

Town of Imperial

May 27, 2009

Watering

Effective, June 1, 2009, watering of lawns and gardens will be restricted to the following days:

North side of Royal (Main) Street – Wednesday, Friday and Sunday

South side of Royal (Main) Street – Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday

There will be no watering on Mondays. Early mornings and evenings are the most efficient watering times.

Quads and Dirt Bikes

Several complaints have been received in this office regarding the driving of quads and dirt bikes on the town streets and alleys. These ATV's are noisy and create a lot of dust which upsets many of our residents. The complaints received have ranged from "cutting doughnuts"; "one-wheel stunting"; driving through stops signs; and proceeding out of back alleys without stopping.

The RCMP have spoken with the students at the school and have informed them of the laws and the consequences of not abiding by the regulations regarding ATV's. They were told to walk their dirt bikes out of town and to quietly and slowly drive their quads out. Failure to do so will result in their ATV being impounded.

The RCMP also request that if you see anyone driving their quad or dirt bike inappropriately on the streets or alleys, to call the RCMP with a description of the ATV and they will take action.

For your information-ATV's, legally, cannot be operated on any street or highway, only on private property with the landowner's permission. Also, the operator is suppose to have a valid driver's licence to operate an ATV.

Taxes

The 2009 tax notices will be in the mail in early June.

Following SAMA's 2009 revaluation the town saw an overall increase of 3% in the taxable assessment with shifts going from residential to commercial property.

After lengthy budget deliberations council made decisions as to the need and wants of the community. Decisions were prioritized as to capital projects, infrastructure maintenance programs, and to their commitment to the health, safety and welfare of their residents.

With the tax shifts that occurred following the revaluation council had to make a decision on how to raise the revenues to meet their budget commitments. The 2009 tax notices will see some changes in the way properties are taxed. The minimum tax has been replaced with a base tax – meaning every property will have the base tax applied plus the mill rate. By implementing a base tax council was able to lower the mill rate from 34.09(in 2008) to 10, which reduces the difference between lower and higher assessed properties. The following base taxes have been implemented for each property class:

	<u>Land</u>	<u>Improvements</u>	<u>Land & Improvements</u>
Agricultural	\$100	\$100	\$200
Residential	\$150	\$415	\$565
Commercial/Industrial	\$175	\$500	\$675

Below are some examples to help you understand how the above plus the mill rate will be applied to a property.

Remember, these examples do not include the school tax.

- i) Residential property with a taxable assessment of \$55,230 (2008 - \$55,160):

Base tax	\$565.00
Mill rate (\$55,230 /1000 x 10)	<u>552.30</u>
Total municipal taxes	\$1,117.30

This property will see an increase from the 2008 municipal taxes of \$17.70
- ii) Residential property with taxable assessment of \$9,590 (2008 = \$14,490)

Base tax	\$565.00
Mill rate (\$9,590/1000 x 10)	<u>95.90</u>
Total municipal taxes	\$660.90

This property will see an increase from the 2008 municipal taxes of \$112.90
- iii) Commercial property with a taxable assessment of \$23,000 (2008 - \$11,400)

Base tax	\$675.00
Mill rate (\$23,000/1000 x 10)	<u>230.00</u>
Total municipal taxes	\$905.00

This property will see an increase from the 2008 municipal taxes of \$147.00
- iv) Commercial property with a taxable assessment of \$239,000 (2008 = \$192,700)

Base tax	\$675.00
Mill rate (\$289,000/1000 x 10)	<u>2,890.00</u>
Total municipal taxes	\$3,565.00

This property will see a decrease from the 2008 municipal taxes of \$3,020.28
- v) Agricultural property with a taxable assessment of \$15,070 (2008 = \$12,740) plus residential property of \$5,950 (2008 = \$12,740)

Base tax (\$200 + 565)	\$765.00
Mill rate (\$21,020/1000 x 10)	<u>\$210.20</u>
Total municipal taxes	\$975.20

