

Report from the Administration

For the period August 14 – September 10, 2009

Administration:

- As per Council's direction, the Village Manager contacted Brian Austrom of Austrom Consulting to enquire about the feasibility of creating a strategic plan. Brian's opinion is that the Municipal Sustainability Plan we are currently developing would be sufficient for our purposes. Depending on the content of the MSP, we may decide to do further work with Brian to create a detailed action plan.
- The Village Manager met with both staff individually to complete the mid-year review of their goals and objectives.
- The Village Manager met with the Library Board Chairman and the Head Librarian regarding the details of the proposed Agreement between the Library Board and Village.
- The Office Administrator was away on vacation from September 8-10.
- The Village Manager will be away from the office from September 14-25.
- The Village Manager attended the following external meetings this past month:
 - September 2 – Mayors' Caucus Meeting (Enoch)

Office Renovations:

- The Grand Opening for the building will be held on Monday, October 26 at 7:00 p.m. The Village, the Library and the Seniors' Society will each be involved in hosting this event.

Development:

- There were no development permits issued this past month.
- The total number of permits approved to date in 2009:
 - six development permits
 - two demolition permits
- Dennis Johnson reported that the inquiries on the seven new lots on Niblock Street have really slowed down. He's been advertizing in the Morning News for five weeks now and the lots are listed on the Multiple Listing Service as well. He will be advertizing in the Camrose Canadian. The price does not seem to be an issue.
- The City of Camrose Planning Department sent letters to the Bawlf home owners with outdoor swimming pools currently in their yards to inform them of the safety requirements in the building code. Essentially, pools with water 2 feet deep or greater must be completely fenced and the fence must have locking gates. These criteria are in place for the safety of children who may wander by an unfenced pool and not be aware of the dangers of water. All residents contemplating installing outdoor swimming pools in their yards are encouraged to contact the Village Office or the City of Camrose Planning Department for the specific requirements.

Public Works:

- Sanden Street has been ripped up and re-graded – several cubic metres of clay was removed and used to fill other low areas around the village. As a result, the man hole was lowered approximately 4”.
- The back alleys are being repaired and gravelled this fall as required.
- The checkerboard sign at the end of Jamieson Street has been installed.
- Command Roofing has been secured to complete the water reservoir roof repairs this fall.
- Bruce McNabb with Forestburg Transit Mix has been secured to replace the old water and sewer lines along Vrolson Road north of Parcel J 1140MC to the end of the line. He will also replace the ¾” main stop that was not changed in November 2008. Mr. McNabb will begin work the 3rd or 4th week of September.
- Two older fire hydrants will be replaced along Vrolson Road at the same time that the new water and sewer lines are installed north of Parcel J 1140MC.
- The one-ton truck requires repairs and staff are having difficulty finding parts (the required parts are no longer available).

Parks and Facilities:

- The “No overnight RV parking” signs have been installed around the hall.
- Staff noticed broken parts on the carousel at the park and will look at either removing the carousel or repairing it immediately due to safety concerns.
- Does Council wish to proceed with developing the proposed walking trail? If so, this item should be included on the 2010 budget list.
- Several of the trees the Village purchased this year have died despite care and regular watering. The Public Works Supervisor will be calling the nursery to report the numbers that did not live and whether or not the Village can be compensated in some way.

By-Law Services:

- Referrals to the Bylaw Enforcement Officer this past month:
 - Two dogs barking excessively.
- The stray cat trap-spay/neuter-release pilot project has been confirmed with Dr. Bibby and our volunteer is ready and willing to transport the cats to and from his clinic. Any residents with stray cat problems are asked to call the Village Office and the Administration will contact our volunteer with the specific location to set the trap.

Fire Department:

- Two sets of new bunker gear have been ordered. As per the fire agreement, one set will be paid for by Camrose County and one will be paid for by the Village.
- There was one fire this past month: September 9 – two fires (1/4 mile apart) in the ditch 1 mile west of Daysland. The Bawlf Department assisted as the Daysland Department was fighting a fire east of town.