

2018 SUMMER NEWSLETTER

Summer Village of Sunset Beach

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IMPORTANT DATES!

- * June 22 – Tax Notice Mail Out
- * July 28 – Annual Info Meeting
- * August 21 – Regular Council Meeting
- * August 29 – Assessment Complaint Deadline
- * August 31 – Tax Payment Deadline
- * January 1 – 18% Tax Penalty

Message from Council

As I sit down to draft this message from Council, I am thinking of the warm days ahead!

When you return to your cabins, you will notice a change when you enter the Village. A portion of trees to the East of Willow Drive has been removed. Opinions are split, with some pleased and others very upset. The high winds last fall created a lot of tree damage in the Village. At one point, Willow Drive was blocked for several hours. We are all aware that we have only one point of access and egress for our Village. We must always be aware of this fact and your Council acted to ensure emergency vehicles have unrestricted access to our Village. We made a choice for the continued safety of everyone involved. We could have decided to open the North end of Willow Drive and have two points of access, or to remove the dead and dying black poplars at the Village entrance. We felt the best choice was to remove potentially dangerous trees. Your Councilors spoke with some residents who would be the most affected. Everyone understood why we planned to cut down the trees. Some suggestions that we identify problem trees and take only those down. This proved to be a very costly approach compared to the path we chose. Additional black poplar may need to come down,

but for the moment they remain as a compromise we reached with a resident of our Village. The good news in all of this is that we are now able to correct the slope in the ditch and replant different varieties of trees that will not grow as high but will improve the aesthetics of the road. These actions were recommended many years ago by the engineer who worked with the Village to repair the road from the highway to the creek.

Continuing with safety concerns, your Council has purchased three (3) automatic defibrillators that will be strategically placed throughout the Village. This initiative is the result for work by Deputy Mayor Margolus. We will be looking for potential locations for these devices. They will require signage and security at each location chosen. In the coming weeks, we will share more information on these devices. We are also considering the purchase of portable firefighting equipment. We need to do more work on this project before a final decision is made.

Your Council has been asked by back lot owners to provide foot access and sitting areas near the water at 3rd Ave. and possibly one or more other "lake access" areas. We support this initiative, but at this point have not made any specific plans.

We have engaged a consultant to review our Land Use Bylaw (LUB). It is imperative for residents to get involved in the process as it will ultimately determine land use within the Village. A public hearing will be held later this year where you will be able to make your views known and hear the input of others. It is your Village and it is your input that will determine the final draft of a new LUB.

Your previous Mayor, Mark Lindscoog has completed a draft of the Waste Water Bylaw. Mr. Lindscoog has done a considerable amount of work on this bylaw. Village Administration and Councilors, Tim, Jack and I would like to express our sincere thanks to Mark for this difficult and valuable contribution. The bylaw is posted on our website. I encourage all residents to carefully review this draft of the Waste Water Bylaw. Once enacted, this Bylaw will affect every landowner in the Village. Your Council has not yet had a first reading of the Waste Water Bylaw and your input will be accepted for consideration. Please make your views known to your Councilors. It's your Village and it will be your Bylaw.

This spring and summer we will be doing extensive work on our roads. There will be some road patching and seal coating, followed by rebuilding the road as it enters the Village, then rebuilding the area near the mailboxes. Additional work in this area will include ditches along the southern loop of Willow Dr. (the loop has never been opened). This area is deteriorating as it has not been properly ditched or sloped for drainage. Some trees and stumps will be coming out to complete this work, but we have asked the contractor to minimize the impact on the trees and shrubs in the area. We will also proceed with some erosion prevention measures at the base of the grid road (Holmberg's Road), on 2nd Ave, and some modifications to the turnaround on Birch Drive.

Our CAO Wendy Wildman and her staff are working diligently to ensure the Sunset Beach website is up to date with information important to our Village. This includes the LUB review and the draft Waste Water Bylaw. To keep all residents well-informed, Council meeting minutes and Audited Financial Statements will continue to be posted on the website along with other information your Mayor and Council feel may be of interest or importance to you. Please visit our website frequently.

When it comes to Capital Fund, we are in an awkward position. We need to spend our Capital dollars. We have listed some of the money we plan to spend, but we need to spend more. We do not want to waste the money and we really do not want to return it to the Provincial Government. We are asking you to give us some ideas on where to spend this capital money on projects that will benefit all residents in our community. Send us an email, give us a call, or talk to us. We will listen.

