

CAO Report: Kevin Trew

Date:

April 30, 2024

Prepared for:

Council

Public

Committee

Human Resources:

- March saw very little action in HR, however we are sad to announce that Clay Gamble is leaving us for new opportunities in another community; there is potential to fill this position internally as we had intended for recreation and public works to share an individual at hiring of permanent rink staff; our executive team is working out the details prior to advertising
- As everyone is aware, we are not hiring pool staff this summer, we do have summer programming and are looking at enhancing the programming which will mean hiring program delivery staff as well as independent contractors
- The Canada Summer Jobs grant application has not seen any response; we anticipate that we will get no support again this year and are now budgeting for no funds to help (2nd year in a row)

Policy and Procedural Items:

- The 2nd public hearing regarding the Zoning Bylaw was held April 9, we received feedback and acted on it, I have had follow up meetings with a few stakeholders and have seen moderate success to that regard, Council passed 2nd reading at the April 24 Council meeting and we expect 3rd and final reading of the zoning bylaw and the community plan bylaw to occur at the May 22, 2024 Council meeting, we are awaiting the corrections to be made by Urban Systems before putting the draft on the website
- The notification of the 2024 season pool closure as well as the public notification of the highway infrastructure replacement have been completed and we continue to receive feedback regarding both of these projects, I welcome direct feedback at all times
- My contract expired April 6, 2024 and I was only too happy to sign a new 4 year contract to serve the Town of Outlook going forward. The rewards of being here far outweigh the challenges, there is much to be done in the community and I continue to humbly offer my strengths and abilities to helping meet the full potential by volunteering and through my work; my family continues to be fully invested in the community

Successes this Month:

- Development – we have seen a surge in building and development permits, especially for residential development; we are excited to offer incentives to develop, including the new ones afforded to us by the Housing Accelerator Fund; we expect to see more building permits shortly, and we have identified properties that are vacant or have vacant homes on them that are targets for new development; Megan and myself will be making contact to tap some of these owners on the shoulders and discuss with them a few incentives that may make this a great time to sell or develop themselves; we are well aware that access to housing is a barrier to development of businesses in Outlook and we have shifted our focus to that end

Learning Opportunities/Capacity Development:

- The Van Raay and Community Pool 2024 season closure has been devastating to all of us, there is much work to be done to ensure mistakes of this magnitude don't happen again and the work that needs to be done to ensure the pool is opened for the 2025 season is daunting, however we are working with the insurer and contractors to make things happen going forward
- We operated for a number of years, continually pushing forward to "in 2 or 3 years" the purchase of a new to us grader; the budget pressures to replace all equipment or assets on a timely basis prevent us from replacing everything we need to; a new to us grader had been relegated to status of being beyond its useful life but not a priority to replace – we have a capital plan and we follow it, we have an asset management program and we follow it as budgetary pressures and competing priorities allow; early in

2024 replacement of the grader became a contentious issue amongst Council and in the public, this is where our commitment to sound planning fell short, I have taken a renewed interest in addressing the condition of all equipment and assets of the Town of Outlook and ensuring that the executive team has a mechanism to bring to light, all assets that are in urgent need of replacement or repair on a more timely basis

Current Unfinished Projects:

- Raw Water Intake/ Water Treatment Plant Upgrade Project – Strike continues to make progress with the water treatment plant upgrade, the project is expected to continue for all of 2024, a shield well has been installed in order to complete the testing regarding a new raw water source, the pump is currently running and we are anxiously awaiting tests results showing the viability of this as an alternate raw water supply
- Subdivisions Projects
 - 2024 Highway Commercial and Residential Subdivision – We are still in the early stages 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. CP Rail has indicated that they will lease land to us so that we can use this as our 1 in 100 stormwater pond however they have not given us a timeline. Until that can be secured, we can not proceed with this subdivision, much is contingent upon this approval
 - College South Residential – this 80 lot residential land development opportunity between 1st Avenue and 3rd Avenue would accommodate a mix of low density (R1) and medium density (R2) development. 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. We are working with a private developer on this project and we have Associated Engineering working on getting us development levy costs as well as servicing costs nailed down before we go further
- Outlook-Rudy Fire and Rescue capital projects – The new rescue van shas been delivered and is in commission, we have a new command vehicle which will double as an additional wildland response vehicle and it has been purchased but is being outfitted over the next month or so. The Fire Hall Campaign Cabinet has been working with potential donors and are getting ready to go to the next phase of the fundraising campaign in the community. In the meantime, the Town and the RM of Rudy are working at securing a sealed design and subdividing the land prior to a final estimate of costs to build a new fire hall. The most recent estimates are at \$1.2 million for an Outlook community-built fire hall that meets all code requirements.
- Sewer Service Line Replacement - We notified all property owners that will be affected by this project and we are working with Brunner’s to identify the specific work to be done at each property; we expect that there WILL NOT be need for a full traffic accommodation as we expect that, for the most of the project, traffic will be limited to a single lane and the work site will change daily, while oversized traffic will need to use the bypass, we don’t expect commuter traffic to have the disruption we had in 2023