



TOWN OF STEPHENVILLE CROSSING JANUARY 2019 NEWS LETTER



On behalf of myself, Deputy Mayor, Council and Staff. I'd like to wish the residents of Stephenville Crossing a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. May you experience peace happiness, joy and good health in 2019.

2019 BUDGET



Council brought down the 2019 Budget at the regular meeting of Council held on December 12, 2018. With expenditures in the amount of \$1,757,873.32 this is a balanced budget. The mil rate remains at 6.5 mils of assessed property value. There will be an increase in the following in 2019 residential water and sewer of \$42.00 per unit, commercial water and sewer \$50.00 per unit, Government buildings will increase to \$5000.00 per unit, minimum property increases by \$100.00 per unit and the Local Service Districts will see an increase in fire protection of \$10.00 per unit. We also have implemented new fee structures for 2019. After hour water shut off will be \$75.00 and borrowing of the snake \$20.00. Under the Municipal Development Regulation we manage the development and issuing of permits in the Three Local Service Districts. These areas will see an administration fee implemented to process applications for Crown Land Applications Residential \$50.00, \$100.00 commercial, and subdivision of land \$300.00. The penalty of cutoff notice penalty has increased to \$75.00 for each cutoff.

Just a reminder if you wish to pay your Town bill in 12 equal payments you can. Council has set up a payment plan; we also accept post dated cheques, You can also pay by interact..

All taxes are due and payable January 1, 2019 and are in arrears if not paid in full by June 30, 2019 or your account will be considered in arrears. Water and sewer taxes are payable monthly if not paid after three months water services to your property will be disconnected. To enforce payment of any tax imposed, the council may disconnect the services provided by water and sewer systems. Any account not paid in full by the date on the cutoff notice is subject to a \$75.00 penalty.

Council is very pleased with this process. We were able to do this through wise financial planning and without a substantial increase in taxes. We, as a council, have been able to reduce the town's debt to zero. We have to show the province that we are collecting taxes.

2019/20 CAPITAL WORKS

Again this year council has applied to the Province under the 90/10 cost shared ratio to do upgrade to the water and sewer lines on Seal Cove Road, and the estimated cost to do the entire road is \$9,683,328.63.

We know that this amount will not be attainable so we have requested that this be done in three phases.

Each phase will cost \$3,227,776.21. If we are successful in getting funding for the first phase, council's share will be \$322,777.62. Council has also committed to purchasing 2019 Quad Cab pickup with High rise cap for the Fire Department this unit will replace the cub van which is 25 years old.

PARKS AND RECREATION

In 2019 council will be install a dog park at the end of West Street.

Winter Carnival will be from Feb14 to17, 2019.



SNOW CLEARING

No person shall park a vehicle on any side road or any area generally used or intended for the use by pedestrians. The shoveling, pushing depositing or piling of snow on any road or street or the right of way of any road or street within the Municipal Boundaries is not permitted. Persons caught doing this will be prosecuted.

No person shall park any motor vehicle on any road or street between the hours of 12 midnight and 8am. No person shall park a vehicle on the sidewalk to hamper a pedestrian using that sidewalk.

BUYER BE WARE

Prior to purchasing property, the purchaser should request approval from the Council to insure that their plans meet the requirements of the Town's development regulations and all taxes are paid. When you purchase a property you also purchase those outstanding taxes.

TROUBLES

In the case that you are experiencing water or sewer troubles after regular office hours Council has setup an emergency line Cell Phone Number 721-2600.

PERMITS

- A permit is required from the TOWN prior to proceeding with the following:
- any type of construction including general repairs and fencing.
 - Changing a dwelling or building for use as an apartment unit
 - Paving of parking lots or drive ways
 - Subdivision of land
 - Connecting to the water and /or sewer system
 - Using a building or land for business, this also includes home based business.
 - Land development such as gravel pits, farming
 - Changing the interior of a commercial building all permit applications must be submitted no later than the Friday proceeding the meeting.





GARBAGE COLLECTION

Garbage collection is every Thursday. Please ensure that you have your garbage to the curb by 8am. If you do not have a garbage box make sure that the garbage is covered. 2019 Spring Clean up will take place May 13-17.

WASTE MANAGEMENT SITE

The Waste Management Site in St. George's is open from Tuesday to Saturday 8am to 4pm.

The price per ton for 2019 is \$164 for residential.

If you are a first timer to the site you will be given a pre loaded \$10.00 card, when you have exhausted your funds on the card you can reload it by visiting the Western Regional Waste Management Site on line. If you have any questions the contact info is

Phone Number 632-2922

Email info@wrwm.ca.

ANIMAL BY-LAWS

No person shall keep a dog or cat in the town unless the dog or cat is safely tethered, or penned up at all times, or kept securely on a leash by a person capable of restraining its movements. The Town of Stephenville Crossing is a part of the Bay St. George Regional Animal Control.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

We as a council would like to bring to your attention some important tips to Keep in mind before and during weather events:

- Beware of all local emergency Numbers
- Prepare and maintain an emergency kit. Be ready to cope on your own for a least 72 hours, to allow first responders to help those in urgent need;
- Understand your insurance policy and potential Coverage for fire and emergency situations;
- Ensure sump pumps are in working order;
- Keep all drains free from debris, clean out eave trough, keep windows firmly closed;
Ensure all patio furniture, barbeque equipment and yard tools are secured to avoid potential damage in high winds;
- Secure any and all exposed marine equipment and vessels;
- Stay inside a safe location for the duration of the storm if at all possible;
- Ensure all cell phones are charged and fresh batteries available for a period of 72 hours
- Portable radio in the event of a power outage
- Cordless phones will not work in a power outage, therefore a hard lined phone for the home could also be of benefit;
- In the event of basement flooding, ensure the power is shut off at the main breaker before stepping into the water to

avoid the possibility of electrocution. If you are unsure, call a licensed electrician;

If you become aware of excessive flooding on streets or blocked culverts or drains, contact local officials to advise them of the situation; Town Office 646-2600

Should you notice downed power lines in your area, do not touch or attempt to move it, but instead advise your utility provider immediately.

- If a household includes someone with a medical condition, mobility issues or special need, plan for their specific requirements. Residents are If a household includes someone with a medical condition, mobility issues or special need, plan for their specific requirements.
- Residents are asked to check on any neighbors living alone that they are aware of to ensure their personal safety;

Ensure pets that are normally kept outdoors are safe from wind and rain.

IMPORTANCE OF PLACING NUMBERS ON YOUR DWELLING for 911



In the case of an emergency how would the police, doctor, ambulance or fire dept. be able to render assistance to you if they are unable to find your location.

Every dwelling within the town boundaries has been assigned a street number but unless you place these numbers on your dwelling they are of no value.

Council is encouraging every household to place the number assigned to them, so that in the case of an emergency you need only to give your name, street and house number and the emergency response agency will know exactly where to go. Please make it large enough to be visible.

The number you should place on your dwelling is shown on your assessment notice and on your town bill. If you have any problem locating the right number please contact the town office during regular business hours 646-2600.

Thank You

Council takes this opportunity to thank the Town Staff and the Fire Department for their hard work throughout the year. Once again, the citizens have to be commended for their diligence in paying their taxes on time.