A number of you want to know about the Baptiste and Island Lakes Stewardship Society (BAILS). Dennis Irving is now President and we are working to strengthen our relationship with County Council. Late last summer, BAILS sampled the waters of both Baptiste and Island Lakes. The samples taken in the Baptiste lake show trace amounts of fecal bacteria from several locations on the North Basin of Baptiste Lake BAILS will be collecting and analyzing more samples this summer on both basins of Baptiste Lake and at Island Lake. Samples will be tested for pig,

cattle, waterfowl and human fecal matter. This technical committee has been very active over the winter. A water Balance report on Baptiste lake was presented to the BAILS technical committee on April 13th. The report will be posted on the BAILS website and I am trying to get a copy posted to the Sunset Beach website. I listened to the report and I can say that it's an. eye-opening document and that beavers have little, if anything to do with water levels in Baptiste Lake. The BAILS Executive anticipates that a lake Watershed Management Plan will be in place for both Baptiste and Island Lakes later this year.

FREE FIRE WOOD....for those who would like fire wood for their campfires, we have plenty. The wood has been bucked up and is laying in the ditches along Willow Dr. and on 1st Ave. It is there for anyone to use, help yourself.

We appreciate those mowing the ditches in front of their properties but please blow the grass clippings and other debris into the ditches rather than leaving it on the roadway. It looks unsightly and does speed the deterioration of the road.

Your Village Councilors.



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PROPERTY TAXES ARE DUE AUGUST 31, 2018

The Summer Village collects taxes annually to meet the projected costs of providing services to the community. These revenues are received through grants, a municipal services tax, and the municipal portion of property taxes. Other amounts collected on your annual tax bill are collected on behalf of the Greater North Foundation and the Alberta School Foundation.

Paying Your Property Taxes:

Please make cheques payable to the Summer Village of Sunset Beach and mail to:
PO Box 8 Alberta Beach, AB T0E-0A0

Assessment

Property assessment services are contracted to Municipal Assessment Services Group. The firm can be contacted at 780-939-3310 with any questions you may have regarding the assessed value of your property.

What is a Property Assessment?

Each year, the Assessors will inspect certain properties within the Municipality. The property assessment is the estimated market value of your property which is used to calculate property taxes. Assessors do not create your property value, nor do Council. The market determines the value of your property, and the value is the basis for the assessment and is then used to calculate your property taxes.

What If I Disagree with My Assessment?

Remember, you can only make a complaint against your assessment value, not your tax dollars or tax rates and you must have grounds for your complaint. **The assessment complaint deadline for the Summer Village of Sunset Beach is August 29, 2018.** There is a fee of \$50.00 that must accompany a completed assessment complaint for which is available on the website www.summervillageofsunsetbeach.com. Prior to completing the assessment complaint form, please contact the assessor to first discuss the matter of your assessment – Ian Ferguson 780-939-3310.

Development and Permits

Prior to any construction, property owners **MUST** obtain a development permit from the Development Officer. The Summer Village contracts to Tony Sonnleitner who can be contacted at 780-718-5479 or email at pcm1@telusplanet.net.

Building/Electrical/Gas/Plumbing Permits

Permits are a legal requirement. The Summer Village is a accredited Municipality, therefore, building, electrical, gas and plumbing permits can be obtained from the agency below which are authorized to issue permits and provide compliance monitoring in accredited Municipalities.

* The Inspections Group Inc. (Building/Electrical/Gas/Plumbing) 1-866-554-5048

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Summer Village Contact Information

GENERAL

Mailing Address	PO Box 8 Alberta Beach, AB T0E-0A0
Office Location	4808-51 Street Onoway, AB
General Office Phone	780-937-4366
Fax	780-967-0431
Email	svsunsetbeach@wildwillowenterprises.com
Website	www.summservillageofsunsetbeach.com

ADMINISTRATION

Chief Administrative Officer	Wendy Wildman
General Administration Office	780-937-4366
Assessor – Ian Ferguson	780-939-3310
Development Officer – Tony Sonleitner	780-718-5479
Permits – The Inspections Group Inc.	780-454-5048
Call Before You Dig	1-800-242-3447

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor	Morris Nesdole	mnnesdole@outlook.com
Deputy Mayor	Tim Evans	timevans2010@hotmail.com
Deputy Mayor	Jack Margolus	jbmargolus@gmail.com