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The Beaver County Chronicle

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 Wednesday, March 20, 2024, Volume 17, Issue 12

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County wants Ryley to get Clean Harbors' funding and documents for review

Patricia Harcourt

Beaver County Council went with the administrative recommendation regarding funding for interpretation of annual reports, and said the money and documents should go to the Village of Ryley.

A motion by Deputy Reeve Gene Hrabec (Division 3) was passed that the Village of Ryley should accept Clean Harbors' offer for annual funding to engage a qualified independent consultant to review and interpret Clean Harbors' annual operating reports and other publicly available documents. Also, the county recommended that the results be reported to both the county and village councils and the general public.

In her report to council Feb. 21, manager of legislative services Margaret Jones offered an explanation: "RPAC has been working with

Alberta Environment and Clean Harbors to ensure satisfactory monitoring of Clean Harbors' landfill and to address concerns of potential groundwater contamination," she stated.

As a result, Alberta Environment has committed "to provide greater oversight of Clean Harbors' operations at the Ryley landfill, investigate complaints, and enforce conditions of the operating approval," said Jones.

Clean Harbors offered to provide funding to either Beaver County or the Village of Ryley to interpret annual reports and other documents, increase the number of facility updates to the community, and develop an emergency notification plan.

"This issue was discussed by Ryley/Beaver Intermunicipal Committee in January," said Jones.

"The Committee referred the matter to each

council for a recommendation. As of the date of writing this RFD, the village has not considered the matter."

Jones concluded that: "The Clean Harbors facility is within the village's jurisdiction, therefore administration recommends that the village receive the funds and coordinate the review."

Division 2 Councillor Lionel Williams agreed that the county wasn't really a part of the mix with the Ryley Public Advisory Committee (RPAC), the Village of Ryley and Clean Harbors. He also referred to funding of \$10,000 which Jones had recommended go to the village, which should be in charge of any reviewing documents provided by Clean Harbors.

"We aren't involved," he said.

County CAO Kayleena Spiess said the motion was a way of getting clarity on the matter: "It's the village's to handle," she said.

Water infrastructure from Budget 2024 may benefit local communities in and around county

Patricia Harcourt

The need for more water infrastructure in Beaver County has become apparent due to the threat of drought this year in the area.

The issue was discussed at the county's Feb. 21 meeting where council agreed to investigate alternate plans to secure a clear water source for agricultural uses in preparation for potential water restrictions.

The county has also agreed to send a letter to the Agriculture Service Board informing it that the recommendation for needed alternate sources of water will become part of the county's Water Viability Project.

The Town of Viking is looking to preserve its potable water by offering agricultural producers a source of water that hasn't been treated but will work well for spraying and other ag related purposes. The project will be completed this

spring in time for farmers to use this water derived from Iron Creek and stored in the town's former reservoirs, used before the town became part of the waterline service that runs down Highway 14.

The county also recognizes that "water restrictions and droughts can heavily impact agriculture," as stated in the county's report on the matter last month.

Last Friday, the province made an announcement regarding the need to keep critical water infrastructure afloat during these times of potential drought and restrictions.

The province has stated that Budget 2024 has targeted investments in municipal infrastructure to improve water treatment and support communities. The Town of Viking will be looking for support for their own non-potable truck station for agriculture uses from this source of funding.

Growing populations are creating the need for improved water and wastewater infrastructure.

"That is why Alberta's government is once again increasing funding for grant programs to better manage water resources and support the growing water infrastructure needs of municipalities," stated the March 15 press release.

This initiative would provide \$481.9 million in grants for municipal water programs over three years, an increase of \$173.9 million over last year.

Devin Dreeshen, minister of transportation and economic corridors, added to this by stating: "Alberta's government recognizes the huge demand for water that comes with a growing population."

"Through Budget 2024, we are helping municipalities by funding new and repairing old

Continued on BCC4

You are invited

Beaver County is inviting interested residents to view, comment, and discuss the proposed updates to the Equity Industrial Park Area Structure Plan with County Council, Planners, and Consultants.

OPEN HOUSE

March 27, 2024
4 PM to 7 PM

Ryley Legion
5121-50 Street, Ryley

What is an Area Structure Plan?
This plan is our blueprint for guiding development in a smart and sustainable way. It covers everything from environmental protection, how land will be used, to the design of roads and infrastructure, ensuring growth happens smoothly and thoughtfully.

Claystone Waste Ltd

Do you call Beaver County home?...

- Are you a community champion with a keen interest in waste management?
- Do you have valuable insights or expertise in environmental and occupational health and safety?

