



Town of Imperial



town.imperial@sasktel.net

Spring Newsletter 2019

Spring has sprung! Hard to believe that as I write this newsletter I have been here for a year already. Time sure flies. As we go along there are still a lot of firsts for me and I can say it has been a great year, lots of learning and growing.

I am excited to say that I have finished and passed three of my 4 courses required for this position and I will officially finish when I go to the University of Regina for a week in June to take my last class.

2019 Budget

Now onto the budget, another first for me, obviously not for council which makes my job very easy, let's start out with some food for thought;

Did you know: It costs \$13,000 to replace **ONE** fire hydrant?

Did you know: To sand seal a street or avenue costs approximately \$25,000?

Did you know: That it costs roughly \$50,000 per year to manage our garbage?

Did you know: The cost to purchase 20 water meters is approximately \$3900.

The above are a just a few of the highlights that you will see your tax dollars being spent on this year. You will see on your tax notice some of your taxes may have gone up more in one jump than you may have liked. As a community we are always trying to keep everything affordable. However the cost of everything, as you can see from above, is going up. We would like to take a minute to explain the process of figuring out taxes. The first option which was how things used to be was you took your taxable

assessment which is decided by SAMA and divide it by the amount of tax revenue you need to get your mill rate. Then you take your taxable assessment and divide it by 1000 and then multiply it by the mill rate. An example would be if your home is assessed at \$125,000, $\$125,000 / 1000 = 125 \times 2.5 \text{ mill} = \312.50 . That is how much tax is generated by the mill rate. Now we have a base tax of \$1150, so that same home that generated \$312.50 from mill rate is added to our base tax to give you a total tax of \$1462.50 this is the portion the town collects and can use within our community, but on top of that amount is the school tax which we collect and remit to the school division. That too is figured out the same as above except there is no base tax to add to it and the school mill rate is 4.12 on residential property. Tax tools were brought in to help alleviate some of the pressure of the mill rate, there is minimum tax which we don't use, mill rate factor which we don't use and then base tax. The base tax is what we have used for several years and the idea behind the base tax is everyone pays the same amount no matter how much your home is assessed at. After much discussion council has decided to use both the base tax as well as the mill rate. The average cost per property for your core services like, police, fire, ambulance, pest control and garbage collection is \$409.59. This year the base tax will remain the same as last year but the mill rate will increase to 2.5 mills.

For every mill we increase we generate roughly \$8000 in revenue. With that being said with our mill rate increase and base tax remaining where it is we will generate a total of \$24,000 in extra revenue. This year council has decided to adjust the discount rate for early payment of taxes. From January 1 – June 30 you will receive a 5% discount, after June 30th there will no longer be a discount. Just some food for thought, now here are the rest of the highlights of the budget:

- Sand sealant applied on Saskatchewan Avenue & Prairie Avenue from Royal Street to Prince Street.
- Calcium chloride applied to Duke Street from Virginia Avenue to Saskatchewan Avenue and Prince Street from Virginia Avenue to the RM grid.
- Remove and replace several areas of sidewalk.
- Purchase a portable digital speed sign.
- Purchase new computers and desks in the office along with new council chairs.
- Tree trimming.
- The roofs will be replaced on the water treatment plant, and sewer lift station.
- The curling plant room will be getting an exterior face lift.
- Hydrant replacement on corner of Prince St and Saskatchewan Ave.
- Purchase new water meters, in time our hope is to have all our meters replaced and have the ability to read them from outside your home.
- Purchase two new campground signs for the sign corridor.
- An ice plant alarm has been installed to monitor the brine level in our plant so leaks can be detected.
- Purchase a new street sweeper broom.
- Reservoir cleaning at the water tower.

Waste Transfer Station Hours of Operations

April 1 – October 31: Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday - Noon – 5 p.m.

November 1 – March 31: Tuesday & Saturday - Noon – 5 p.m.

