expense in the operating budget but would still be able to afford it if these things happened.

6. **LEGAL** – The MGA is surprisingly silent on the matter of reserves. The only reference I could find that more or less relates to this subject is; *"243(1) An operating budget must include the estimated amount of each of the following expenditures and transfers: (e) the amount to be transferred to reserves;"*
7. **POLITICAL/PUBLIC IMPLICATIONS** –
8. **OTHER COMMENTS** – Council has the option to move funds to reserves retroactively to the 2020 year before finalizing the 2020 Financial Statements. The advantage to this would be a much lower surplus showing on the books for that year. I feel consideration should be given to making the resolutions effective for the 2021 year as this more accurately reflects the Village's financial status due to deferring the 49th Street capital project and other lower than normal operating expenditures due to the pandemic in 2020.
9. **RECOMMENDATIONS** – Option #2. I recommend the following resolution;

"that the Village of Alix Council will add \$150,000 to Sewer Reserves, \$50,000 to Fire Reserves and \$50,000 to General Reserves"

Note: If Council would prefer this to be a 2020 transaction, you could add "effective December 31, 2020..."



Author

RESERVES (2020)

Department	Opening Balance	Expenses	Additions	YE Balance	Future Year Budget
Fire Department	\$79,000	\$49,245	\$48,354	\$78,109	\$7,500
Streets	\$240,994			\$240,994	
Water	\$192,186			\$192,186	
Sewer	\$191,880			\$191,880	
Cemetery	\$20,000			\$20,000	
Arena	\$225,034	\$12,000		\$213,034	
Parks/Playgrounds	\$3,000			\$3,000	
Hall	\$41,529			\$41,529	
Library	\$2,250			\$2,250	
TOTAL	\$995,873	\$61,245	\$48,354	\$982,982	\$7,500

NOTE: I recommend Council makes a resolution to add \$150,000 to sewer reserves in 2021. The 49th Street project that was pushed back to 2021 was to be funded with \$146,411 from 2020 tax base and \$195,000 from Municipal Reserves.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT



Date: March 9, 2021 RFD 21-18
Memo To: Village Council
From: Michelle White
Subject: Village Vehicle Use Policy amendment

1. **PURPOSE** – To provide Council with recommended amendments to Policy 16, Village Vehicle Use.
2. **BACKGROUND** – Review and amendment of municipal policies should be an ongoing process to ensure policies accurately reflect current municipal needs and legislation. The Vehicle Use Policy is recommended for amendment to include volunteer use of Village vehicles. The main reason for including volunteers is to include times when the Village float is used – volunteers typically use one of the Public Works trucks to pull the float in parades.
3. **OPTIONS** –
 1. To no longer allow volunteers to use Village vehicles
 2. To approve Policy 16 as amended
 3. To make a resolution for approval and defeat it (thereby keeping the policy the same)
4. **DISCUSSION** –
5. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS** – none
6. **LEGAL** – As the policy is currently written, there are no allowances or rules for volunteer use of municipal vehicles. If volunteers are going to continue to be allowed to do this, parameters should be put in place for administration to follow.
7. **POLITICAL/PUBLIC IMPLICATIONS** – Having the float in parades in the area helps raise the profile of the community. The dedication of the volunteers who coordinate the parades helps to ensure costs associated with staff time are kept at a minimum while giving the float and the community maximum exposure.
8. **OTHER COMMENTS** –
9. **RECOMMENDATIONS** – Option #2. I recommend the following resolution;

“that the Village of Alix Council hereby approves Policy #16, Village Vehicle Use as presented.”

Author



Department: **All Departments**

Policy No: **16**

Policy Title: **Village Vehicle Use**

Resolution No. **616/06** Date: **October 17, 2006**

Amendment:

Resolution No. Date: **March 17, 2021**

Review Date: 2023

Policy Statement: The Village of Alix recognizes the necessity of the Village of Alix employees, Councillors *and local non-profit organizations* using the Village owned vehicles. The use of Village owned vehicles is hereby authorized in accordance with the following guidelines and procedures.

Guidelines/Procedures:

The major consideration in controlling vehicle use is to ensure the longevity and prudent use of the vehicle.

Insurance coverage is in place for the Employees, Councillors *and volunteers* of the Village.

Vehicles are to be used with the understanding that the use of these vehicles is limited to business operations *directly related to the Village of Alix* only.

Vehicle use shall be granted in the following order of priority where a conflict arises between the parties;

- *Village of Alix employees*
- *Village of Alix Councillors*
- *Village of Alix volunteers*

Adequate care must be used when having Village owned vehicles in the Employee, Councillor *or volunteer's* control:

- all reasonable measures must be taken to avoid theft.
- only the Employee, Councillor *or volunteer* shall drive the vehicle.
- the vehicle must not be used to perform personal errands.
- Village vehicles are to be stored in the Village owned maintenance yard or shop.
- vehicles are not to be taken to the Employees ~~or Councillors~~ place of residence unless the Employee is on call or ~~the Councillor~~ is picking up or dropping off personal items for a Conference or Committee use.

- *vehicles may be taken to a Councillor's or volunteer's residence only when it is necessary for a Councillor or volunteer to arrange pick-up of the vehicle during regular working hours for Village staff and need to use the vehicle at a time staff are not on duty.*
- vehicles must driven in a safe and responsible manner.
- the Village shall not be responsible for any traffic infraction tickets.
- no passengers other than Village Employees or Councillors are allowed to ride in Village owned vehicles, without prior approval from ~~Council~~: the CAO.
- all persons driving Village owned vehicles must be in possession of a valid drivers license.

The Employee, Councillor *or volunteer* is responsible to notify the Village of any loss of driving privileges including but not limited to:

- suspension due to impaired driving.
- exceeding the allowable demerits as legislated by Provincial or Federal Law.
- change in physical health.

Mayor

CAO

Date

ADMINISTRATION REPORT



Date: March 5th, 2021 RFD 21-17
Memo To: Village Council
From: Chelsie Giesbrecht
Subject: Outdoor Movie Screen System

1. **PURPOSE** – To determine if Council is in favour of selling the Outdoor Movie Screen System to the Alix Fire & Medical Department.

2. **BACKGROUND** – In April of 2016, the Village of Alix purchased a “Ready-to-Go” Complete HD outdoor movie screen system to be used annually for showing outdoor movies. The Village has used the screen 4 times and it was used by outside parties twice in the five years we have owned the equipment. Of these uses only once has a movie been shown outdoors.

Recreation staff would use approximately 90 minutes for set up and take down per use. Due to the extreme weight of the equipment, Public Works staff would also be called on, for loading and unloading of equipment before and after each movie. In the two cases where the equipment was being used by outside parties and hour before the equipment was taken and an hour after the equipment was returned was allotted for staff to run through the equipment and show how it operated and once returned to ensure there was no damage.

3. **OPTIONS** – 1. To direct administration to proceed with the lending and use opportunities for the equipment to Alix Fire and Medical Department.

2. To direct administration to proceed with selling the equipment to the Alix Fire and Medical Department

3. To accept this report as information

4. **DISCUSSION** – Alix Fire and Medical Department approached the Village about the use of the screen equipment and possibility of them absorbing the equipment in reference to the announcement of Village staff transitioning out of Recreation and passing events to other groups and organizations in the Village.

5. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS** – The outdoor movie screen equipment was purchased for \$14,566.58 (including freight) in 2016. In 2018 a neighboring community had inquired about the rental of the equipment. It was at that time that there was a rental agreement made up for future use stating that a damage deposit would be \$1000, and a rental cost be \$500. The damage deposit would be returned once the equipment was returned and gone through. The equipment was never rented out.

If Council moves forward, this will benefit Alix Fire and Medical with the opportunity to rent out this equipment and be able to have some financial gain for the department.

6. **LEGAL** – Having the screen equipment remain under Village ownership will mean the Village will have continued obligations for insurance coverage, whereas; the selling of the screen equipment, will eliminate the insurance obligation of the Village.

7. **POLITICAL/PUBLIC IMPLICATIONS** – Approval would ensure usage of the equipment as Alix Fire and Medical has the manpower to execute hosting movies, as well as a financial gain opportunity for the department.

8. **OTHER COMMENTS** – The warranty coverage for the equipment was finished in 2019.
A nominal amount of \$2000 +GST is suggested for a selling price of the screen equipment.

9. **RECOMMENDATIONS** – Option #2. I recommend the following resolution;

“that the Village of Alix Council hereby agrees to sell the outdoor movie screen equipment to the Alix Fire and Medical Department for the price of \$2000 +GST.”

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Smith", written over a horizontal line.

Author



Alix Fire Department
PO Box 662
Alix, AB T0C 0B0

Phone: 403-747-3134
E-mail: dhalixfd@outlook.com

Village of Alix

Attention CEO and Council

Alix Fire Department is requesting to purchase the outdoor movie screen system that the village currently owns. We feel this equipment would be an asset to the fire department because it would be of great use for fundraisers and community events. Due to the COVID pandemic we have been forced to look at our fundraising abilities in the past and have had to come up with new ways to raise money for our organization. We are offering \$2000.00 for the outdoor movie system. It would be great to see this equipment being used in the community and our organization is willing to put it to good use.

Thank you for your consideration of our offer. Any other questions or concerns feel free to contact me at (403)505-3215.

