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Closed June 20th – Sept. 2nd

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The Beaver County

Chronicle

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Hrabec joins lineup at Holden Farmer’s Day Parade



KARI JANZEN PHOTO

Beaver County Division 3 Councillor and Deputy Reeve Gene Hrabec was one of many who were part of the Holden Farmer's Day parade on Saturday, June 14.

Beaver County looks to plant trees with grant through FCM/CN partnership

Patricia Harcourt
Editor

After attending a Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) convention in late May, Beaver County Council agreed to work with CN Rail and FCM to obtain funding for planting trees.

Council wants CN to work with the county to obtain a partnership grant from FCM’s Green Municipal Fund to plant the trees.

The initiative came from Deputy Reeve Gene Hrabec (Division 3), who advised the Governance and

Priorities Committee (GPC) after the convention on June 4 of the availability of the FCM fund.

“CN had previously committed to a contribution of \$50,000 towards tree planting at the (county) campgrounds,” said Ryan Arndt, general manager of corporate services, at county council’s June 18 regular meeting.

“Deputy Reeve Hrabec suggested that the county could partner with CN to combine its \$50,000 grant with this initiative,” Arndt explained.

On June 4, GPC passed

a motion “to recommend that council direct administration to open a line of communication with CN regarding a partnership with the Green Municipal Fund Tree Program,” he said.

In regards to the \$50,000 committed by CN, Ryan said the funds “could be used as a match,” for the FCM program.

Councillor Lionel Williams (Division 2) questioned the need to contact CN concerning making a matching application to FCM.

“Do we need its approval to match the grant?” he asked.

However, Arndt replied that the suggestion was made “just to reach out to get things moving.”

Williams cautioned: “Don’t count on CN,” regarding a matching grant with the Green Municipal Fund. Hrabec said the motion should state that both CN and FCS be contacted to cover the county’s bases.

The county has to contact CN due to certain conditions that would require CN approval, he said, noting the CN funds are specifically for planting trees in the county’s two campgrounds.

Hrabec’s motion was to contact CN and FCM’s Green Municipal Fund regarding the county’s obtaining a collaborative grant to plant trees “at the county’s discretion,” as opposed to the county’s campgrounds only.

The motion passed.

SWIMMING LESSONS

WEEK LONG LESSONS

OFFERED ALL SUMMER

June 30 - August 29
Monday - Friday
10-11am, 11-12pm
\$25 first set of lessons
for more details
Ryleypool.ca

Ryley Pool And Wellness Centre
5215 52 Ave, Ryley, AB
(780) 663 3505



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!
Tofield AA - Thursdays, 8 - 9 PM
Basement of Bardo Lutheran Church, 4737 57 Ave, Tofield.
Viking AA - Wednesdays, 8 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!

IMPORTANT DATES



July 16
• 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM - Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting
• 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM - Regular Council Meeting
August 20
• 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM - Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting
• 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM - Regular Council Meeting

JOIN OUR TEAM!

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- Administrative Assistant - Summer Student**

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





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Come work with us on October 20, 2025. Positions available...

- Presiding Deputy Returning Officers
- Deputy Returning Officers
- Standby Workers

For more information, and details on how to apply, visit our website > Government > Careers, or scan the QR code.





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The Claystone Waste Facebook page is where you will find service updates, grant program info, job postings, and more!

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Not on Facebook? There's other ways to keep in touch.

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Phone: 780.663.2038
Toll Free: 1.855.221.2038
Email: info@claystonewaste.com
Billing: ar@claystonewaste.com
Website: claystonewaste.com

Living Through LOSS

A six-week facilitated support group for those experiencing grief and loss.

Viking/Beaver FCSS office
(4924 53 Avenue, Viking, AB)

July 8, 15, 22, 29
August 5, 12
6:00-7:30 p.m.

Free of charge.

Participants will be required to complete a brief questionnaire before registering.

