TOWN OF STRASBOURG (S) NEWSLETTER

Volume 9 / Issue 1 January – March 2022

2022 BUSINESS LICENSES

Payments for annual business licenses are no longer required. The Town would like to encourage all local business owners to purchase a membership with the Last Mountain Valley Business Association (LMVBA), which will give each business an opportunity to be listed in the local business directory.

UPCOMING DATES

Town Council Meeting Wednesday, January 12 @ 7:00 p.m.

By-Election Nomination Day Wednesday, January 26 @ 4:00 p.m.

Town Council Meeting Wednesday, January 26 @ 7:00 p.m.

Town Council Meeting Wednesday, February 9 @ 7:00 p.m.

1st Quarter Water Bills Due *Tuesday, February 15*

Admin Office Closed - Family Day Monday, February 21

Town Council Meeting Wednesday, February 23 @ 7:00 p.m.

By-Election Advance Poll Monday, February 28

By-Election Regular Poll Wednesday, March 2

Town Council Meeting Wednesday, March 9 @ 7:00 p.m.

Town Council Meeting Wednesday, March 23 @ 7:00 p.m.

FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR'S DESK

Happy New Year from the Administration and Council! We have been collectively living with Covid-19 for almost two years now and over those two years we, as a community, have had to continuously adapt to the ever-changing requirements that are collectively being handed down to us. Currently our community hall, in-person council meetings, and Council Chambers rentals require proof of vaccination, as well as mandatory masking in all indoor spaces.

The Town would like to recognize groups and individuals who made donations towards the Hall, Fire Department, and Museum in 2021:

THANK YOU TO...

Affinity Credit Union
Bulyea Co-op
Dave's Autowrecking & Towing
Heat It and Bead It Welding
Mazergroup
RBC, Strasbourg Branch
South Country Equipment
Strasbourg Garage
Young's Equipment

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. Due to Covid-19, these funds were not accessed this year, but are available annually.

Town Donations, Grants, and Advertising Support in 2021

- Strasbourg Rec Centre (Rink) Annual Operating Grant \$5,000
- Strasbourg Public Library Annual Grant \$1,500
- WDS Scholarship \$1,500
- Strasbourg Rec Centre (Rink) Advertising \$175
- Silton Legion \$50
- Strasbourg Curling Club \$50
- WDS Yearbook \$30

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

OFFICE SPACE FOR LEASE

The Town currently has a newly renovated office space for lease in the Administration Building. Specs are as follows:

- 1,228 square feet, including three offices, main area, break room, and file room
- Building has shared lobby with accessible washrooms
- Includes water & sewer, power, energy, garbage/recycling, and common area janitorial
- Janitorial for office space at an additional fee
- Air-conditioned
- Upgraded laminate flooring and LED lighting
- \$1,200/month (long-term lease options available)

RCMP REPORTING

The Office receives many inquiries about how best to contact the local RCMP for a wide variety of issues. Generally, people are unsure of where to or when to report issues to the RCMP. The RCMP have a large jurisdiction to cover, so the more reports they receive in our community, the more likely they are to attend. So when in doubt, report your issue to the RCMP.

In an emergency, and you require immediate assistance, call **9-1-1**.

To report a crime, or for immediate police assistance, call either the Strasbourg Detachment at (306) 725-3520 or the Southey Detachment at (306) 726-5230.

For general inquiries to the RCMP call (306) 780-5461, and for non-emergencies call 310-RCMP (7267).

The RCMP cannot accept crime reports via e-mail.

SMOKE ALARMS & CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS NEW REQUIREMENTS

The new Construction Codes Act (CCA) of Saskatchewan came into effect January 1, 2022. This is in replacement of the Uniform Building & Accessibility Standards Act (UBASA), which had governed building code for the Province of Saskatchewan for the last few decades. The CCA gives municipalities more "teeth" to better enforce building bylaws as well as outlines more stringent requirements for buildings to follow.

As of July 1, 2022, all buildings with a residential occupancy (i.e., sleeping quarters) are required to have carbon monoxide and smoke alarms installed. This includes older buildings which were initially constructed prior to these devices being required in the previous building code. While the Town will not be going door-to-door to ensure buildings are complying, if a building official or fire inspector is in a residence for any other purpose and notices the required devices are missing, they could write an order requiring the owner to comply.

