

BEAVER COUNTY SEED CLEANING CO-OP
November
 Open by appointment only
 Phone 780-688-3917 • Holden, AB

Serving all the farms, ranches, acreages and towns in
 Beaver County
 Bruce, Holden, Kinsella, Ryley, Tofield, Viking

The Beaver County Chronicle

A Free Weekly Publication Serving All of Beaver County

Wednesday, November 15, 2023, Volume 16, Issue 46

Ryalta Industries Ltd.

Hubert & Margaret Graham
 Parts, Sales & Service
 Bus: 780-663-3759
 Res: 780-662-2384
 Fax: 780-663-3799
 ryalta@digitalweb.net
 5108 - 50th St. Ryley, AB., T0B 4J0

GT Mfg. Inc.
HARMON
 Husqvarna
 Brandt
 bühler
 Fleetguard

COUNTRY CLIPPER **NuVision**

Beaver County continues to advocate for nurse practitioners in rural areas

Beaver County Council presented a resolution at the convention of 2022 supporting recruiting and hiring more nurse practitioners in rural parts of the province and county.

"Beaver County is advocating for additional care for seniors before they need a long term care bed, as well as for more rural long-term non-private beds," said Camrose MLA Jackie Lovely. "This would take the load off nurses and hospital beds in the Tofield and Viking Hospitals."

"They are also advocating for support to keep Holden Lodge viable as it is critical to the Village of Holden and its residents," she said. "It's all about providing services to those who built this province."

Beaver County Deputy Reeve Gene Hrabec (Division 3 councillor) was in Edmonton at the Alberta Legislature and Rural Municipalities of Alberta convention last week to advocate on behalf of long term beds for seniors. Hrabec is the chair of Beaver Foundation, which oversees government owned and operated seniors facilities in Beaver County.

"Beaver County Council and I have been in conversation with Minister Jason Nixon, Minister of Seniors, Community and Social Services of Alberta," said Lovely. "I found the Minister to be quite supportive of our advocacy for Holden. I look forward to the next step," said Lovely.



Remembrance services were held November 11 throughout the county in Viking, Holden, Ryley and Tofield. In Viking, Division 5 Councillor Dale Pederson deposits a wreath on behalf of Beaver County at the Community Hall. PATRICIA HARCOURT PHOTO



Beaver County Deputy Reeve and Division 3 Councillor Eugene Hrabec (centre) is given his 9-year pin at RMA in Edmonton. The pin was awarded for service to the Rural Municipalities of Alberta as well as Beaver County. Photo provided.

Council needs more information before deciding on notice of motion

Patricia Harcourt

Beaver County Council voted down a notice of motion by Councillor Barry Bruce (Division 4) 4-1 in favour of getting more information before deciding on a path forward.

Bruce made the motion at the Nov. 1 regular meeting, which read: "That council consider Councillor Bruce's Notice of Motion to direct administration to draft a bylaw to create an assessment subclass for abandoned and unsightly buildings in hamlets and subdivisions."

However, council made it clear this wasn't an outright rejection of the principle idea behind Bruce's intention of finding a way to deal with abandoned and unsightly buildings. Bruce served notice he would be bringing the motion to council at a previous meeting, particularly targeting problem properties in the Hamlet of Bruce which he represents as a councillor.

Bruce had stated that he was taking the example of the City of Edmonton's "mature area derelict residential assessment subclass," introduced by the city to put a tax on its own properties.

Bruce stated his intention was for the county to get some revenue from these properties and add an incentive for them to be cleaned up.

Margaret Jones, manager of legislative services, said the notice of motion came from a councillor so administration could not comment but did provide two documents from the city of Edmonton.

Bruce provided council with an explanation as to the reason for his motion, stating he had lived in the community "my whole life," and knew "lots of responsible landowners" who cleaned up their properties once they were no longer being used.

But there are also irresponsible landowners who "don't do the right thing," he said, and leave their buildings abandoned to become dangerous, smelly and infested with animals.