For more information or to register, please contact Dawn at Viking/Beaver FCSS at **780.336.4024** or **DChrystian@vbfcss.ca**





CAMPGROUND BOOKINGS!



Attention outdoor enthusiasts! Planning your next camping adventure? Why not try out Camp Lake or Black Nugget!

Access the online booking tool on our website under the **Explore** menu.



LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR NON-PROFITS

Looking to boost your non-profit's success? Check out the Alberta Non-Profit Learning Centre for FREE webinars, videos, and courses to support funding, governance and more.

- Live Winter 2025 Webinars
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- Free to attend



NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Nominations are now open for the 2025 Municipal Election. Thinking of running for Council?



Visit our website under:

Government > Municipal Election 2025 or scan the QR code to view all Election information including key dates, the candidate information package, and nomination forms.



ROAD CLOSURE: RGE RD 171

Please be advised that beginning June 26th, 2025, RGE RD 171 from TWP RD 484 to 490 will be closed for a Bridge Replacement. Local traffic will be accommodated, however no through traffic will be allowed. Weather dependent, work is expected to last approximately one month. Please use alternate routes as posted.

CONSTRUCTION NOTICE: TWP 492 APPROXIMATELY 1.72KM EAST OF RGE RD 170

Over the coming weeks, TWP 492 approximately 1.72kms east of Rge Rd 170 will undergo a significant road repair to a durable, all-weather hard surface. This improvement includes stabilizing the existing road base with soil cement, followed by the application of two layers of chip seal. Although this process differs from traditional asphalt paving, residents and motorists will enjoy a similar finished surface—dust-free when dry and mud-free when wet.

During construction, sections of the road may be temporarily closed to allow crews to work safely. Detours will be clearly marked. Please plan alternate routes where possible or drive cautiously if you must travel through the construction zone (local traffic only).

Beaver County is committed to maintaining a safe, injury-free work environment for all staff, contractors, and the public. We kindly remind all drivers to respect posted speed limits in construction areas. Excessive speed poses a serious risk to workers and others in the area.

Construction sites can present potential hazards such as heavy equipment, dust, mud, gravel, chip seal materials, and other debris. We urge everyone to stay alert and travel with care.

We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work to improve your roads. These upgrades are essential to maintaining safe and reliable infrastructure in high-traffic areas.

For more information, please contact the Beaver County Service Centre at 780-663-3730.



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.



2025 COUNTY CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

****ALL DATES ARE APPROXIMATE AND WEATHER DEPENDENT****

	START DATE	EST. END DATE	AS OF JUNE 18
Culvert Maintenance	April 1	Nov 1	
Patching oil roads	May 1	Sep 29	
Hard-Surface Locations Constructed in the following phases: Phase 1 (P1): Cement, Phase 2 (P2): Chip Seal 1st Lift, Phase 3 (P3): Chip Seal 2nd lift, Phase 4 (P4): Final sweep of Chips.			
Kingsway Estates - 501	May 12	May 16	P1, P2
Rge Rd 202 between Twp 502 & 504	May 19	May 30	P1, P2
Beaver Creek Estates North - 50514 Rge Rd 202	Jun 2	Jun 4	P1, P2
Rge Rd 200 from Hwy 630 to campground entrance & Hoopers Dr	Jun 5	Jun 9	P1, P2
Whispering Hills Estates - 51308 Rge Rd 195	Jun 10	Jun 14	P1, P2
Rge Rd 200 from Hwy 630 to Blackfoot Grazing Reserve Entrance	Jun 16	Jun 24	
Twp 492 approx. 1.72kms east of Rge Rd 170	Jun 26	Jun 27	
Twp 490 between Hwy 857 & Rge Rd 142	Jul 2	Jul 25	
Twp 490 between Hwy 870 & Rge Rd 120	Jul 28	Aug 22	
Twp Rd 512 from Rge Rd 191 to HWY 834	Aug 25	Sep 3	
Shoulder Pulls (Location TBD)			
Backsloping (location TBD)	Oct 2	Nov 1	
Gravelling	Mar 13	Dec 22	
Dust Control- 1st Application	May 13	May 30	
Dust Control- 2nd Application	Aug 8	Aug 15	
Completed In Progress Scheduled Delayed			

