



Your *Village* Voice

The Village of Bawlf Newsletter
Volume 6, Issue #7 (July, 2010)

Next Council meeting:

Wednesday, July 21st
at the Village Office,
7 PM

The public is welcome
to attend all Council
meetings. If you
would like to address
Council, please contact
the Village Office by
noon on July 15th to
arrange a time.

Mayor's message



“The Prime Minister.” The Premier.” “The Mayor.” These are some of the more interesting answers I get when I do my annual local government presentation for the Bawlf School Grade 6 class and ask the simple question: “Who runs the Village?” All of those answers are, of course, incorrect.

Alberta's *Municipal Government Act* is very clear in this regard: it is the **Chief Administrative Officer or CAO** (who has been given the title of **Village Manager** in Bawlf) who “runs” the municipality. There is a very clear line between the authority that Council as a whole has (note that individual Councillors – including the Mayor – have very little authority) and the authority that the CAO has. Each is the ultimate authority in their own respective spheres. The bottom line is that it is Council's job to discern the will of residents and decide policy (i.e., “what” should get done), while it is the CAO's job to decide implementation (i.e., “how” things should get done). Another way I've heard it stated is that Council is responsible for *doing the right things*, while the CAO (and Administration as a whole) is responsible for *doing things right*. Within that context, **every single person who does work for the Village, whether as an employee, a contractor, or a volunteer, ultimately answers to the Village Manager in Bawlf**, and that includes people in the following positions:

- Fire Chief
- Director of Public Works
- Municipal Administrator/Assistant CAO
- casual office employees
- contractors and equipment operators
- summer students

As with municipalities of *any* size in Alberta: Council has one employee – the CAO, with **the Manager/CAO being the “boss” of everyone else providing services in any way to the municipality**. For those of us who are interested in the details of the Village Manager's duties, we can look at either Village of Bawlf **By-law 557/08** (on line) or the *Municipal Government Act* itself. Duties include (among many), hiring, supervision, advising Council, budgeting and monitoring spending, keeping records, fulfilling Provincial Government information demands, overseeing the assessment and taxation process, and so forth.

Some of us seem to forget that all Village employees are doing what they're doing because these people, too, genuinely want to see a better community for the generations who follow. **This alone is deserving of our respect and, at the very least, it behoves us to understand more thoroughly the difficult and often-thankless work that municipal employees' jobs, particularly in a municipality this size, entail.**

Please note that the Village of Bawlf 2009 audited financial statements are now available. The statements may viewed and downloaded in their entirety on the Village website at www.bawlf.com or can be picked up at the Village Office during normal office hours.

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BEATTIE SHARES WRITING EXPERIENCES -- Local author **Michelle Beattie** joined the Bawlf Public Library for *A Night of Hot Summer Reading* on Thursday, June 17. Michelle shared her experiences in writing historic romance novels, highlighting the ins and outs of publishing and working with an agent. While the movie *Pirates of the Caribbean* inspired her to explore the pirate genre, she says her appreciation for chivalric cowboys keeps her writing western-themed novels. Her next book *A Pirate's Possession*, the third in her pirate series, will be out in early December. ***Thank you, Michelle, for making it a special evening for all in attendance. Best of luck with your next book!***

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Kids! Summer in the Park is coming to Bawlf, July 2, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9th from 10 AM to 2 PM. The program is FREE. Children must be 5 by June 30, 2010. There is no upper age limit. Join us in the park for arts and crafts, games, leadership, activities and so much more. Call 780-672-0141 for more information. Registration begins June 9th and continues throughout the summer program. (Please have child's AHC#.) Children with special needs are welcome.

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DUE TO VACATION SCHEDULES, THE GARBAGE WILL BE PICKED UP ON MONDAY, JULY 12TH RATHER THAN ON THE REGULAR FRIDAY PICK UP OF JULY 9TH. WE APOLOGIZE FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE. THANK YOU!