This property will see a decrease from the 2008 municipal tax of \$199.04.
- vi) Agricultural property with a taxable assessment of \$6,875 (2008 = \$6,545) plus residential property of \$11,830 (2008 = \$17.430)

Base tax (\$200 + 565)	\$765.00
Mill rate (\$18,750.00/1000 x 10)	<u>187.05</u>
Total municipal taxes	\$952.05

This property will see an increase from the 2008 municipal taxes of \$180.93

Your council is elected to make decisions that they consider appropriate and in the best interest of the municipality. These decisions may be based, in part, on your expectations as well as those of other citizens, and in part, on the judgment of the council member. Tax policy is almost certain to generate discussion. Questions regarding the tax policy should be directed to your mayor and members of council.

2009 Education Tax Mill Rates

The Provincial government has established the following mill rates for the education property classes which can be applied to your taxable assessment to calculate your taxes.

- 7.08 mills for all agricultural property
- 10.08 for all residential property
- 12.25 mills on the first \$499,999; 15.75 mills on the next \$5,500,000; and 18.55 mills over \$5,999,999 taxable assessment for all commercial/industrial property;

Dogs

Complaints have been received in the Town Office regarding dogs running at large and defecating in other property owner's yards.

The Town of Imperial Bylaw 1/03(1) states that:

"Every person who owns, possesses or harbors a dog within the Town limits shall keep the dog under control at all times and shall be considered at large if not confined to the yard or land owned by the owner of said dog, or controlled by a leash or other such method".

Any person found guilty of these offences can be charged under the Town's General Penalty Bylaw.

Beautification Committee

The beautification committee is looking for volunteers to help with the spring planting of flowers and trees. Contact Brent Ingram at 963-2193 if you are available to help.

Hedges, Bushes and Trees

All hedges, bushes and tree branches that impede pedestrian traffic on town side walkways need to be trimmed so that they do not impede the use of the sidewalk. Property owners are asked to do this before new growth starts this year. It is your responsibility to not let your hedge grow over the sidewalk. Failure to keep your hedge trimmed back from the sidewalks could result in the town trimming them and billing you.

Landfill

The Town of Imperial will be fencing the landfill site in the near future. Prior to the completion of the fencing we will be advising everyone as to the rules for the use of the landfill site and to the days and times that it will be open.

Long Lake Valley Court

The four-unit seniors complex will be completed very shortly. The tenants will begin moving into their units June 1.

The Long Lake Valley Court is a Town of Imperial project which was developed to provide safe, secure and affordable housing for seniors (55 plus).

We currently have three units leased. Anyone interested in the fourth unit is asked to contact the town office (963-2220) for more details. The monthly lease is \$725. Tenants require a \$40,000 deposit which is **refundable** at the end of the life lease.

Donations are still being accepted at the Town office for the common area and the development and construction of the park. To date we have raised \$44,620 towards the common area and \$20,000 for the park.

Public Park

The Federal government recently announced funding for recreational facilities. They will pay up to 1/3 of the project with the Provincial government matching the federal government portion.

The town is submitting an application to create a public recreational park adjacent to the campground and the Long Lake Valley Court. Our application will be for a landscaped park complete with trees, shrubs, lawn with underground sprinklers. Within the park there will be a family games area for lawn darts, bocce ball, lawn bowling and two lawn shuffleboard courts. Situated near the games area will be rest area with a gazebo. A washroom with toilet and sink will be installed behind the camp kitchen. A 2000' fitness trail and bike path will lead from the park area southwest along the old rail bed, through the treed area south of the campground and back to the park area.

This park is being developed to encourage the residents of our community to become active and involved in the community. We want to contribute to the health and quality of life of the residents in our local community by expanding our recreational infrastructure. We ask for your support of this project.

**Town of Imperial
Mayor Fred Grigg
Councillors Brent Ingram, Susan Parish,
Ron Klenk, Sheldon Parker
Kevin Joa and Ted Abrey
Administrator Sheila Newlove
Foreman Kelvin Klenk**