

Newsletter

Town of Carlyle

December, 2012
Volume 3, Issue 4

Complaints

In the past few months, Council and staff have received many complaints about the increase in water and sewer rates. In several prior newsletters, customers had been notified that rates would be increasing in order to pay for the water treatment plant, well and pipeline, as well as the sewage projects that the Town is undertaking.

To put the costs to consumers into perspective, in the first quarter of 2012, the overall cost to consumers averaged \$1.85 per day for water and sewer use. In the second quarter, this rose to an average of \$2.39 per day, and in the third quarter, probably because people were watering lawns and gardens, this rose to an overall average \$2.98 per day.

For the 87% of total consumers who were either in the minimum bill or up to 18,750 gallon consumption category in the third quarter, their daily average cost was \$1.76. How much is a cup of coffee these days? And please remember that we no longer need to use water softeners or R.O. units in our homes – another savings.

Like anything else, the more you use, the more you pay.

Carlyle now has some of the best quality water in the province. The Town will soon have sewage disposal facilities to take us at least into the next two decades, depending on our growth rate. Council has worked very hard to provide you, the residents, with state of the art systems to make your daily lives better and safer, and has exercised diligence to make sure that these systems are self-sufficient.



Water is an affordable commodity in Carlyle

Utility Rates will increase again in 2013

As per Council's plan to have the water and sewer revenues cover the costs of operating these utilities, rates will increase again in January, 2013. Basic water rates will go from \$45.15 to \$63.21 per billing; basic

sewer rates will go from \$56.44 to \$98.75 per billing. Again, there will be increases in costs per gallon over the minimum usage, for both water and sewer.

Council urges all residents

to make sure they check for leaks in their system, so that you don't end up paying more than you should. A leaking toilet can waste up to 1,000 gallons per month! Unfortunately, you still have to pay for it.

Inside this issue:

Complaints	1
Utility Increases	1
Why Utility Increases	2
Recycling	2
Building Permits	2
Assessment Values	3

Special points of interest:

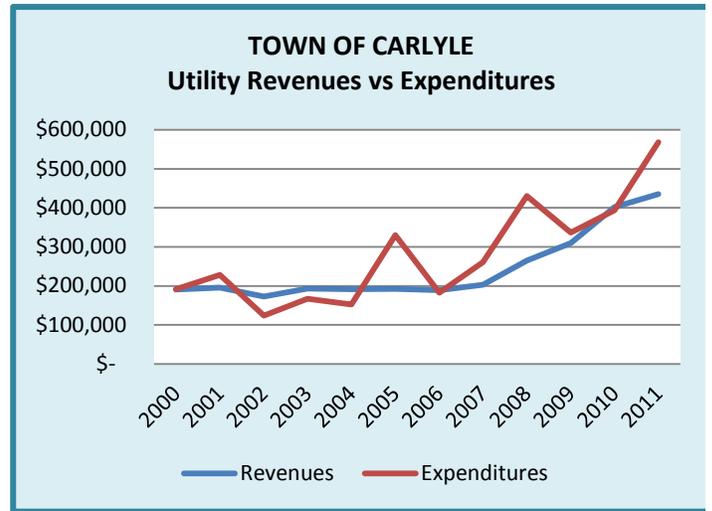
- Conserve water to reduce your utility bill.
- 87% of the Town's consumers used 18,750 gallons or less in the 3rd quarter.
- Cost for the majority of Carlyle consumers amounted to \$1.76 per day.

Why Utility Increases

This chart shows why utilities need to increase.

The Provincial Municipal Board insists that water and sewer rates cover the cost of operating the utility, including the costs of paying back long term debt, rather than subsidizing the utility from general taxation. You can see that the Town of Carlyle's do not.

With increased operating costs and capital costs, increased provincial regulations and mandatory requirements, Council has to make sure that obligations are met.



Recycling News

Congratulations, residents of Carlyle!

From April to November, 2012, you have diverted 21,358 kilograms of fibre (paper and cardboard), and 5,066 kilograms of plastic and tin from the landfill.