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Note that 2010 plans for construction of the following are proceeding apace:

- Regional Children's Centre immediately west of the Bawlf Lutheran Church
- reconstruction of Macrae Street from Railway Avenue to the north end of town
- lift station repairs and upgrades

Modular units for the Regional Children's Centre are expected to be in place by sometime in July, while Macrae Street reconstruction is slated to start later this year, with projected completion by snowfall. Lift station upgrades have already begun and are occurring on an ongoing basis.

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A reminder to residents not to throw towels, rags, or other items that are not designed to be flushed into their toilets or sewer system. These items create significant work and expense for our Public Works department when they clog our sewer system.

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Information pertaining to assessment complaints or for people considering letting their names stand in the municipal election this October is available on the Village website at www.bawlf.com. The necessary forms can also be downloaded there. All of these forms and information are also available at the Village Office during normal business hours.

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Just a reminder: no Person shall cause, or permit any other Person to:

- 3.1.1 cause a Noise within the Village;
- 3.1.2 operate a Motor Vehicle that causes a Noise within the Village.

If you think your loud car is impressing your friends and neighbours, think again.

Council meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at the Village Office, 7 PM.
Website: www.bawlf.com **e-mail:** vilbawlf@syban.net **ph:** 780-373-3797 **fax:** 780-373-3798

Bawlf Community Builders meeting, July 28; meet at 7 PM at the Bawlf Country Store.
 Members will be doing a tour of the Village, looking for the most attractive yard! Prizes will be awarded, with the **WINNER RECEIVING THE GOLDEN YARD FORK.**
For further information, contact Michele Iwanus at 780-373-2263.

Above Ground Pools by Doug Delmage, *Safety Codes Officer*

The following is taken from the Alberta Building Code and outlines the requirements for fencing for residential pools. A development permit and building permit may be required prior to installing a pool or fence.

Swimming pool means a structure, basin or tank containing an artificially created pool of water that is **greater than 600 mm (2 ft) in depth** at any point and is used for swimming, recreation, bathing, diving, wading, healing or therapy, religious rituals or other purposes, and includes all buildings, equipment and facilities used in connection with it.

- 1)** The entire area of an outdoor *swimming pool* shall be protected by a fence, *building* wall or enclosure that can prevent access by unauthorized persons, and its height above the outside ground level shall be not less than
 - a) 1.8 m for a *private swimming pool*, and
 - b) 2.0 m for all other *swimming pools*.

- 2)** An opening for access through a fence around a *swimming pool* or a *private swimming pool* shall be protected by a gate that is
 - a) the same height as the fence,
 - b) equipped with a self-closing device,
 - c) equipped with a self-latching device on the inside of the gate located not less than 1.5 m above the ground level, and
 - d) capable of being locked.

- 3)** The fence and gate around a *swimming pool* or a *private swimming pool* shall be constructed so that all horizontal and diagonal members are located on the *swimming pool* side. If you have any questions you may contact the Bawlf Village Office or contact me at 780-672-4428.

By-laws that have been given first reading:

By-law 574-10: a by-law to allow charging of costs incurred by a Fire Department re: extinguishing fires or preserving life/property from injury/destruction by fire within the Village.

The Village invites comments on proposed by-laws after first reading. Copies of these by-laws are available on the Village's website at www.bawlf.com or at the Village Office.

July, 2010 Calendar	Village of Bawlf Council Members
<p>July 1: Canada Day</p> <p>July 2: "Summer in the Park" starts & runs on weekdays until July 9</p> <p>July 21: Village Council, 7 PM</p> <p>July 28: Bawlf Community Builders meeting, Bawlf Store, 7 PM</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Mayor Jerry Iwanus</i> (780-373-2263 or jiwanus@bawlf.com)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Deputy Mayor Darrell Szott</i> (780-373-2517 or dszott@bawlf.com)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Councillor Jody Yuha</i> (780-373-3806 or jyuha@bawlf.com)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Councillor Reta Porter</i> (780-373-2448 or rporter@bawlf.com)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Councillor Gord Blatz</i> (780-373-3733 or gblatz@bawlf.com)</p>
	