



City Living

Country Style

2017 YEAR IN REVIEW

What's coming up in 2018

Council has passed the budget for 2018. Grant funding plays a significant role in financing capital projects. We were fortunate to get our grant approved for the upgrades to the Lift Station in 2017. Balancing the budget is challenging in today's changing economy. We strive to maintain our infrastructure at an acceptable level, within budget, while minimizing tax increases.

For 2018, the following capital projects were approved:

- 1) 51 Street – Lane north of 51 Avenue to Lane south of 51 Avenue
- 2) 52 Street- 50 Avenue to Lane north of 52 Avenue
- 3) 52 Avenue- Water main and Road Improvement
- 4) Purchase used 1-ton Truck
- 5) Roof repairs to Public Works shop
- 6) Purchase quad cab truck
- 7) Hillside Park Playground drainage improvements
- 8) Pour in place Rubber for spray park (subject to approval of the Alberta Municipal Demonstration matching grant)

Total costs for these projects will be \$1,092,960

It's time to celebrate 2017 and look ahead to see what is in store for 2018. The Town of Lamont had a productive year with many wonderful things to celebrate.

Welcome to our returning Mayor, Bill Skinner, and returning Councillors Doug Pewarchuk and David Taylor. Welcome to our new Councillors Jody Foulds, Al Harvey, Perry Koroluk, and Kirk Perrin.

The third annual Community Fair and Perogy Festival was amazing! So many activities enjoyed by the large crowd. A huge thank you to the volunteers and the Fair Committee for getting it all together and ensuring it ran smoothly. We are changing it up in 2018 with the Tractor Pull replaced by Demo Derby. Mark your calendars and be sure not to miss out: June 23, 2018. If you have ideas for new activities and want to help us in 2018, please call the Town Office for information. We are always looking for more volunteers!

We are excited that the 6th annual "Baba's and Borshch Ukrainian Festival" will once again be held in Lamont on Aug 25 & 26, 2018. We look forward to another fun-filled weekend of Ukrainian food and culture.

The weather for the annual Lamont Christmas Light up cooperated this year, bringing a large crowd into town. The highlight was a visit from Santa to turn on the lights at the Town Office, fireworks at the fair grounds, and a bus tour around town to see all the great house decorations! None of this would be possible without the Light Up Committee and the amazing volunteers that make up that group. Your work and dedication is most appreciated and we thank you very much! If you are interested in helping, please contact the Town Office.

Growth continued in Lamont in 2017, with two new home permits issued, a new Pharmacy and a Bed & Breakfast. The new Beaverhill Pioneer Lodge and New Horizons Seniors Center opened December 15, 2017. We are very excited for this addition to our Town.

The Alberta Emergency Management Agency met with residents affected by the July 2016 Flood. Applications have been submitted through the disaster recovery program from the Alberta Government.

The 2017 Capital projects completed:

Arena scissor lift purchased, used back-hoe purchased, accounting software upgrade, Mallard's Landing overlooking the pond, expanded picnic pavilion, storm water master plan, and Campbell subdivision improvement plan.

In Progress: lift station upgrade.

"Sure Shot Dombrowski: The Early Years 2" movie production came to the arena in November to film.

Development of Community Services Support for Family and Youth

Goal: To seek and pursue the development of services for individuals, families and youth, with appropriate partners, to improve the attractiveness of the Town of Lamont to all age groups.

For 2018 the Town of Lamont FCSS will be administrated by Lamont County FCSS

Development of Parks

Goal: To develop an overall park and green space development strategy.

We have done a lot of work on Hillside Park over the last few years, with the help of some government grants and donations from local residents and companies. The Memorial Tree is now completed on the side of our expanded Picnic Pavilion. If you want a leaf on our tree, have a look on our website for our Park Sponsorship information. The Al Shamal Shriners dedicated a bench to local resident James (Jim) Lopetinsky. This year we added the following: two covered picnic tables, two benches overlooking the pond, Mallard's Landing, expanded the picnic pavilion, outdoor exercise equipment, planted more trees, repaved some trails, two garbage receptacles, two combination receptacles, solar powered fountain in the pond, and upgraded the ball diamonds.

Development of Residential/Commercial/Industrial Plans and Areas

Goal 1: To establish a long-range plan for growth related to the Municipal Development Plan (MDP).