Alix Fire Chief Darren Hiron

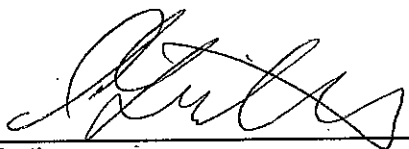
ADMINISTRATION REPORT



Date: March 5, 2021 RFD 21-19
Memo To: Village Council
From: Chelsie Giesbrecht
Subject: Sound System

1. **PURPOSE** – To determine if Council is in favour of donating the Sound System that is currently in Bay #1 of the Railway House, to the Alix Community Hall
2. **BACKGROUND** – In 2012, during the construction of Moonwalkers Play Centre, an Alesis Multimix 12R mixer/microphone combo and 4 speakers with wall mounts were purchased. Since the closing of Moonwalkers in 2016 the sounds system has not been used.
3. **OPTIONS** –
 1. To direct administration to proceed with the donation of the sounds system in Bay #1 of the Railway House to the Alix Community Hall.
 2. To accept this report as information.
4. **DISCUSSION** – I talked to the Alix Community Hall President and he said that the utilization of this type of equipment would be of a great use to the Community Hall.
5. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS** – Cost that would be associated with the removal and hook-up of the equipment would be up to the Alix Community Hall to cover. Because the Village is technically the owner of the Community Hall building, the sound system would remain on the list of municipally owned assets. We would just be allowing it to move from one building to another.
6. **LEGAL** – Bay 1 of the Railway House is currently being leased out and we have asked for the leasing tenants to not use and or disturb the sound system. For their protection as well as ours it would be best to remove the equipment.
7. **POLITICAL/PUBLIC IMPLICATIONS** – The Community Hall is used for many different functions. Approval would ensure the added benefit of having the sound system equipment, which will establish quality service to renters of the facility.
8. **OTHER COMMENTS** – A thorough search was completed and there was no documentation found on the sound equipment or a cost associated with the equipment. Once approved, it will be up to board members of the Community Hall and lease holders of Bay #1 of the Railway House to arrange the necessary steps for the removal of the sound system equipment.
9. **RECOMMENDATIONS** – Option #1. I recommend the following resolution;

“that the Village of Alix Council hereby directs administration to proceed with the donation of the Sound System to the Alix Community Hall”



Author



VILLAGE OF ALIX

Cheque Listing For Council

2021-Mar-9
1:25:48PM

Cheque					Invoice	Cheque
Cheque #	Date	Vendor Name	Invoice #	Invoice Description	Amount	Amount
20210111	2021-02-18	2253676 ALBERTA LTD., (ALIX FOODS)	JAN..2021	PAYMENT SUPPLIES	71.93	71.93
20210112	2021-02-18	ACCU-FLO METER SERVICE LTD	95416	PAYMENT REGISTERS	653.10	653.10
20210113	2021-02-18	ACTION PLUMBING & EXCAVATING	W35185	PAYMENT PARTS, LABOUR	660.09	660.09
20210114	2021-02-18	ADOA (ALBERTA DEVELOPMENT , OFFICERS AS	mf20-733	PAYMENT 2021 MEMBERSHIP FEE	125.00	125.00
20210115	2021-02-18	ADVANCED SYSTEMS	38692	PAYMENT MERAKE LICENSE	729.75	729.75
20210116	2021-02-18	ALIX ARENA ASSOCIATION	FEB.2021	PAYMENT 2021 BUDGET ALLOCATION	30,400.00	30,400.00
20210117	2021-02-18	ALIX COMMUNITY HALL BOARD	FEB.2021	PAYMENT 2021 BUDGET ALLOCATION	6,000.00	6,000.00
20210118	2021-02-18	ALIX PUBLIC LIBRARY	FEB.2021	PAYMENT 2021 LIBRARY SUPPORT	6,776.44	6,776.44
20210119	2021-02-18	ALIX WAGON WHEEL MUSEUM	FEB.2021	PAYMENT 2021 BUDGET ALLOCATION	2,500.00	2,500.00
20210120	2021-02-18	CYBERUS PROTECTION SERVICES	2-3	PAYMENT MARCH PATROLS	2,362.50	2,362.50
20210121	2021-02-18	EMBER GRAPHICS TRIM & SIGNS	2717	PAYMENT TIME SHEET BOOKS	487.20	487.20
20210122	2021-02-18	ENVIRONMENTAL 360 SOLUTIONS LTD.	RD129914	PAYMENT JANUARY GARBAGE & RECYCLII	6,344.67	6,344.67
20210123	2021-02-18	HIRON, NICOLE	444941	PAYMENT JANUARY CLEANING	390.00	390.00
20210124	2021-02-18	LACOMBE COUNTY	IVC00040088	PAYMENT 4TH QTR TRAINING, PARTS,REP	1,499.60	1,499.60
20210125	2021-02-18	MAMMOTH GRAPHICS 2020 INC.	2210	PAYMENT VECTORED NEW LOGO	131.25	131.25
20210126	2021-02-18	MPE ENGINEERING LTD	4420-015-03-04	PAYMENT LAGOON UPGRADES - CELL 6	4,852.58	4,852.58
20210127	2021-02-18	MUNICIPAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS INC.	20202215	PAYMENT MARCH IT SUPPORT	469.51	469.51
20210128	2021-02-18	PAUL DAVIS RED DEER	Red-21-0336	PAYMENT REPAIRS - ARENA ROOF	158.02	158.02
20210129	2021-02-18	RAHR MALTING CANADA LIMITED	16880	PAYMENT 2020 IRRIGATION COSTS	14,821.51	14,821.51
20210130	2021-02-18	STAPLES-DESJARDINS CREDIT CARD	5141852685-0-1	PAYMENT SUPPLIES	1,046.25	1,046.25
20210131	2021-02-18	TOWN OF BLACKFALDS	IVC049910	PAYMENT 2021 MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS	5,500.00	5,500.00
20210132	2021-02-18	UNIFIRST LTD.	756 0510934	PAYMENT MATS	44.29	44.29
20210142	2021-03-04	ADVANCED SYSTEMS	MSP-38805 MSP-38811 MSP-38838	PAYMENT FEBRUARY MONITORING FEBRUARY BACKUPS OFFICE 265 LICENSES	383.25 131.25 135.74	650.24
20210143	2021-03-04	ALIX FAMILY COMMUNITY SUPPORT, SERVICE	MARCH 2021	PAYMENT FCSS FUNDING	6,400.00	6,400.00



VILLAGE OF ALIX

Cheque Listing For Council

2021-Mar-9
1:25:48PM

Cheque					Invoice	Cheque
Cheque #	Date	Vendor Name	Invoice #	Invoice Description	Amount	Amount
20210144	2021-03-04	ALIX FIGURE SKATING CLUB		PAYMENT		4,000.00
			MARCH 2021	M.O.S.T. GRANT FUNDING	4,000.00	
20210145	2021-03-04	ALIX FIRE DEPARTMENT		PAYMENT		5,000.00
			MARCH 4, 2021	M.O.S.T. GRANT FUNDING	5,000.00	
20210146	2021-03-04	ALIX HOME HARDWARE		PAYMENT		115.30
			134711	SUPPLIES	27.28	
			134810	SUPPLIES, PARTS	88.02	
20210147	2021-03-04	ALIX MIRROR WELLNESS SUPPORTS SOCIETY		PAYMENT		5,500.00
			MARCH 2021	FCSS FUNDING	5,500.00	
20210148	2021-03-04	ALIX PUBLIC LIBRARY		PAYMENT		1,838.00
			MARCH 2021	M.O.S.T. GRANT FUNDING	1,838.00	
20210149	2021-03-04	ALIX UNITED CHURCH WOMEN		PAYMENT		4,500.00
			MARCH 2021	M.O.S.T. GRANT FUNDING	4,500.00	
20210150	2021-03-04	ALIX WAGON WHEEL MUSEUM		PAYMENT		3,000.00
			MARCH 2021	M.O.S.T. GRANT FUNDING	3,000.00	
20210151	2021-03-04	AMSC INSURANCE SERVICES LTD.		PAYMENT		66,768.86
			37885	2020 PREMIUM - ARENA ASSOC.	2,426.11	
			37886	2021 INSURANCE PREMIUMS	59,280.61	
			37892	2021 PREMIUM - LIBRARY	836.08	
			MARCH2021	MARCH PREMIUMS	4,226.06	
20210152	2021-03-04	ANDERSON, JANENE		PAYMENT		62.00
			FEB. 2021	TRAVEL EXPENSES-CEMP REVII	40.00	
			FEB..2021	TRAVEL EXPENSES-WORKSHOF	22.00	
20210153	2021-03-04	BDO CANADA LLP		PAYMENT		55.65
			CINV0955066	ADMIN COSTS	55.65	
20210154	2021-03-04	BESUIJEN, TIMOTHY W		PAYMENT		450.00
			FEB.2021	FEBRUARY MEETINGS	450.00	
20210155	2021-03-04	CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY CO		PAYMENT		592.00
			1000-001112864	FEBRUARY FLASHERS	592.00	
20210156	2021-03-04	CHEM INTERNATIONAL		PAYMENT		1,674.75
			110547	SEWER CHEMICALS	1,674.75	
20210157	2021-03-04	COLE, EDWIN		PAYMENT		350.00
			FEB.2021	FEBRUARY MEETINGS	350.00	
20210158	2021-03-04	DIGITAL CONNECTION OFFICE SYSTEMS		PAYMENT		899.52
			307823	PHOTOCOPIES	899.52	
20210159	2021-03-04	FEHR, ROBERT LEE		PAYMENT		750.00
			FEB.2021	FEBRUARY MEETINGS	750.00	
20210160	2021-03-04	GILLIAT, BARBARA JEAN		PAYMENT		697.00
			FEB.2021	FEBRUARY MEETINGS/TRAVEL	697.00	
20210161	2021-03-04	GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA		PAYMENT		17,917.00
			1800008033	ENHANCED POLICY SERVICES -	17,917.00	
20210162	2021-03-04	HWY 12/21 REGIONAL WATER SERVICES COMM		PAYMENT		11,755.64
			1070	JANUARY WATER CONSUMPTIO	11,755.64	
20210163	2021-03-04	LIONS CLUB OF ALIX ALBERTA		PAYMENT		5,000.00
			MARCH 2021	M.O.S.T. FUNDING	5,000.00	
20210164	2021-03-04	LOCAL AUTHORITIES PENSION PLAN		PAYMENT		6,831.42
			FEB. 2021	FEBRUARY CONTRIBUTIONS	6,831.42	
20210165	2021-03-04	PITNEY BOWES LEASING		PAYMENT		119.51
			3201628718	LEASE COSTS-DEC- FEB.2021	119.51	
20210166	2021-03-04	SERVUS CREDIT UNION LTD.		PAYMENT		249.25
			FEB.2021	FEBRUARY RSP	249.25	
20210167	2021-03-04	SOLTERMANN, VICKI		PAYMENT		450.00



VILLAGE OF ALIX

Cheque Listing For Council

2021-Mar-9
1:25:48PM

Cheque					Invoice	Cheque
Cheque #	Date	Vendor Name	Invoice #	Invoice Description	Amount	Amount
20210167	2021-03-04	SOLTERMANN, VICKI	FEB.2021	FEBRUARY MEETINGS	450.00	450.00
20210168	2021-03-04	VILLAGE OF ALIX		PAYMENT		1,402.07
			50100- FEB.202	FEBRUARY BULK WATER	484.21	
			55100- FEB 202	FEB. UTILITIES	110.80	
			63900- FEB.202	FEB. UTILITIES - LIBRARY	109.22	
			69600- FEB.202	FEB UTILITIES - PW	93.36	
			7000- FEB.,202	FEB. UTILITIES - OFFICE	119.30	
			72700- FEB.202	FEB UTILITIES - FIREHALL	110.28	
			72800-FEB.202	FEB. UTILITIES - BAYS 1 & 2	128.33	
			72830- FEB.202	FEB. UTILITIES - BAY #3	113.99	
			72841-FEB. 202	FEB. UTILITIES - BAY # 4	132.58	
20210169	2021-03-04	WILD ROSE ASSESSMENT SERVICES	8161	PAYMENT MARCH PROGRESS PAYMENT	1,319.50	1,319.50

