

SUMMER VILLAGE OF NORGLLENWOLD

NEWSLETTER-OCTOBER 2023

Well, it is now October and while the weather is beautiful so far, fall and winter are not far off. Since our last Newsletter in August a number of important activities have been completed and we would like to report on our progress to date.

By-Election

As earlier reported, we held a "Meet the Candidate" session with three candidates running, namely: Jamie Willson, Ed Thiessen and Rod Miller. About 40 residents attended in person and on Zoom to listen to the event. I want to congratulate Rod Miller for being elected as Councillor for the Summer Village. We look forward to Rod assuming his position as of the upcoming Council meeting scheduled for October 27. Thanks to Ed and Jamie for their involvement and for putting their names forward. We look forward to having them participate in our community over the next several years. Also, an immense statement of gratitude to Nav Rattan, our outgoing Councillor for the last two years.

Burning and Firepit Bylaw

We reported on this in our August Newsletter, but the work is not yet complete. The Bylaw was tabled for further amendments and will again be coming up at our next Council meeting.

Speed Bumps and Speeding

At our recent Coffee with Council meeting, both positive and negative comments were made about our speed bumps. There still seems to be diverse opinions on the topic, with some residents praising them and wanting to add more, while others indicate displeasure. Your Council has been listening to our residents on this topic for a number of years. Please feel free to add your voices to the discussion.

Annexation Proposal

Bluerock Planning attended at our public consultation on the annexation proposals on August 29, 2023. About 30-40 residents attended the information session and a report from the contactor is expected shortly. It will be discussed in Council and recommendations and policy will then follow. We will keep everyone in the loop as events transpire.

E-mail Blasts and Communication with Residents

As indicated in our August Newsletter we are requesting that all residents provide the Administration office with their email addresses. We will then add those to the regular email blasts that go out to our residents. Please endeavour to stay involved in your community's activities.

Parking on Roads and Ditches

Parking continues to be an issue that Council members hear on a regular basis. Please endeavour to park only on the sides of the road permitted. You may have noticed that the ditches are being damaged by the continuous traffic using them and it will be your taxes that will be used to repair them. We also note that people are driving in the ditches to circumvent the speed bumps and damage is also being caused as a result. Again, the cost of repair is a budget item. If you know persons causing the damage, please speak to them or provide Administration with their licence plate numbers so we can follow up with either Bylaw or the RCMP.

Complaint Forms

Complaint Forms are available on the Summer Village Website. If you feel you cannot speak with your neighbour directly about a matter, you are at liberty to submit them to Administration and they will be brought to the attention of the Bylaw Enforcement Officer. Please allow several days for a response. If you have an emergency, contact 911 for assistance.

Coffee with Council

Your Council met on October 14 with about 20 local residents to discuss matters of interest in the community. Councillors heard of parking issues at the end of Grand Avenue towards Chipmunk Creek as well as in Rustic Crescent. Noise issues were also evident in Ravenscrag. More enforcement was requested. We will take those concerns back to Council and administration. Some residents felt strongly that, if at all possible, noise and other disputes should be discussed firstly with the neighbour causing the problem. The thought was it

would promote community. But if you feel uncomfortable with that, the formal complaint process is always available.

Residents also wanted to create “Community Spirit” by such events as Bar B Q’s, pot luck dinners, golf matches, pickleball or other activities. These are not events normally sponsored by Administration or Council, but we support the concept. We have a line item in our budget already for a community clean-up. Please consider if you want to assume a leadership role in that regard. We can let the community know by way of an email blast or by announcing it on our website.

Other conversations included the use of fireworks in the Summer Village and whether that contravened Federal or Provincial laws. Others wondered as to what types of complaints the RCMP and Bylaw have been responding. We will endeavour to determine that information and share it with residents. Lake access, particularly on Range Road 20, and the associated parking issues was also a hot topic. One resident suggested hiring summer students to check where boats were coming from and to charge a \$5 fee to launch the boats. We could then try to prevent invasive species from locating in Sylvan Lake.

Finally, it appeared that a number of residents wanted to see the return of an Annual General Meeting for Norglenwold. These had been suspended during Covid and last year as a result of a plethora of other public meetings on such issues as Annexation and Open Spaces.

Green Spaces and the new Docking Regulations

Our Green Spaces planning is in full progress. Council had a formal briefing session with our contractors, MPS Services, on October 5. We are expecting their report by the end of October and then a public information session and hearing will be scheduled for the second or third week of November. The purpose of the report is to catalogue over 31 pieces of land that are owned by the municipality. We can then develop policies as to what types of uses they can be put over the next 20-30 years. This will be useful for future Councils in providing structure to future development, if any. We do emphasize that there is no current plan to develop any property, whether now owned or to be annexed. The Summer Village is not normally in the development business in any event. But the object is for our Councils to control any requested development, now or in the future. In addition, we will be considering

the Disturbance Standards relating to docks, hoists, boats and other watercraft adjacent to municipal lands. Once we have your input on those questions, Council can develop further policies to determine use and priorities amongst our residents.

Other Council Activities

This has been a busy month. Your Mayor attended the AB Munis (Alberta Municipalities) meeting in Edmonton from September 25-29. The major motion passed at that time called for the Alberta Government to beef up LGFF (Local Government Fiscal Framework) infrastructure funding to municipalities to \$1.75 billion dollars from current levels. The Premier and Minister heard this concern many times, but we will need to await their response. We will also be attending the Alberta Summer Villages Association meeting in Edmonton on October 19 and 20. It will be the Association's 65 anniversary. This is on top of the Coffee with Council, Wastewater Commission, Meet the Candidates session, election, and upcoming Inter Municipal Development Plan meeting on October 23. Our regular Council meeting is scheduled for October 27 and everyone is welcome to attend in person or by zoom. Our agenda package will be found on the website.