

MAYOR'S REPORT

November 15, 2018

Hall Rededication

Council conducted a community hall re-dedication and sign unveiling ceremony on Saturday November 10, 2018. This even was reasonably attended and included speeches by our local MLA, Hon. Oneil Carlier and Elder Victoria Arcand from Alexander First Nation.

Now unveiled, the sign needs to be connected to electricity and the message board activated.

Darwell Wastewater Transmission Line

Our Summer Village needs to verify the current populations count, (already done and confirmed), to the engineering firm Stantec by November 15, 2018. Also the Summer Village needs to confirm intent to participate in this project by December 15, 2018, noting that making such as indication does not commit Sandy Beach to the expenditure of any monies.

It is noted that Sandy Beach is listed as a very high priority in terms of being connected in to this transmission line and that the project may proceed on a segment by segment phased-in method and does not require that every community be on board.

Lagoon

Deputy Mayor Mike Harney continues to take the lead on this file and will meet with the engineer Morrison-Hershfield to update the project to include the future tie-in with the proposed Darwell transmission line.

At the November 6, 2018 Joint Lagoon Committee Meeting, a motion to spend an additional \$20,000.00 on the requested/required soil testing was approved. It was indicated that once the soil samples were received and reviewed it was likely Alberta Environment and Parks would provide approval for a discharge. The discharge is now likely to occur in the spring of 2019.

Firesmart

I met with representative of Alexander First Nation for an initial discussion of hiring their specialized crew that has performed vegetation management over the past couple of years. The meeting went positively and there should be little problem in contracting this experienced work crew.

Our CAO, Mr. Liebenberg, sent an expression of interest to the Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta in July 2018. To date FRIAA has not responded. As a follow-up, I have contacted FRIAA and we expect further discussion in the weeks ahead.

FRIAA is the group that doles out grant monies for Firesmart related projects. Sandy Beach has proposed that deadfall, etc. be cleared within the forested areas, as well as tree clearing for future emergency egress roads on Lakeshore and Westcove Drives.

Onoway Public Library

In a meeting on October 26, 2018, some local elected officials met to review and discuss the financial situation at the Onoway Public Library. It was suggested that the library board of directors may wish to meet with these elected officials for a further discussion, given that the library appears to have some difficulty not only in raising funds but also in accurately accounting for its finances.

It is interesting to note that the purchase of an annual library card entitles a resident of Sandy Beach to access any library in Alberta and also to access library services, including various downloads, via the internet.

Respectfully submitted



Gordon Drybrough, Mayor