Total 234,371.40

*** End of Report ***

**VILLAGE OF ALIX
BANK RECONCILIATION
FOR THE MONTH ENDING:
February 28, 2021**

SERVUS CREDIT UNION

	CHEQUING	INVESTMENTS
Balance from Bank Statement:	2,176,037.53	4,013.98
Plus: Deposits in Transit	10,882.35	
Less: Outstanding Cheques	(50,022.97)	
 Reconciled Bank Balance:	 <u>2,136,896.91</u>	 <u>4,013.98</u>
 GL balance @ : February 28, 2021	 <u>2,136,896.91</u>	 <u>4,013.98</u>
Variance:	-	-

THIS STATEMENT SUBMITTED TO COUNCIL THIS 17TH DAY OF MARCH, 2021



VILLAGE OF ALIX

Tax Trial Balance (Full Listing)

2021-Mar-11
1:57:47PM

Trial Balance As Of 2021-03-11

Roll #	Title Holder	Tax Levy	Accum. Penalty	Out. Penalty	Outstanding	Current	1 Year	2 Years	3 Years	Over 3
		Tax Levy	1,649,159.61	Local Improvement Levy			0.00			
		Additional Tax Levy	0.00	Accumulated Penalty			19,200.04			
				Outstanding Penalty			18,415.68			
		Sub Ledger		General Ledger						
		Current	(12,814.76)							
		1 Year	79,532.79				81,108.64			
		2 Years	11,143.65							
		3 Years	2,419.57							
		Over 3	827.39							
		Outstanding	81,108.64							
							3-00-00-00-210			
							Totals			
										81,108.64
										81,108.64
										81,108.64
										0.00
										81,108.64
										81,108.64
										0.00

*** End of Report ***

**Alix Public Library Board Meeting
January 19, 2021**

In attendance: Barb Gilliat, Ron McIntosh, John Ireland, Terry Brinsky-Fehr, Michelle Guevremont

Guest: Arlene Gauthier

The meeting was called to order at 6:57 pm

Approval of the Agenda: Motion to accept made by Michelle. Motion Carried

Approval of the Previous Meeting: Motion to accept made by Ron. Motion Carried

Motion by John to go into a Closed Meeting at 6:59. Motion Carried

Motion by John to leave the Closed Meeting at 7:26 pm

Acting Library Manager Due Duncan entered the meeting at 7:27 pm

Managers' Report

With the current lockdown not much has been happening on a day-to-day basis. Curbside service has been busy. Sue has been working on the Annual Report. The survey we need to complete our Plan of Service will be going out soon. Sue has also been posting book reviews on the Facebook page and has also started an Instagram account for the library. There are still preschoolers working on their 1000 books before kindergarten challenge.

Financial Report

Arlene reported that revenues are down about 15%. We are going to apply for some of the MOST Grant offered by the Village. The amount will be approximately \$1900.00.

Friends of the Library – No Report

OHS Report

Michelle reported we now have an emergency plan. Barb reported that a panic button was installed when RAM Alarms were out fixing our phones. She authorized the installation as it saved the library travel time and expenses. Ron made a motion that we authorize the installation of the panic button. Motion Carried.

Villager of Alix Report – Nothing to Report

Museum/Alix Shoppes Report

The Museum has applied for 2 summer students. There will be a Webinar on gardening. Michelle will forward the information to everyone.

Alix Shoppes is open 12 – 4 pm Tuesday – Saturday. A maximum of 4 customers at a time. The Shoppe has donated \$24,935.00!

HR Committee Report

Still no interest in new volunteers or Board members.

Terry made a Motion to accept Reports as presented. Motion Carried

Old Business

Plan of Service: Once the Survey deadline is over the information will be added to our Plan of Service so it can be submitted before June.

Goals for 2021: To renovate the upstairs washroom and work on making the basement more functional.

New Business:

Staffing: Terry made a Motion that Sue Duncan be offered the position of Acting Library Manager until April 30, 2021. Motion Passed. Sue accepted the position

A discussion was held regarding applying for a Summer Student Grant. The extra staff member could be used for summer programs and relieve Sue on some weekends. Ron made the Motion we apply for a Summer Student Grant. Motion Carried

Next Meeting: February 23, 2021 at 7:00 pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:46 pm

Red Deer River Municipal User Group Association

21 Jan 2021

Councilor Besuijen

For more information see the RDRMUG web page rdmug.ca

1. Minutes of meeting are provided by the Executive Director are attached.
2. Highlights of the meeting
 - a. Annual General meeting was held,
 - i. RDRMUG Annual General Meeting Minutes January 21, 2021 are attached
 - b. Annual meeting was followed by the regular meeting
 - i. Guests included:
 1. Deputy Minister Bev Yee
 2. Keith Pridgen, Senior Policy Advisor to Minister
 3. Rena L'Abbe, Chief of Staff to Ministry of Environment and Parks
 4. Morgan Cameron, Ministerial Assistant

Guests above presented and Q&A on coal mining issues changes.

"The following link provides an update of the Province's announcement that they are reinstating the 1976 Coal Mining Policy.

[Alberta's 1976 coal policy reinstated | alberta.ca](http://alberta.ca)

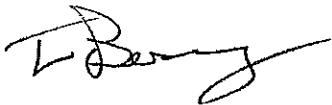
The link also provides access to "quick facts" and briefings that you may find useful in sharing with your respective Councils and Administration. "

*Information above provided by the Executive Director for RDRMUG

3. Mr. Ken Lewis, Alternate Land User Services (<http://www.alus.ca/>) and Ms. Carolyn Ross, Cows and Fish (<http://www.cowsandfish.org/>) provided update on overall riparian health of the Red Deer Basin. Also information on projects the groups are involved n.
4. Attached to this report are the minutes to the RDRMUG Regular Minutes January 21, 2021.

Please contact me if you require any additional information.

Regards,



Tim Besuijen

Minutes of the Red Deer River Municipal Users Group

Regular Meeting – Annual General Meeting

January 21, at 1:00 PM - Via Zoom

Attendance: T. Leslie – Town of Sundre, D. Wyntjes – City of Red Deer, A. Campbell – Town of Stettler, R. Poole – Town of Blackfalds, G. Bates – Town of Innisfail, P. Massier – Red Deer County, D. Drohomerski – Town of Drumheller, B. Windsor – Town of Didsbury, B. Gartside – Village of Donalda, A. Kemmere – Mountain View County, G. Parsons – Town of Sylvan Lake, R. Kasco – Town of Oyen, W. Blatz – Town of Olds, J. Slemp – Special Areas, C. Reeds – Town of Trochu, R. Wildeman – Town of Three Hills, D. Wyntjes – City of Red Deer, A. Monkman – City of Red Deer, B. Shaw – City of Red Deer, T. Besuijen – Village of Alix, G. Champion – Town of Hanna, R. Hoyt – M.D. Acadia Valley, B. Kulyk – Village of Consort, K. Ryder – RDRMUG

Presenter(s): Ken Lewis, Alternate Land Use Services (ALUS)
Carolyn Ross, Cows and Fish

Joined Meeting at 2:30: Co-Chair J. Ireland – Lacombe County, J. Methot – RDRWA, M. Swanson – Clearwater County, B. Beattie – Mountain View County, D. Kuiken – Village of Acme, R. Hunter – Town of Didsbury,

Alberta Environment and Parks:

Deputy Minister Bev Yee
Keith Pridgen, Senior Policy Advisor to Minister
Rena L'Abbe, Chief of Staff to Ministry of Environment and Parks
Morgan Cameron, Ministerial Assistant

1. Call to Order:

Co-Chair T. Leslie called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.

Meeting Preamble: In view of several Member's concerns and questions relating to the recent Government of Alberta's coal mining issues Co-Chair T. Leslie advised that he has arranged through Minister J. Nixon's office to have representatives from Alberta Environment and Parks join the meeting at 2:30 to present information and take questions on these issues. As these arrangements were made after the meeting agenda was provided Co-Chair Leslie asked the Groups permission to adjust the agenda to accommodate this presentation. The agenda would be adjusted as follows:

- The presentations on the agenda from ALUS and Cows and Fish would commence at 1:00pm.
- The RDRMUG Annual General Meeting would follow.
- At 2:30 representatives from Alberta Environment and Parks would join the regular meeting for a 45 minute session.
- The regular RDRMUG meeting would follow the Alberta Environment session.

No objections or comments noted.

2. Adoption of Agenda:

2.1. Additions to Agenda: as noted in meeting preamble.

Motion: G. Champion moved that the agenda for the January 21, 2021 RDRMUG regular meeting be adopted as revised. **Carried**

3. Presentation(s):

3.1. Mr. Ken Lewis, Alternate Land User Services (ALUS) www.alus.ca

3.2. Ms. Carolyn Ross, Cows and Fish www.cowsandfish.org

Provided an update to the overall riparian health of the Red Deer River Basin and highlighted several projects and ongoing work that both Groups are engaged in.

4. Alberta Environment and Parks Presentation:

Deputy Minister of Environment and Parks, Ms. Bev Yee and supporting staff (as listed in attendance) joined the meeting via Zoom at 2:30. Deputy Minister Yee provided an update and briefing relating to the recent changes/actions in the coal mining industry.

4.1. Open letter from Hon. J. Nixon, Minister of Environment and Parks

4.2. Letter from RDRMUG Co-Chairs to Members

4.3. Meeting notes and Zoom recording has been sent to all Members under separate cover.

5. Minutes:

5.1. Confirmation of Minutes of November 19, 2020

5.2. Business arising from Minutes of September 17, 2020: None

MOTION: M. Swanson moved that the Red Deer River Municipal User Group Meeting minutes of November 19, 2020 be adopted as presented.

Carried

6. Financial:

6.1. Financial Statements to December 31, 2020: ([Click here](#) for copy)

Executive Director Keith Ryder provided and overview of the financial statements to December 31, 2020 which is the end of the RDRMUG fiscal year and highlighted the following:

- Balance Statement: Current Assets - \$ 64,714.88
 - Closing Surplus – \$ 57,529.63
 - Statement of Revenue and Expenses – Revenue - \$ 67,675.05
 - Expenses - \$ 57,185.08
- Surplus (Loss) for Year to-date – \$ 10,489.97

MOTION T. Besuijen moved to accept the Financial Statements to December 31, 2020 as presented. **Carried**

6.2. 2021 DRAFT Operating Budget: ([Click here](#) for approved copy)

Executive Director, K. Ryder reviewed the DRAFT operating budget for the RDRMUG year ending December 31, 2021 as was presented November 19, 2021. He reviewed the line items individually with the following highlights and recommendations:

- Request for member's contribution to remain at .25 cents per capita.
 - Any changes to project amounts would be brought to the Membership for approval prior to any financial commitments being made.
 - Discussion on identifying a "reserve type" of funding in the budget for the purpose of an external financial audit which according to RDRMUG bylaws is required every four years. The next external audit is scheduled for 2022.
- K. Ryder stated that he would look into this item with the accounting staff at the Town of Drumheller.

