

Newsletter

Town of Carlyle

December, 2013
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Utility Rates for 2014

As part of the continuing plan to make water and sewer utilities self-sufficient (meaning no subsidization by the property taxes), the minimum charge for water will increase from \$63.21 to \$64.79 and the minimum charge for sewer will increase from \$98.75 to \$101.23 per billing period. Consumption charges over and above the minimum rate will also increase by approximately 2.5%. These rates will be in effect as of January 1, 2014, so you will see these increases reflected in the utility bill that you receive at the end of March.

The rate increases are part

of Council's strategy to pay for the required improvements to our water and sewer systems, to ensure continued development can occur in our community, and a safe and reliable system is in place for our residents and businesses.

In the past few years, Council has spent \$4,028,000 on a new water treatment plant, \$629,000 on the raw water line and \$33,000 on a new well. Last year saw expenditures of \$690,000 for the sewer trunk main to the lagoon, and \$100,000 for lagoon expansion. This year, the lagoon expansion project

continued, with costs of \$1,080,500 incurred, and well development costs of approximately \$25,000 to date.



Major capital utility projects have been undertaken

Capital Projects Planned for 2014

The main projects planned for 2014 are the aeration of the primary cell at the lagoon, and the development of another well.

The primary cell

aeration project is a requirement from Sask Environment to permit continued development in our town.

The development of another well is to ensure that there is

sufficient and reliable raw water, in the event that something should happen to our primary well.

Another major undertaking to begin in 2014 is the development of additional residential lots.

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Special points of interest:

- Aeration of primary lagoon cell estimated at \$550,000.
- Well development estimated at \$125,000
- Residential lot development is estimated at a total of \$3,245,000.

Capital Projects Planned for 2014, continued from Page 1

Other proposed capital plans for 2014 include the extension of 5th Street East, paving of the existing 5th Street East and Arcola Place, the initial phase of construction of George Avenue, and the extension of 7th Street East to service the west row of commercial subdivision lots.

Continuing the meter replacement program is also anticipated, as is the on-going manhole refurbishing plan. More cement work at the cemetery is also planned.

Council is mindful of limited funds, and as such, will only proceed with as much of their

identified projects as finances will permit.



2014 Budget Deliberations

Council began its 2014 budget deliberations in October, 2013.

While the 2014 budget has not yet been finalized, it appears that the majority of council is in favour of adding a base tax to commercial properties – both vacant and improved – and including a base tax on

residential vacant land. The specific amounts have yet to be determined.

Currently, a base tax is applied only to residential properties that have buildings on them.



“Council looking to implement a base tax on commercial properties and residential vacant lots.”

Partnerships

This fall, Town Council met with the Council of the RM of Moose Mountain #63 and the Council of White Bear First Nations to develop a Protocol Agreement between the three parties. The meeting was facilitated by the

Federation of Canadian Municipalities. This protocol agreement is meant to provide for better communication between the three parties. This could unlock the potential for greater exchange of ideas and cooperation.

In December, the councils of the Town, RM of Moose Mountain and Village of Manor met to draft a Memorandum of Understanding and to work on a Community Action Plan. This project is being facilitated by the Municipal Capacity Development Program.

Winter Reminders – Please be safe!

Winter is upon us once again and along with it comes snow removal. Please remember to keep a safe distance away from snow removal equipment when it is working on the streets. The operators do their best to look in every direction, but even at that, they may not see

you.

It would also be greatly appreciated if you would not park in the way of snow removal equipment. This is for your safety, as well as for efficient street clearing.

Please remember also that it is the property

owner's responsibility to keep sidewalks clear of snow and ice.

Snowmobiles are not permitted on Main Street. Please take the most direct route in and out of town. Snowmobile operators must be 16 years of age or older and must have a valid driver's license.

Please do not pile snow on other people's property or on the town's boulevards or in front of fire hydrants or in the town's drainage ditches.

If you want clean streets, please do not leave vehicles/boats/trailers parked on the street, as this really interferes with snow removal.

Your cooperation would be greatly appreciated!

Dickens Festival

A huge thank you to the Dickens Committee for another successful Dickens Festival.

