Well drilling fees will bring in well over $1 million in 2012

Priorities meeting. Greging last week's Policies and activities have already companies to Mountain exceeded $1 million this fees paid by oil and gas brought in about $435,000. Revenue at this time last year were higher than anticipated in the budget.

Road inspection fees have also exceeded the budgeted amounts and are four times the revenue at this time last year, said Wiens. And are collecting revenue the way the roads are basis. Military men of security and public usefulness. Military men of the shrewd business tactics of his partner Pobihushchy than reality, he said. "I wanted a good price for it," Warkentin said. "He wouldn't tell me the half of what was going on." Warkentin says he had originally snapped up the historical treasures to preserve what was once bought as part of Canada's best hope in the event of a Soviet attack, from falling into the wrong hands. Rumours of Hell's Angels interest in purchasing the main facility near the airport were more a function of the sleazy business tactics of his partner Pobihushchy than reality, he said. "I wanted a good price for it," Warkentin said. "He wouldn't tell me the half of what was going on." Following the sales from the Crown to Pobihushchy and Warkentin, Nelson said there were allegations that criminal elements approached the owners with an interest to purchase the bunkers. "On June 15, 1997, the purchasers of the Penhold bunkers wrote a letter to the Solicitor General of Canada, and stated that they were approached by parties who may have wanted to purchase the bunkers from them for illegal purposes. Media reported in August of 1997 the Hell's Angels outlaw motorcycle club reportedly offered US $1.3 million to purchase the HQ bunkers," she said. Public Works and Government Services Canada paid $750,000 to buy back the headquarters bunkers from them. The bunkers were reportedly used as a training facility, but fell still well above the 2011 levels.

- Solid waste collection fees are tracking to be $450,000 ahead of budget.
- Snow removal costs are $760,000 so far this year. This leaves 63 per cent of the budget for the remainder of the year.

"This is below last year's amount of $1.8 million," he said.

DAN SINGLETON  
MVG Staff  

Feeds paid by oil and gas companies to Mountain View County for well drilling activities have already exceeded $1 million this year, councillor heard during last week’s Policies and Priorities meeting. Greg Wiens, director of corporate services, presented a financial update for the county as of the end of September. “It is a significant amount of revenue,” said Wiens. “We have received a lot of revenue in October and November, so we have well over a million dollars in revenue from our well drilling tax in 2012.”

As of Sept. 30, the county had received $1,830,953 from well drilling taxes. “That revenue was slated to go to reserves and as we go through the year-end process there will probably be some discussion as to where some of those extra funds could go,” he said. “We have been getting a lot of revenue, but we’ve also seen the impacts of a lot of oil and gas activities as well.”

Coun. Paddy Munro said, “I see that impact in Division 6. I see what happens with all that oil and gas activity, the way the roads are basically destroyed.” Coun. Tony Martens said, “Our concern is what is the future impact on those roads and when is that going to show up.”

In 2011 well drilling fees brought in about $45,000. Road inspection fees have also exceeded the budgeted amounts and are four times the revenue at this time last year, said Wiens. As well as the well drilling fees, the update also includes the following:

- Traffic fine revenue is expected to be close to budget expectations. The penalty amounts in September were higher than anticipated in the budget.

- Redesignation fees are projected to be $10,000 ahead of budget but still well above the 2011 levels.

- Hard surface road expenses are $41 per cent of budget and $18,000 above last year.

- Snow removal costs are $760,000 so far this year. This leaves 63 per cent of the budget for the remainder of the year.

“This is below last year’s amount of $1.8 million,” he said.