

Agenda Item: D.3

Request for Decision

Title	2018 Appointment of Fire Guardians
Proposed Motion	That Council approve the listed staff members as Fire Guardians for the year 2018: * Pat Mahoney, Steve Douglas, Glenn Innis, Kurt Richter, Paul Richards, Nico Lozinski, Christine Bassett-Daviau, Jevin Van der Leek, Ken Lauinger, Bill Willocks, Matt Roblin, Madero Kendall, Malaine Wark, Kevin Kulbisky, Jeannette Bilodeau, Linda Walker, Joanne Wynder, Sandy Vansevenandt, Dolores Rivard, Lianne Long, Shannon Gagnon, Shelley Hudec, Kandis Boddez and Luba Sudak.
Administrative Recommendation	Administration recommends that Council approves the listed staff as Fire Guardians for the year 2018.
Previous Council Direction	Appointment of Fire Guardians has been done on an annual basis for several years.
Report	Background Information
	Each year Council is required to appoint sufficient fire guardians for the fire season. Members of Council and the County Commissioner and his designates are fire guardians by virtue of their office.
	To stimulate good fire safety practices with respect to open fires, a fire permit is required.
	It should be noted the majority of fire permits the last few years have been processed online via the County website. However, the requirement to appoint fire guardians to accommodate walk-in requests is still necessary.
	Should a questionable or out-of-the-ordinary permit request be made, guardians are advised that these are to be forwarded to Protective Services. Protective Services staff will review, and if deemed necessary, undertake a sight visit before issuing a permit.
	 External Communication None regarding guardians. Requirement for fire permits are communicated seasonally.

Date Written: November 2, 2017 Council Meeting Date: November 28, 2017

Relevant Policy/Legislation/Practices:

- Alberta Forest and Prairie Protection Act
- County Burning Bylaw 1375/16

Implication of Administrative Recommendation

Strategic Alignment:

By approving these appointments Council will be consistent with its approach to Strong Local Governance, and will ensure appropriate control and consistency with regards to issuing of fire permits.

Organizational:

As these are annual appointments, organizational impact should be minimal. For the most part, work load in processing of the permits is consistent from year to year.

Financial:

The impact regarding this decision will be minimal; all costs will be covered within current budgets.

Alternatives Considered

Council could deny the request for additional fire guardian appointments.

Implications of Alternatives

Strategic Alignment:

Issuing of fire permits may be delayed due to back log of requests.

Organizational:

Only Council and the CAO would be able to issue permits. Issuance of fire permits would be delayed due to influx of requests. Protective Services staff would not be in a position to inspect extraordinary requests and iussue permits.

Failing to issue permits in a timely manner may result in increased cases of improper and unpermitted burning resulting in additional demand, responses and cost to fire departments.

Financial:

Difficult to predict however could result in increased cost to respond and mitigate unpermitted burning incidents.

Follow up Action

- 1. Notify staff of their fire guardian appointments.
- 2. If required, training will be provided by Protective Services Administration and Information Services to new fire guardians as soon as possible regarding online fire permitting system.

Date Written: November 2, 2017 Council Meeting Date: November 28, 2017 Attachment(s) None.

Report Reviewed

by:

Pat Mahoney, Fire Chief/Manager of Protective Services

Ian McKay, P.Eng., GM Municipal Services

Peter Tarnawsky, County Commissioner – CAO

Strategic Alignment Checklist

Vision: Sturgeon County: a diverse, active community that pioneers opportunities and promotes initiative while embracing rural lifestyles.

Mission: Provide quality, cost effective services and infrastructure to meet the diverse needs of the Sturgeon County community, while improving competitiveness and sustainability.

Focus Areas	Not consistent	N/A	Consistent
Strong Local Governance and Regional Leadership			
We promote consistent and accountable leadership through collaborative and transparent processes (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP)			×
 Consistent with neighborhood role (see MDP), master plans, policies 			\bowtie
Considers fiscal stability and sustainability			\boxtimes
Has a positive impact on regional and sub-regional cooperation			\boxtimes
Respect the Natural Environment			
We acknowledge the importance of a healthy environment and will minimize and monitor our impact on ecosystems (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP)			×
Compliance with Provincial and Federal regulations and/or legislation			×
Ensure effective environmental risk management			
Community Identity & Spirit			
We will build upon our strengths, where together we will create an inclusive, caring community (Strategic Plan, (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP)		×	
Promotes and/or enhances residents' identification with Sturgeon County		\boxtimes	
Enhances service provision through community partnerships		\boxtimes	
Supports Sturgeon County's cultural history		×	
Planned Growth and Prosperity			
We encourage varied and integrated enterprises that enhance our strong economic base, while balancing the needs of the community and natural environment. (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP)		×	
 Does the proposal align with the Integrated Regional Growth Strategy (map/policies) pg. 26 MDP 		×	
Considers cumulative costs and long-term funding implications		\boxtimes	
Targets growth around current or planned infrastructure		\boxtimes	
Maintain and Enhance Strong Communities			
We are committed to a safe, secure community, where our residents are respected and provided with access to opportunities. (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP)			×
Positive impact on residents' quality of life			
Supports and promotes volunteer efforts			
Provides programs and services that are accessible to all residents			
Operational Excellence			
We have the organizational capability to deliver consistent and defined levels of service to all stakeholders in a professional, efficient, and cost effective manner			⊠
Staff have the knowledge, skills and capability to perform their jobs			
Streamlines operational processes and policies			\boxtimes
Promotes engagement and professional interaction with stakeholders			
Considers a cost-structure which allows Sturgeon County to remain competitive within a regional, national and global context			

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