He worried about cellars that used to be used to collect runoff in the spring now being a danger to people entering old buildings looking for antique, or curious kids just looking around.

"It's a stark reminder of what can happen," he said, referring to abandoned wells. Bruce said he is asking the people who own these rundown properties "to pay taxes like everyone else," noting one such landowner only pays \$23 for annual taxes.

"You can vote against this motion," said Bruce, but felt it was council's responsibility "to get a few extra tax dollars to benefit the community." He added he was "not asking to evict anyone," but "if they are not living there they should pay tax like anybody else."

Councillor Lionel Williams (Division 2) said he "appreciates (Bruce's) reflections," but wondered if this tax should be restricted to just hamlets and

Continued on BCC3

Brent from Killam Feed & Farm Supply
INVITES YOU
to an Information Session & Lunch

Date: **Wednesday November 22nd, 2023**

Location: **Killam Legion
 5117 51 Ave
 Killam, Alberta T0B 2L0**

**Please RSVP
 to Leanne
 780-385-8775**

AGENDA

- 10:30 AM **Arrival**
- 11:00 AM **Timely Beef Nutrition Q&A**
by Dr. Mark Cameron, Ph.D., *VP of Nutrition*
- 12:00 PM **Customer Appreciation Lunch**
- 1:00 PM **Navigating the Cattle Markets**
by Brian Perillat, MSc., *Agribusiness Specialist*

ALL are welcome for the Customer Appreciation Lunch!
 It is not required to attend the speaker sessions to enjoy!



RETIREMENT CELEBRATION FOR PIERRE BREAU

Join us in celebrating the retirement of our distinguished CEO, Pierre Breau, on **Friday, November 24**. The retirement celebration will take place at the **Ryley Hall**, located at 5103-49 Street from 2:00-5:00 pm. and is open to the entire community. This event will feature a brief program starting at **2:30 pm**, leaving the rest of the afternoon for guests to connect with Pierre. Light refreshments will be available.

Pierre's remarkable journey with the Beaver Regional Waste Management Services Commission (Beaver Municipal Solutions) began in 2011. Through his visionary leadership, the organization evolved into Claystone Waste, a municipally controlled corporation. Under his guidance, Claystone transitioned from a modest regional landfill into a western Canadian waste management leader. It has consistently demonstrated operational excellence in waste disposal, an unwavering commitment to environmental stewardship, and a steadfast dedication to pioneering innovative waste solutions.



We invite you to join us in extending warmest wishes to Pierre as he embarks on this well-deserved retirement journey. To assist us in making the necessary arrangements, kindly confirm your attendance, by **November 14** to **info@claystonewaste.com** or call us at **780.663.2038**.

2023 CYCLE 2 GRANT PROGRAM

Our second round of grant funding will be closing November 30. All Not-for-Profit community groups located within Beaver County that have a project, event or activity that could use some funding support are encouraged to submit an application. This program is not for individuals nor businesses.

Large capital projects do not qualify for this funding. For example, if your organization is developing a skate park, the overall capital project would not be covered, however an application for a bench or waste receptacle located in the skate park would qualify.

If you have any questions about our bi-annual grant program or would like to request an application form, please contact our office at 780.663.2038, extension 122.

Toll Free: 1.855.221.2038 Ph: 780.663.2038

50117 Range Road 173 (Secondary Highway 854) Box 322, Ryley, AB T0B 4A0

Landfill and Ryley Transfer Station Hours:

Weekdays 9:00 am - 4:30 pm; Saturdays / STATS 9:00 am - 3:00 pm;
 Closed Sundays

NOTE: customers must arrive at least 15 minutes prior to closing;
 Administration—Monday to Friday 8:00 am - 4:00pm, closed from 12:00 - 1:00 pm

Lindbrook Transfer Station Hours:

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

Tofield Transfer Station Hours:

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

Viking Transfer Station Hours:

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

Kinsella Transfer Station Hours:

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

Notice

Continued from BCC2

subdivisions.

