



Summer Villages Administration Office
Bay 8, 14 Thevenaz Industrial Trail
Sylvan Lake, AB T4S 2J5
Ph: (403) 887-2822 Fax: (403) 887-2897

Spring and Summer 2021 Newsletter

Welcome to a new season. Because of the COVID situation, SBC will not host an Annual Information Meeting for the second year in a row. We hope you will find the open regular council meetings, this newsletter, and our mailouts an effective communications strategy to replace the AIM. Please engage with Council and Administration if you have questions.

Wastewater Project

SBC awarded the Municipal Wastewater Construction Project to Pidherney's. This will be a shared project with Lacombe County. Although we had expected the project only to serve SBC, Lacombe approached us in Dec 2020 with the idea of upsizing to accommodate them in the future. We negotiated an agreement to upsize part of the line, which substantially reduces our capital and operating costs with little risk to SBC in the line being oversized before Lacombe ties in. The agenda prepared for the April 6 special council meeting to approve the project (http://www.sylvansummervillages.ca/uploads/8/8/0/5/88056186/sbc_agenda.pdf) provides details as to costs, sharing arrangements, and benefits realized.

Construction of the force main lines located along the roads is likely to occur from May through July. We will then dig pits along with the force mains in front of your property to install curb stops and directionally drill 38mm (1.5 inch) pipe to either your property line or your approximate tank location. Our system is expected to be operating in November, based on when the Regional Blissful Beach lift station is currently anticipated to start up. As there will be heavy equipment in the area, extra precautions will need to be taken by you and your family this summer. Please abide by the crew and workman's safety measures.

Thank you to all those that responded to the last mail out. We have received excellent cooperation in the return of the maps showing the site location of your Septic Tanks and Water Wells from most of our residents. The information has been used to provide you a property-specific quote.

A package will be mailed shortly containing additional information and legal documents that require your attention and response before **June 25, 2021**.

Insofar as most will use the same grinder pump, SBC and administration will be proposing a way to enable ratepayers to participate in a bulk order purchase with only the manufacturer's 3-yr warranty. Actual prices will depend on timing and the number of pumps ordered. It is likely pump prices will be increasing at least 5% between mid-May mid-June. More information will be contained in the mailout and posted on our website.



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New Office Building

As a reminder, the office location is changing in late May. The address will be #2 Erickson Drive, Sylvan Lake AB, T4S 1P5.

Development and the Land Use By-law

This season many will be looking to make improvements and work around the yard. There are development by-laws that will have to be adhered to. If you are looking at changing your footprint on your property (i.e., adding a deck, a shed, extending the size of a building), please be aware you will need a permit to go ahead with these projects. Please contact the office at 403-887-2822 to arrange for the conversation.

We would encourage you to know where your property lines are and not build or place structures (encroach) on other property you do not own.

Tourist Home

There is a by-law in place for the operation of a tourist home; please adhere to these requirements of this policy. We have noticed that the few in the village that is operational have come forward and become compliant. We appreciate your cooperation in this regard.

Taxes and Budget

Our Municipality's 2021-2024 operating budget is posted on our website with our 2021-2026 capital budget at http://www.sylvansummervillages.ca/uploads/8/8/0/5/88056186/sbc_budget.pdf.

The 2021 net municipal tax revenue is budgeted to increase by \$23,984 (7.5%). With no change to property assessments, the increase corresponds to \$17.86 per \$100,000 of property value.



The primary drivers of this this year's budgeted increase are:

1. \$3,500 Election Expenses because it's an election year (from \$1,500 to \$5,000)
2. \$9,507 Infrastructure Reserves (from \$6,709 to \$16,316)
3. \$8,872 Local Enforcement, including new Boat Launch Commissionaires (from \$27,000 to \$35,872)
4. \$3,034 Provincial Policing Cost (from \$6,055 to \$9,089)

The total budgeted increase associated with these four expense lines is \$24,913. As this is larger than the total increase, the balance of the budgeted expenses decreased relative to last year.

Council is budgeting increased taxation to develop funds for future capital projects to recognize our specific infrastructure situation and the Province's stated intent to lower grants available to municipalities.

The annual garbage levy is dropping this year from \$121 to \$107.

Piers and Hoists

Council has communicated with Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP) over the past year as they issue updated draft Disturbance Standards. Further to our December 14 correspondence (http://www.sylvansummervillages.ca/uploads/8/8/0/5/88056186/aep_disturbance_standards_letter_dec_14.pdf), we recently sent a specific mooring plan proposal to AEP for their approval. We requested they meet with us to clarify any questions or requests AEP may have.

In the proposal, we indicated SBC would allow previous dock layouts to be used again this year, would require most to shared docks where we are the waterfront owner after 2021 and would engage this summer with ratepayers to changes that will be coming in 2022. We will post the plan on the website as soon as we indicate to AEP that they are supportive.

Administration cannot approve any dock applications before we know what AEP will support. The dock is consistent with a municipally approved plan.



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Policing at the Boat Launch this season

We expect another season of increased traffic and congestion at the boat launch again this year.

Council worked out a pilot plan with Lacombe County to jointly hire Commissionaires. Lacombe has had success in their other communities where traffic has increased, and more enforcement has been required. The commissionaires will be on duty starting June till September on weekends. We can cancel the commissionaires on weekends not suitable for boating. In addition, Lacombe will be directing their peace officers to patrol the boat launch. We know a better solution is to build an additional public boat launch; however, we hope this will help in the meantime.

We will still have our peace officer patrolling, as usual, this season.

Elections

Just a reminder that this year is an election year. Information regarding the election has been mailed.

1. Nomination Day is June 5, 2021, from 10 am to 12pm.
2. Advanced Poll is June 26, 10 am to 2 pm.
3. Election Day is July 3, 10 am to 7 pm

If you are interested in serving the community in this capacity:

- Understand this is a 4-year term, and three councillors are required to form a Government within the village.
- Read the election information posted on our website to understand the nature of the commitment, eligibility and the nomination requirements.



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Your current Council has been honoured to serve you over the last four years. Thanks to many for your cooperation.

Have a Pleasant Summer.

Kind Regards,

Council and Administration