Motion by D. Drohomerski to accept the 2021 RDRMUG Operating Budget as presented. **Carried**

7. New Business:

7.1. Special Committee – RDRMUG Handbook

Bill Shaw, (BPS Consulting Ltd.) presented the "final" edition with edits from previous meeting(s) included. The following recommendations were tabled for consideration:

- Adopt the following as the RDRMUG Vision Statement:

"An enduring healthy Red Deer River system with sufficient flows through all seasons to sustain communities, the economy and healthy aquatic environments".

This Vision Statement will be used in all RDRMUG documents, reports and communications.

Motion by B. Windsor to approve the RDRMUG Vision Statement.

Carried

- Adopt RDRMUG Handbook "Looking Back -- Moving Ahead" to become part of the RDRMUG mandate and resources.

Motion by A. Campbell to approve the adoption of the Handbook.

Carried

- Members of the "Next Steps" Committee have offered to continue their services as a "Steering Committee" to move forward the actions and recommendations detailed in the Handbook.

Motion by G. Bates to approve that the Members of the "Next Steps Committee" to become the "Steering Committee" with duties as stated.

Steering Committee Members: Co-Chairs Leslie and Ireland, R. Poole, W. Blatz, G. Parsons, A. Monkman, B. Shaw, J. Slemph, K. Ryder.

7.2. Executive Committee Recommendations:

Proposed meeting dates for 2021: January 21, 2021, March 18, 2021, May 20, 2021, July 15, 2021, September 16, 2021, and December 2, 2021*. Meetings will be held face to face when possible – details to be determined.

*The regular November meeting date for 2021 has been changed to accommodate the AUMA and RMA fall conferences. (AUMA Nov. 17 – 19, RMA Nov. 22 – 25)

Motion by R. Poole to approve the 2021 RDRMUG meeting dates as presented.

Carried

7.3. Renewal of Executive Director Contract

A request was sent to all RDRMUG members to provide input into the renewal of the Executive Director's annual contract.

- Co-Chair Leslie advised that the Executive Committee has reviewed Member's input.
- K. Ryder advised that would be pleased to offer his service the fiscal year ending December 31, 2021 at the current rate of remuneration.
- He also stated that it would be appropriate for RDRMUG to begin the succession process for his position and that he would be pleased to provide all assistance to ensure a smooth transition to a successor by the end of 2021.

Motion by D. Wytjies to renew the contract with the Executive Director, K. Ryder at the current rate for the year ending December 31, 2021.

Carried

8. Executive Director Report:

K. Ryder advised that due to the length of meeting and time, he would share his report electronically with the members and include year-end review in minutes.

No objections noted.

9. Correspondence & Articles: Posted on www.rdrmug.ca

10. Next Meeting: March 18, 2021 (Format to be confirmed)

11. Adjournment: 3:25

Motion by A. Campbell to adjourn RDRMUG regular meeting.

Carried

UNAPPROVED

Minutes of the Red Deer River Municipal User Group

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

January 21, 2021 at 1:00 PM

Virtual Meeting via ZOOM

Attendance: Co-Chair T. Leslie – Town of Sundre, G. Champion - Town of Hanna, R. Wildeman – Town of Three Hills, D. Wyntjes - City of Red Deer, B. Shaw – City of Red Deer, W. Blatz - Town of Olds, J. Slemp – Special Areas, B. Gartside – Village of Donaldald, G. Parsons – Town of Sylvan Lake, B. Windsor – Town of Didsbury, P. Massier – Red Deer County, R. Poole – Town of Blackfalds, A. Campbell – Town of Stettler, C. Reeds – Town of Trochu, G. Bates – Town of Innisfail, A. Kemmere – Mountain View County, T. Besuijen – Village of Alix, D. Drohomerski – Town of Drumheller, R. Kasco – Town of Oyen, B. Kulyk – Village of Consort, A. Monkman – City of Red Deer, R. Hoyt – MD of Acadia Valley, K. Ryder – RDRMUG.

1.0 Call to Order - Welcome: Co-Chair Terry Leslie called the meeting to order at 1:40 PM.

2.0 Introductions:

2.1 Agenda:

Approval of Agenda

MOTION: B. Windsor moved that the agenda for the January 21, 2021 Red Deer River Municipal Users Group Annual Meeting be adopted as presented. **Carried.**

3.0 Confirmation of Minutes

3.1 Confirmation of Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of January 16, 2020

3.2 Business Arising from Minutes of January 16, 2020

MOTION R. Poole moved that the Red Deer River Municipal Users Group Annual Meeting minutes of January 16, 2020 be adopted as presented. **Carried.**

4.0 Financial:

Executive Director K. Ryder presented and overview of the Financial Statements for the Year ended December 31, 2019 as audited/reviewed by RDRMUG Members R. Poole and T. Leslie.

MOTION A. Kemmerer moved to approve the Financial Statements for the Year ended December 31, 2019 as presented. **Carried.**

5.0 Election of Officers:

5.1 Election for Urban Chairman

Executive Director K. Ryder called for nominations from the floor.

MOTION B. Windsor moved that Terry Leslie, Town of Sundre be nominated for Urban Chair. T. Leslie accepted the nomination. **Carried.**

Executive Director K. Ryder asked if there were any other nominations; there were none.

MOTION A. Campbell moved that nominations cease. **Carried.**

Mayor Terry Leslie, Town of Sundre was appointed Urban Chairman.

5.2 Election for Rural Chairman

Executive Director K. Ryder called for nominations from the floor.

MOTION R. Poole moved that John Ireland, Lacombe County be nominated for Rural Chair. J. Ireland had advised that he would accept this nomination. **Carried.**

Executive Director K. Ryder asked if there were any other nominations; there were none.

MOTION G. Campion moved that nominations cease. **Carried.**

Councillor John Ireland, Lacombe County was appointed Rural Chairman.

5.3 Election of Officers – 2021 Executive Committee

Executive Director K. Ryder explained that in 2011 a bylaw amendment allowed for a minimum of five (5) directors and for this number to be increased if deemed necessary. He further explained the role of the Board of Directors includes: directing the affairs of RDRMUG, overseeing the performance of the Executive Director, strategic planning, signing authority, accountability to RDRMUG members and attending meetings at the call of the Co-Chairs.

Executive Director K. Ryder called for nominations from the floor for any additional members to the Executive Committee.

The following RDRMUG Members were nominated to the 2021 Executive Committee.

MOTION J. Slemp moved that nominations cease. **Carried.**

The 2021 Board of Directors is as follows:

Rural Co-Chair, Councillor J. Ireland, Lacombe County

Urban Co-Chair, Mayor T. Leslie, Town of Sundre

Councillor G. Bates, Town of Innisfail

Councillor W. Blatz, Town of Olds

Councillor A. Campbell - Town of Stettler

Councillor G. Campion - Town of Hanna

Mr. D. Drohomerski, CAO, Town of Drumheller

Councillor M. Marshall, Starland County

Mr. A. Monkman, City of Red Deer (Resource)

Mayor R. Poole, Town of Blackfalds

Mr. Bill Shaw, City of Red Deer (Water Advisor) Resource

Councillor Jay Slemp, Special Areas

Councillor D. Wyntjes, City of Red Deer

6.0 Appointment of Auditors or Review Committee for Year ending December 31, 2020:
Executive Director K. Ryder advised that the RDRMUG Bylaws state that a Review Committee of TWO RDRMUG Members be appointed to review the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2020. R. Poole and T. Leslie both advised that they would let their names stand in this role for a further year.

- Discussion on how the external auditors were selected.
K. Ryder advised that to date RDRMUG had been included with the Town of Drumheller's audit process. He stated that this appeared to be the most efficient method as the Town of Drumheller accounting staff were knowledgeable of the RDRMUG finances and financial procedures. This saves considerable time with the audit process.

No objections noted.

MOTION G. Bates moved to accept R. Poole and T. Leslie to review the financial statements for the Year ended December 31, 2020. **Carried.**

7.0 Approval of Signing Authority:

Discussion ensued on the suggestions of switching the RDRMUG accounts payable to an Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) system that would be consistent with the Town of Drumheller's accounting practices. Consensus was that as long as acceptable authorization and approval for payments was in place that RDRMUG should use the EFT for the payment of invoices.

MOTION A. Campbell moved to approve the Electronic Funds Transfer for RDRMUG payments. **Carried.**

8.0 Approval of Administrative Authority:

Executive Director K. Ryder advised that the Town of Drumheller is the accounting authority and performs the duties of treasurer for the RDRMUG. His recommendation was to confirm that the Town of Drumheller continue as the RDRMUG Accounting Authority at the current fee for services of \$ 5,000.00 per year.

MOTION R. Poole moved to accept the Town of Drumheller to continue as the RDRMUG Accounting Authority at the current fee for service of \$ 5,000.00 per year. **Carried.**

9.0 Changes to Bylaws:

None.

10.0 Adjournment:

MOTION G. Campion moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:20 PM. **Carried.**

January 21, 2020 RDRMUG Regular Meeting Summary of Meeting with Alberta Environment and Parks Deputy Minister

1. Summary of RDRMUG Meeting with Alberta Environment and Parks Deputy Minister and staff:

Deputy Minister Bev Yee

Keith Pridgen, Senior Policy Advisor to Minister

Rena L'Abbe, Chief of Staff to Ministry of Environment and Parks

Morgan Cameron, Ministerial Assistant

- Open letter from Hon. J. Nixon, Minister of Environment and Parks Page 2 - 4
- Letter to RDRMUG Members from Co-Chairs Page 5
- Meeting notes from Councillor D. Wyntjes, City of Red Deer Page 6 - 9
- Member's questions submitted to Deputy Minister Yee after meeting. Page 10

- Zoom recording of meeting. [Click here](#) (if you are asked for pass code: tUGf1\$3a
(Note: some members advised that they were not able to open the Zoom meeting on their Ipad – but could open it on their PC)



ALBERTA

ENVIRONMENT AND PARKS

Office of the Minister

Government House Leader

MLA, Rimbey-Rocky Mountain House-Sundre

January 18, 2021

Today Alberta Energy Minister Sonya Savage issued a statement noting 11 recently-issued coal leases will be cancelled and future coal lease sales in former Category 2 lands will be paused.

As Minister of Environment and Parks, I have heard from many Albertans concerned about coal and environmental protection in the Eastern Slopes. The Eastern Slopes – my backyard, your backyard – are renowned for their unsurpassed beauty and recreational value. Critically, they are the headwaters, the water source for our cities, towns, irrigation districts, and water wells in the southwest part of Alberta and beyond. Water is one of our most precious resources, and Alberta Environment and Parks has a responsibility to ensure it is protected, managed, and arrives at the taps and wells of Albertans clean and safe.

