

Agenda Item: 5.6

Request for Decision

Title Bylaw 1577/22 - Debenture for Range Road 252 Upgrade – Second and Third Reading Proposed Motion 1. That Council give second reading of Bylaw 1577/22. 2. That Council give third reading of Bylaw 1577/22. Administrative Recommendation Administration recommends that Council give second and third readings of Bylaw 1577/22 to authorize the use of long-term borrowing to fund the paving of Range Road 252 from Bellerose Drive to Coal Mine Road.

Previous Council / Committee Direction

January 11, 2022 Regular Council Meeting

Motion 009/22: That Council give first reading of Bylaw 1577/22.

December 14, 2021 Regular Council Meeting

Motion 549/21: That Council approve the proposed 2022 Operating and Capital Budget as amended by motions passed on November 30, 2021.

Motion 550/21: That Council approve in principle the 2023-2025 Operating Financial Forecast and the 2023-2027 Capital Financial Forecast as presented in the consolidated Operating and Capital Budget and amended by motions passed on November 30, 2021.

Report

Background Information

- Upgrading Range Road 252 from gravel to pavement will restore paved connectivity to St. Albert. Paved connection greatly enhances travel to and from Sturgeon Valley.
- Paving of Range Road 252 coincides with planned work on Coal Mine Road scheduled in 2022, from Range Road 252 (Firehall Road) to Township Road 544.
- The Range Road 252 project was presented and approved as part of the 2022 Capital Budget.
- The proposed Debenture Bylaw 1577/22 is for \$1,835,000, which is the full anticipated project cost. Funds will be drawn in accordance with the Debt Management Policy.
- The tax-supported debenture is a 15-year term with semi-annual interest payments. The total interest on the life of the debenture is approximately \$476,782 and the annual payment is approximately \$154,119.

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- Sturgeon County's debt limit as of December 31, 2020 per the *Municipal Government Act* (MGA) is \$125,608,454.
- The total outstanding debt principal as of December 31, 2020 is \$34,229,692 (audited).
- Sturgeon County's debt limit as of December 31, 2021 per the MGA is projected to be \$145,594,196 (unaudited) with total long-term debt principal anticipated to be \$30,866,852 (unaudited).
- Based on the 2021 projected debt limit and debentures approved by Council for 2021, the debt limit available based on MGA regulations is \$107,427,344.

External Communication

- Following first reading of Bylaw 1577/22 on January 11, 2022, advertisements were placed in the Morinville Free Press and Redwater Review for two consecutive weeks starting January 19, 2022. There were no petitions of the electors for a vote on Bylaw 1577/22 during that time. The public notice was also posted on the Sturgeon County website.
- If Council passes Bylaw 1577/22, it will be published to the Sturgeon County website.

Relevant Policy/Legislation/Practices:

- Municipal Government Act, RSA 2000 c.M-26
- Debt Management Policy

Implication of Administrative Recommendation

Strategic Alignment:

Planned Growth and Operational Excellence – Paving of Range Road 252 from Bellerose Drive to Coal Mine Road will allow for an improved roadway, providing for a faster and easier connection to St. Albert.

Organizational:

Administration will pave Range Road 252 through the 2022 capital plan.

Financial:

- The Debenture Bylaw request is for \$1,835,000.
- The current interest rate for a 15-year debenture is anticipated to be 3.12%.

Project	Debenture	Total Interest (15-Years)	Annual Payment
			(15-Years)
Range Road 252	\$1,835,000	\$476,782	\$154,119

Alternatives Considered

Council may defeat the bylaw and not proceed with the Range Road 252 project until alternative financing options can be explored.

Implications of Alternatives

Strategic Alignment:

Operational Excellence – Deferral of the project until alternative financing options can be explored would increase the County's available debt limit, leaving room for other projects. However, with scheduled work providing a paved surface from Highway 37 south on Range Road 252 and west on Coal

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Mine Road to Township Road 544, complete connectivity to St. Albert would not occur.

Organizational:

 Administration would not implement the paving of Range Road 252 through the 2022 capital plan.

Financial:

• The proposed debenture would not be pursued.

Follow up Action

- 1. Obtain Mayor and CAO signatures on the Bylaw (Legislative Services, March 2022).
- 2. Post the Bylaw to the Sturgeon County website (Corporate Communications, March 2022).

Attachment(s)

1. Attachment 1: Bylaw 1577/22

Report Reviewed by:

Gary Mayhew, Director, Transportation and Engineering Services

Sabrina Duquette, Manager, Corporate Finance & Treasury

Andrew Hayes, General Manager, Financial Services, CFO

Scott MacDougall, Chief Operating Officer – COO

Reegan McCullough, County Commissioner – CAO

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Strategic Alignment Checklist

Vision: Offering a rich tapestry of historical, cultural, and natural experiences, Sturgeon County is a municipality that honours its rural roots and cultivates desirable communities. Uniquely situated to provide world-class agricultural, energy, and business investment opportunities, the County prioritizes responsible stewardship and dreaming big.

Guiding Principles: Collaboration | Accountability | Flexibility | Excellence | Safety | Future Readiness | Affordability | Innovation

Community Outcome	Not consistent	Consistent	N/A
Planned Growth			
• Internationally competitive to attract, grow and sustain diverse businesses; tenacious focus on new growth and innovation			×
Modern broadband and digital capabilities			\boxtimes
Low cost, minimal red-tape regulations			\boxtimes
Reliable and effective infrastructure planning; comprehensive land use and infrastructure planning		×	
Thriving Communities			
 Beautiful, surprising places with high standards; integrated natural spaces & trail systems; healthy and resilient 			×
Engaging cultural, historical, and civic amenities; strong community identity and pride			×
Safe, welcoming, and diverse communities; small community feel and personal connection; commitment to high quality of life			\boxtimes
Environmental Stewardship			
 Clean air, land, and water; Carbon neutral municipal practices; circular economy opportunities 			\boxtimes
 Conservation of natural areas and agricultural lands; enhanced greening and biodiversity; safekeeping ecosystems 			\boxtimes
 Sustainable development; partnerships with industry and others to drive emission reductions 			\boxtimes
Collaborative Governance			
• Predictable and stable external relationships; volunteer partnerships			\boxtimes
Meaningful connections with Indigenous communities			\boxtimes
Ongoing community consultation and engagement; transparent and action-oriented decision making based on sound rationale			\boxtimes
 Respectful and informed debate; clear and supportive governance processes 			\boxtimes
Operational Excellence			
 Engaged and effective people – Council, Admin and Volunteers; continuous learning and improvement mindset; nimble and bold, with strong leadership 			⊠
 Quality cost-effective service delivery; robust procurement and operational practices and policies; asset management and performance measurement; careful debt and reserve stewardship; long-term financial planning and sustainability 		×	
Future focused thinking to proactively respond to emerging opportunities and challenges		×	
Alternative revenue generation and service delivery models integrated strategic and business planning			\boxtimes

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