We've tried to do a comparison with our neighbours, Oxbow and Carnduff, and it looks like Carlyle recycles about 85% as much as those two communities combined.

Next year, we hope to have the numbers for the full year, to be able



"Carlyle diverts over 26,000 kilograms of material from landfill in eight months."

Building Permit Values for 2012

Building Permit values reached \$8.43 million, with 34 permits issued. This is down slightly from 2011, when values reached \$11.95 million –

the highest on record for the Town of Carlyle.



Assessment Values Increase

Since the 2009 property revaluation, the value has grown from \$58 billion to \$97 billion, province-wide. This increase is reflected in all tax classes, with the largest trend change being multi-unit residential properties, which increased provincially by 87%.

In Carlyle, preliminary numbers show the largest increase in residential property values, at 110%, followed by overall commercial and industrial values increasing by 82%.

Final numbers will be provided to us by Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency in early 2013.

This does not mean that your taxes will be going up by these percentages!!

Once Council has had an opportunity to review the values, and determine the needs in the 2013 operating budget, a mill rate will be set based on the new property assessment values.

Assessment notices will be sent out to all property owners in 2013, because of the revaluation.



Winter

Council urges you to exercise care and consideration of road conditions when driving this winter.

Also, please remember that snow removal is impeded when vehicles are left on the street. When you see the snow clearing equipment, please move your vehicle out of the way –

for your safety as well as to enable the crew to do their job. When approaching snow removal equipment, please stay back twenty feet – use extreme caution when passing equipment, as visibility can be impeded at times. Your cooperation is crucial.



We also want to remind you that it is the property owner's responsibility to keep sidewalks clear of snow and ice.

Snow removed from your driveway or property is not to be placed on boulevards, at intersections, or on any street or avenue. Nor is it to be placed in water ditches or normal water runs.

Contractors must have permission to place snow on Town property.

Vehicles left over the legal parking limit of 48 hours may be towed, as this seriously interferes with snow clearing.

Please try to move your garbage and recycle bins off of the street as soon as possible after pickup.

This and That...

Once again, the Town crew will be picking up your Christmas trees in the new year. Weather permitting, this will be done during the week of January 14th to 18th.

REMINDERS:
Snowmobiles are not permitted on sidewalks.

Snow and ice removal from Main Street sidewalks is the responsibility of the business owner, and is to be done on a regular basis.



Message from Mayor Don Shirley

Town of Carlyle
100 Main Street
Box 10
Carlyle, SK S0C 0R0

E-mail address:
towncarlyle@sasktel.net

Web site address:
www.townofcarlyle.com

It is hard to believe that another year is drawing to a close. 2012 has been a challenging and rewarding time, here in Carlyle. We have seen another busy year in new home construction to accommodate our population, which continues to grow. Among the larger projects completed this year was the new sewer trunk main along Main Street South, which was badly needed. A good part of the last year was spent repairing streets and other infrastructure damage caused by the wet conditions in 2011. An annexation agreement was reached with our neighbouring R.M. of Moose Mountain, which will extend the Town's borders and encourage future growth.

We look forward to the challenges of the New Year. In 2013, we will be enlarging and improving the waste water treatment lagoon and work will continue toward the development of additional residential lots.

As 2012 draws to a close, I would like to extend a special Thank You to all of the unsung heroes who commit themselves year round to make a positive difference in our community. To the service organizations, and to the volunteers and residents who regularly contribute your time and talents to the betterment of the Carlyle district: your efforts, time and support for others is very much appreciated. It is people like you who make so much difference in so many people's lives.

On behalf of the Town of Carlyle Council and Staff, I extend to you warmest wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy & Healthy New Year. --Don Shirley

Traffic Bylaw Change

Council has amended the Town's Traffic Bylaw to prohibit parking on Railway Avenue West, along the north side of the Civic Center, from the back lane to Main Street.

Because drivers were not adhering to the 5 minute parking zone, and there have been several complaints about trucks being unable to turn onto Railway from Main

Street, Council decided to not permit parking along this roadway.

Council asks for your cooperation in making our community safe for all.

