



# Summer Newsletter

## Message From Blaine Page, Mayor

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**Due to uncertainty associated with COVID-19 and the requirements for social isolation, the date of the Annual Open House is hereby deferred to September with possibility of cancellation as may be necessary.**

**Summer Village Contact Information. 2**

**Special points of interest:**

- Annual Open House.
- Contact Information.

We hope that this newsletter finds you well and looking forward to another season at the lake. With the pandemic (COVID-19) outbreak these are extraordinary times and requires every one of us to use caution with our daily activities. We must ensure that we continue to follow the Provincial Health guidelines with respect to physical distancing and other measures prescribed. We all want to enjoy the summer at the lake but please be careful to ensure the safety of you and your loved ones.



**Annual Open House**—Originally scheduled for early July has been postponed until a later date. The need for physical distancing and the concerns about COVID-19 has necessitated this delay. There is a possibility of combining this with the **ICF/IDP** public hearings.

**Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework (ICF) and Intermunicipal Development Plan (IDP)** Under the previous Alberta Government, legislation was enacted that required neighbouring municipalities to identify and formalize agreements and projects that benefit both parties. Towards this goal, Council has been working with Municipal Planning Services and Athabasca County. One of the requirements is a Public Hearing and it is hoped to have this hearing sometime in late summer or early fall. As much advance notice as possible will be given. The target date for completion is 2021 due to a time extension granted by the Provincial Government.

**Taxes**—Taxes will be mailed by May 30, 2020 are typically due June 30, 2020. Considerable discussion took place throughout the development of the tax role for 2020 and we have done as much as possible to minimize the tax burden on our residents and as such there is no increase in property taxes this year. With the hardships people have been placed under and the state of the economy council has decided to allow residents who can not meet the June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020 deadline an extension through to December 1, 2020. (with no penalties for 2020). As with many other municipalities we are trying to achieve a normal cash flow, if you can pay your taxes on time it would be appreciated. Specific Taxation details are as follows:

1. The total estimated total property tax levy shall be \$130,595 (including the Alberta School Foundation Fund, Minimum Tax, and the Special Road Maintenance Levy).
2. A Special Road Maintenance Levy shall be \$220.00 per taxable property. Levy revenue is to be used exclusively for road maintenance and repair.

## Mayor's Message—Continued

3. The Summer Village of South Baptiste adopts a minimum tax of \$350.00 which applies exclusively to the Municipal component of property taxes as recorded on the property tax roll.
4. Estimated total Summer Village revenue from all sources, including the residential property tax levy, non-residential taxes, Provincial grants, and other sources is \$403,517

Total Summer Village expenditures, including infrastructure Projects and transfer to reserves, are estimated at \$403,517. Council projects a balanced budget for 2020.

**Temporary Field Authorization** - Alberta Environment and Park's is proposing to implement a Disturbance Standard under the Public Lands Administration Regulation (PLAR). The purpose is to better manage the placement of temporary seasonal docks and associated structures on the beds and shores of Crown-owned water bodies that are subject to the *Public Lands Act*. The proposed Disturbance Standard would create a general permission for "waterfront holders", "semiwaterfront holders" and "municipal waterfront holders" as defined, to place a temporary seasonal dock, lifts and buoy anchors on the beds and shores without the need for a Temporary Field Authorization. Contact [Chris.Vierath@gov.ab.ca](mailto:Chris.Vierath@gov.ab.ca) for more details. Information on Temporary Field Authorization is available here: <https://www.alberta.ca/lakeshores.aspx>

Placement of seasonal docks may require a license of occupation dealing with encroachment on to Environmental Reserves. Additional information can be obtained from the Summer Village Administration.

**Fire Bans** – Information on Fire Bans can be found <https://albertafirebans.ca/> The use of ATV's may be restricted during Fire Bans.

**Signage Project** - The signage project involving installation of address signs is near the final stages of completion. Additional signs as needed will be installed this year.

**Landfill Hours** - During this COVID-19 period hours maybe effected. Please check <https://athabascaregionalwaste.com/> for hours of operation.

**Safety**- We want everyone (children, joggers, bikers, visitors, etc.) to be safe on our roads and in our community. Annual enhanced policing services to enforce the speed limits and bylaws are supported by the Summer Village. We ask that you be mindful of bylaws and respect the rights of your neighbours. In the past, speeding has been a problem. Please obey the speed limit in our village - 40 km/h, for A TV's - 30 km/h. A TV's must be licensed and insured; the operator must have a driver's license and wear a helmet. Do not drive ATV's in ditches. We also ask that you remind your guests about the importance of responsible conduct. Be considerate and respect the rights of your neighbours regarding excessive noise, late parties, trespassing, dogs running at large.

### **The Summer Village of South Baptiste Municipal Office is Located:**

2.6 Km North of the County Beach along Baptiste Drive with an old Threshing Machine next to the Driveway.

#### **Administration**

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#### **Members of Summer Village Council**

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**Deputy Mayor, Wendy Appleby [applebyw@shaw.ca](mailto:applebyw@shaw.ca)**

**Councilor, Reg Stapley [rjstapley1@gmail.com](mailto:rjstapley1@gmail.com)**