"There are lots of abandoned wells," he said, throughout the county that should be addressed. "There are lots of unsightly properties that don't have buildings but a lot of other things," that need cleaning up.

He asked if the intent of the motion could be expanded to include all properties (not just buildings) in the entire county.

But Bruce said he "stands by my original motion," and would not accept a friendly amendment as his intent was "to target buildings in public spaces."

Williams replied that he "would rather treat everybody the same."

Bruce said Williams' point was a good one, but they are all paying taxes whereas these derelict properties in the hamlets and subdivisions are not.

And neighbours live close together in the hamlets, so a rundown property next door or across the street "is a non-stop 24-hour a day problem" for their neighbours.

"If we defeat this motion, nothing will happen and people want something

done," said Bruce.

But Councillor Dale Pederson (Division 5) said nothing will happen even if taxes are imposed on such a property.

"People pay taxes and then where does it go from there?" he asked. "I don't think that this is really going to yield anything in the end."

Deputy Reeve Gene Hrabec (Division 3) said he was "not against what is being said," but pointed out that such properties have been taken by the county for back taxes. The county then cleans them up before putting them up for sale. But sometimes the owner comes back and pays the taxes before the sale happens, leaving the county "on the hook" for the cleanup.

Jones replied that, if a cleanup order had been issued against the property previously, the cost can be added to the next taxes imposed. However, there are issues along with demolishing a building such as dealing with asbestos.

"We need all that information before proceeding," said Hrabec, noting the county "already has a derelict building bylaw."

Hrabec felt "there are better ways to handle it," citing the Kinsella ag society's grass cutting in its own hamlet.

"If we had a report to answer those

questions we could make a better decision," he said. "I think there's a way to do it. I think we already have the tools in our tool kit, we just don't use them."

He agreed with Williams on another point: "I don't like treating anybody, certain classes of people, differently," he said. "I don't want to pick a class...I think we can fix these things" without doing that.

Reeve Kevin Smook (Division 1) added his voice to that stating he didn't support the motion as introduced. "I do like creating a separate assessment for properties with abandoned or derelict buildings...but only if it is county-wide."

Williams asked, regarding Hrabec's comments, why the county hasn't done anything about the derelict properties if there are already bylaws to deal with them.

Jones replied that there is a nuisance bylaw on the books already, but acting on it is difficult without a working definition of what unsightly means. "Establishing a level of service for hamlets is a top priority for the county," she said, in the New Year.

Said Bruce: "If we want people to come to the community we need to clean them up...We're shooting ourselves right square in the foot."

Bruce said he has been on county

council for the past six years and brought up these issues several times, with nothing done.

"These are big, big issues," he said. "We give it all kinds of lip service...and we're not using them (the bylaws). We're coming to council meetings and we're not doing anything."

"All I am asking is to elevate the tax to what the neighbour is paying," he said. "We can use the money for the benefit of the community."

After Bruce's original motion was defeated, Hrabec proposed another motion that passed after an amendment by Smook was made to it that the motion refer to abandoned properties not abandoned buildings.

The motion passed read: "Direct administration to prepare a report regarding existing policies, administrative procedures and bylaws to address unsightly complaints, including costs to administer these policies and bylaws."

And further, "Administration is also to seek legal advice regarding the assessment subclass bylaw for abandoned and unsightly properties throughout the county."

Council will deal with this report at a later council date, or possibly at a Governance and Priorities Committee meeting for further discussion.



