

R.M. of Battle River #438 Newsletter 2021

Council Members: Stewart Mitchell (Reeve), Jason Russell (1), Allan Rumpf (2), Bob Frolek (3), Robert Turpin (4), David Blais (6), Pat Scherman (7), Roland Radchenko (8).
Administrator: Betty Johnson

Municipal Government:

Council members are Elected Officials responsible to implement policy & provide services according to Provincial Legislation. Regular council meetings are held the first Thursday of each month. The office is open Tuesday to Friday from 9am to 4pm ... closed occasionally for special meetings, training seminars, banking and sometimes lunch. There is only ONE office employee, this saves tax dollars, but is sometimes a little inconvenient. When I need to be away the office is closed, if you are planning on dropping by, give the office a call first.

Planning & Development:

We have a development bylaw in place, every person who desires to make an improvement or subdivide their property requires an application be submitted to council. Forms can be obtained from the office, Council reviews requests at regular council meetings. The Development bylaw is very complicated so if you are interested in developing, please call my office and we can discuss your options before you incur any costs.

Assessment & Taxation:

The Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency (SAMA) assess all property. The Provincial Government sets the taxable portion of value. We use this assessment information to come up with a mill rate that will cover expenses contained in the yearly budget. School mill rates vary between agriculture, residential and commercial property and are set by the Province. Tax discount & penalty rates have remained the same for many years, to take advantage of the opportunity to pay less tax, note the discount information contained on your tax notice. We do not have on-line banking, if you mail your payment a receipt will be mailed back to you. With costs always rising, it's a challenge to stay within budget & still provide services, Council are very careful how tax dollars are spent for necessary improvements.

Fire Protection Services:

We have a great relationship with the Battleford Fire Department to provide service to your property. We ask that if you are planning on burning, please call 1-866-404-4911 to advise of your burn, if you do not call & the fire truck is called out, (regardless of who called them), you are responsible for the costs. So please make the call. Also contact your property insurance agent for Fire Fighting coverage, you should obtain a minimum \$8,000 coverage, the fee is usually pretty reasonable compared to paying for fire fighting costs invoiced to you if a fire should occur, or false alarm costs.

Club Root & Weed Management:

Every property owner is responsible to prevent the spread of all invasive species (Noxious Weeds), our weed inspector has the authority to request that you spray if a problem exists, if you do not comply, the RM can do the work & charge the property. DO NOT remove or transport hay containing Noxious Weeds. Clubroot has become apparent in our area, everyone is to follow Provincial Protocol & eliminate spread.

APAS: Council have signed up with Ag Producers Association this year, benefit cards are enclosed with this tax notice.

Road Services & Recycle Waste:

Our road maintenance operators are kept very busy maintaining roads throughout the year, our first priority is main roads & school bus routes. We will do some custom work at a cost of \$150/hour depending on time. You will need to make arrangements to keep your own laneway or driveway open, especially during the stormy winter months. We follow the Provincial Highways mowing regulations regarding cutting along road allowances, and ask that you NOT leave any cut hay, debris or snow from your laneway on our road top, it makes it very difficult for our graders to work with. Thank-You for abiding by road weight limits when weather conditions warrant. ATV's are NOT ALLOWED to tear up road allowance or private property & please be respectful when passing horses, riders, buggies and pedestrians.

LORAAS: Has opened their waste site in the Town of Battleford, just down the gravel road South of our office, they accept multi-material recycle at no charge, NO GLASS, & they charge fees for other waste based on weight.

Closing:

I hope the Newsletter has been helpful to you, if you have any questions please contact my office, I am always Happy to hear from you, Have a Great Year !

Administrator ☺
Betty Johnson

We are NOT set up for On-line Banking, Credit or Debit cards, (Cheques or Cash ONLY !)