



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

February 13, 2024

Town of Didsbury Council held a Regular Council Meeting on Tuesday, February 13, 2024 in Council Chambers at 1606 – 14 Street.

- Council heard a presentation from the *Communities in Bloom* committee about their projects and community evaluation. For the past two years, Didsbury has been evaluated as part of the provincial *Communities in Bloom Friends – Evaluated category*. In 2023, Didsbury received a rating of *Four Blooms* (out of five) and a score of 80.1%. Well Done! Council extended appreciation and thanks for the CIB committee's commitment to beautifying our community.
- Council has been advised that the Butte Standpipe is in need of work. The proposed repair is a mitigation strategy to ensure the East Reservoir is online prior to completing a feasibility study to determine the future of the standpipe. Council approved a \$100,000 expenditure for the Butte Standpipe repairs and to amend the 2024 operating budget to increase the *water department repairs and maintenance* by \$100,000 and to reduce *water department transfer to reserves* by \$100,000, for a net impact of \$0.
- Council set a Committee of the Whole meeting for Monday, March 4, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. to host *Community Organization Presentations*, and to extend invitations to the Didsbury & District Historical Society, the Didsbury Municipal Library, the Didsbury Lions Club, and the Didsbury Five-O Club.
- Council received a letter from the Province regarding the provincial drought status. Currently, the Province is at Stage four; the Minister has asked each municipality to make plans in case of water shortage, so they are able to respond if water availability decreases, as well as consider issues regarding the sale of treated bulk water for oilfield use. Council referred Bylaw 2019-07 Water Utility to the Policy and Governance Committee for review and recommendation.
- In alignment with the Local Authorities Emergency Management Regulation, the Emergency Management Bylaw 2020-06 requires the Didsbury Emergency Management Advisory Committee (DEMAC) to meet at least annually. Council set March 12, 2024 from 5:00 - 5:45 p.m. for the Didsbury Emergency Management Advisory Committee meeting. Public is welcome to attend.
- Council approved to support a *Flyby* of Royal Canadian Armed Forces aircraft, as low as 500 feet (in accordance with regulations) for the planned 2024 *Days of Yore Heritage Festival* being held at Rosebud Park on August 3 and 4, 2024.
- Council approved to submit the Town of Didsbury as the *Designated Membership Municipality* for the administrative duties of accounts payable/receivable for the Alberta Mid-Sized Mayors' Caucus.
- The Community Services Board (CSB) reviewed the 2024 Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) funding applications and made recommendations to Council for allocation of these funds. In 2024, \$64,000 is budgeted for the 2024 Community Grants, and 15 applications were received, with a total request value of \$105,003. Council approved the 2024 Family and Community Support Services Community Grant funding as presented, totaling all \$64,000. FCSS funding provincially funded and is allocated to local groups for a variety of program that promote and enhance the well-being of Albertans, families and communities, and is mandated to engage in community development and provide preventive social projects and services.