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE FOR THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

Kingsway Estates
RGE RD 202 between TWP RD 502 & 504
Beaver Creek Estates North 50514 RGE RD 202
RGE RD 200 from SEC HWY 630 to Hoopers Drive & Campground Entrance
Whispering Hills Estates

The soil stabilizing for the road base with soil cement is now complete. We will soon be starting the first layer of chip seal and there may be delays as work crews direct traffic in order to work safely. There will be many loose rocks after the chip seal layer is applied and speed limits will be reduced on these roads once opened until the project is complete.

During this construction phase, portions of the road may be closed to allow crews to work safely please use another route, detours will be posted or be cautious when you need to drive through construction zones (local traffic only). Beaver County's goal is to provide a healthy, injury free work environment for all employees, contractors, visitors and general public. Already this year we have had people exceeding the posted speed limit through our construction zones, endangering staff, contractors and the public.

There are potential hazards to the public and vehicles during the construction process. This can include heavy machinery, dust or mud, road material such as gravel, asphalt coatings and rock chips.

We apologize for the inconvenience that road maintenance and upgrading causes, but the same roads that receive the most traffic also need the most maintenance. Thank-you for your patience and understanding during construction. If you have any questions, please call the Beaver County Service centre at 780-663-3730.

Viking terminates road maintenance agreement with Beaver County

“The Town of Viking has served Beaver County with notice to discontinue road maintenance and future upgrades on Township Road 480 and Range Road 130,” states a county press release dated June 24.

In the release, the county provides an explanation on the course of events culminating in the decision by Viking to terminate the agreement. The Town of Viking did not provide its own version of events by press time.

The county’s rendition of what transpired is as follows:

In 2020, the County and the Town entered into an agreement for the County to provide grading and snow plowing services on short sections of Township Road 480 and Range Road 130, which fall within the Town’s jurisdiction.

Since the majority of these roads lie within the County, it was more efficient and cost-effective for the County to maintain the entire stretch, rather than both municipalities dispatching separate equipment.

The Town paid for its share of the maintenance costs.

Under the agreement, the Town is also

responsible for contributing to future upgrades on its sections of the roads. This includes applying a hard surface to Township Road 480 and either a shoulder pull or hard surfacing on Range Road 130.

In 2017, when the County upgraded Township Road 480 to a hard surfaced road, it absorbed the Town’s share of the cost (\$28,750) as the Town was unable to contribute at the time.

In 2023, Township Road 480 was rechipped, and the Town fulfilled its cost-sharing commitment for the work.

However, in 2025, the Town expressed concerns about the agreement and declined to pay the County’s invoice for maintenance and future upgrades. Following ongoing discussions between the two municipalities, the Town notified the County of its intent to terminate the agreement.

At its regular meeting on June 16, 2025, Viking Town Council passed the following motion: “That Council, by motion, directs Administration to send a 60-day notice to Beaver County, indicating the termination of the shared service agreement for road maintenance on Twp Rd

480 and Rge Rd 130, as described in Clause 23 ‘Termination’ of the agreement, and requests the return of remaining funding allocated for capital upgrades.”

This termination will be effective 60-days after the formal notice has been received, states the county. After that date, the county states that each municipality will maintain and upgrade its own portion of the roads.

Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Kayleena Spiess provided some historical context to the decision by the Town of Viking which she says are a matter of public record. She states as follows:

- In April of 2017, at a Viking/Beaver Intermunicipal Committee meeting, the County advised the Town that it intended to cement TR 480 between Highway 36 and RR 130. Follow-up correspondence requested that the Town contribute \$28,750 for its share of the cementing work on TR 480 and that the Town enter into a formal agreement for the maintenance of TR 480 and RR 130.
- The Town subsequently advised that it did not have funds in its budget for the cementing work. The County proceeded

with the project, including the Town’s portion of the road, and did not charge the Town.

