



STIRLING

Mayor's Monthly Message

December 2024

It's been fun to watch all the social media posts of Buddy. (#StirlingElf2024) I've heard he was sneakier in finding new and more challenging hiding spot across the Village this year. I love how this has become an ongoing tradition in the community. Remember to stop by the Village office to get your candy bags if you haven't already done so.

My thanks to everyone who helped to plan and organize the "Christmas at the Community Centre" event on December 7th. The annual festive get together continues to evolve and grow but treats, games and a visit from the big guy from the North Pole are recurring crowd pleasers.



Congratulations to the Stirling Historical Society for receiving a \$10,000 grant from the Community Foundation of Lethbridge and Southwestern Alberta. The funds will be used to enhance community events with the acquisition of items like portable handwashing stations, event tents, lighting and a portable public address system.

Council was pleased to hear from Jackie Seely from STARS this month. The air ambulance service is a key lifeline to rural and remote communities in Alberta when critical care is required. The Village makes an annual donation to STARS based on one dollar per capita.



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Council discussed and approved both interim operating and capital budgets for next year. These will be adjusted in the spring as provincial grant amounts are confirmed. We continue to focus on the need to invest in core infrastructure like potable water, sewer and storm water management for the future.



Council approved a borrowing bylaw that allows Administration to obtain debt financing to complete the lift station upgrade and sewer twinning project. The Village received provincial grants that cover approximately 71% of the project and issuing a debenture to cover the remainder of the cost was planned.

Council also approved initial decisions required for the October 2025 municipal election. Residents interested in running for Council will be invited to information sessions in the spring. Look for updated nomination forms and information for candidates on the Village website in the coming months.

We were pleased to hear from Shane Still, the Village's Director of Operations who presented his annual report. The Village's public works team works hard to maintain infrastructure, equipment and vehicles. Rehabilitation work on the concrete basin of the pool continues but is going well.



On behalf of Council, let me wish you and your families all the best that the festive season has to offer. Here's to a healthy and prosperous New Year.
Merry Christmas!



Trevor Lewington

"Christmas is the season for kindling the fire of hospitality in the hall, the genial flame of charity in the heart." - *Washington Irving*

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