REQUEST FOR DECISION - TO COUNCIL

SUBJECT

BYLAW 20-09, BEING A BYLAW TO ADOPT THE COUNTY OF VERMILION RIVER AND VILLAGE OF MARWAYNE INTERMUNICIPAL COLLABORATION FRAMEWORK – MOTION REQUIRED

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the County of Vermilion River give First Reading to Bylaw 20-09, being a bylaw to adopt the County of Vermilion River and Village of Marwayne Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework.

THAT the County of Vermilion River give Second Reading to Bylaw 20-09, being a bylaw to adopt the County of Vermilion River and Village of Marwayne Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework.

THAT the County of Vermilion River introduce for Third Reading Bylaw 20-09, being a bylaw to adopt the County of Vermilion River and Village of Marwayne Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework.

THAT the County of Vermilion River give Third and Final Reading to Bylaw 20-09, being a bylaw to adopt the County of Vermilion River and Village of Marwayne Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework.

DETAILS

Background: April 1, 2018 marked the date of coming into force of the first of a series of amendments to the Municipal Government Act (MGA, the Act) that formed part of the legislation review process undertaken by the Province of Alberta. The character and nature of many of these amendments introduce a new paradigm for municipalities in the province: moving from competition to collaboration, which will change the nature of intermunicipal relationships in years to come.

The Act that has resulted from this process elevates the requirements for Intermunicipal Development Plans (IDPs) for all municipalities and introduces the Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks (ICFs) as a mechanism to ensure the coordinated development of intermunicipal areas and the continued provision of services to their residents through a more efficient use of
resources. Efficiency in providing services is a consequential consideration, especially for municipalities that have limited resources. It can make the difference between being viable as a municipality or not.

In light of these changes, the Councils and Administrations of the County of Vermilion River and the Villages of Kitscoty, Marwayne, Dewberry, and Paradise Valley began planning for the development of these plans and frameworks in January 2018. The commitment to develop further the ongoing collaboration between the municipalities was ratified by the adoption of an Agreement to Work Together (Agreement) in June 2018, which guided the process for the development of this plan and framework, which is formalized with the adoption of the Intermunicipal Development Plans (IDPs) and Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks (ICFs) developed between the municipalities. Furthermore, the municipalities adopted in September 2018 the Terms of Reference for the Agreement. The Terms of Reference outline the structure, functions, and operations of the Intermunicipal Liaison Committee, in accordance with the provisions and procedures under the Agreement to Work Together, pursuant to the recommendations and requirements under the Act and regulations.

Simultaneously, the Villages of Kitscoty, Dewberry, Marwayne and Paradise Valley, along with the County of Vermilion River, completed a Joint Growth Study as well as Intermunicipal Infrastructure Systems and Community Services Assessments focusing on the future IDP boundary areas. These projects would serve to inform the Intermunicipal Development Plans and associated Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks between the municipalities.

It is becoming increasingly evident that the future success, viability and sustainability of our rural municipalities will only be possible by continuing to maintain and build on a collaborative approach to service delivery. This Framework will establish principles and guidelines to provide for open and robust communication and cooperation in the identification and development of current and future intermunicipal and regional partnerships. It will provide a means for integrated and strategic planning for service delivery, with the intention of achieving efficiencies and balancing benefits and burdens between the municipal partners. The Framework will also clearly lay out an equitable and respectful process that the partners to this agreement will use to deal with differences which may occur from time to time.

**Discussion:** In response to the new requirements, the County of Vermilion River and the Villages of Kitscoty, Marwayne, Dewberry and Paradise Valley hosted two open houses in January 2019, one in Marwayne and one in Kitscoty. The open houses provided an opportunity for interested residents and stakeholders to learn more about the provincial collaboration requirements, the
work that the municipalities are undertaking to meet those requirements, and to express any questions, concerns or considerations about the requirements underway.

Residents and stakeholders of the five municipalities received information about the sessions via direct mail, and media advertisements placed in the Lloydminster Source, the Vermilion Standard and the Vermilion Voice throughout the month leading up to the sessions. In addition to the in-person sessions, an online survey/feedback form was created and circulated via social media.

We have used the feedback received to inform intermunicipal collaboration matters between the municipalities such as the development of this Intermunicipal Development Plan and the Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework. Two “What We Heard” reports, one for each round of public engagement have been distributed.

**Relevant Policy/Legislation Practices:**

*Municipal Government Act*

**Desired Outcome(s):** THAT the County of Vermilion River give all three Readings to Bylaw 20-09, being a bylaw to adopt the County of Vermilion River and Village of Marwayne Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework.

**Response Options:** THAT the County of Vermilion River give all three Readings to Bylaw 20-09, being a bylaw to adopt the County of Vermilion River and Village of Marwayne Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework.

**IMPLICATIONS OF RECOMMENDATION**

**Organizational:** Planning & Development to work with the Village of Marwayne in completing the ICF Agreement.

**Financial:** N/A

**Communication Required:** Council, Administration, Village of Marwayne, and Public.

**Implementation:** Upon approval of Third and Final reading.
ATTACHMENTS

1. Bylaw 20-09
2. Bylaw 20-09 – Schedule “A” - County of Vermilion River and Village of Marwayne Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework

PREPARED BY: Director of Planning and Development

DATE: March 25, 2020