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The Beaver County Chronicle

A Free Weekly Publication Serving All of Beaver County

Wednesday, July 3, 2024, Volume 17, Issue 27

County to meet with Viking over shelving of culvert project

Patricia Harcourt

Beaver County and the Town of Viking are still not in agreement about culverts.

County council met behind closed doors June 19 to discuss Viking's request that the county not install a larger culvert under R.R. 130 as had previously been agreed.

The road is just adjacent to the Viking Golf and Country Club on the east side of Viking, and the culvert could directly affect drainage patterns for that area.

Specifically, Viking Council believes the current smaller culvert is doing its job well and the bigger culvert is not necessary at this time.

A study of the drainage in the Town of Viking was done several years ago to determine what needed to be done after significant rainfall caused flooding. Much of the water came across from the county to drain into the town causing this problem. When it happened a second time the following year, the town decided action was needed.

The resulting study concluded the culverts R.R. 125 and R.R. 130 required larger culverts to drain away water from Viking out into the country and into Lake Thomas.

The study's recommendations were to avert the consequences of a potential 100-year storm, should it happen over Viking.

But Viking council no longer feels the urgent need for a larger culvert, and cites issues of water licensing for the Viking Golf and Country Club as a reason not to up the ante on drainage at the moment.

If the older culvert is taken out and replaced, the gates used to control water flow for the golf club will

also be taken out.

At Beaver County's June 19 meeting, council went into closed session early in the meeting, citing Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Acts regarding "disclosure harmful to inter-governmental relations - Rge. Rd. 130 Culvert Construction Agreement."

After discussion about this issue, along with other water and personnel issues, council came out of session and passed a motion regarding the culvert issue.

A motion by Deputy Reeve Gene Hrabec (Division 3) was passed calling for Beaver County Council to meet with Viking Council to discuss the culvert situation.

The culvert FOIP discussion was part of the council meeting agenda but no information was provided for public viewing.

However, the meeting by Viking Council June 17 did include background material regarding their decision to reverse the agreement to install the culvert at R.R. 130.

A CAO report from Doug Lefsrud to Viking Council June 17 stated that "substantial infrastructure or environmental changes will impact the Viking Golf Course and their watershed license as well as future availability of water runoff."

Viking Council agreed that the project should be shelved "for the time being until significant change to current circumstances."

A week earlier on June 10, Lefsrud sent an email to Beaver County's CAO Kayleena Spiess stating that, "currently my council has instructed me to not sign the construction agreement." This agreement had been pending between the county and the Town of

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"Council is questioning the need for this agreement when there hasn't been a need for such an agreement in the past," he stated. "Especially now with no plans to install water control gates on the new culverts"

He added: "Is this the new standard that municipalities in Beaver County will have to sign similar agreements for joint projects?"

Lefsrud concluded: "There have been two years of discussion around this particular project, and now an agreement has to be signed, which wasn't required before? I would not sign until the majority of my council is in favour and gives me the go ahead."

But county CAO Spiess questioned how the Viking Council's new position would affect the agreement.

"With respect to the construction agreement, this is a relatively new practice for the county to prevent confusion when working on mutual projects," she said.

"Recently, we have partnered with the Village of Holden regarding roadwork and we have required agreements."

She said consistent monitoring of the area has showed that the single 900-mm culvert currently at R.R. 130 "has held up extremely well," despite the rainfall experienced of late.

And she stated that, "should the town not wish to move forward with signing the agreement, I will need to discuss next steps with county council at our next available meeting."

County Council did meet in closed session two days later and the motion by Hrabec to meet with Viking Council was passed.

Ratepayer denied tax penalty waiver

Patricia Harcourt

A request to waive late tax payment penalties was denied by Beaver County Council at its July 19 regular meeting.

The denial occurred with council voting "to adhere to the Tax Payments Deemed Received Policy with respect to the request to waive late tax payment penalties..."

The motion to "go with the policy" was made by Deputy Reeve Gene Hrabec (Division 3).

