

TOWN OF STRASBOURG NEWSLETTER



Volume 8 / Issue 1



January – March 2021

2021 DOG LICENSING

Payments for annual dog licenses are no longer required. If you already have a licensed dog with the Town, you will not need to pay annually going forward. However, any new dogs will require a \$25 lifetime license. This is in an effort to encourage registration.

Tags are not transferable to different dogs and replacement tags are \$5.

FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR'S DESK

Happy New Year from the Administration and Council! It has definitely been a challenging year for us all, but I am proud of us as a community; how we have persevered through the last 10 months and supported one another in doing so. We can only hope for better times ahead in 2021.

While Covid-19 definitely hampered the use of several Town facilities, I would formally like to recognize groups and individuals who made donations towards the Hall, Fire Dept, and Museum in 2020:

THANK YOU TO...

Affinity Credit Union

Bulyea Co-op

Mountain Motors Autobody

Regina Radiator

Tracey & Keith Hassman

Everyone who participated in the summer Museum raffle

Annie Fines

Fort Garry Industries Ltd

RBC, Strasbourg Branch

Strasbourg Lions Club

UPCOMING DATES

Town Council Meeting

Wednesday, January 27 @ 7:00 p.m.

1% Penalty to Tax Arrears

Monday, February 1

Town Council Meeting

Wednesday, February 10 @ 7:00 p.m.

Admin Office Closed - Family Day

Monday, February 15

1st Quarter Water Bills Due

Tuesday, February 16

Town Council Meeting

Wednesday, February 24 @ 7:00 p.m.

1% Penalty to Tax Arrears

Monday, March 1

Town Council Meeting

Wednesday, March 10 @ 7:00 p.m.

Town Council Meeting

Wednesday, March 24 @ 7:00 p.m.

The Town Council annually gives money in grants, sponsorships, and advertising to local groups. The Town has an annual fund whereby local volunteer groups can apply for grants and donations for fundraisers and various Town events. As well this year, Council provided some extra relief for not-for-profit organizations to help alleviate financial pressure caused by Covid-19.

Town Donations, Grants, and Advertising Support in 2020

- Strasbourg Rec Centre (Rink) Annual Operating Grant - \$5,000
- Strasbourg Public Library Annual Grant - \$1,500
- WDS Scholarship - \$1,000
- Strasbourg Community Park Grant for bathroom upgrades - \$1,000
- Strasbourg Rec Centre (Rink) Covid-19 Relief Grant - \$5,000
- Last Mountain Pioneer Home Foundation Board for a new specialty tub - \$5,000
- Strasbourg Memorial Hall Rent Relief for Strasbourg Lions Club, Last Mountain Theatre Company, Strasbourg Senior Citizens Club, and Strasbourg Recreation Board for 2021
- WDS Yearbook - \$30.00
- Last Mountain District Music Festival - \$25.00

As always, to all the members of the **Rec Board**, **Strasbourg EMO Committee**, and **Strasbourg & District Fire & Rescue**, who volunteer on behalf of the Town of Strasbourg Council, thank you for your continued commitment to our community!

Jenn Josephson
Administrator

SASKTEL PHONE & INTERNET DISRUPTIONS

A few weeks ago our Town and surrounding area experienced an extended disruption in SaskTel landline telephone, cellphone, and internet services. Needless to say, this was a very difficult and worrisome situation, as no one was able to reach one another, especially for emergency services such as EMS, Fire, and Police. Considering this exact situation has happened before (3 years prior), it is highly likely that we will experience something like this again in the future. Between the Town Council, the Emergency Measures Organization (EMO), and the Fire Department, we have ensured that SaskTel has made our area's "Emergency Standalone Service" operational. If, in the event of another telecommunications disruption, we are able to call from **landline telephones to other landline telephones only in the "725" exchange area**. This will not work with cell phones calling to landlines or vice versa, and the landline telephone number has to be 725 calling to another 725 number. This should at least give us some relief knowing that emergency contact can be made around the community.

GARBAGE & RECYCLING CAN REMINDER

While Loraas requires the garbage and recycling cans to be put out at the curb prior to 7:00 a.m. on Wednesdays, please do not put out the cans too early (e.g. 24-48 hours early). Having cans on the street for too long can lead to garbage and recycling blowing around, as well as difficulties in street cleaning in the summer months, and snow removal in the winter months. Also please remove your cart from the street within 24 hours of pickup to not hinder snow removal or street sweeping.



FIRE CHIEF RETIREMENT



The Town of Strasbourg Council and Administration would like to congratulate Ron Griffin on his retirement as Fire Chief from the Strasbourg & District Fire & Rescue (SDFR) Department. Ron officially started with the SDFR on January 2, 1980 and was made Fire Chief in 1990. Ron's contributions to the Fire Department are extensive and have had great impact on volunteer firefighting for all of Saskatchewan. Ron plans to continue to be a part of the Department in a mentoring capacity and be a part of the new fire hall project. The Town will be submitting a more formal write-up on Ron's career in an upcoming newspaper article, as well as on the website and Facebook page.

