

CAO Report: Kevin Trew

Date:

February 14, 2023

Prepared for:

Council

Public

Committee

### **Human Resources:**

- I took a fair bit of time off in January with the health concerns of my daughter and new grand daughter
- Speaking of new births, we are certainly very excited that members of our team have welcomed new additions to their families recently with both Owen's son Otto being born late in 2023 and Dylan's son, Chance, being born last week. All reports are that everyone, child and mothers are doing well.

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

- We will have an additional public hearing on April 9, 2024 at 7pm at the Courtroom in the Town Hall Complex, we expect to stream this live on Facebook live as well
- As stated previously, once the bylaw is ready for the public, it will be placed in the draft/in progress section on our website

### **Successes this Month:**

- January came and went very quickly, the change over from Municipal waste pickup to 3<sup>rd</sup> party pick up was expected to have its share of challenges and, we have had some but nothing really that was beyond our capacity to sort out, the public has been very good to work with during the transition and our team here has done a great job of facilitating the process, we are meeting with Loraas to review the first 6 weeks of the new service and look at things that can improve on both ends. I would like to note that a local business, File 13, has increased their customer base as well, again, change has had some expected challenges there too, however so far nothing we aren't able to sort out
- Development of multi-residential properties are definitely in progress within the Town of Outlook, we are looking to the HAF – Housing Accelerator Fund, to assist us in developing capacity amongst the Community Development Team and myself to encourage and incentivize development of rental units in Outlook, we have been approved for this grant and we are excited to be putting together information for Council to incorporate new policies to enhance development, with this being a 2 and a half year project, we will be bringing forth amendments to both the capital and operations budget to Council in the near future

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

- The Van Raay and Community Pool experienced a pipe burst in our heated mechanical room Saturday, January 20
  - Water outside the heated building was noticed by a community member and reported immediately to our staff, but not before a large amount of water entered the crawl spaces under and around the pool as well as filled the outdoor pool itself, we can certainly speculate the length of time that this took to fill up, however the rate at which water was flowing from the pressurized burst pipe was rather fast, we estimate that the burst took place over a day before it was noticed
  - Town personnel were able to quickly shut off the valve to stop water from escaping and cleanup of the water began immediately. In addition to using Municipal equipment to remediate, we called for assistance from local contractors as well as contractors that specialize in clean up immediately, of particular concern is that water was now in areas that were winterized and that freezing and thawing of water MIGHT cause more pipes to burst and damage pool infrastructure including the pool liner
  - Upon investigation, a series of events occurred that led to the pipe burst, but basically the furnace in the mechanical room stopped working, thereby causing the temperature in the room to plummet and the water supply in the pipe froze causing expansion and the burst of the pipe.

All Town public works and recreation staff have checklists and monitoring lists that they perform regularly, checking the furnace in the mechanical room had occurred during the cold weather and was working at that time. Going forward, we are planning to install alert systems so that when the temperature in this room falls below a certain temperature, staff will be alerted. In addition, we are doing work in the summer to ensure that a valve on the water line to this building can be isolated and shut off seasonally

- While this event certainly is concerning and will make the 2024 pool season more challenging, the Town has insurance for this sort of thing and a claim has been made regarding the initial damage and cleanup, we expect that the full extent of the damage will be evident in mid to late April, we continue to monitor the area and have done everything we can to mitigate further damages so that we can assess and repair and maintain infrastructure to go forward to provide pool services in 2024
- For now, we continue to monitor and plan for the 2024 season as per normal, we will be hiring staff and taking registrations for swimming lessons soon. Once we know the full extent of the damages and have a definitive timeline regarding opening of the pool for the 2024 season we will be able to alert our stakeholders immediately if there are any changes. We have a few contingency plans already figured out, should there be any disruption to the season, we continue to be cautiously optimistic that there will not be, but we are also prudently planning for the inevitable.

### **Current Unfinished Projects:**

- Raw Water Intake/ Water Treatment Plant Upgrade Project – Strike continues to make progress with the water treatment plant upgrade, we had asked for a quote to install storm water lines from Cross street to the outfall so that we would not have to dig this area up in the future when the storm water is added from the Railyard Subdivision, however the costs are prohibitive at this time, we will stub the lines across Cross Street however to prevent having to dig that up in the not so distant future, a shield well has been installed in order to complete the testing regarding a new raw water source, we expect to have the pump running before mid March and expect favourable test results regarding the water supply shortly thereafter
- Green and Inclusive Communities Building Grant Application – we just received word that this grant has not been selected for funding, we will look at other sources of funds for the upgrade of the Recplex and the Sports grounds
- Subdivisions Projects
  - 2024 Commercial and Residential Subdivision – We have offers and are in the process of selling the final three municipally owned serviced residential lots on Reid Crescent to a contractor, plans are under way to complete the preliminary planning and subdivision work on the Mann Street residential development which would include as many as 27 residential lots (Zoned R1) as well as the Fraser Avenue development which would accommodate medium to high density residential development adjacent and south of the Saskatchewan Road Commercial Subdivision. We have finally received communication from someone from CP Rail last week, we are very hopeful to get the storm water situation resolved soon
  - College South Residential – this 80 lot residential land development opportunity between 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue would accommodate a mix of low density (R1) and medium density (R2) development, we are actively looking for private developers interested in partnering with the Town of Outlook to develop, service and sell these lots. There are also opportunities to service and develop additional acreage lots to the north in the Cameron Subdivision as sewer and water services become available. There has been interest and we continue to discuss this with interested parties
- Outlook-Rudy Fire and Rescue capital projects – We are expecting the delivery of the new rescue van shortly, the Fire Hall Campaign Cabinet has had some more great news recently, and we are hopeful that we can have a builder's committee meeting in early March
- We are preparing the information piece for affected property owners regarding the plans for replacement of private sewer services along Saskatchewan Avenue and McKenzie Street for spring and summer 2024