Ryan Arndt, General Manager of Corporate Services, made the recommendation.

"The county relies on the land title and the Change of Address Policy to determine the address to which tax notices are sent," Arndt said.

"The Change of Address Policy places the responsibility on the owner to advise of address changes."

The 2023 taxes went to the address on the land title, but the notice was returned to the county office by the post office as undeliverable, said Arndt. On Oct. 31 of that year a 10 per cent penalty was added to the taxes owing and sent out again only to be returned.

An address change was received on Jan. 5, 2024 via email and the county sent out the tax notice again, this time via email and regular mail.

Another six per cent penalty was imposed on Feb. 16, 2024, and a partial payment was received on Feb. 22.

Council discussed the fact that the owners

believed the taxes and the change of address would be handled by their insurance company, and included in their monthly insurance payments, which didn't happen.

Before his motion, Hrabec suggested putting information on the county website to clarify the issue. "I can see why people might not understand it," he said.

"It is the property owner's responsibility to ensure that they understand the agreement between themselves and their mortgage company at the time of purchase," stated Arndt.

"If the county is made aware of this arrangement, a copy of the tax notice will also be mailed to the mortgage company," he said. "In this case, the bank did not contact the county."



RURAL RESIDENTIAL STEWARDSHIP PROJECT FUNDING

Did you know acreage owners in the Beaverhills Biosphere can apply for cost-shared funding for projects like wetland and riparian zone enhancements, planting native species or restoring or enhancing existing native plant communities on your acreage?

Learn more about the Rural Residential Stewardship Program funding opportunity to support on-acreage stewardship here:

<https://www.beaverhills.ca/learn/projects/project/rural-residential-stewardship-program>



1993 INTERNATIONAL 4900 FIRE ENGINE PUMPER



SCAN ME

Beaver Emergency Services Commission has posted an International/Navistar DT466 Diesel fire truck for sale via online auction.

For more information and to view this posting, follow the link below or scan the QR Code above with your phone camera.

<https://www.govdeals.com/beaveremergencyservicescommissionab>

Everyone is invited to participate in this online auction.
Bids will be accepted via online auction until 12:00 PM July 12, 2024.



Landfill & Ryley Transfer Station:

50117 Rge Rd 173 (HWY 854) Box 322, Ryley, AB T0B 4A0

Weekdays 9:00am - 4:30pm;

Saturdays / STATS 9:00am - 3:00pm; Closed Sundays

NOTE: customers must arrive at least 15 minutes prior to closing;

Administration building

Mon to Fri 8:00am - 4:00pm, Closed from 12:00 - 1:00pm

Toll Free: 1.855.221.2038 Ph: 780.663.2038

Lindbrook Transfer Station:

51008 Rge Rd 201 Ph: 780.662.2704

Tues 10:30am - 5:30pm; Thurs 11:30am - 6:30pm;

Sat 10:30am - 5:30pm

Tofield Transfer Station:

51032 Rge Rd 191 Ph: 780.662.2731

Wed, Fri & Sat 10:30am - 5:30pm

Viking Transfer Station:

12503 Twp Rd 480 Ph: 780.718.7956

Tues 10:30am - 5:30pm; Sat 10:30am - 5:30pm

Kinsella Transfer Station:

46418 Rge Rd 113 Ph: 780.226.6802

Wed 11:00am - 5:00pm; Fri 11:00am - 5:00pm

Please note: All transfer stations except for the Ryley Transfer Station are closed on Statutory holidays.