Despite the cold, the parade was a sensation once again. The entertainment at Fezziwig's Pub was excellent, and a great time was had by all.

A special mention must

be made of the Bar Humbug play, which was a delightful take on the traditional story of Scrooge. Thanks to the Cornerstone Theatre Group – you are amazing!

So many people participate in making this event memorable.

Thanks to good organization and hard work by so many volunteers, Carlyle is known far and wide for its annual Dickens Festival. Mayor and Council applaud you for your tremendous efforts.



Minimizing Your Risk – Install and Maintain Smoke Detectors

You can minimize your family's risk of fire-related injury or death by installing the right number of smoke detectors in the right places in your home, and by keeping them all in good working order.

Install smoke detectors outside each bedroom and sleeping area, and on each level of your home, including the basement.

Make sure the smoke detectors in your home have the ULC stamp of approval on the product and packaging.

Read and follow every step of the manufacturer's directions when you install your smoke detectors.

Follow the manufacturer's

directions for testing and cleaning your smoke detectors.

Change the batteries as often as recommended by the manufacturer.

Never "borrow" batteries from your smoke detectors for some other device.

Replace any smoke detector that is more than ten years old.

It is also a good idea to develop a "family escape plan" in case of fire in your home. Practice the plan and make sure your children understand what they should do if they hear warning sounds from smoke detectors. The escape plan should include a meeting point outside the home.

Message from Mayor Don Shirley

As we celebrate the holiday season, I hope we will be able to spend time with family and friends. Let us use this time to reflect and count our blessings. The greatest gift we can exchange this season is to serve one another. May I ask you to remember your neighbours at this time of year, especially the elderly, the less fortunate, and those who live alone.

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On behalf of the Carlyle Town Council and staff, I take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a healthy, safe, and rewarding New Year.

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Snow Parking

One winter morning while listening to the radio, Bob and his wife hear the announcer say, "We are going to have 4-6 inches of snow today. You must park your car on the even numbered side of the street, so the snow plow can get through." Bob's wife goes out and moves her car.

A week later while they are eating breakfast, the radio announcer says, "We are expecting 6-8 inches of snow today. You must park your car on the odd numbered side of the street, so the snow plow can get through." Bob's wife goes out and moves her car again.

The next week they are having breakfast again, when the radio announcer says, "We are expecting 8-10 inches of snow today. You must park..." then the electric power goes out.

Bob's wife is very upset, and with a worried look on her face she says, "Honey, I don't know what to do. Which side of the street do I need to park on so the plow can get through?"

With the love and understanding in his voice, Bob says, "Why don't you just leave it in the garage this time?"



Frostbite

What is Frostbite?

When the temperature drops below 0°C (32°F), blood vessels close to the skin constrict to protect the core body temperature. When your body is exposed to the cold for a long period of time, blood flow to your hands, feet, nose, and ears can be severely restricted. The combination of poor circulation and extreme cold can lead to frostbite.

Frostbite generally occurs in body parts furthest from the heart:

- hands
- feet
- nose
- ears

Mild frostbite (frostnip)

makes your skin look yellowish or white but it is still soft to the touch. Your skin might turn red during the warming process, but normal colour returns once the area is warmed.

Severe frostbite can cause permanent damage to body tissue if it is not treated immediately. Nerve damage occurs and frostbitten skin becomes discoloured and turns black. After some time, nerve damage becomes so severe that you will lose feeling in the affected area and blisters will occur. If the skin is broken and becomes infected, gangrene can set in which can result in loss of limbs.

Mild frostbite (frostnip) can be treated in two ways:

Passive warming - move to a warm room, wrap yourself in blankets or reheat your body by skin-to-skin contact with another person.

Active warming - this can be done along with passive warming. Add heat directly to the frostbitten area. The idea is to thaw the injured skin as quickly as possible without burning yourself. Thawing frostbitten skin is very painful so the injured skin should be placed in water that is just above body temperature. Do not rub, massage or shake the injured skin because that can cause more damage.

Severe frostbite requires immediate medical attention. While you are waiting for help to arrive begin treating it with passive and active warming.