

**ANNUAL RATEPAYERS MEETING  
SPECIAL AREA NO. 2, SUB-DIVISION NO. 1 & 5  
Hanna Legion, Hanna  
June 2, 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. with approximately 4 ratepayers in attendance.

Bob Gainer nominated Mark Blair for Chairman. Seconded by Scott Viste.

Scott moved the 2019 minutes be adopted as presented. Seconded by Bob. **CARRIED.**

**ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORTS**

**Mark Blair – Subdivision 5:**

- Harvest Sky – Agricultural Centre for Hanna Area community engagement, funding for building demo and attraction to Hanna.
- Big Country Waste – work on a new cell, new vehicles to haul garbage from transfer sites, new transfer site in Consort, plan to replace transfer sites one/year
- Palliser Economic Partnership – work continues there as well.

**Kevin Bossert – Subdivision 1**

Sent regrets.

**SPECIAL AREAS BOARD REPORTS**

**Jordon Christianson, Chair, Special Areas Board:**

Commented on:

- Municipal elections 2021 – 5 new Advisory Councillors, Senate election polling stations were not offered by SA which SAB heard a lot of negative feedback on.
- Special Areas Board Appointments – Jordon Christianson, Brad Slorstad, Doug Noble, Daryl Swenson
- Village of Cereal voted to dissolve, became a Hamlet of SA on Jan 1, 2021
- Red Tape Reduction Initiative – working to reduce by one third, will see changes to forms
- Regional Irrigation Feasibility Partnership – with SA, MD of Acadia, Canada Infrastructure Bank and AB Agriculture and Forestry with potential project
- Tax Recovery Land Sale Update – drafted a policy which is being reviewed by the Minister of Municipal Affairs office
- Current initiatives to fill Carolside Reservoir

**Darcy Ferguson, Director of Finance:**

Commented on:

- Covid 19 Pandemic – Impact on 2020-2022 Budgets
- 2021 Financial Statements
- Cereal Dissolution
- Special Areas Trust Account

**Owen Francis, Director of Municipal Services:**

Commented on:

- Supply Chain, staffing shortages, fuel price
- Roads – Crews return to full capacity in 2022, third year of four-year agreement with AB Transportation, Shaune Kovitch presented 2022 road plan
- Water – new truck fill at Chinook, planned SDS truck fill expansion, Water and Sewer in Cereal
- Emergency Services

- Fire – Glen Durand retiring, Rob Palmer appointed, will recruit new Deputy Fire Chief,  
Big Stone fire Hall Replacement, Rapid attack unit in Oyen
- Regional Emergency Management Agency formed 2022
- Community Peace Officers – Town of Hanna contract for Bylaw enforcement, focused on surfaced roads and new industrial construction
- Parks – record usage in 2020 and 2021, John Armstrong pending retirement, assistant hired and training, Prairie Oasis online booking, 10-year agreement to operate Gooseberry Lake and Little Fish Lake Provincial Parks, Carp have collapsed fishery at Blood Indian and fishery establishment planned for Little Fish Lake

**Trent Caskey, Director of Property Administration:**

Commented on:

- Assessment total 3.7 billion
- Assessment Notice just mailed – Deadline to appeal July 22, 2022
- Community Pasture rates 2022- \$0.95/head/day, reductions for drought
- Cultivation Lease rate 2022 – 0.070
- Grazing Lease Rental 2022 – \$45.17
- Land Use Order Review ongoing
- Wind Energy Projects – Six permitted in SA
- Tax Recovery Land Sale – Board has engaged Municipal Affairs to move policy forward. Proposed four quarter sale, crown and tax recovery parcels, priced to fill the value gap between lease and deeded lands, restrictions reduce cost by one third.
- Oyen Railyard Project was developed and successfully sold.
- Lease Conversion Policy now allows for a maximum of four quarters to be converted.
- Oil well drilling tax discontinued and assessment holiday for three years on oil and gas.
- Dinosaur Provincial Park Grazing Leases have been renewed.
- Sheerness Industrial Park (where the test track was previously project development through grant funding

**Discussion:**

- GPS approach at Hanna Airport
- Hanna North / Scapa water line
- Waste transfer sites only accepting bagged garbage and practicality for farms
- Carolside levels and additional pumping
- Wind projects on lease land
- Wind projects impact on assessment
- Over grazing on Special Areas Grazing Lease
- Telus purchase of Netago and Special Areas ownership of towers

Merle Blair moved to adjourn at 3:35 p.m.

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Brett Richards, Administrator  
Special Area No. 2

*Motion to approve minutes to occur at the next annual ratepayer meeting.*