

## Mayor's Monthly Message

August 2024

I would like to convey my sincere condolences to family and friends mourning the loss of Jerry Nelson at age 77 on August 20<sup>th</sup>. Jerry was an active member of our community and a valued member of the Village's public works team for over 10 years before his retirement in November 2019. Jerry was well known for always having a smile on his face and being willing to engage enthusiastically in conversation on just about any topic. Jerry will be interred in the Stirling Memorial Cemetery following a service at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints on Wednesday, August 28<sup>th</sup>.

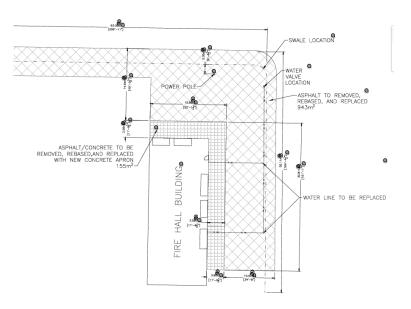




Stirling residents have continued to answer the call on water conservation. Earlier this spring, the Government of Alberta asked municipalities to reduce water consumption by 5 to 10%. The Village adjusted watering practices for parks and fields along with making operational changes at the pool and other facilities. Year-to-date, Stirling's total water consumption is down 17.4% compared to last year.

That's a very significant reduction. Thanks to everyone for your own personal conservation efforts helping to achieve this result.

You will begin to see some much needed work around the firehall in September. A concrete apron will replace asphalt outside of the overhead bay doors and a concrete swale will be added to improve drainage from surrounding streets to a storm drain. The project will help protect fire apparatus from potential damage from ruts in the existing asphalt and at the same time provide better flood mitigation during major rain events. The Village is also taking the opportunity to replace a number of water lines and control valves in this area while the ground is dug up. We appreciate the cooperation of the



Stirling Fire Department during construction as we manage access to the Fire Hall and coordinate the schedule of the project.





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Council passed first reading of Bylaw 549-24 being the new proposed Land Use Bylaw this month. The existing land use bylaw is 16 years old and in need of modernization. Some examples of proposed changes include: allowing the sale of alcohol in future Class A restaurants but prohibiting free standing retail liquor stores, protecting the residential nature of the community by prohibiting tiny homes and so called shop houses, increasing maximum building heights, allowing manufactured homes but prohibiting moved in structures, updating definitions and certain legal requirements to match current legislation. The overhaul of the bylaw is significant.

A public hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>. Residents who wish to give Council feedback on any of the proposed changes are encouraged to either provide a written submission to the hearing or attend in person to share their thoughts. Council may only consider information provided through the public hearing so while a lengthy post on Facebook might be good to engage the community, it cannot be considered as part of the process. Details on the public hearing, how to make a submission as well as a draft copy of the bylaw for review can be found on the Village's website in the coming weeks.



Council will then consider all feedback as part of potential amendments to the draft bylaw before giving it further readings.

There will be lots to do on Saturday, September 14th for this year's Fall Festival. All of the action takes place from 3:00 to 7:00 pm down at the Reunion Centre. Hope to see you there!

**Trevor Lewington** 

hem Said

"Our dilemma is that we hate change and love it at the same time; what we really want is for things to remain the same but get better." -Sydney J. Harris