- In 2020, the Town and the County entered into a formal maintenance and upgrades agreement for TR 480 and RR 130. The Town pays \$4,402 annually for maintenance and \$2,100 annually for future capital.
- In 2023, the County resurfaced TR 480 and utilized banked funds (approx. \$6,400 in total not including fogging work).
- The Town had been paying the invoices until January of this year.
- The County has been following the terms of the agreement as it stands.

“Subsequently, as noted in the Town’s June 16 Council motion and public notice, Viking has provided notice of its intent to terminate the agreement,” stated Spiess.

She added: “There is a possibility that both parties negotiate a new agreement in the future.

“Until then, maintenance and capital project will remain separate, and each municipality will be responsible for its piece of ownership.”

County makes changes to property tax statement and certificates

Patricia Harcourt
Editor

The policy regarding property tax statements was revised and adopted by county council June 18 at the regular meeting.

This is part of the county’s corporate plan for a policy review project to be launched within a four-year cycle that was started in 2022.

“Administration reviewed the current policy and is recommending one minor change to clarify the address to which the statement will be sent,” said Ryan Arndt, General Manager of Corporate Services.

No additional changes were recommended by the Governance and Priorities Committee stemming from the GPC’s June 4 meeting.

The policy change adds another clause to the policy’s guidelines, stating that “The statement will be mailed to the address shown on the tax roll at the time that the statement is sent.”

Previously, the guideline stated: “The statement will be mailed to the address on the tax roll.”

Changing this guideline aligns it with the Municipal Government Act (MGA).

“Currently, we now have statements contrary to the MGA,” said Deputy Reeve Gene Hrabec (Division 3) prior to voting on a revised policy.

Councillor Dale Pederson (Division 5) made both motions to pass the revised policy, followed by a motion to rescind the previous policy.

Both motions were passed by council.

Another revised policy, this time regarding tax certificates and verbal tax

searches (Policy #Corp-025) was passed at the meeting.

The minor change for this policy was a GPC recommendation, “that tax certificates be mailed if requested,” and was supported by council at its June 18 meeting.

“The committee also inquired whether realtors could request a verbal tax search,” said Arndt, in his report to council.

“Although tax assessments and the current year’s taxes are public knowledge on the county’s web mapping program, tax arrears are not public information,” he said. “As a result, we can only provide the information to lawyers, landowners or financial institutions in order to settle the arrears.

“Realtors would not require the arrears information as this would be handled by the lawyers on final sale,” he concluded.

Reeve Kevin Smook stated he agreed with the policy and Arndt’s synopsis of its changes, which was adopted after a motion by Councillor Barry Bruce (Division 4). Bruce also made the motion to rescind the previous policy #ADM-029 of the same name.

Council also passed second and third reading to Bylaw #25-1174 - Fees, Rates and Charges, which had been revised prior to it receiving first reading at the May 21 council meeting.

The changes to the bylaw include a \$50 fee to apply for a permit to exceed the noise regulations proposed by the new Community Standards Bylaw.

Fees to file appeals against notices issued un the Weed Control Act, Agricultural Pests Act, and Soil Conservation Act. The fees are refundable

if the hearing is cancelled or the notice is rescinded.

Rental fees for raccoon and porcupine traps and wildlife propane cannons.

The fees will assist with the cost of pro-

viding services.

Motions by Williams for second reading and by Dale Pederson for third reading were passed by council.

26th ANNUAL

Kinsella Gravelldome

Bullarama

JULY 9th

2025

Gate / Concession & Beer Gardens ..3 PM

Events7 PM

WILD PONY RACE

ENTER AT EVENT

Admission \$25.00 / Person

10 & Under FREE

For More Information Contact

Ellie 780-385-1469

Cheryl 780-385-5557

FREE CAMPING