Waste Transfer Station Fees

5 or less bags of waste **N/C**

Small utility trailer, ½ ton truck or smaller **\$10**

Extra-large ½ ton truck load **\$25**

Large utility trailers **\$50 to \$75**

Mattress, box spring, couch, appliance

BBQ's, propane tank **\$10 per item**

Metal sheds **\$30 each**

Wood waste (untreated lumber, trees, shrubs, stumps, branches) **N/C dumped in the pit**

Un-bagged yard waste (leaves, grass clippings and garden refuse) **N/C dumped in composting pile**

The Town of Imperial will not accept shingles at the waste transfer station. For disposal of renovation material please inquire at the town office, there are new options available. Moving forward any garbage not in large black bags will not be picked up by the town foreman, if you have several small bags please put them all into one large bag for ease of pick up.

From April 1 to October 31 of each year branches that have been pruned from bushes and trees, grass clippings, garden refuse and leaves will be picked up by the town personnel from back alleys every Monday morning. These dates may vary, depending on spring and fall weather conditions, at the discretion of the Town Foreman. Grass clippings and leaves are to be bagged in clear plastic garbage bags and are not to have other household garbage mixed in. Branches are to be kept separate from the grass clippings, garden refuse and leaves. After October 31, grass clippings, garden refuse and leaves will be picked up as time permits.

On Saturday, May 18 the town is allowing residents to bring BAGGED garbage to the waste transfer station for Free. The free bagged garbage must be in the black or orange household garbage bags and the number is

unlimited. Anything not in bags will be charged the above rates.

The Town office has waste transfer station punch cards available to purchase to save the hassle of carrying cash.

Watering Days

Below is a schedule of the days when you can water your lawns and gardens: North side of Royal Street-Wed, Fri, & Sun South side of Royal Street-Tues, Thurs & Sat There is no watering on Mondays. Early morning and evenings are the most efficient watering times.

Permits

Permits are required for all new building construction; garages, carports, decks, mobile home; relocation of an existing building; demolition of an existing building; fireplaces, wood stoves & heaters; retaining walls; temporary buildings; renovations, alterations & additions to an existing building; & basement development in a dwelling unit **prior** to any work being undertaken. **A stop work order will be issued if permits are not in place before construction or renovations begin.** Please understand that even though it is an added cost to your renovation or addition however for your safety and insurance purposes a permit is a cheap precaution to take. And down the road if you are selling your home people interested in buying them are now asking to see the permits used when considering a sale. We would also like to let you know that the town does not make much money off the permit fees they are \$70 which is just for the administrative work to submit the permits. Permits are **Not** required for fences; driveways & parking lots; sidewalks; painting, decorating, laying carpet & general maintenance; replacement using the same materials & not affecting the structural, electrical or mechanical systems (roofing, siding, windows not including required egress windows); accessory buildings (garden sheds, tool sheds) not greater than **10m²** in area; & swimming pools & hot tubs less than 600 mm in depth. Permit application forms can be

obtained at the Town Office. If you are unsure just call and ask we are happy to assist you.

Reminders

Campground reservations are on a first come/first served basis.

Please keep your dogs on a leash or in a fenced in yard. **Please check your trees and trim them back from the sidewalk & back alleys. It is your responsibility to not let your trees grow over the town's property.**

Upcoming Community Events:

Imperial Palliser Regional Library Activities:

Hooks & Needles every Tuesday from 1pm-3pm

Toddler Time April 17 & 24 10am -10:45am
stories, songs, & finger plays

Easter Break activities April 23-26: No charge

Tuesday April 23 - Puzzle Crafts 1pm-3pm

Ages 4-11

Wednesday April 24 – Treasure Hunt

2pm-4pm Ages 4-11

Thursday April 25 – Indoor mini golf

1pm-5pm all ages

Friday April 26 – This is our town craft

1pm-4 pm Ages 4-11

Thursday, May 9 – “Mother’s Day Tea” at the Imperial Library from Noon – 4pm.

**Moms & Tots gathers once a month if interested contact Sara Gullacher
306-963-7484**

Imperial School Graduation May 31, 2019

We now accept e-transfers for bill payments at the Town office, contact the office for more information.

Mayor, Ted Abrey

Councilors, Brent Ingram, Pat Joa, Ryan Kelly,

Susan Parish, Les Sainsbury, Randy Shaw

Chief Administrative Officer, Joslin Freeman

Assistant Administrator, Kerrie Sainsbury

Town Foreman, Kelvin Klenk