Community Peace Officer - Level 1

For more information, and details on how to apply, visit our website > Government > Careers

2024 COUNTY CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

| (SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE) | START DATE | EST. END DATE |
|--|------------|---------------|
| Culvert Maintenance | Ongoing | Nov 1 |
| Patching oil roads throughout the season | Ongoing | Sep 29 |
| Terra-Cem Constructed in the following phases: | | |
| Phase 1 (Cement) Phase 2 (Chip Seal - 1st Lift) Phase 3 (Chip Seal - 2nd lift) Phase 4 (Final sweep of Chips) | | |
| • Twp 490 between Rge Rd 124 & Rge Rd 120 ◦ Phases 1 & 2 Complete | Ongoing | Jun 3 |
| • Rge Rd 120 from Twp 490 north for 1 KM ◦ Phases 1 & 2 Complete | Ongoing | Jun 17 |
| • Holden Streets | Jul 2 | Jul 4 |
| • Rge Rd 161A between Hwy 14 & Hwy 855 | Jul 5 | Jul 9 |
| • Rge Rd 200 between Hwy 630 & Blackfoot Grazing Reserve entrance | Jul 11 | Jul 21 |
| • Rge Rd 202 between Twp 502 & Twp 504 | Jul 30 | Aug 8 |
| Rechip 2 miles TBD (Contracted for late summer) | Aug 12 | Aug 23 |
| Pavement Overlay | | |
| • RGE RD 205 from TWP RD 510 to south County border | Jul 3 | Jul 19 |
| • TWP RD 510 from HWY 833 to RGE RD 201 | Jul 3 | Jul 19 |
| Shoulder Pulls | | |
| • Shoulder pull Rge Rd 202 between Twp 502 & Twp 504 | Jul 24 | Jul 29 |
| Backsloping (location TBD) | | |
| Gravelling | | |
| Dust Control- 1st Application | | |
| Dust Control- 2nd Application | | |
| TBD - To be Determined | | |

OPEN RFQ'S / RFP'S

Beaver County is currently accepting submissions for the following:

- RFQ2024-15INFR Transportation Shop – Industrial Heating and Ventilation System
 - Closes 10 AM (local Time), July 23, 2024.
- RFQ2024-17INFR Audio Visual System
 - Closes 10 AM (local time), July 10, 2024.

Please find complete information for all requests on our website > Business > Requests for Proposals & Quotes



Music Jam / Open Mic

Admission - \$ 5 per person
Musicians/Participants - No Charge
Come Dance to the Music!

SUNDAY July 21 at 1 PM
HOLDEN COMMUNITY HALL
4919 - 49 Ave. HOLDEN, AB

For more info:
Dave 780-720-5839
or beaverhillplayers17@gmail.com

Musician and spectators welcome!

PROPERTY FOR SALE BY COUNTY

Discover the perfect canvas for your dream home on this expansive 4.05-hectare property, located at 48208 Range Road 143 in Beaver County. This unique piece of land offers an exceptional opportunity for those looking to build a new residence in rural Alberta. Find more info on the County Website > Business > RFPs, Tenders, Leases & Sales



IMPORTANT DATES

July 17

- 9:30 AM - 12 PM: Governance & Priorities Committee Meeting
- 1:00 PM - 4:30 PM: Regular Council Meeting

Aug 5

- Office Closed

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY

Book Club

Location: Ross Creek Community Hall, 531041 Rge Rd 191
Rural book club that meets the first Tuesday of each month. Meetings run from 7PM - 8PM, all ages welcome!

Tofield AA - Thursdays, 8 - 9 PM

Basement of Bardo Lutheran Church, 4737 57 Ave, Tofield.

Viking AA - Wednesdays, 7:30 PM, Zoom option also available.
Golden Valley Lutheran Church, 5327 56 Ave, Viking.

<https://area78aa.org/meetings/147-3>

Submit your event/s, meetings and/or gatherings to the events calendar on the website! Just head to the website, under the Explore menu click on County Region Events Calendar. We have partnered with Go East to share local events on our website!



DEVELOPMENT PERMITS

The following Development Applications have been APPROVED (except where otherwise noted) by the Development Authority under the provisions of Land Use Bylaw No. 98-801, subject to the right of appeal to the relevant appeal body - Subdivision and Development Appeal Board or Land and Property Rights Tribunal.

