

Elbow Council News - June 2014

PAVEMENT! – We just recently completed some much needed paving on Saskatchewan Street. A 30' wide section was paved down the three blocks of Saskatchewan Street that the Village owns (the rest is owned by the Dept of Highways), as well as a curb-to-curb test area in the middle block. Council passed a motion at their June 16, 2014 meeting that the Village pursue further curb-to-curb paving on Saskatchewan Street through the Local Improvement process, providing the trial area works out as expected. This means that the property owners would be expected to contribute towards the cost. There will be plenty of notice, more information, etc. when or if, this is proposed. In the mean time, enjoy driving down our three blocks of pothole-free asphalt!

Water Rate Increases – as we reported in our March 2014 newsletter, water rates increased effective April 1, 2014 to \$11.65/1,000 gallons; up from \$10.69 which represents the 9% increase in water rates from SaskWater. So, for example; if your household uses 7,500 gallons in a quarter, that would be a \$7.20 increase you would see over the three month period.

Email online payments – For those that do not bank at Prairie Centre Credit Union and can't use their MemberDirect online payment service, there is another option to make online payments to the Village of Elbow. Many financial institutions now offer INTERAC e-Transfers, a quick and secure method to make payments or transfer money. All you need is your recipient's email address to send money in just a few quick and easy steps. This might be something you'd like to consider in order to make your water bill or even tax payments. Check with your financial institution to see just how easy it is to set up and to inquire about service fees for this type of service.

Building Permits – please remember that all construction, 100 sq ft and over, requires a building permit. The forms are available to download off the Village website (www.elbowsask.com) or stop by the Village Office.

FYI – in 2013, the Village approved 18 building permits for a total construction value of \$1,712,110

Mowing – with all this rain it's been hard to get at your mowing, but we want to remind everyone of the need to keep their property in Elbow mowed (full time residents, seasonal residents, and vacant property owners). As part of Council's 'clean up our neighbourhood' priority – ALL properties are expected to be mowed on a regular basis. We thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Transfer Station – open Mondays from 4 – 7 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. – noon. (this includes stat holidays)

By-Election – with the recent resignation of a Councillor, the Village Council has set Wednesday, August 20, 2014 as the date for a by-election to fill this vacancy. The deadline for nominations is Wednesday, July 16th at 4 p.m. The Advance Poll will be Friday, August 15th from 4 – 7 p.m. There is also the provision for mail-in ballots. Voters need to come into the Village Office in person to complete an application package in order to take part in the mail-in ballot process. The deadline to complete the mail-in ballot application is July 21, 2014. Please remember, as with all elections – voter ID is required.

Summer Positions – join us in welcoming back our summer maintenance student, Dylan Boyle for his second summer with the Village, as well as our new employee Nikolas MacLean who is working part time with our maintenance department and in the Community Park/Orchard.

Be a good neighbour – these things should go without saying, but due to recent concerns brought to the Village Office, we'd like to remind everyone to be considerate to your neighbours

- Be considerate to your neighbour in regards to noise, campfires, and your pets
- Do not drain the water from your property onto your neighbour's property (sump pump water, downspouts, etc.)
- Talk to your neighbour, get to know your neighbour, work out any differences you may have.

2014 Operating and Capital Budget – At their April 14, 2014 meeting, Council accepted the 2014 Operating and Capital Budget, setting the municipal mill rate at 4.22 mills (no change from 2013). The base tax increased from \$625 for improved property to \$670. The mill rate factor of 2.25 remains in place for all commercial property. The province set the school mill rate at 5.03 mills, the same as in 2013.

Thank you to:

- Denise Ganes who once again purchased and planted the flowers at the end of Saskatchewan Street
- The Elbow Business Group for arranging for the flower pots up and down Saskatchewan Street
- Elbow & District Wildlife for donating 12 new round tables at the rink
- Kim Trew, Nick Paulsen, Kevin Luchia, Gary Dunn, Troy Bramble, and Gary Mercer for helping out Village Staff (Scott Scrimbitt and Dylan Boyle) with patching potholes on Saskatchewan Street

Anyone interested in taking part in a community garage sale the long weekend in August, please contact Isabella Parent at 306-854-2112 for more details.



Swimming lessons will be held at Tuft's Bay in Elbow with two separate sessions: August 11 – 15 AND August 18 – 22. For more information, or to register, please contact Michelle by email m.babiarz@live.com or by phone or text to 306-867-4471. Preschool - \$25; Level 1 & up - \$30; Family - \$80.

Free Community Fitness Programming – everyone is welcome to come out and get involved in either a bit of exercise, Tai-chi for Arthritis or even some ballroom dancing! We meet Thursday at 1:30 p.m. in conjunction with the Friendship Club at the Civic Centre (membership is NOT required). Sessions last approx 1 hr, will be on-going and continue based upon demand in the community. This program is FREE of charge. Simply show up with a smile and positive mood, bring a clean pair of non-marking footwear, loose comfortable clothing and your own water bottle. Feel free to call Braden for more information 854-4610.

Braden will also be offering FREE outdoor exercise/stretch classes at the top of the marina (dependent upon weather) starting at either 8 or 8:30 a.m. with a short walk around the loop.