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CROWSNEST PASS HERALD | SAIT | CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

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SEPTEMBER 29, 2026

CROWSNEST PASS COUNCIL MEETING NOTES

DELEGATIONS

RCMP Q1 2026 Update

Sergeant Mark Amatto & Chris McKerracher

- Updated Council on the quarter from April 1 to June 30, 2026
- Detachment's current vehicles will be gradually replaced by the new black and white General Duty vehicle design
- Community Priorities
 1. Enhance Road Safety – 317 traffic related occurrences
 2. Reduce Property Crime – Habitual-Offender Management Program identified several offenders (several are in custody, 2 have relocated and 1 was off boarded from the program)
 3. Change Culture and Transform: Domestic Violence – 21 domestic violence-based cases
 4. Police Visibility – focused foot patrols, 5 Joint Force Operation Check Stops and 16 community visits
 5. Detachment Commander Comments – members are encouraged to integrate into the community
- There are no hard vacancies in regular members or detachment support, however there are several temporary absences
- The crime statistics from the quarter were presented

STARS

Jackie Seely, Donor Relations and Development Officer

- The municipality has been a partner since 1992
- STARS have flown 66,000 missions without cost to the patient
- Current fleet is 10 helicopters and they have 6 bases in western Canada
- STARS is CAMTS accredited
- In the past 5 years STARS has flown 68

missions to our area

- 59% of funding is from donations, fundraising and lotteries, the other 41 % is funded by the Alberta Government
- STARS is requesting \$13,000 in support from our municipality to enhance rural healthcare

REQUEST FOR DECISION

2027 Annual Franchise Fees

- These franchise fees are charged by the municipality to utilities for the right to provide service and use their public land for their gas and power lines
- Maintaining the current ATCO Gas franchise fee rate of 25% will generate forecasted revenue of \$559,000 in 2027
- Maintaining the current Fortis Alberta franchise fee rate of 16% will generate projected revenue of \$874,980 in 2027
- Councillor Ward moved to maintain the current franchise fee of 25% for ATCO Gas and 16% for Fortis Alberta, motion carried

Community Peace Officer Camera System Replacement

- Current body-worn and in-vehicle cameras have reached their end of life
- Wanting 3 body-worn cameras and 2 in-vehicle camera systems totaling \$14,000
- These cameras provide an independent visual account of officer interactions during enforcement
- Councillor Vastenhout moved to approve the purchase for new Community Peace Officer safety cameras and related systems out of the Emergency Management Reserve for \$14,000, motion carried

PUBLIC INPUT

Cory Tourond, Hillcrest

- Curious why Councillor Inquires and Notice of Motion is after the Public Input Period in the meeting agenda
- Meeting attendees might want to have

some input

Jim Melnychuk, South end of Bellevue

- Municipal water pressure coming into his residence is too high and has ruined some of his plumbing
- He has contacted various people working for the municipality about this issue with no resolve
- Having to run treated water to relieve his water pressure is wasteful

Ken Hungar, Bellevue

- Monitored the pressure at his residence and it is over the recommended 80 PSI
- Leaves the tap running continuously

Mindy Pawluk, Blairmore

- Wants the current Council to examine the sale of the old Sartoris staging area lands that occurred under the previous Council
- Feels that the Municipality committed itself to the land transaction before the public had the opportunity to be heard

Blairmore resident

- The Municipality has dug up her driveway for the third time due to water issues
- Currently her there is a sink hole in her driveway and she cannot access her garage
- Requesting that the Municipality rip out, gravel, pack and pave her driveway, making it as it was before all the digging that was done

COUNCILLOR INQUIRIES AND NOTICE OF MOTION

Notice of Motion - Support Alberta Councillor Ward

- Councillor Ward is giving a Notice of Motion that he plans to bring forward at the October 6, 2026 Council Meeting for Council to discuss and vote on.
- Notice of Motion: "That the municipal council of the Crowsnest Pass, declares that the Crowsnest Pass and Alberta

are a vital part of Canada, and that Alberta should remain a province with in a untied Canada"

BORROWING BYLAW

Bylaw 1271, 2026 - Borrowing Bylaw Fire Engine 3 Truck - First Reading

CAO Patrick Thomas

- The Municipality has 3 fire engines, all 3 were bought at the same time over 20 years ago
- A staggered replacement of the fire engines is planned, this Bylaw is so fire engine 3 can be replaced
- Any units going out of service are being sold to interested parties
- Councillor Johnson is worried about the volatile American tariffs affecting the final cost of the Fire Engine, which is made in the USA
- Insurance rates are affected by local fire department firefighting capacity and response time
- Council approved the purchase of a fire engine truck for the Fire Department to be funded by debt in the amount of \$1,500,000 in the 2026 Capital Budget
- Creation of a borrowing bylaw is a requirement of the Municipal Government Act, it must be advertised, and final approval of the bylaw needs to occur before construction start
- Councillor Ward moved the first reading of this Bylaw, all were in favour

NEW BLUE BIN RECYCLING

Mayor Rypien

- The new blue bins are not a Municipal initiative, they are a Provincial initiative
- The cost of recycling is moving away from municipalities and taxpayers and onto the product producers
- Companies that create packaging are responsible for funding and managing recycling of their packaging
- Alberta's enhanced residential recycling system is managed by Circular Materials