APPEAL DEADLINE JULY 22, 2024

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Appeal Body | SDAB |
| Application No. | 020020-24-D0033 |
| Applicant | Stacey & Neil Zacharias |
| Location | Plan 8121894; Lot 1A located in NE 35-52-19-W4 |
| Development | Discretionary Use - Home Occupation Type II (home-based massage business) |

Any person wishing to appeal an application may do so by serving written notice on the prescribed form (stating reasons for the appeal) to the relevant appeal body. For information on how to appeal can be found on our website under **Services > Planning & Development > Appealing Planning Decisions**

Further information regarding the above decisions may be obtained from the County Office, Ryley, Alberta.



JOIN OUR TEAM!

We are currently looking for a:

Labourer

Beaver County is looking for Labourer in the Public Works and Infrastructure Department for the 2024 road maintenance and construction season.

Duties may include but are not limited to: shop hand, brushing, road oil patching, packer operator, bridge maintenance, drainage improvement, culvert replacement, and beaver dam removal.

TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT:

- As per beaver county's policies and the collective agreement with the i.u.o.e. local 955
- Works under assigned supervisor as a labourer and may be required to perform other duties.
- Available to work non-regular hours if required, as per section six (6) "hours of work" of the Collective agreement with i.u.o.e. local 955
- Position could be between 4 and 6 months

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Valid Class 5 Drivers License with an acceptable driving record
- Willing to train and learn to operate light and heavy duty equipment and work with crews
- Mechanically Inclined considered an asset
- Opportunity to gain valuable work experience
- Must be willing to work in fluctuating climates (hot, cold, wet) and environmental conditions.
- Ability to lift 50 lbs. or more
- Safety conscious attitude

POSITION DETAILS:

- Position Type: Full Time – Temporary
- Salary: \$21.18 - \$25.77
- A driver's abstract check will be required for successful applicants.
- Closing date: Until suitable candidate is found.

TO APPLY FOR THIS POSITION:

Submit a cover letter and resume, referencing the name of the position, to the following email: careers@beaver.ab.ca

Applications can also be submitted in-person or by mail to:
PO Box 140, 5120 50 Street
Ryley, AB T0B 4A0

Beaver County thanks all applicants for their interest however only those selected for interviews will be contacted.



Mailing list

Get news, meeting highlights, the road construction schedule, the Chronicle, and more - direct to your inbox!

Website

Information on County programs and services can be found on our website, along with the latest news.

Social media

Find us on Facebook, X (Twitter), Instagram, YouTube, and LinkedIn.



County repeals unnecessary subdivision bylaw and closes road allowance

Patricia Harcourt

Beaver County Council gave second and third readings to repeal a subdivision bylaw at the regular meeting June 19.

Bylaw #24-1152 was put in place in order to repeal Bylaw #20-1076 - Land Use Bylaw Amendment (portion of Plan 022 6466, Block 1, Lot 1).

Margaret Jones, Manager of Legislative Services, explained that on March 4, 2020, the former bylaw was passed to redistrict a portion of land. Only 6.65 acres of Lot 1 was redistricted at that time to Country Residential to enable Lot 1 to be sub-

divided.

"The landowner of Lot 1 did not pursue the subdivision application and subsequently sold the property," explained Jones.

"The current landowner has indicated that he has no interest in subdivision. Therefore, Bylaw #20-1076 should be repealed."

She added: "The new owners don't want to subdivide so we should repeal the bylaw done for the former owners."

First reading of the repealing bylaw was made May 22 and a public hearing was held June 19 where nobody attended speaking for or against the bylaw repeal.

Closing Road Allowance

A bylaw to close the road allowance along the south boundary of S1/2 18-50-17-W4 was finalized with third reading with a motion by Councillor Barry Bruce (Division 4).

Second reading of Bylaw #23-1136 was already passed on May 22.

"The applicant has met all the conditions of the road closure process and administration is recommending that council pass third reading of the bylaw so the final steps of survey and consolidation can be completed," said Jones.

