



REPORT

To: Rural Budgets Administration Committee

Report Number: CS-RBAC-009

From: Trish Morgan, General Manager of Community Services

Date: January 21, 2021

Subject: Function 290 Chetwynd Library Draft 2021 Budget

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee recommend that the Regional Board include the draft 2021 budget for function 290 – Chetwynd Library in the 2021 Financial Plan.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

The Chetwynd Library provides services to the community of Chetwynd and a portion of Area E. The majority of the operational and capital costs associated with operating and maintaining the library are paid for through the service area as outlines in Bylaw No. 266, 1980.

The Chetwynd Library Board submitted a budget request for \$460,150. As they anticipate having a surplus from 2020 as a result of reduced expenditures due to shutting down in response to COVID-19 and a substantial financial reserve, the Electoral Area Director has decided to provide them with \$435,000 in 2021. This will allow for funds to be allocated to the Peace River Regional District budget for additional design work and costs estimates for a new library and costs associated with holding a referendum to obtain approval for borrowing.

The Electoral Area 'E' Director initially reviewed the Chetwynd Library budget on Tuesday, January 5, 2021.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

1. That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee provide further direction.

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:

☒ Not Applicable to Strategic Plan.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):

Budget highlights:

- Requisition = \$496,218 which is the same as 2020
- Surplus to be carried forward = \$18,344
- Grant to organization = \$435,000
- Studies/Assessments = \$25,000 to conduct further design work and cost estimates for a new library
- Election/referendum costs = \$15,000 to conduct public engagement and a referendum for borrowing for a new library

The estimated tax rate for 2021 is \$0.1488 up from \$0.1470 in 2020.

COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):

None at this time.

OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):

None at this time.

Attachments:

1. Function 290 Chetwynd Library Draft 2021 Operations Budget
2. Chetwynd Library Board Draft 2021 Budget Submission