For more information on where alarms should be located as required by the Regulations, please visit

https://www.saskatchewan.ca/business/housing-development-construction-and-property-management/building-and-technical-standards/carbon-monoxide-alarms-and-smoke-alarms OR you can check out the Town's page to get the advisory notice http://townofstrasbourg.ca/building-permits/

UTILITY & TAX E-NOTICE ISSUES

For those of you who receive your utility and tax notices by email from us, you may have experienced, or continue to experience issues receiving your bills. We have worked extensively over the past year and a half with SaskTel and MuniSoft (the Town's software provider) to try to resolve these issues. Due to SaskTel's spam filters, we are finding that it is primarily affecting sasktel.net emails being sent to other sasktel.net emails, but there are a few exceptions to that as well.

As it stands, there is not a "general fix" for this issue as both SaskTel and MuniSoft have tried to resolve it and have not been entirely successful. Our go-to recommendation is that you set the Town to be a "Safe/Trusted Sender" within your email program. Also, check both your Junk Folder AND Spam Folder (sometimes there are two) to see if emails from us are showing up there. If you are still having problems, we unfortunately will have to remove you from receiving e-notices and return you to paper bills, as we do not want you to miss important notices from us.

We are very sorry for the inconvenience this has caused and still continues to cause.

2021 YEAR IN REVIEW

The Town had another successful year, despite the ongoing challenges with Covid-19. Below is a list of Town highlights for 2021:

- Ron Griffin handed in his retirement from the Fire Chief position after having served over 40 years on the Strasbourg & District Fire & Rescue (SDFR), with over 30 years as Fire Chief. Ron still remains on the Department, but the torch has been handed over to Greg Yung as the SDFR's new Chief.
- Ashley Scholefield resigned from Council leaving one Council vacancy. The position was advertised three times with no applications. The position will be readvertised in the new year.
- The Town Scholarship Committee awarded the 2021 Lance Cornwell Memorial Scholarship to WDS graduates Montana Holmes and Emily Hubick.
- Held a free transfer station weekend in May, along with several yard waste days between May and October. Piloted a \$20/load transfer station day in October for cost recovery. All the transfer station days were well utilized.
- Based on requirements by the Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency, all properties in the Town now have an official civic address as per the Provincial Civic Address Registry.
- Plans for the new fire hall are almost finalized, as well as the land acquisition. This is a long-term project, but to be ready for grants, the Town must be shovel ready.
- The SDFR held a fundraising lottery in the spring, which raised approximately \$25,000 for the new fire hall.
- Replaced the utility infrastructure including the water main, curbstops, and all the connections on the east half of the 300 block of Chapin Street.
- Repaved and recurbed the 200 block of Blackstock Street, the west half of the 300 block of Chapin Street, plus lots of additional paving patchwork around the community.
- A committee was formed to draw up a revitalization plan for the Strasbourg Lions Park. The enhancements for the Park will be funded by grants and donations as they become available, and each component of the Park will be developed independently of each other over several years (as funding permits). The current campground in the Park will either be reduced in scope, or relocated elsewhere. The Park will feature over 2000 linear feet of six foot wide walking trails that connect to the Tot Playground and the Last Mountain Pioneer Home (LMPH) with outdoor path lighting, a large picnic shelter and new splash pad, an accessible washroom facility, a pickleball court and seniors exercise equipment, a community vegetable garden, a memorial garden with a pondless waterfall and stream. People will have the ability to donate money (and receive a tax deductible receipt) towards planting memorial trees in someone's memory.
- The Strasbourg & District Museum celebrated 50 years of being operational within the community.
- Completed our annual Dutch Elm Disease (DED) study of the whole community. Eleven private and public DED-infected trees in total were removed (down from 20 trees in 2020). As well, a comprehensive inventory of all Town-owned trees was completed by the same company. As per the survey, the Town is responsible for over 900 trees.
- Acquired several tax title properties, which are to be tendered in 2022. These properties are slated for demolition only so new homes can be built on the lots in the future.
- Purchased 10 new SCBA units for the SDFR. These new SCBA units are in replacement of the 20 year old units that the SDFR currently has, and will provide better protection for our members. The old units will be sold to help offset the cost.
- Council repealed the business license bylaw, as the bylaw was becoming increasingly harder to enforce, and did not provide a particular tangible benefit for those that obtained a business license.
- Held a town-wide Christmas Lights Contest, which will hopefully become an annual event.
- Ongoing discussions are still being held with the developers interested in building an assisted living facility
 within the community. Even though Covid has slowed the progression of the project, Council is looking
 forward to bringing this project to fruition.



IMPORTANT:

Carts must be out by 7am on collection days

June 2022

September 2022

2022 Strasbourg Collection Calendar Garbage ONLY Recycle ONLY

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July 2022

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October 2022								
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