

## SUMMER VILLAGE OF NORGLLENWOLD

### NEWSLETTER-AUGUST 2023

It has been a warm and enjoyable summer in the Summer Village and your Council has been extremely busy implementing policies and overseeing recent developments. Some of the highlights include:

#### **By-Election**

As you may have already heard, Councillor Nav Rattan resigned his position on Council effective June 12, 2023. This resulted in Council calling for a By-Election on September 30, 2023. The Nomination Date for those wishing to run for Council is September 2, 2023, and nomination papers may be dropped off at the Village office between 10:00 and noon on that date. Advance Poll will be Saturday, September 23. Assuming we will have more than one candidate in the race, there will also be a "Meet the Candidate" session at the Summer Village office on Thursday, September 21, which may also be carried by Zoom. Details to follow.

#### **Organizational Meeting**

At our regularly scheduled Council Meeting on July 31, 2023, Cyril S. Gurevitch, KC was re-appointed as Mayor, and Jeff Ludwig was re-appointed as Deputy Mayor. A number of committee appointments were also made to the Municipal Planning Commission. These included Deputy Mayor Jeff Ludwig, Lorne Therriault, Ed Thiessen, Rob Furness, and Stuart McKellar. The Subdivision and Development Appeal Board Members include Mayor Cyril S. Gurevitch, KC, Nav Rattan, Toby Lampard, Allan MacPherson, Janelle Allan, Cyndi Teulon and Patricia Matthews. The Joint Services Committee and Lacombe Regional Emergency Management Advisory Committee will be represented by Deputy Mayor Jeff Ludwig, The Intermunicipal Development Plan Steering Committee and Sylvan Lake Regional Water & Wastewater Commission will have Mayor Cyril S. Gurevitch, KC. These members and terms will be revisited at our next organizational meeting in July 2024.

#### **Burning and Firepit Bylaw**

Council has updated the bylaw for the Summer Village. Important highlights include requirements for firepits to be used whenever burning is to occur. The firepits must be constructed of bricks, concrete blocks, heavy gauge metal or other non-combustible components, must have spar arrestor

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mesh screens and may not burn any contaminated materials such as glue, paint, stain, or other preservatives. Owners are fully responsible for any damages caused by allowing the escape of fire, including the cost of fire remediation incurred by the Summer Village. The same holds true for the cost of suppressing fire by the use of fireworks. In addition to remediation costs, there are severe penalties for breaching the provisions of the Bylaw. The Bylaw also provides for Fire Bans, one of which was implemented this summer. All fires and fireworks are prohibited during this period.

### **New Public Works Manager**

We welcome Justin Caslor to his new role. His most recent previous employment was as Director of Infrastructure at the Town of Sundre and Utility Supervisor and Engineering Technologist at the Town of Stony Plain.

### **Speed Bumps and Speeding**

You may have noticed that the speed bumps in the Summer Village have new bright yellow paint and they are very visible to traffic. In the past drivers had difficulty seeing the bumps and this did result in some unexpected incidents. No such problem in the future! We have also had requests to add speed bumps on Last Chance Way. Anyone wishing to add their voice either negatively or positively is requested to contact the Administration Office. We should all remember that the roads in the Summer Village are not just for vehicular traffic. They are also used by numerous cyclists, joggers, children, seniors, and dogs, some on leash, others on the adjacent lands where they reside. Residents should be vigilant in watching for speeders and others on the roadway and protecting their children and grandchildren from harm. Our statistics show that on Grand Avenue alone there were thousands of vehicles counted. Over 1500 were caught on radar going over 45 kph, 104 were over 100 kph and two were recorded with speeds of 124 and 198 kph, respectively. This is unacceptable. Help us to protect our citizens by reporting reckless drivers to the RCMP or Administration.

### **Annexation Proposal**

One of the main strategic plans established by the Summer Village in 2021 was to annex three parcels of land currently in the County of Red Deer. We retained the firm of Bluerock Planning to assist Council and Administration with this goal. A drop in public consultation took place on the evening of August 29, 2023, in the Summer Village Office. If you were unable to attend this event, you are encouraged to send any questions or feedback to the Administration office.

### **E-mail Blasts and Communication with Residents**

As you know, the Newsletter is not a regularly timed event. Often, we endeavour to communicate with residents on a relatively short time window. For that reason, we ask that all residents provide the Administration office with your email addresses. We will then add you to the regular email blasts that go out to our citizens. We also notify residents of Public Hearings, Municipal Planning Commission and Subdivision and Development Appeal Board Hearings. You never know, one of them may be your neighbour and may impact you directly.

### **Parking on Roads and Ditches**

It is commonplace to see numerous vehicles adorning our roads and drainage ditches, often directly in front of signs prohibiting such a practice. This is only permitted if the owner has applied for and received a permit allowing for the practice. If you have not received a parking exemption, you are subject to a fine. We do have a bylaw enforcement officer in the Summer Village, and he can take complaints and issue tickets in appropriate circumstances. If this is causing you problems, feel free to contact Administration with your complaints.

### **Complaint Forms**

For any infraction of Municipal Bylaws, there is a Complaint Form available on the Summer Village Website. Please submit them to Administration and they will be brought to the attention of the Bylaw Enforcement Officer as soon as possible. Beware the officer also supervises the other Summer Villages, so give some leeway for his response. In the event of an emergency, contact the local RCMP. Note, some damages or nuisances caused by your neighbours are not the sole responsibility of the Summer Village and you may wish to seek professional advice from your lawyer as to possible steps you can take to prevent further problems, including claims for damages caused to your property.

### **Encroachments onto Municipal Lands**

In the past, Council has had to deal with numerous disputes concerning development and encroachments onto Municipal Property by adjoining property owners. Residents are cautioned to know their property lines and to stay within their own boundaries. If you do not know your property lines, it is not a defense to a trespass action that you were unaware. You must obtain a Real Property Report or face possible negative consequences for your actions. If you become aware of encroachments from the past, you can apply for an encroachment agreement from the Summer Village, but beware this is not automatically granted, and even if it is, there may be negative conditions for which you will have to comply. Typically, there will be a yearly cost which will vary depending on the nature of the encroachment, and there is always a time limit imposed (usually 5 years).

### **Green Spaces and the new Docking Regulations**

Council has retained the services of MPS to assist in developing policies for our Municipally owned lands and their possible development in future years. Or they may recommend there is to be no development, depending on the nature of the site. There will be public consultation in this regard. Council members, together with Administration and MPS recently conducted a tour of all Summer

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Village property and gained valuable insights as to what the lands may have been used for in the past. As soon as MPS has created their report, we will notify all residents of the Public Event to consider the options. We will hold similar consultations regarding the use of dock space on waters immediately adjacent to our property. Your input is so important in guiding Council on the policies you want us to create. More information to follow.

Thank you,

Cyril S. Gurevitch, KC.

Mayor, Summer Village of Norglenwold