



**CAO Report:** Kevin Trew

**Date:**

**June 23, 2025**

**Prepared for:**

☒ **Council**

☒ **Public**

☐ **Committee**

### **Human Resources:**

- With the passing of the 2025 budget and the 2025-2029 salary grid and executive compensation, we are gradually implementing these new policies
- We are pleased to welcome back Sara in the Community Development department as she returned from her one year's leave.

### **Policy and Procedural Items:**

- The assessment roll closed on June 6, we received 9 appeals. One was withdrawn immediately and we have had one agreement to adjust. There are 7 active appeals from 6 unique property owners that SAMA has indicated they are prepared to defend the values. The Outlook-Rudy Board of Revision has scheduled the hearings for the 7 appeals on July 23 and 24 at the Outlook Town Hall Complex in the Courtroom. There will still be opportunity for agreement and withdrawal of appeal leading up to those dates. I will be present and acting on behalf of the Town of Outlook, only offering expert testimony as asked by either the appellant or the defendant. SAMA is the defendant on these appeal matters.
- Tax payments are steady. Municipal taxes paid in the month of June are recipients of a 4% discount, in the month of July there is a 2% discount, all further months are at par.
- The Outlook-Rudy fire hall build is moving along as expected, I was a bit pre-emptive when I stated in my last report that we expect the hall to be commissioned in late August, we are expecting to be fully operational this fall
- Assessment Appeal filed with the RM of Rudy regarding assessed values of the Lagoon quarter section – I filed an appeal on the Town's behalf with regards to the value of the Lagoon quarter SW-27-29-08 W3 wherein I argued that the land rented for cultivation was overstated resulting in a higher arable land assessment (the area occupied by the lagoon is exempt from taxation) We signed an agreement to adjust stating that the cultivated acres are 74.2 decreasing the taxable assessment by over \$20,000

### **Successes this Month:**

- Community Development Department – Whether it is the hanging petunias on Franklin Street or the developing plants along Saskatchewan Road or the work at the sportsgrounds partnering with OAS and the Rodeo Committee or maintenance of the diamonds or planning for Canada Day and the SUMA Golf Tournament OR the great work at the Van Raay and Community Pool, this team, under the leadership of Megan, rocks the month of June – June IS Parks and Recreation Month!

### **Learning Opportunities/Capacity Development:**

- Communication/Marketing Events –Canada Day event advertising has been a bit of an uncertainty this year. We have had a few cancellations and necessary exclusions, we were required to pivot a few times. We should have had a save the date (without detailing what was planned) out earlier. We do have a great day planned at the Civic Center and, the great news is that we are hoping to incorporate some of the traditional parts of Canada Day that can not happen July 1 (fireworks, slo-pitch tournament) in another event this summer (stay tuned)
- Water Wolf District Official Community Plan – unfortunately community planning has rejected the 2022 DOCP submitted by the 26 municipalities as there were errors across the district. I have stepped up to assist to ensure that this is complete this year. WaterWolf will be paying the costs of advertising going forward. This important document enables all 26 municipalities to have viable zoning bylaws and it crucial for the region. Outlook Town Council will need to rescind second and third readings of Bylaw 17 (2022) at the June 25 meeting of Council and set a hearing for the August 13 meeting of Town Council



### **Current Unfinished Projects:**

- Subdivisions Projects
  - 2024-2025 Highway Commercial and Residential Subdivision – We continue to work with Community planning as the application moves along at their office. In the meantime, we are planning to begin the storm water retention pond project shortly with call for tenders and permit applications. We are also working with SilverCreek Developments on developing a marketing plan to sell/presell the highway commercial lots and Mann Street Residential lots for development in 2026-2027. In addition, we are contracted with Casa-Boldt Planning to come up with a draft concept plan for Lot J (adjacent to Mann Street)
  - College South Residential – This will be temporarily shelved while we develop the Mann Street lots
- Sales of Commercial Lots – we have interest in another 2 lots in the Railyard Subdivision, we have sold 5 of the 13 available
- 2025 Capital Works plans – The Executive Team met on June 24 to discuss progress on capital projects and I can report later if there are any recommended changes
- Highway 15 Rehabilitation – The Ministry has indicated plans to announce Highway 15 rehabilitation from the junctions of 219 and 15 to the junction of 45 and 15 which would include the highway through the Town of Outlook with the 2026 -2027 budget, in the meantime, we continue to invest local taxpayer funds in the highway as the Ministry's annual allocation to us does not meet the level of service expected from local taxpayers and visitors alike.