If you answered yes, to all the above, Claystone Waste has TWO openings on our Public Advisory Committee (PAC) that might just be perfect for you!

The PAC serves as a crucial link between Claystone Waste's Board of Directors and the community. Its core mission is to provide valuable insights on community concerns or interests related to our regional waste facilities and services. The committee comprises of six (6) public members, each serving a 3-year term, appointed directly by the Board, and representatives selected by municipal shareholders via Council.

To Apply: Send your cover letter and resume to info@claystonewaste.com by March 31, 2024. The Board will be making committee appointments at their April meeting.

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.



JOIN OUR TEAM!



We're looking for some motivated team members to join our team! What's your superpower?!

- **Seasonal Crew Member - Ag Services**
- **Seasonal Labourer**
 - Duties may include but are not limited to brushing, road oil patching, packer operator, bridge maintenance, culvert replacement, and beaver dam removal.
 - QUALIFICATIONS:
 - Valid Class 5 Drivers License & acceptable driving record
 - Willing to train and learn to operate light and heavy duty equipment and work with crews
 - Must be willing to work in fluctuating climates (hot, cold, wet) and environmental conditions.
 - Ability to lift 50 lbs. or more
 - Safety conscious attitude
- **Seasonal Truck Drivers (6-8 months)**
 - Class I Truck Drivers with equipment operating experience for the 2024 gravel hauling and construction season.
 - QUALIFICATIONS:
 - Valid Class 1 License with a favourable driving record.
 - Minimum Grade 12 or G.E.D.
 - General servicing of equipment, and other duties as assigned by the Supervisor.
 - Knowledge of Beaver County.
 - Ability to work independently and assume responsibility for maintenance of equipment.
 - Ability to work effectively with other employees and the public.

For full information on these opportunities visit our website (www.beaver.ab.ca). The Careers page can be found under the Government menu.

OPEN TENDERS / RFQ'S

Beaver County is currently accepting submissions for the following:

- RFQ2024-08INFR 2024 Portland Cement Supply and Apply.
 - Closes 10 AM (Local Time), March 21, 2024.
- TEN2024-09INFR 2024 Graded Aggregate Seal Coat
 - Closes 10 AM (Local Time), March 21, 2024.
- TEN2024-10INFR RGE RD 205 Paving Project
 - Closes 10 AM (Local Time), April 11, 2024.

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



ROAD BAN IN EFFECT

Road Ban Order: 01 - 2024

Pursuant to the Traffic Safety Act the County hereby orders that effective **March 15, 2024 at 8:00 AM**.

The following percentage axle weights of public vehicles apply on the following roads:

Type of Road	Location	Percentage Axle Weight
Gravel Roads	All	100%
*Paved Roads	All	75%
*Chip Sealed Roads	All	75%
Except for:	RGE RD 132 between TWP RD 482 and Parrish and Heimbecker NORTH entrance	50%
	TWP RD 482 between RGE RD 132 and HWY 36	50%

Kayleena Spiess, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

THIS ORDER RESCINDS BAN ORDER 05-2023

*Denotes changes

IMPORTANT DATES**March 27th:**

- 9:30 AM: Regular Council Meeting
- 4 - 7 PM: Open House - Equity Industrial Park ASP

March 29 & April 1:

- Office Closed for Easter

**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 Subdivision and Development Appeal Board/Land and Property Rights Tribunal.

APPEAL DEADLINE March 20, 2024

Appeal Body SDAB
Application No. 020020-24-D0010
Applicant Five Star Permits
Landowner Bruce Sports and Stampede Association
Location Plan 5553AO; Block ; Lot B located in SW-30-48-14-W4
Development Discretionary Use – Signs (13.25 sq.ft. to replace existing ATB sign affixed to building)

APPEAL DEADLINE April 10, 2024

Appeal Body LPRT
Application No. 020020-24-D0011
Applicant MAGA Energy Ltd.
Landowner Edward Koop
Location NW-11-51-19-W4
Development Discretionary Use - Natural Resource Extraction Uses and General Industrial Uses – Type II – Four (4) Natural Gas Generators combined capacity of 990kW (sea cans – each being 1.5m x 2.4m) and Two (2) Data Processing Facilities (sea cans – each being 6.1m x 2.4m) – added to existing wellsite with well and compressor.