I want to assure Albertans that nothing has changed with respect to environmental protections and, in fact, environmental protection has been strengthened over the past three decades. Unfortunately, there are a lot of rumours and misinformation out there, including the notion that Alberta Energy's rescission of the Coal Policy 1976 has opened up the Eastern Slopes for strip mining. It is important that we are very clear that Alberta Energy's policy decision in no way weakened or reversed environmental standards and protections.

Any industrial development in Alberta must be done responsibly, and full consideration must be given to ensuring positive environmental outcomes. The staff at Alberta Environment and Parks work every day to ensure those outcomes are achieved and that protection of our air, land, water, and wildlife remain a priority even as some appropriate Crown land remains available for resource development, as it has for generations. Without question, the laws and policies that guide development today are stricter than those that existed in 1976.

Today we have environmental impact assessments (EIAs), environmental management frameworks, operational rules and standards, as well as enforcement tools, policies, and plans. The Coal Policy of 1976 required environmental assessments for major developments and provided an opportunity for public input in the project review process. Today, the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act* requires a provincial EIA for surface coal mines producing over 45 000 tonnes per year. As well, proposed coal mines that could produce over 5,000 tonnes of coal per day trigger the federal Impact Assessment Act, which leads to federal-provincial joint review panels. There is currently an application underway that is being reviewed by the Joint Review Panel process. This application process began in 2015. It is important to note that since the rescission of the 1976 Coal Policy, no new project applications have been submitted to the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER). Should a new project be submitted, there is a legally required consultation process to make sure Albertans have their say.

The 1976 Coal Policy did not set water quantity or management objectives, but referred to the *Clean Water Act*. The *Clean Water Act* was replaced by the stricter *Water Act and Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act*. The latter sets out newer planning and regulatory provisions with greater emphasis on mitigating adverse impacts on water supply and quality. When it comes to water, one important concern I've heard about is the level of selenium, particularly as it relates to water wells, irrigators (namely farmers and ranchers), and the province's treasured native fish species. Selenium is not addressed in the 1976 Coal Policy. Under the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act*, which came into effect in 1993, mine operators must manage selenium. This includes submitting a selenium management plan to the AER, with detailed information about risk and mitigation strategies. As part of a coal operation's approvals, the company must monitor and treat wastewater according to stringent provincial guidelines. Selenium is routinely monitored at 89 river and tributary sites across the province as part of our river monitoring network. Again, assessments related to water quality and supply are made by subject matter experts – biologists, hydrologists and other technologists. These are not political decisions.

Our headwaters, native grasslands, and wildlife must be managed effectively. That is why we have built a strong regulatory system in recent decades. This regulatory system includes planning, policy and regulatory tools that support environmental outcomes across the Eastern Slopes. A healthy environment creates a foundation for a strong economy and job creation. However, unlike certain activist groups that want to shut down all development across the province, Alberta's government has an obligation to live in the real world and protect livelihoods, which helps to pay for our public services. The current government will continue to prioritize environmental outcomes

Today, we take a comprehensive approach to management of the environment so we understand the cumulative effects from all activities on the landscape. A few of the tools we now have at our disposal include land use plans and environmental management frameworks. Significant land use policy and planning work has occurred and a number of regulatory tools put in place since 1976. The Eastern Slopes Policy, Integrated Resource Plans, regional plans (South Saskatchewan Regional Plan) and sub-regional plans (Livingstone-Porcupine Land Footprint Management Plan) provide policy direction for resource management and environmental protection. Again, these tools offer more comprehensive environmental protections than were available in 1976.

In addition to these land use policies, I have placed restrictions on the most environmentally sensitive lands in former Coal Category 1 lands. These restrictions on public lands continue to prohibit coal activities to protect our important headwaters, wildlife, and land that are highly valued for recreation and tourism.

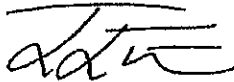
While land use plans guide development and protections, it is important to note that all proposals for coal projects must be reviewed by the AER. The AER is independent of government and is required to adhere to policies (both its own and government's) in any of its project reviews. Its job as regulator is to ensure that companies mine coal in Alberta responsibly. This work starts before a mine is built and continues after the mining is complete. Companies must make applications to the AER, which includes a thorough environmental work plan before any development can even begin. If that work plan is inadequate, the company is not authorized to commence any work on the mine, and may even lose the ability to develop the project should it fail to address those inadequacies. If a coal mine is approved, the AER conducts inspections and audits to ensure the mine operator follows the regulator's rigorous requirements, and those inspections can occur a number of times each year.

If a company does not comply and adhere to these requirements, then it will be held accountable through a range of enforcement tools, including environmental protection and suspension orders, fines, and prosecution.

I want to assure you that I take the ongoing protection of the Eastern Slopes incredibly seriously. I have lived in this area for most of my life. I ran backcountry lodges in the region and my kids grew up fishing and camping in the foothills of the Slopes. I have a personal investment in ensuring they are protected and I want to assure Albertans that I am directing my department to do everything in its power to do just that.

I want to reiterate that Alberta has a long history of pioneering environmentally-responsible resource development. That history has taught us the importance of balance and of ensuring the legwork is done by industry and government to protect the environment in advance of a project moving forward. I and my team at Environment and Parks remain committed to protecting our air, land, water, and wildlife for future generations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Nixon', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jason Nixon
Minister of Environment & Parks

January 24, 2021

Dear RDRMUG Members:

Thank you for your participation in our last meeting where Alberta Environment and Parks Deputy Minister Bev Yee spoke to us regarding recent public concern about possible future coal extraction in Alberta, Alberta Environment and Parks role in environmental protection, the role of Alberta Energy with regard to coal leases, and the role of the Alberta Energy Regulator for any application for resource extraction in Alberta.

Our membership didn't get the opportunity to have further conversation about the information provided. We know that everyone in attendance will be going back to our Councils, and there may be questions from Council members about the details of the conversation.

With thanks to Red Deer City Councillor Dianne Wyntjes, written notes are attached, for your information, should you wish to share them with your Councils. If you have Council members that are interested in viewing the 45 minute presentation, and questions of Deputy Minister Yee, please see the link attached. [Click here](#) for link to presentation.

Attached also is an open letter, dated January 18, 2021, from Alberta Environment and Parks Minister Nixon, providing further information on future coal lease sales, environmental protections, the process for any proposed industrial development, the 1976 Coal Policy and land use plans.

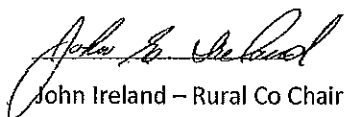
In a follow up discussion with Minister Nixon, any Council member, or member of the public is encouraged to contact their MLA, or the Minister's office, for guidance about getting questions answered with regard to this issue.

The position of the Red Deer River Municipal Users Group, at this time, on this issue, is to provide all members with information on recent Alberta Energy changes to coal leases. There were a number of members that asked for this item to be brought forward for discussion. A request to Minister Nixon's office for a representative to bring information and answer questions, the day before our meeting, saw Deputy Minister Yee, clear time in her schedule to address questions, and hear concerns from our group. Both Minister Nixon and Deputy Minister Yee have opened the door for further discussions about the Red Deer River Watershed, with the Red Deer River Municipal Users Group. We will certainly take advantage of that invitation to bring the concerns of your municipality to the Ministry.

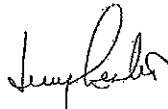
We hope your Councils find the information provided of some help when members of the public are asking questions about future coal lease sales and the potential impacts to the Red Deer River Watershed. We hope also that the contact information for Alberta Energy, Alberta Environment and Parks, and MLA constituency offices, will assist anyone interested in learning more about the issue, providing feedback to the Government of Alberta, and having questions answered.

Thank you all for your passion and advocacy for our watershed.

Sincerely,



John Ireland – Rural Co Chair



Terry Leslie – Urban Co Chair

cc. Minister Nixon, all MLAs representing our members, Deputy Minister Yee

NOTES FROM COUNCILLOR DIANNE WYNTJES, CITY OF RED DEER

January 21, 2021

Meeting with RDRMUG and Deputy Minister of Environment and Parks, Bev Yee)

In attendance with RDRMUG members:

Bev Yee, Deputy Minister
Bev Yee's Chief of Staff, Rena
Keith, Policy Advisory to Minister Nixon
Morgan Cameron, Ministry Assistant

Chair Leslie: There is fear, worry, anxiety, questions and unknowns about coal mining and impacts to our Alberta watersheds. We are all hearing about the 1976 Premier Lougheed government decision and rescinding of the policy. The purpose of the one hour session with the Minister is to ask for information and clarity on the public conversations about the coal mining issue, specifically related to impacts to the Red Deer River water quality and quantity.

**If City of Red Deer has comments, please send to RDRMUG Executive Director, Keith Ryder who will submit them to the Ministry.

Minister Yee:

There are other Ministry's in this conversation:

Environment Ministry
Department of Energy
Alberta Energy Regulator

Coal development and natural resource development - it's a matter of appropriate land use for the area, economic development and environmental protection; ensuring we have in place all the environment policies to protect air, water, wind; fair access to land and seeing lots of competing interests for the land as we see a growing population in Alberta, a desire to ensure our economy stays healthy and grow our economy; recognizing in Alberta our economy is natural resources based.

Coal development. Alberta environment and Parks are responsible for or overall policy, environmental legislation and land use planning; to work with stakeholders and desire to have in our region; how to carve it out, rules in place and people have access;

The question is asked Is this activity aligned and appropriate for this area?

The Department of Energy in natural resource development have mapped out where our natural resources are - oil, gas and coal and they are responsible for policing of the rights (other than free hold rights) but the majority of resources are owned by Alberta; there is a system of providing leases; rights to a company to develop those resources

The Alberta Energy Regulator is an independent regulator from departments; and if they get a proposal for any energy project; their job is to determine is this project in the public interest? In determining

public interest issues reviewed: an environmental impact assessment. What will be cumulative impacts on the environment? They will consider and weigh all concerns from stakeholders with consultations and feedback; they have to do it within the policy and legislation the department establishes and ensure it is consistent with Alberta Protection Act, Public lands Act and Water Act

In this current discussion around coal policy and concerns hearing from people around Alberta Energy; that policy was developed in 1976 and we have come a long ways since then with environmental policy; the Act, and Acts have advanced a lot - planning, limits, standards set

Land use planning at the heart of the concern we are hearing; wanting the protection of the category two lands from 1976 coal policy which was in absence of broad based land use planning. That policy identified 4 categories - category 1 lands - because of environmental sensitivity and no explanation or commercial development in category 1 and that remains in place today for those lands called category 1 Category 2 lands - lands where descriptions are from original policy "limited exploration", controls, surface mining not "normally considered"; anything identified as category 2 - a lot tougher to get a coal project and lots of restrictions

The category 1 lands right in the Rocky Mountains and Eastern slopes

Category 2 in the mountains and foothills

Category 3 into and out of the foothills

Category 3 and 4 the language used - exploration is desirable and may be permitted with appropriate controls.