Beaver County

5120 - 50th Street, Box 140, Ryley AB, T0B 4A0

Phone: 780-663-3730 | www.beaver.ab.ca

CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

TASK	START DATE	ESTIMATED END DATE	UPDATE: November 15th
Culvert Maintenance	APRIL 1	TBD	ONGOING
Terra-Cem:	MAY 29	JULY 10	ALL LOCATIONS COMPLETE
Rechip:	AUGUST 4	AUGUST 7	COMPLETE
Shoulder Pulls: TWP RD 484 between RGE RD 145 & HWY 14 TWP 474 between HWY 857 & RGE RD 144 RGE RD 194 between TWP 500 & HWY 14 RGE RD 124 between TWP 492 & TWP 494 TWP 500 between RGE RD 142 & 144	AUGUST 1	OCTOBER 2	ALL LOCATIONS COMPLETE
Backsloping: Range Road 160 and Township 490	OCTOBER 2	TBD	ONGOING
Gravelling	MARCH 13	DECEMBER 22	COMPLETE

SNOW CLEARING AND ICE CONTROL POLICY

Important Snow Clearing & Ice Control Policy Update:

In preparation for the winter season, we have made significant changes to our Snow Clearing and Ice Control Policy. These revisions aim to boost safety and efficiency in our services.

- Starting this winter, residents must prepay for the service in advance. This ensures precise and timely service during winter weather.
- Previous agreements are now invalid. To continue using our snow clearing and ice control services, everyone must complete and sign the new agreement.
 - Access it on our website at www.beaver.ab.ca or request a mailed copy by calling 780-663-3730.
- Seniors and those with health restrictions still have up to six free snow clearings available per year, but a new agreement is required.
- To encourage the use of local contractors and support our community, we've changed service prices which can be found in the Fees, Rates, and Charges Bylaw.

For more information, visit our website or call 780-663-3730.

FARM FAMILY AWARD

The Stauffer Family of SMB Farms Ltd., from Beaver County, was awarded the 2023 BMO Farm Family Award at Farm Fair International on November 10th. Unfortunately, the Stauffers were unable to attend to accept the award. In their stead, MLA Jackie Lovely, Reeve Kevin Smook, and Councillor Lionel Williams, were honoured to receive the award on their behalf of the family. Congratulations Stauffer Family!



BESC STATION #2 PROJECT

In a feat of resourcefulness, the Beaver Emergency Services Commission (BESC) has completed an outstanding project for Station #2 in Ryley. Opting against the standard two-year wait for a factory-order bush truck, members of BESC instead embarked on an ambitious journey to build their own. A sincere thank you to every individual who lent their skill and time to this project. Congratulations on this accomplishment—a true reflection of what can be achieved through collaboration and community spirit.



(Left to right) Reeve Smook, Dep. Chief Weston Magnuson, Chief Terry Magnuson, Dep. Reeve Hrabec, Councillor Pederson, BESC Regional Manager Steve Upham, Willis Reist, Capt. Keaton Gomgomolchuk, Councillor Williams, and Councillor Bruce



Beaver County

5120 - 50th Street, Box 140, Ryley AB, T0B 4A0
Phone: 780-663-3730 | www.beaver.ab.ca

UPCOMING MEETINGS

November 29th and 30th:

- 9:30 AM: Regular Council Budget Meeting

December 13th:

- 9:30 AM: Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting
- Regular Council Meeting to follow

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- Book Club - December 5th

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!



- Darts Night - Wednesday evenings at the Ryley Legion

7:30 PM- 10:00 PM

Legion membership not required, and all skills levels welcome! Darts available to lend if needed.

- Steak Night - Saturday November 18th at the Holden Complex

Steak \$30 or Shrimp and Steak \$35

Children's Meals - burgers and hot dogs only (12+ \$10, 6-12 \$5, 5 and under free)

Live auction - 7:30 PM, Silent Auction 5-8 PM, Free Skating 5-8 PM

Contact Lucy at 780-781-6014 for more information.

- Food for Thought - Give a Can Today - Food Drive

Tofield-Ryley Food Bank desperately needs cans of fruit.

Call 780-662-3511 and leave a message if you wish to donate - a volunteer will return your call.