She also noted that, "the applicant has paid fair market value for the land and will pay for all costs associated with consolidation of the road into the land."

Studies Show Newspapers Create Sales Opportunities

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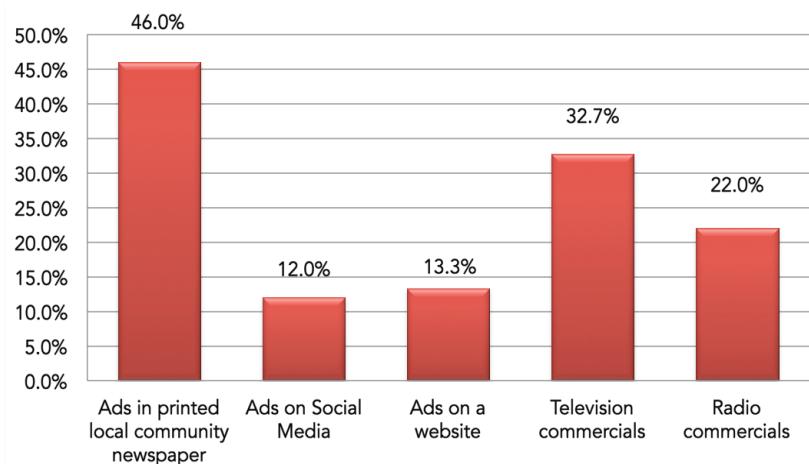
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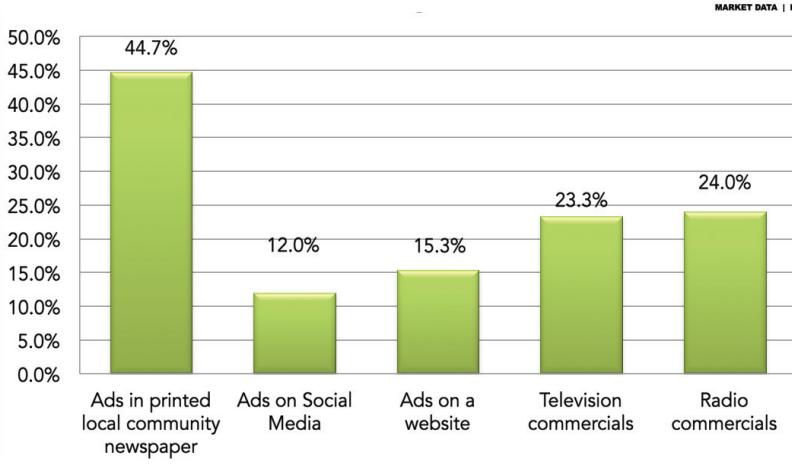
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MARKET DATA | READERSHIP INFO | RESULTS

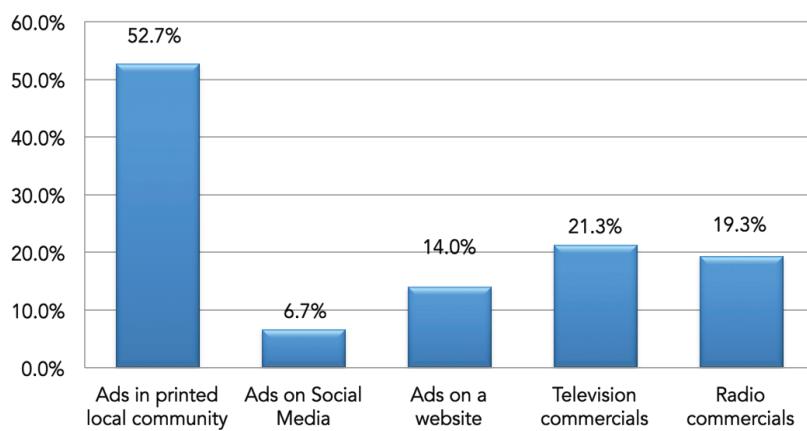
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