Category 4 - coal development is permitted within the legislation of the day

That was from 1976 policy.

There has been alot more details since then to better understand the landscape, know better the environmental sensitivities, critical wildlife areas, where recreation is occurring; then the Eastern Slopes Policy in 1984 came along and there is no longer just category 1-2-3-4; areas are now identified as critical habit areas, prime protection, areas suitable for multitude use, agriculture use, industrial use; and now what is the intent of how we manage those areas; what is compatible; what is not compatible; and what can be permitted with restrictions

Since 1984 - sub regional integrated resource plans; more precise than the Eastern Slopes; Management guidelines; if there is development for surface mining it may be considered on a project basis; a better understanding of the landscape and gives more direction of what is or isn't allowed

2014-2018 - South Saskatchewan Regional Land Use plan - develops a long term region from e economic, environmental and social perspective. Many questions on this controversy of coal policy; she was asked about 5 recreational areas with coal policy rescinded; one needs to look at the South Saskatchewan regional plan which identifies protected areas and parks, new recreational areas; and itemized each of those and what is or isn't allowed; provincial recreation areas; itemized areas and protected areas

Example, In oil and gas, where existing, would allow some of that.

With land use planning, more direction and at the same time, all environmental protections are in place. Today, in south Saskatchewan Regional Plan, lots of activity and rapid development - the Livingstone Porcupine area is a land footprint management plan; it's busy area and is developing so quickly; we want to understand impact, and set limits on disturbance so to manage the cumulative footprint;

So with Albertans hearing about rescinding the policy; need better information, better direction. With the Grassy Mountain mine which is in hearing process now; all those projects underway and in different stages of development; they were all developed with the 1976 coal policy in place (which has now been rescinded).

So we are moving away from the original four categories to better understanding of land use; the elimination of four categories does not provide any additional permissions or make it easier; every project is subjected to entire regulatory system; has to have an environmental impact assessment; must apply for water; south Saskatchewan River basin is closed to any further water allocations and if a company comes along and if they cannot get water; the project cannot move forward; in south Saskatchewan basin, the company/ies could speak to someone who has a water license and sell that water license; no new water will be available as the basin is closed

QUESTIONS FROM RDRUG MEMBERSHIP

Question about Clearwater County - Crescent Falls - and Big Horn Wildlife; there's an old coal lease there; can old coal leases be sold?

Response: There are preheld rights; but the Crown has not sold a lease on the Crescent Falls recreation area; but surrounding areas there are leases that have been sold; what does selling a lease mean? A coal lease sold does not mean a coal mine will come there; having a lease does not mean equal a mine

Question about transfer about water license and protections for source water;
Coal mining is often in unmeasured areas; there is work underway with the Alberta Water Council and source water protection; we want to work on broader source water; if in a project proposal and it is identified as source water impacts; if approval is considered; must be monitoring, source water protections, those can be put in the conditions of approval; the province has broader work it's doing on source water and individual project by project and if identified that source water is an issue or a reasonable chance for approval, must be looked at

Question about reconciliation in our regions; for Red Deer River Treaty 6 and Treaty 7; and seeing differing perspectives among the indigenous communities in opposition or supporting the projects and what the projects and impacts will mean for the water, land, air and mountains, the eco system and Alberta

Response: Lots of interest from indigenous communities; some want to see coal development and jobs; and be partners in a project; there are also communities and practice of treaty rights and they don't want it in a particular area; for any proposal in a project there must be indigenous engagement; and supported; and those discussions are happening before projects are approved; projects are going to hearing; never want to infringe on treaty rights; for those indigenous communities who have an interest; facilitated conversations with the government

Question about the status of the North Saskatchewan regional plan and land use in the upper head waters zone and there is confusion to finding the balance between conservation and environment?

Response: In discussion with the Minister about regional planning, only 2 regional plans out of 7 done; we are looking when we might resume regional planning; so many other priorities for government; we have also looked at the questions and if cannot resume regional planning, what might we do and in absence of regional planning and either significant issue emerging, we can do sub regional planning,

such as Caribou conservation issues are big, we have undertaken 3 sub region planning exercises; that is the thinking to to date. No time for resuming planning in North Saskatchewan region; but if there are specific areas of concern we could do sub regional planning there.

Question about the walk back on the leases issued; leases issued, then a walk back and then another look? Curious as to what happened? Transparency is important so people do feel it is being rushed;

Response: That was not about specific leases but a sale announced on sale leases after the rescinding of the Loughheed policy; Minister Savage recognized there are so many questions and concerns, those 11 leases would be paused and pulled back until sessions like this to explain and talk to people; when people are upset and emotional about things it is difficult to continue a path; so the pause was done to get out more information to people, clear the air and bring some calm and so not to misunderstand the intent.

Question: Are the 11 leases less than 1% of the coal leases in Alberta or all the area involved? The pause is correct and proceed with caution.

Response: I don't know the answer to the question; would have to ask Department of Energy.

Question/comment about source water which is key and a major concern. The Minister talked about water licensing. We all recognize water licensing is still available from the Red Deer River and we are concerned about source water and our available licensing from the Red Deer River combined with source water. Volume and quality for Red Deer River is our major concern as RDRMUG.

Question about source water protection, not only at the headwaters but also downstream, such as Rosebud area and Didsbury in the Alberta plains. Is there a move to protecting our water systems down stream of the headwaters to the agriculture and flat lands of the prairies as contamination is a concern?

Response: Certainly knowing what to protect is done through monitoring and information and having good robust monitoring programs. We often see a change in trends with a better understanding so if we have to put policies in place, would do so.

The Alberta Water Act allows for Water Management Planning; we haven't in recent years had new plans; we will help support the development and the roots of it comes from the community; if there's a region or an area that it is beneficial to do water management planning, our WPAC's help to do that work. It's a very good question as in landscapes with a lot of activity; we can chase it (after the fact when there's a problem isn't good); the smarter thing to do is plan up front and define what we want to see for our watershed and how to achieve it; and what we can do so we don't have the contamination; what is the work that needs to be done?; work with the WPAC - with the RDRWA; The silver bullet is bringing parties together, plan, we are all responsible for doing some of the work.

End of questions.

Chair Leslie: We have interest in sub region planning, RDRMUG works with the RDRWA - WPAC and look forward to asking more about that and additional opportunity to forward questions and receive further answers.

Note: The RDRWA is planning to reinstate watershed management planning with a focus on land use and water quantity over the period 2021-2024. Details about Phase one of the plan (Water Quality) can be found at <https://RDRWA.ca/iwmp/>

COAL RELATED QUESTIONS AND REQUESTS

1. Coal Leases
 - (a) Please provide a map of coal leases in the Red Deer River and North Saskatchewan river watersheds.
 - (b) Advise which leases have received regulatory permits to allow 'work-exploration-testing' within the lease and the nature of activity that is permitted.
 - (c) Advise what conditions have been prescribed/required to minimize/mitigate environmental impacts, especially on water resources
2. Regional Plans -- since the North Saskatchewan Regional Plan (which covers much of the Red Deer River watershed) which will provide much clearer direction re: the opening of coal mines (if any):
 - (a) When might a North Saskatchewan Regional Plan be expected to be adopted
 - (b) Will the province not permit any exploration/testing activity, if any, until the plan is approved by Cabinet
 - (c) If activity is permitted, what would those permits allow and prescribe

Bill S

3. Will there be an opportunity for public input into this process and how will the Government proceed to ensure all input is considered?

M. Swanson

Lacombe Foundation Board Meeting
February 1, 2021
Held via Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm.

Occupancy

Low income housing is at a record low vacancy. The lodges on the other hand, both have vacancies even though there are waiting lists. People are reluctant to move into the lodges as they are scared they will be locked down inside and do not want to quarantine for 14 days. It has been acceptable for potential tenants to quarantine for 14 days before they move in (with a negative test) but it has not helped.

Covid Update

To date there has been no Covid cases in either Lacombe or Eckville Lodge. All the staff and residents have received their Covid vaccinations.

Operational Update

Maintenance had to update fire doors and fire panels at a cost of \$23,000. The cost was covered by excess funds from our fire sprinkler grant.

Repairs are needed to the compressor/AC on the roof of the dining hall. The quote for repairs is \$122,450. After some discussion it was moved that the maintenance department get at least one more quote before going ahead.

A virtual tour of the lodges has been produced. The video was shown to the Board. I think it is available on the Lacombe Foundation website.

The Bethany Group CEO Mike Leatherwood, said goodbye to us all, as he will retire at the end of the week.

Next meeting is March 29, 2021.

Lacombe Regional Waste Services Commission
Regular Board Meeting
February 24, 2021
Lacombe County Council Chambers

Meeting called to order at 1:15 pm

BDO Canada present and engagement partner letter and gave a presentation explaining the audit planning process.

Waste Haul Summaries: Nothing out of the ordinary. The ID enforcement has stopped out of area waste being taken to our landfills.

Equipment Storage Building: Management would like to build a new storage building to house equipment as well as the mattresses being collected for recycling. The building does not have to be insulated, that may be done at a later date. A motion was passed authorizing up to \$100,000 out of unrestricted reserves for a new storage building. Dow Chemicals may reimburse up to \$43,000.

Amend Policy WS (13) Equipment Maintenance Reserves

A motion was passed to increase the maintenance reserve from \$50,000 to \$100,00. The wording of the policy was amended to be vaguer so management was not limited to repairing only the equipment listed in the policy.

Amend Policy WS (14) Personal Protection Equipment

Policy was amended to include face masks.

Managers' Report

There is still one worker off on a WCB claim. This should be resolved within the next few weeks. The Operations Manager is retiring May 21st. There will be some changes in staffing after he is gone; his position will not be filled.

The repairs were finished to the building damaged during the fall break in and the one-ton truck stolen and recovered has been repaired.

Dow Chemicals are looking at renewing the funding for the mattress recycling program. This program has been much more successful than was expected. The area of a hockey rink has been freed up in the landfill by sending them to the recycling plant. Dow usually runs programs for a maximum of 3 years.

Cell 3 has been reclaimed. Cell 4 has been partly closed over and Cell 5 is now in use.

The wood stock pile was put through a grinder and sold to Strickland Farms. The City of Lacombe participated in this program and got rid of all their stockpiled wood as well.

A fire broke out in Cell 4 shortly after the staff left January 12th and burned for most of the night. Fire was extinguished in the morning and spot fires put out over the course of the next day. The source of the fire is unknown but suspected of being a battery.