ASSESSMENT REVALUATION 2021

In early 2021 every property owner in the Town of Strasbourg will be receiving an assessment notice to correspond with the 2021 Assessment Revaluation done by the Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency (SAMA). Many assessments decreased this year, but this does not necessarily mean that taxes will decrease. Council's goal is to keep taxes relatively stable, but there is always the potential of taxation shifts due to changes in assessment.

You will have the chance to appeal your assessment if you feel that you have been wrongly assessed, but you cannot appeal based on the potential of higher taxes. Because of the Town-wide reinspection, some assessments did vary considerably from previous years.

Assessment notices will be sent out late winter/early spring with further information on the appeal process.

SNOW REMOVAL BYLAW

The Town recently passed a snow removal bylaw that allows for the Town to remedy contraventions in snow removal violations. The Town is asking that residents do not do the following:

- Push snow from their driveways onto the street or back alley
- Push snow from their yard/lawn onto the street or back alley
- Push snow from their property onto fire hydrants and storm drains (especially if the snow is melting)
- Push snow from their property onto a neighbour's property



While some of these rules would seem to be general common sense and courtesy, it is an unfortunate fact that they are not always adhered to. If the Town see deliberate snow removal violations, the Town has the ability to remediate the contravention and charge the cost back to property owner.

2020 YEAR IN REVIEW

Covid-19 definitely changed the landscape of the Town's operations this year, but despite the challenges, we forged ahead with a variety of projects. Below is a list of Town highlights for 2020:

- The sign corridor on the south entrance to Town by the Rec Centre was completed and signs installed.
- Installed a new LED sign on the Town Office.
- Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency (SAMA) completed an entire reinspection of the community for assessment purposes. The last complete reinspection was completed in the early 1980s.
- The Strasbourg & District Fire & Rescue (SDFR) held a highly successful "Operation Birthday Candle" where members of the SDFR would attend a home with the fire trucks (sirens on) and give a small gift to help celebrate a birthday of a child (ages 1-9) who could not otherwise have a birthday party because of Covid-19.
- As a special measure, the Town gave the Strasbourg Recreation Centre a \$100,000 interest-free loan, payable over 10 years for replacement of the arena roof that was damaged in the spring due to high winds.
- Implemented new payment methods in the Admin Office including e-transfer, additional online banking providers with Scotiabank and Central1 Credit Union, plus installed a exterior dropbox for cash and cheque payments.
- Adapted our Council meetings to be "Covid friendly"; originally held meetings over Zoom, but then moved to in-person meetings at Strasbourg Memorial Hall for social distancing purposes.
- Closed the campground for the summer due to Covid-19. Closed the Strasbourg Memorial Hall until September, but reopened in the fall with stringent Covid-19 guidelines. Closed the Museum, but reopened in the early summer following Covid-19 guidelines.
- Received additional Covid-19 related funding including a \$5,000 Canadian Heritage Grant to help fund Museum operations, \$114,983 in Municipal Economic Enhancement Program funding from the Provincial Government to put towards immediate infrastructure projects, and \$47,723 in Safe Restart funding from the Federal Government to put towards expenses incurred due to Covid-19.
- Hired a new Bylaw Enforcement Officer for the community – Rocky Coleman.
- Had new crosswalks painted on Mountain Street.
- Purchased a new digital speed sign and made operational and mobile. Received \$5,100 from the SGI Traffic Safety Grant for the sign.
- Held a free transfer station weekend in July and had additional yard waste days throughout the summer and fall.
- Worked with engineers and fire department members on developing new fire hall plans. As per the Town's asset management strategy, the fire hall is going to need replacing in the very near future to accommodate bigger fire trucks, more volunteers, regional emergency measures needs, etc. The fire hall will have to be entirely grant and donation funded, with some money funded from the Town's fire hall reserve account. To be eligible for provincial and federal grants, preliminary work has to be done ahead of time so the project is "shovel-ready" when grants come available.
- Replaced the utility infrastructure in the intersection of Pierce and Prospect.
- Replaced the culverts at the end of Mountain Street and at the Strasbourg Health Clinic.
- Completed a large infrastructure replacement project on the 300- and 400-block of Pearson Street, including brand new water mains, new water and sewer connections to each property, new curbstops, hydrants, and valves.
- Completed a Dutch Elm Disease study of the whole community. Twenty trees in total were removed including 11 Town-owned trees, and nine privately-owned trees.
- General election was to be held in November – all seven candidates (one Mayor, six Councillors) were elected by acclamation so no vote was held. Elected members include: Kelvin Schapansky (Mayor – incumbent), Peter Barry (Councillor – incumbent), Bo Black (Councillor), Lorne Gottselig (Councillor – incumbent), Bernie Josephson (Councillor – incumbent), Ashley Scholefield (Councillor), and Rodger Yauck (Councillor).
- Purchased and installed new Christmas lights for the street poles on Mountain Street, as well as the large Christmas tree at the Museum.
- Had discussions with the developers interested in building an assisted living facility within the community. Council is hoping the project becomes more of a reality in 2021!



**LORAAS
DISPOSAL**

IMPORTANT:

Carts must be out by 7am on collection days

2021 Strasbourg Collection Calendar

Garbage ONLY Recycle ONLY

January 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

July 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

August 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

September 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

October 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

November 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

December 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

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