

Highlights from the September 1, 2020 Regular Council meeting

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Acknowledgement of Indigenous Peoples

The Town of Rocky Mountain House wishes to acknowledge that the land on which we gather is Treaty 6 Territory and a traditional meeting ground and home for many Indigenous Peoples, including the Blackfoot, Cree, Saulteaux, Stoney and Métis.

Clean Energy Improvement Program bylaw update

Council adopted its [Clean Energy Improvement Program \(CEIP\) Borrowing Bylaw](#). CEIP is a voluntary way for property-owners to finance clean energy improvements to their home or business through their property tax. Council passed a CEIP bylaw in 2019, however recent changes to CEIP necessitate this update. The Town of Rocky Mountain House CEIP program will be open for applications once an agreement between the Town and provincial is finalized.

Community Clean-up Cancelled for 2020

Council agreed to cancel the community clean-up for 2020. The bulk garbage pick-up is normally held in May each year but was postponed this spring due to COVID-19.

On a normal year the clean-up takes four days and is accomplished by 16 staff using four tandem dump trucks, two loaders and two tipper trucks. With COVID-19 still a concern this is a potential hazard to the staff as they would be handling residential waste and working in very close proximity.

As such, Council opted to cancel the program for 2020.

Related documents:

[Administrative report](#)

Utility franchise fees

Council reviewed [ATCO franchise fees](#) for 2021. Franchise fees are charged by municipalities to grant a utility-provider exclusive access to distribute services inside of corporate limits. These fees are reviewed annually. Rocky Mountain House will maintain the franchise fees at the existing rate of 30 per cent for ATCO (below the maximum 35 percent threshold).

Emergency Social Services Plan

The Town of Rocky Mountain House adopted its [Emergency Social Services \(ESS\) Plan](#). The ESS plan works under auspices of the Town's Municipal Emergency Plan and is activated at the direction of the Director of Emergency Management. The ESS plan describes the organization, facilities and functions required to provide the necessary response to members of the public who are required to evacuate their homes either within the Town's boundaries or from adjacent municipalities and First Nation reservations.

Other items of note

The Town of Rocky Mountain House will [forgive \\$3,362.64](#) in outstanding property tax for an uninhabitable mobile home that is slated for demolition.

Council approved a [\\$40,000 expenditure](#) from the Building Reserves account to purchase and install new furnaces and water heater for the Rocky Medical Clinic building. The building is jointly owned by the Town of Rocky Mountain House and Clearwater County.

Council will write to Minister Jason Nixon, MLA for Rimbey-Rocky Mountain House-Sundre regarding the province's Assessment Model Review for regulated properties such as wells and pipelines, to clarify how the new assessment model would affect provincial education property taxes levied from urban property owners.

Related documents:

[*AUMA Assessment Model Review Report*](#)

[*AUMA Assessment Model Review Summary*](#)

If you have any questions on these or any other items, please contact:



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