APPEAL DEADLINE April 10, 2024

Appeal Body SDAB
Application No. 020020-24-D0012
Applicant Matthew Thiessen
Landowner Samuel and Sandra Thiessen
Location NW-22-50-19-W4
Development Discretionary Use – Second or Additional Dwellings (Second Home – 980sq.ft.)

APPEAL DEADLINE April 10, 2024

Appeal Body SDAB
Application No. 020020-24-D0013
Applicant Alan Cahoon
Landowner Alan and Erin Cahoon
Location Plan 1325099; Block 1; Lot 6A located in SW-36-51-20-W4
Development Discretionary Use – Solar Collectors, Ground Mount (1,000 sq.ft. in area) – residential use

APPEAL DEADLINE April 10, 2024

Appeal Body SDAB
Application No. 020020-24-D0014
Applicant Fluent Solar LLC
Landowner Lance and Rachel Englot
Location Plan 1121776; Block 1; Lot 1 located in SW-15-50-19-W4
Development Discretionary Use – Solar Collectors, Structure Mount (420.36 sq.ft. in area on primary home) – residential use

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 our our website under **Services > Planning & Development > Appealing Planning Decisions**

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

**WHATS 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!

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.

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/>

Social media

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

**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.



Viking Council passes motion to buy main street property

Patricia Harcourt

The relocation of the Town of Viking's administrative offices may be in the offing with the passing of a council motion.

A special council meeting on March 13 was held to swear-in Judy Acres as the latest person to join Viking Council. Acres was elected

as councillor by acclamation.

However, council also took the opportunity to hold a closed session of council under the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (FOIP).

Discussion took place under "Disclosure harmful to economic and other interests of the public body - Town office relocation."

About 90 minutes later council came out of closed session.

Deputy Mayor Cindy Lefsrud made a motion which was passed and read: "Council motion administration to act on the purchase of the commercial property on Main Street address 5112-50 Street.

The property is listed as a 2,700 sq. ft. renovated commercial build-

ing with plenty of parking space at the rear of the building.

The property is listed at \$80,000.

Council has not said anything concerning this move so far. However, there may be more to come once the open house is held on Wednesday this week.

Water Infrastructure

Continued from BCC1

water systems," he added.

"I'm proud that through water, road, transit and bridge grants, my department funds nearly \$1 billion per year to municipalities."

The announcement also comes at a good time for Beaver County. On Feb. 5, council conducted a 2024 Priorities Planning workshop, stated the county's manager of transportation Dan Blackie.

"During the workshop, it was determined that the investigation into alternate water sources is a priority," he stated. "The project is called the Water Viability Project and the purpose is to address the long term solutions for water shortages pertaining to human consumption, agriculture and industrial usage.

"The scope of work required is vast and will require multiple internal resources with a strong possibility of external and specialized expertise for investigating, researching, engineering, logistic planning and stakeholder engagement," said Blackie.

"Considering the impact of a project of this magnitude, it is administration's opinion that it will be impractical to complete the

project before the summer of 2024, but it is feasible to begin the investigation and research phase."

Apart from drought issues, the county wants to increase its supply of water in order to carry out an economic development plan that includes an expansion of Equity Industrial Park. Letters and personal presentations since last fall have emphasized these points to provincial ministers.

In the meantime, the Alberta government stated March 15 that it "recognizes that water is a vital resource."

This means that in order to continue attracting investment and development, municipalities need modern and effective water treatment facilities, including high priority water supply projects, water and wastewater treatment plants, and disposal facilities in small communities," concluded the provincial government.

Nate Horner, minister of the treasury board and finance, echoed this direction: "Municipalities need to expand their water facilities so they can continue to provide clean water to their growing communities," he said.

He added, however, a point that would resonate with the objectives Beaver County has for investment projects and growing the local economy: "But these projects also support the entrepre-

neurs, businesses and industries that are keeping our economy humming," he said. "And will help municipalities attract even more investors."

He added: "Our government is proud to provide the resources they need to expand, succeed and share in our economic prosperity."

The funding supports the Alberta Municipal Water/Wastewater Partnership, Water for Life and First Nations Water Tie-In Programs.

For smaller Alberta communities like Viking, with a population under 45,000, the Alberta Municipal Water/Wastewater

Partnership helps upgrade water supply and treatment and wastewater treatment systems.

And the Water for Life program helps municipalities cover up to 90-100 per cent of the costs for specialized projects.

The program serves to provide "critical financial supports to smaller municipalities to ensure Albertans in every community have the water resources needed to accelerate economic development and attract more industry investment," states the government in a statement that could be directly referring to the needs of Beaver County.

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780-983-1607 (24/hr)

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