



Mayor's Monthly Message

August 2020

At its regular meeting this month, Council appointed Mr. Scott Donselaar as Chief Administrative Officer (CAO). Mr. Donselaar has 15 years of municipal government experience in bylaw enforcement, public safety program development, emergency management as well as planning and land development. He is in the final stages of obtaining his Certified Local Government Managers or CLGM designation and is currently enrolled in the Applied Land Use and Planning program at the University of Alberta. Mr. Donselaar has also held a Level 1 Peace Officer designation and is a certified Director of Emergency Management. Mr. Donselaar and his wife Aimee along with their three children (Lily, Kaitlyn and Liam) currently reside in Raymond. Please join us in welcoming Scott to the Village team.



Construction continues on the replacement of deep utilities like water supply lines and sanitary sewers in the block in front of the school. We appreciate everyone's patience with detours and water disruptions as we work to install new infrastructure and replace service lines to individual properties. The area is an active construction site so we appreciate residents continuing to respect fences, barricades and stay away from open trenches. Phase one of the work will continue into September so it will be even more important to remain safety



conscious and respect traffic controls as the return to school approaches. Phase two will take place in 2021 and will include the final paving and beautification of the street.

Council adopted first reading of an Advertising & Public Notification Bylaw at our August meeting. Currently, certain formal notices must be published in print media like the local Westwinds Weekly Newspaper. Print ads are costly and often do not reach a broad audience. The proposed bylaw will allow us to "officially" use electronic media like Facebook, the Village website and the Marquee sign to communicate official notices instead of using print media. The Village already uses these alternative measures but a bylaw is required under the Municipal Government Act to stop using print ads for official notifications. A public hearing will be held during the September 16th meeting of Council if residents wish to present concerns.



Council has made road rehabilitation and dust control a major capital budget priority during this term. There has been an investment each year in rebasing, oiling and upgrading roads in the Village. To protect these investments, the Village will be looking to ensure compliance with existing weight restrictions and heavy vehicle limitations in our community. Bylaw 400-05 prohibits the driving or parking of vehicles in excess of 9,600 kgs in our community. Exceptions are made for commercial deliveries and public works or fire department apparatus. These restrictions include most of 1st Avenue and 8th Street. The approved truck route for overweight vehicles is from the north on County of Warner roads. The map below highlights approved routes.



A reminder that Council deferred late payment penalties for property taxes to assist people impacted by the pandemic but taxes are due no later than September 30th. Late payments are subject to a penalty of 12%. (The penalty does not apply to those households already on a monthly payment plan.) Lost your assessment or have questions? Call the Village Office for help.

Stay safe. Enjoy the sunshine!

Trevor Lewington