Next meeting April 28, 2021

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm

Parkland Regional Library System
Regular Board Meeting
February 25, 2021
Held Via Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am.

The 2020 Annual Report was presented and approved by the Board.

Advocacy Committee presented a virtual tour of the new building. This video will be posted on the PRL website under the tab "About Us"

The Strategic Plan Review will be ongoing as it is not due until later in the year and not much needs to be changed.

The Advocacy Committee has invited members of the Yellowhead Regional Library to attend their meetings. It was felt that any input and co-operation between regions can only help everyone.

The Advocacy Committee also posted questions at the top of the meeting agenda inviting board members to share the most exciting thing that happened at their home library, at Parkland Regional. I have to say, there was more participation in this meeting, than at any I have attended over the past 3 years!

One library has a Zoom book club with a member attending from Texas! Carstairs shared their annual report and offered the template to other libraries.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 am

CAO REPORT MARCH 2021

1. Emergency Social Services – I've been fulfilling my commitment to the ESS Sub Committee for the Lacombe Regional Emergency Management group by reviewing the 311 page Emergency Social Services draft plan. I believe the final phase of this project will be to create a much smaller, user friendly version of the plan for the smaller municipalities to use.
2. Parkland Community Planning Services – As part of the Village's 'Red Tape Reduction' plan, PCPS was asked to convert several of our administrative forms to a fillable PDF. We now have dog license, business license, public concern forms and development permit applications available on the website in a fillable format. The intent of this is to allow people to fill out the forms remotely and e-mail them into the office. This streamlines the process as well as allows for less in-person contact if that is a concern to people.
PCPS has also started working on the Joint Use and Planning Agreement project again. These agreements are a new requirement under the Municipal Government Act and the Education Act. School Boards and the municipalities served by each School Board are expected to create formal agreements that address planning for new schools and for the shared use of existing and new facilities. This project is being funded through an Alberta Community Partnership grant and must be completed by December of 2022.
3. Capital Projects – The 49th Street infrastructure project has gone out to tender. A pre-tender meeting was held on site March 10th. Bids will close on March 18th. We are hopeful the bids will be closer to the estimated project costs than they were last year. The CAO and Public Works have also been in consultation with Rahr about the Lagoon project (rehabilitation of cell #5) and working with the engineers to fine tune the detailed design of the project.
4. Geospatial Information System (GIS) – All staff have now taken training on the newly updated GIS system for Alix. As an added bonus, I was able to get the AutoCad drawings of our infrastructure from MPE Engineering and it has been loaded onto the GIS as well. This means we can now access water & sewer mains, manholes, fire hydrants, pipe sizes etc. through the GIS system and even overlay it with property lines and/or the ortho map etc.

Report for Council Meeting – March 2021

Economic Development

Wayfinding Project

We are waiting on our development permit approval to move ahead with our entrance Wayfinding signs. Once the approval has gone through, we are set for installation in the spring.

Chamber has agreed to move forward with updating the sign at the gas station -- this is set to be replaced at the same time installation takes place for our Wayfinding signage.

Eco. Development Research

Since reading through past documentation, I have moved forward with finding out what properties the Village owns and if they are commercial or residential. We currently have 4 commercial properties – 3 located on Main Street and 1 located just off highway 12. I have spoke with a Relator about potentially listing 3 commercial properties.

The residential properties were also looked at. The Village currently owns a lot behind the Lions Den – civic address 4860 49th street. Many years ago, this area was a park, but the park has since been taken out. We came to find out that there is no sewage main in front of this lot, and part way down the next street going North. There are some other residential zoned properties on the North side of town across the highway, these properties will be looked at in detail at a later date.

Business Relations

With so much on-going strain with our small businesses, I have made sure to continually reach out via email to ensure our businesses in the Village know the current grant information available to them.

General Information

Social Media

Our Village Facebook page continues to grow. As of March 9th, we have 505 page likes and 556-page followers. Information is constantly being put out for COVID updates, programs, and funding for all sectors of the community, whether business owners, non-profits or personal.

Website Research

I completed gathering resources for our websites – ‘Doing Business’ tab. This is one of the requirements of the Red Tape Reduction plan the Village submitted to be eligible for MOST funding. In conclusion of this research, the Doing Business tab will be updated to house the following:

- Business Climate – Statistic & Incentives
- Business Directory
- Alix Chamber of Commerce – will highlight what our Chamber is about.
- Land Use & Development – this will focus on bylaws, policies and tax information pertaining to businesses.
- Available Properties – this will contain links to several relator pages for people to be able to quickly reference what is available in our community and to highlight any property the Village owns and has listed.

- Additional Resources – this page will contain links to help with innovative small businesses with guidance, grants, training opportunities and resources to help get a business up and running.

COVID Cheer-up (10 days of giveaways)

We partnered with 10 local businesses to do 10 days of giveaways. This will run each weekday from March 8th-19th. Each day we will highlight one business on social media and on that allotted day people can go into that business to put their name into a draw to win the according basket of goodies. This is to spread some cheer after a winter of isolation and to help promote our local small businesses.

Businesses that participated are:

- How Convenient Corner Store & Deli
- Alix Drugs I.D.A
- Mom 'n' Pops Liquor
- Sally's Kitchen
- Lori's Little Luxuries
- Alix Home Hardware
- Big Bubba's Bar & Grill
- Alix Gator Inn
- Alix Foods
- Sweet Crumbs Cakery

Recreation

Transitioning

Transition letters were sent out via email on January 28th to all the different groups we have in town. We had an amazing response from our groups for wanting to absorb these events to make sure our community is still being served.

Meetings were set up and information and items passed on to the following groups for the following events:

- Alix Day (Summer) Parade – Alix & District Chamber of Commerce
- Volunteer Appreciation Week – Alix Lions Club
- Canada Day – Alix Wagon Wheel Museum
- Parade of Lights – Alix Fire & Medical Department

I am waiting to hear back from 2 different groups about the absorption of some of the smaller events including: Spring and Christmas markets, Community Barbeque, Family Day, and Senior's Week.

Community Gardens

We are in conversation with the CAO about continuing with the advertising and distribution of the garden plots.

Chelsie Giesbrecht



Cyberus Protection Services

Village of Alix Patrol Report

Summary February 8 - 14, 2021

Feb 9th noted a car parked on Main Street back window broken out and tarped, no sign of theft. Spoke next day to the owner of the business it was in front of, was informed it was a regular customer noting to worry about. It ran out of gas and would not start. Feb 11th noted a van in the ditch on Hwy 12 and RR 231. Individual stated he was all good, help was on the way, his transmission slipped. Shortly after there was a suspicious truck.

Summary February 15 - 21, 2021

Noted events: Feb 15th – car still sitting on Main Street. Talked to the business owner in front of the vehicle. Stated it's a customer's vehicle that broke down. Noted on a few nights skid marks left on snow covered roads from stunting vehicles. Feb 17th a silver car stood out as odd on off duty hours, left town after seeing the patrol vehicle. Feb 18th a car driving in strange patterns which left town after seeing the patrol vehicle.

Summary February 22 – 28, 2021

Maintenance notes: exterior lights are out on the west side of Railway House. Feb 27th while inspecting the fire hall noted a truck that pulled off the highway, travelling west drove along 50th Ave, then back onto the highway and continued westward. This was a quiet week other than a few odd parked vehicles and activities that were not acting suspicious but noted just in case.

Summary March 1-7, 2021

March 5th had a report of a late model black dodge flashing lights into the window of a house then driving off. Patrol vehicle performed a grid search as it fit the description of a truck looking into back yards in Delburne several days prior. Was unable to locate the vehicle. Also had a member of the community notify us of a fast moving possible stunting vehicle approximate location towards downtown, could not locate any vehicles once on Main Street. March 6th a vehicle entered town from the west, drove the long way around town along Lake Street, then proceeded to park on Main Street to sleep. As they were sleeping we increased patrol in the area to ensure nothing suspicious occurred.



ALBERTA
MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

*Office of the Minister
Deputy Government House Leader
MLA, Calgary-Hays*

AR100314

Dear Chief Elected Officials:

This letter is to inform you of changes to the Government of Alberta's Disaster Recovery Program (DRP), which are in effect for DRPs that occur in 2021 and onward and are outlined in the 2021 Disaster Assistance Guidelines.

In response to the rising cost and frequency of disasters in Alberta, we have made changes to the DRP. These changes are intended to share the responsibility of disasters with all those who are impacted and to make the program more sustainable for future events. Changes will ensure that assistance is available for Albertans when they need it most.

While conditions for eligibility remain the same for qualifying applicants, the following cost-sharing arrangements and funding limits have been added to the program:

Local authority and private sector applicants (including homeowners)

We are implementing a 90:10 cost-sharing arrangement.

- DRP assistance is limited to 90 per cent of eligible disaster expenses, instead of 100 per cent.
- The remaining 10 per cent of eligible assistance will be subtracted from the amount payable to the applicant. No payment to the program will be required.

Homeowners only

We are implementing a funding limit of up to \$500,000 per homeowner application and a limit on assistance to one time per property.

- For disaster events that occur in 2021 onward, qualifying homeowner applicants will only be able to access DRP assistance once per property address. Financial assistance from the program will not be provided to future applicants who own property at the same physical location.

.../2

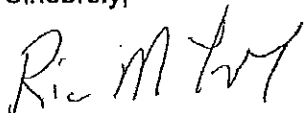
- The one-time funding limit is not cumulative. For example, if an applicant has received \$100,000 worth of assistance under the new policy, they would not qualify for any funding in the future.
- This change will not be applied retroactively. If a homeowner has received assistance before 2021, this does not count as meeting the one-time assistance limit.
- Homeowner addresses that receive DRP assistance will be posted online to the Government of Alberta website to provide transparency about DRP funding limits and up-to-date information for prospective homeowners, developers, and real estate professionals. The funding received stays with the property; therefore, a new homeowner would not be able to access disaster recovery funding for that same property in the future.

Being prepared improves individual and community resilience by lessening the impacts of disasters, shortening recovery time, and reducing economic disruption. Individuals and communities are encouraged to take measures to prepare for disasters and to look at ways of reducing their disaster risks. Learn how you can prepare for emergencies and disasters by visiting us at alberta.ca/emergency-preparedness.aspx.

Please refer to the enclosed information sheet for more information on changes to the Disaster Recovery Program and the Alberta Disaster Assistance Guidelines, or visit us online at www.alberta.ca/drp.

If you have any additional questions, please call 1-888-671-1111 or email drp.info@gov.ab.ca.

Sincerely,



Ric McIver
Minister

Attachment: Information Sheet

cc: Chief Administrative Officers

Disaster Recovery Program Changes

Overview

The Disaster Recovery Program (DRP) provides financial assistance to qualifying applicants to help restore uninsurable property lost or damaged by a disaster to its basic, pre-disaster functional condition.

