



RM of Edenwold Meeting Minutes

Communications / Arts, Culture and Recreation Committee Meeting January 22, 2025 - 01:00 PM

Minutes of a Communications, Arts, Recreation and Culture Committee Meeting of the Rural Municipality of Edenwold No. 158 held on Wednesday, January 22, 2025, in the Council Chamber of the Municipal Building, located at 100 Hutchence Road, Emerald Park, Saskatchewan, the following were present:

Reeve: Al Trainor

Councillors: Division #1 Carmen Leibel

Division #3 Nichole Posehn (Chairperson)

Chief Administrative Officer: Shauna Bzdel

Administrator: Karen Zaharia

Communications Officer: Lee Chambers

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm.

Appoint Committee Chairperson

Councillor Nichole Posehn was appointed as the Committee Chairperson.

Terms of Reference

The committee reviewed the draft Terms of Reference and noted that the header is to be updated, include the Communications Officer in the document and update the scope for the committee.

Review minutes from November 27, 2024 meeting

The November 27, 2024 minutes were reviewed and no revisions were required.

New RM Website Update

The new RM website design based on our parameters has been completed by Catalis and has successfully passed their QA process. The next step is content transfer but Catalis has noted that the queue for content transfer is currently taking a bit longer than usual.

2025 Calendar Review

A spreadsheet/calendar of communications/events was presented by Communications Officer Lee Chambers.

While Reeve Al Trainor noted Council's good intentions in hosting a Ratepayer Town Hall in April 2024, the event itself wasn't well attended.

Recommendation: THAT Administration will temporarily suspend the scheduling of any new Town Hall events for the foreseeable future and focus on other methods of communication to engage with ratepayers.

For the past two years, the RM has scheduled movie nights on Saskatchewan Day in August but these outdoor events (in the park and in Pilot Butte) have had lower than expected attendance at a cost of around \$1,200. Councillor Leibel suggested possibly hosting a movie event using Council Chambers. This may be reviewed and considered at a later date.

Recommendation: THAT Administration remove the movie night event from the schedule for 2025 and allocate the funds to other events, such as the RM 158 Rock n' Field Day.

For the last three years, the annual budget survey has traditionally taken place in October but the results from this public engagement aren't ready for presentation until late November and Council would be interested in obtaining this information earlier to advise their budget discussions.

Recommendation: THAT in order to provide Council with engagement results earlier, Administration shift the Annual Budget Survey participation period one month earlier to September 2025, moving forward, and to utilize the same survey used in 2024, and shift the Annual Community Satisfaction Survey from May to April to allow a gap between RM-wide surveys.

Councillor Posehn noted possible collaborations with the Town of White City. Lee Chambers shared that the Town of White City's Manager of Parks, Recreation, and Culture reached out to discuss partnership and participation ideas for the upcoming ChillFest event on March 1, 2025. It was noted that the possible loan of the four fire pits owned by the RM would be a good option. A meeting will be set up and details will be shared with the Committee by email.

Summary: Visit to Katepwa Splash Park/Hockey Rink

Councillor Carmen Leibel shared a summary of a Jan 8, 2025 visit to the year-round Katepwa Splash Park / Hockey Rink that had a cost of approximately \$900,000 and requested the Committee consider putting the discussion to council for review and possible next steps.

The committee did not agree to request Council to direct Administration to further explore a splash park/outdoor rink amenity.

Coyote Awareness

Coyote sightings around the RM are on the rise and as a matter of urgency, Council will be reviewing options at the next council meeting. This may include the Wildlife Control Bylaw and reintroducing the bounty.

It was noted that the RM website needed to be corrected to reflect that the Coyote matter does not come under the Ministry of Environment.

A social media campaign of awareness began January 17, 2025, and the RM website will be updated immediately. To reduce the number of calls into the RM, a Voyent alert to Emerald Park area subscribers will be issued after Council has reviewed the matter.

Other Items

There were no other items.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm. The next committee meeting will be Wednesday, February 26, 2025 at 1:00 pm.



Chairperson



Administration