Our Land Use Bylaw rewrite has been completed and is now available on our website or in the Town office.

Goal 2: To enhance the reputation of events and municipal features in the Town of Lamont to improve their attractiveness to the travelling public.

Adamstock returned in 2017 for a weekend of music and fun and we hope they will be back in 2018.

We continue to have for 2018: Lamont Community Fair and Perogy Festival, Lamont light up, Remembrance Day, Picnic in the Park, Community Awareness, Town Wide Garage Sale, Town Wide clean up, and Babas and Borsch.

Good Governance

Goal 1: To ensure all elements of Council and Administration operations are meeting the ongoing needs of the residents of the Town of Lamont via contemporary, transparent, and effective means of governance.

All the Town Council meeting minutes and agendas are available online at www.lamont.ca. Council meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month and all members of the public are welcome to attend the open sessions.

Administration and Council continue to review and revise old policies and bylaws as well as write new ones as needed to promote a safe, equitable environment to work and live in.

Bylaw changes for 2017

01/17- Community Standards Bylaw

02/17-Borrowing Bylaw

03/17-Utility Services Bylaw

04/17-Numbering of Streets Bylaw

05/17-Taxation Mill Rate Bylaw

06/17-Land Use Bylaw

Goal 2: To continually seek ways to improve communication from the Town to its residents to encourage broader awareness, interest, and participation in all elements of the Town's operations.

The Town of Lamont Facebook page is a big success with 319 likes and 322 follows, lots of activity, and has updated information on events and important information regularly. From Sept 1, 2016 to Sept 1, 2017 our website has had 88,273 page views. It is updated regularly and provides key information about the Town of Lamont. Check us out at www.lamont.ca

Infrastructure

Goal 1: To establish a five-year plan for the maintenance, preservation, replacement and upgrading of existing infrastructure.

Goal 2: To establish consistent engineering standards for development and maintenance of new roads, sewers and water infrastructure.

Goal 3: To budget annually for regular maintenance of all facilities and to establish a reserve fund for major repairs.

Goal 4: To plan and budget for a regular upgrading and replacement of buildings, vehicles, equipment on a life-cycle basis, considering depreciation and replacement costs.

Goal 5: To foster a positive relationship with all arena user groups to support continued maintenance and improvement of the arena to the benefit of all citizens and facility users.

These goals are a little less tangible and are ones that Council will consider with budget deliberations.

More thought and time are required to make the right decisions to set the Town up to be in a good position for infrastructure condition.

In addition to these projects we continue to maintain daily operations while making changes that have a positive effect on the Town and its residents. While it is impossible to capture everything that is done throughout the course of the year, this is a list of some of the key items:

- ❖ Murals painted by Robert Murray
- ❖ Graded all back alleys throughout Town
- ❖ Crushed concrete and gravel laid down in alleys in Edna Subdivision
- ❖ Installed 80 smart water meters in the old section of town
- ❖ Refurbished North town entrance sign
- ❖ Repainted all rectangle tables in meeting room
- ❖ Completed the repair on the Queens Monument
- ❖ Elk Island Traffic Safety Committee speed boards purchased and set-up
- ❖ Town wide clean up was a success despite being dampened by rain
- ❖ Installed solar LED light on the Town entrance signs and updated landscaping
- ❖ Replaced old wood on three bleachers for ball diamonds
- ❖ Created the Town of Lamont Emergency Management Agency that has updated our Municipal Emergency Plan
- ❖ Spring street sweeping
- ❖ Road pot hole repair
- ❖ Flushed and repaired fire hydrants and sewers
- ❖ Renovated players box at the arena
- ❖ Sidewalks leveled/cut by Safesidewalks Canada
- ❖ Alberta Emergency Management Agency took applications for flood relief
- ❖ Asphalt crack filling completed
- ❖ Line and curb painting
- ❖ Repaired drainage issues
- ❖ Picnic in the park
- ❖ Telus repaired damaged boxes around town
- ❖ Remembrance Day ceremony
- ❖ Participated in Community Awareness
- ❖ Town Wide Garage Sale

We are looking forward to a successful 2018 as we continue to improve our service delivery and ensure that our residents have the quality of life that small town living can provide.

We have many dedicated volunteers and are so fortunate that these people take the time from their busy lives to contribute to the successes of the Town. We thank each and every one of you and look forward to hearing from you in 2018.

THANK YOU!!