DRPs provide financial assistance as a last resort to assist those affected by a disaster.

Program changes

For DRPs that occur in 2021, the Government of Alberta has set homeowner funding limits and implemented cost-sharing mechanisms between the government and program applicants.

Why changes were made

The cost and frequency of disasters in Alberta are increasing, and the province needs a more sustainable approach to disaster recovery. By implementing a stronger framework to deal with emergencies and disasters, these changes help ensure the DRP can continue to be available for Albertans when they need it most.

Homeowner-funding limits

The province is implementing a homeowner funding limit of up to \$500,000 per application for eligible costs and a limit of one-time assistance per property, regardless of the transfer of ownership. The one-time funding limit is not cumulative, so if an applicant has received any amount of assistance under the new policy, they would not qualify for funding in the future.

Establishing a homeowner funding limit helps government reinforce the intent of the DRP, which is to contribute to a ready and resilient Alberta and be the payer of last resort. Homeowners may choose to opt out of receiving DRP assistance if they are able to cover damages on their own. This would allow their property to qualify for future assistance if a DRP is approved in their community and they meet the program qualification criteria at that time.

Limits to properties

- Limits to assistance are applied to the property address only, not the applicant.
- A new property owner will not qualify for DRP assistance if the previous owner already accessed the one-time funding limit.

Posting addresses online

- If a homeowner applicant accessed funding through a DRP for a disaster that occurred in 2021 and onward, the property address and legal land description will be posted on the Government of Alberta website. The post will indicate that the address (legal land description) is not eligible for future DRP funding.
- This will help prospective buyers and developers become aware of funding limits that apply to specific addresses.

90:10 cost-sharing

Cost-sharing mechanisms for municipalities and private-sector applicants are based on a 90:10 formula, where the province covers 90 per cent of eligible disaster costs and the applicant covers the remaining 10 per cent.

What you can do as a community

The Alberta Emergency Management Agency encourages all Albertans and communities to:

- Purchase adequate insurance.
- Have reserve funds.
- Invest in mitigation and infrastructure maintenance.
- Restrict future property development in high-risk areas.

Living in high-risk areas

Albertans living in high-risk areas may experience a natural disaster of one kind or another. The Government of Alberta continues to provide DRP assistance to all qualifying applicants; however, homeowners living in high-risk areas are encouraged to consider relocating or mitigating risks to their properties.

Flood maps are available at <https://floods.alberta.ca/>.

Purchasing insurance

It is important for Albertans to become educated about their disaster risks and ensure they are adequately insured. There are more insurance options on the market now than ever before.

High-risk areas

Homeowners living in high-risk areas who are not able to access overland flood insurance are also subject to the cost-sharing and one-time funding limit.

Flood insurance

Financial assistance for disaster recovery continues to be available to eligible applicants to help cover costs related to uninsurable loss and damages. Albertans are advised to check with several insurance companies to compare policy coverage limits, exclusionary language (e.g. concurrent causation clauses), and premiums when purchasing any flood insurance.

Federal government disaster assistance

Since 2015, the federal government has significantly reduced federal support through the Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements. This has increased the provincial liability for DRP costs. In addition to this, the federal government does not typically reimburse for repeat assistance in flood-prone areas.

Indigenous communities

The federal government continues to fund all eligible disaster-related costs on First Nations reserve land.

First Nations applicants living off reserve, as well as other members of Indigenous communities are eligible for the same benefits and limits as other Albertans applying to the DRP.

The 90:10 cost-sharing arrangements will also apply to Métis Settlement communities as it would for all other communities.

For more information:

Online: alberta.ca/drp

Call us: 1-888-671-1111

Email: DRP.info@gov.ab.ca

For more information: alberta.ca/drp

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Classification: Public

The logo for the Government of Alberta, featuring the word "Alberta" in a stylized, cursive font with a small square icon to the right.



March 1, 2021

Honourable Kaycee Madu
Minister of Justice and Solicitor General
424 Legislature Building
10800 – 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB
T5K 2B6

Dear Minister,

Re: President's Summit on Policing

On behalf of the Council of the Municipality of Crowsnest Pass, I am writing concerning the recent President's Summit on Policing. Our Council does not support The Province of Alberta's initiative to replace the RCMP with an Alberta Provincial Police force.

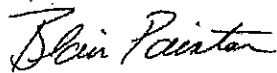
We do not understand why the Province would forge ahead with this process when the Fair Deal Panel survey results clearly showed that 65% of respondents did not support this idea. These are tangible results from a provincial survey which need to be recognized by the Province as a negative response, and a clear indicator by the people of this Province that the majority is not in favor of a Provincial Police Force.

The staggering costs to implement an initiative of this nature, should be enough of a deterrent to even consider proceeding. Municipalities across this Province are struggling to determine how they will absorb the costs for the existing Police Funding Model and should not be expected to consider facing additional expenses for an initiative that is unwanted and appears to have no ceiling where potential costs are concerned.

Finally, we would like to reiterate that the Municipality of Crowsnest Pass is pleased with the level of service provided through our local RCMP. We cannot presume to speak for other communities in Alberta, however we find that the unique circumstances due to our location has fostered highly collaborative relationships between the detachments serving southeastern British Columbia and those serving our neighboring communities in southwestern Alberta. We cannot foresee that the dollars invested would result in an increased level of policing over and above the service we receive now.

We respectfully request that you reconsider replacing the RCMP with an Alberta Provincial Police Force and consider working with the RCMP to improve the service where required.

Sincerely,



Mayor Blair Painter
Municipality of Crowsnest Pass
403-563-0700
blair.painter@crowstownpass.com

cc: RMA Membership
AUMA Membership

From: Disha Panchal <panchal@smokefreealberta.com>
Sent: March 3, 2021 10:00 AM
To: CAO
Subject: Please take a moment to protect Alberta youth from flavoured vaping products



Ms. Barbara Gilliat
Councillor
Village of Alix
PO Box 87
Alix AB T0C 0B0

March 03, 2021

Dear Councillor Barbara Gilliat;

Re: Please take a moment to protect Alberta youth from flavoured vaping products

Fifty-thousand Alberta youth in grades 6 to 12 are now using nicotine vaping products and the vast majority are flavoured.

Flavourings are a primary reason why kids are drawn to vaping products and there are many to choose from including cherry, chocolate, banana, mint, grape, menthol, fudge, mango—and the list goes on.

Tobacco and vaping companies have been very creative in targeting children and youth with highly addictive and enticing flavoured products and aggressive marketing campaigns.

Don't let tobacco and vaping companies target Alberta kids with flavoured nicotine products.

You can help us secure a provincial ban on these appealing and addictive products. It's as easy as 1-2-3.

1. Sign our online petition
2. Send a quick message to your MLA
3. Urge your friends and followers to do the same

With your help we can protect Alberta youth from flavoured vaping products.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this important request.

Sincerely,

Disha Panchal
Campaign Coordinator

Discussion Guide - Municipalities and Communities

Introduction

Alberta's municipalities and communities present opportunities – including those associated with buildings, urban and community planning, and improved waste management – that will not only reduce emissions but also lower costs for Albertans through improved efficiency. Municipalities and communities continue to pioneer innovative design and technologies that will result in significant emission reductions.

Context

National and international policy and technology continue to evolve, often calling for increased ambition on emission reductions in an effort to achieve ambitious climate targets. For example:

- The Government of Canada's "Healthy Environment, Healthy Economy" plan (2020), highlights federal policy development and investment aimed at:
 - cutting energy waste through building codes and retrofits to improve energy efficiency, and creating robust supply chains for low-emission building materials;
 - incentivizing low and zero-emission transportation; and
 - regulations to increase the number of landfills that collect and treat methane, and ensuring current systems make improvements to collect all they can.
- The Federation of Canadian Municipalities offers low-interest loans, in combination with grants, totalling up to \$10 million for municipalities for capital infrastructure projects that will improve environmental performance in municipal energy, transportation, waste, and/or water.
- Carbon sequestration through nature-based solutions (NBS) – including urban forestry and water management – offer emission removal

opportunities as well as enhance recreation spaces and municipal infrastructure.

- Growing number of municipalities with their own climate objectives and ambition.

Drivers

Alberta seeks to build on its track record of developing cost-effective policies that achieve environmental and economic objectives while meeting the needs of our communities and job creators. Enhanced climate policies will be considered to achieve the following outcomes:

- Maximize investment attraction and job growth in Alberta.
- Reinforce Alberta's strong environmental, social and governance approach.
- Leverage availability of public funding opportunities, ensuring a fair amount is allocated to support Alberta's objectives.
- Reduce negative impacts of external climate policy on Albertan communities and industry.
- Maintain control of climate policy in Alberta.
- Mitigate risks and leverage the opportunities of American and other trading partners' climate policies.

Emissions/Policy Profile

- In 2018, the waste sector emitted 2 Mt of CO₂e, representing 0.7% of provincial emissions; however, Alberta produces more municipal solid waste per capita than any other province or territory.¹
- Methane from waste is not priced under the federal carbon tax. It is within the scope of the Technology Innovation and Emissions Reduction (TIER) regulation, but few landfills are regulated. Offset protocols incent methane emission reduction projects in the waste sector.

¹ Statistics Canada Table 38-20-0032-01, 38-10-0033-01, and 17-10-0009-01

Challenges

Challenges to reducing emissions from municipalities and communities include:

- High upfront costs for improvements to retrofit infrastructure.
- Affordability of lower emission vehicles compared to gas and diesel powered vehicles.
- Availability of low-emission transportation infrastructure and costs for further development.
- Waste conversion technologies are more economically feasible for large facilities, disadvantages smaller communities.
- Cost differences between waste diversion and disposals – subsidization of disposal infrastructure has made landfill disposal economical for waste generators.
- Limited research, data, and awareness of costs, benefits, and trade-offs of improved waste management.

Policy Solutions

To build on the strong environmental practices in place, the Government of Alberta is examining areas for further action. Government is seeking your input on the implications and considerations of the following example approaches, as well as others not listed:

- Policies to increase methane management from landfills and waste facilities.
- Establish policy and investment framework to incentivize development of novel technologies within the waste sector.
- Public reporting on emissions from government buildings and operations.

Questions

1. What are the greatest opportunities for emissions reductions from municipalities and communities?
2. What is the role of the province and municipal governments to support emissions reductions from municipalities and communities?
3. How can Alberta shape our climate policies to leverage federal funding and attract investment in technology development and implementation?
4. What policy solutions and partnerships are required to accelerate investment in technology and innovation in Alberta?
5. Where do you see policy opportunities to enhance the use of carbon sequestration (e.g. trees, vegetation, soils, etc.) to support emission removals in Alberta?