Submit your event/s, meetings and/or gatherings to our events calendar on the website! Just head to the website, scroll down to the calendar, click to view all events, then hit the **Submit an event button!**



DEVELOPMENT PERMITS

APPEAL DEADLINE: November 22, 2023

Application No: 020020-23-D0069

Applicant: Hoelsing, Denise, Ronald, and Tyren

Location: Plan 972 0257; Block ; Lot B located in NE-5-46-10-W4

Plan 972 0257; Block ; Lot A located in SE-8-46-10-W4

0.478 ha (1.18 ac) located in NE-5-46-10-W4

Development: Permitted Use - One Family Dwelling (1,344 sq.ft. mobile home with addition) and Buildings and Uses Accessory to Permitted Uses (2,100 sq.ft. tarp shed)

APPEAL DEADLINE: November 22, 2023

Application No: 020020-23-D0072

Applicant: MAGA Energy LTD.

Location: Plan 212 2928; Block 1; Lot 3 located in NE-15-51-19-W4

Landowner: BCR Farms LTD.

Development: Discretionary Use - Natural Resource Extraction Uses and General Industrial Uses - Type II - Natural Gas Generator 800kW (12m x 2.4m) and Data Processing Facility (sea can 6m x 2.4m) - added to existing wellsite with well and compressor

APPEAL DEADLINE: December 6, 2023

Application No: 020020-23-D0073

Applicant: Walters, Shawn

Location: 3.51 ha (8.68 ac) located in NW-16-49-12-W4

Development: Discretionary Use - Solar Collectors, Ground Mount, (solar ground array - 24.4m² in floor area and 3.3m in height.)

Any person wishing to appeal a decision may do so by serving written notice on the prescribed form (stating reasons for the appeal) to the Land and Property Rights Tribunal at the following address.

The notice of appeal must be submitted before 4:30 pm on the appeal deadline date shown above. The prescribed form is available at www.beaver.ab.ca or at the County office.

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

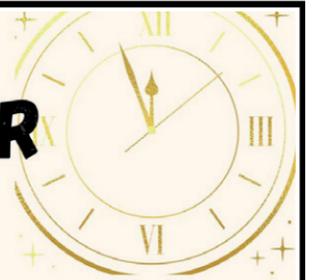
Land and Property Rights Tribunal
1229 - 91 Street SW
Edmonton, AB T6X 1E9
LPRT.appeals@gov.ab.ca
780-427-2444

PROPERTY TAXES PAST DUE

Beaver County Property Taxes were due on October 31st, 2023. Current taxes that were not paid on or before that date now have a 10% penalty applied to them. Notices have been sent out to those with outstanding property taxes. An additional 6% penalty will be applied to all outstanding property taxes on January 15th, 2024. Please call the office at 780-663-3730 with any questions.



IS IT TIME TO UPGRADE YOUR SKILLS?



GET STARTED WITH CALP

FREE ADULT TUTORING

BASIC MATH

READING

WRITING

TECHNOLOGY SKILLS

ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING

CALP ALSO OFFERS

RESUME DRAFTING SUPPORT
PATHWAYS TO EARNING YOUR GED

Call 780-663-3732
Email Calp@beaver.ab.ca



Festival of Trees

WHERE: TOFIELD MUNICIPAL LIBRARY

WHEN: DECEMBER 2, 2023

TIME: 12:00PM TO 3:00PM

If you or your organization would like to enter a tree, please contact Tofield/Beaver County West FCSS at 780-662-7067 to obtain a registration form. A \$20 entry fee applies to all tree entries. Proceeds will be donated to the Tofield, Ryley, and Area Food Bank.

Families, please join us for some fun holiday activities and take a few minutes to vote for your favourite tree!



Enter or Judge a Tree Entry



Hot Chocolate



Ornament Decorating and Holiday Crafts



Write a letter to Santa



Treats Bags



Pet Treat Decorating
Supplies donated by
Queen of Hearts Pet Grooming

Brought to you in partnership by:

