



Mayor's Monthly Message

January 2020

The start of a new year is an opportunity for new beginnings and making adjustments to our personal goals. It also means it is time for the annual renewal of your business, dog and livestock licenses.

Renewing your dog license each year ensures that lost pets can be quickly reunited with owners. Spayed and neutered dogs are \$25 each while non-spayed or non-neutered dogs are \$45 each. You can find more information on requirements and potential penalties on the Village website under Bylaw 423 – Dog Control Bylaw or on this page <http://stirling.ca/government/bylaws-policies>. Help us protect your four legged friends and register them.

Livestock licenses are \$25 per animal or a flat fee of \$25 in the case of chickens and poultry. Requirements and potential penalties are set out in Bylaw 471 – Animal Bylaw. Registration of livestock is particularly helpful in our community emergency response planning. License records help to identify where animals are located if they get loose and help inform the required tasks during the unlikely event of a community evacuation.

A business license is required for anyone operating a business in the Village or those hoping to do business as a vendor with the Village itself. We have a reciprocal recognition arrangement with a number of other communities so a business license issued by Stirling is recognized in Raymond, Magrath, Coaldale, Barons, Picture Butte, Coalhurst and Nobleford. Licensed businesses are also featured in the business directory of the Village website. As we move forward to engage with renewable energy projects in our region, it will be that business directory that we use to showcase the potential suppliers in our community. Make sure you are listed! The business license application form for new applications can be found here: <http://stirling.ca/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/Business-License-Application-2013-Village-of-Stirling.pdf>



We have made an adjustment to the enforcement of our animal and dog control bylaws to reduce costs and eliminate duplication. We have eliminated a contract animal control / bylaw enforcement position and shifted all bylaw enforcement in the Village to the Peace Officers employed by Ridge Regional Public Safety Services. Contacts are as follows:

Issue:	Agency:	Contact:
Bylaw Enforcement – Dogs, animal control, unsightly properties, noise, on-street parking etc.	Ridge Regional Public Safety Service (Community Peace Officers)	(587) 813-0791 or email cpo@rrpssc.ca
Non-emergency criminal matters/complaints – theft, property damage, trespassing, threats	Raymond RCMP	(403) 752-3351
Urgent criminal matters – threats with a weapon, imminent danger, impaired drivers etc.	Raymond RCMP	911
Fire	Stirling Fire Department	911
Medical and health questions (non-emergency)	Alberta Health Link	<u>811</u>
Emergency Medical Services (Ambulance)	Alberta Health Services	911



Construction of the new Theodore Brandley Municipal Library space on the lower level of the Community Centre / Lion’s Hall continues to progress. A new lift has been installed to ensure barrier free access for those with mobility restrictions. The tentative plan for relocating the existing library collection is for sometime April although this is subject to change as the project progresses. Keep an eye on the Library’s website for updates.



VILLAGE OF
STIRLING
NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

This month Council has approved a Code of Conduct Bylaw. Changes by the Province to Alberta's Municipal Government Act in 2019 required that municipalities entrench existing Code of Conduct policies for Council into a bylaw. The new bylaw will help ensure that Stirling remains in compliance with the governing legislation.

Council continues to explore potential areas for collaboration for the Town of Milk River. Stirling's Chief Administrative Officer has been assisting Milk River for a few days each week as that community looks to recruit their CAO position. Stirling and Milk River already work together on a number of boards, committees and projects so discussing areas of additional shared services is worthwhile to understand where future efficiencies might exist.

Protecting the safety and well being of the employees of the Village is of the utmost importance to us as an employer and to me personally. Council reviewed the results of a recent external audit as we work to find ways to continuously improve our safety training, policies and procedures to move towards and injury free community.

Council was also provided with a proposal by the Fire Department to replace our existing brush truck unit with a new one that meets provincial standards. The new unit would allow for contracting of services to Alberta Agriculture and Forestry as a potential cost recovery mechanism for the department. In addition, it would provide additional training and development opportunities for volunteers in the department.

Thank you to all Village residents who helped to keep drains unblocked, driveways and paths cleared. A big thanks to our public works team for their efforts during the deep freeze and subsequent fast melt. January has certainly been a month of extremes with lows close to -40 and now highs nearing +10... sometimes in a matter of just a few days! Maybe we can roll right into spring???

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Trevor Lewington', written in a cursive style.

Trevor Lewington

Have a comment? Question? Idea? Suggestion?

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