



**COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS
REGULAR MEETING
November 2, 2022**

Remembrance Day Acknowledgement

Reeve Smook welcomed Annette Short from the Ryley Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion. She thanked Council for the opportunity to attend the meeting and presented each Councillor with a poppy in recognition of Veterans Week 2022.

Reeve Smook acknowledged this meeting is the last meeting prior to Remembrance Day and, held a moment of silence to remember those that went before us.

Amendment to Vacation Leave Policy and Administrative Procedure

Council passed a motion to approve the amendments to the Vacation Leave Policy and Administrative Procedure as follows: Employees may carry over the previous year's annual accrued vacation leave. These days must be taken by December 31st of the following year. With prior permission of the Chief Administrative Officer before November 15th, employees may carry over up to an additional five (5) days' accrued vacation leave. These days must be taken by August 31st of the following year.

Appointment of Agricultural Fieldmen

On August 9, 2022, there was an Agricultural Service Board (ASB) Field Visit conducted of the Beaver County ASB program. During this visit, and the subsequent report, it was recommended that;

- If original Council minutes showing the appointment and approval of the Fieldman do not exist, it is recommended that Council reappoint and approve the Agricultural Fieldman as the designated officer of the municipality to carry out duties under the ASB and associated agricultural Acts.

Both A. Boese and J. Culbert have completed educational training in agriculture or agriculture related programs and have experience working with the ASB to implement policies and programs as related to the various Acts.

Council passed a motion appointing Aimee Boese as the Agricultural Fieldman, and Jonathan Culbert as the Assistant Agricultural Fieldman and to have the process to designate Aimee Boese as a designated officer of the municipality be completed.

ASB Scholarship

As stated in the Policy: '*Agricultural Service Board Scholarship*' by supporting young people pursuing a career in agriculture or a related field, Council is furthering its commitment to be "an integrated proactive community where innovation and progressive, practical leadership will forge a legacy for future generations through balanced environmental and economic sustainability."

Applicants must currently reside within the County (or be absent by reason only of attending post-secondary school) and be enrolled in a post-secondary agricultural or agricultural-related program of two or more years in length.

Agricultural-related programs include programs which, while not directly related to crop or livestock production, support the agricultural industry, such as agri-business, mechanics, etc.

Annually, Council may establish total funding available for the Agricultural Service Board Scholarship. A maximum of \$500.00 per applicant will be granted each calendar year for financial support towards costs associated with the applicant's post-secondary education in the chosen field of study. An applicant may receive no more than \$500.00 for the same agricultural or agricultural-related program.

The 2022 ASB Scholarship was awarded to Taylor Chomik.

Council passed a motion to have the Retirement Award for Board Members Policy EE-026 be amended and discussed at a Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting.

Community Support Request – Operating Grant

Lindbrook Community Hall members applied for Community Hall support in 2021. The funding was granted and the cheque released. Unfortunately the cheque remained uncashed and was never returned to Beaver County, so after 6 months it was stale dated.

In 2022, after the application for the 2022 funding was received, the Hall inquired about the 2021 funding and if the funding was still available. The County had closed the year end for 2021 so it was suggested they apply through the Community Support program for 2022 to ensure that they could still have funds available for the Hall's operations.

Council passed a motion awarding the Lindbrook Community Hall a Community Support Operating Grant of \$2000.

Holiday Decorating Contest

It's that time of year again to get into the festive spirit with some twinkling lights, inflatable characters, and tons of Christmas balls and garland.

In 2021, Beaver County Council held a Holiday Decorating Contest. This was a one-time event approved by Council at that time to celebrate the season and recognize the property beautification. There were 8 properties submitted and all received a prize:

Council passed a motion to approve the December Holiday Decorating Contest as an annual event, as well to set the prizes as follows:

1. **County wide –**
 - a. 1st place - \$500.00
 - b. 2nd place - \$300.00
 - c. 3rd place - \$200.00

2. **Per Division –**
 - a. \$150.00 for an honourable mention.

Request for Health Foundation Support – Tofield and Area Health Services Foundation

The *Health Foundation Support Policy* authorizes an annual grant to each of the Health Services Foundations in the County (Tofield and Viking). The amount of funding available in 2022 is \$20,000.

The Foundations must make application to Council for funding. The amount distributed to each organization is based on population in the service area.

In 2022, the results of the 2021 Federal census were released. Funding to each service area is as follows (upon request):

	<u>Population</u>	<u>Funding</u>
Tofield service area	3873 (66%)	\$13,200
Viking service	1995 (34%)	6,800
	5868	\$20,000

The Tofield and Area Health Services Foundation has requested the 2022 grant, and provided a copy of their financial statement.

Council passed a motion approving a grant of \$13,200.00 to the Tofield and Area Health Services Foundation.

ACP Grant for Regional Economic Development Plan

At the October 19, 2022 Regular Council meeting, Council reviewed a regional economic development presentation. Administration has received feedback from the regional partners on the topic, and some of the regional partners have expressed concerns about funding this project.

Council passed a motion directing administration to apply for an Alberta Community Partnership (ACP) grant (as managing partner) for development of a regional economic development plan, and request formal letters of support from the County’s regional partners.

The next Regular Council Meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, November 23, 2022, commencing at 9:30 am.

For more information, contact Beaver County toll free at 1-866-663-1333 or 780-663-3730.

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