



TOWN OF STEPHENVILLE CROSSING JANUARY 2021 NEWS LETTER

On behalf of myself Mayor Lisa Lucas, 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 2021.



2021 BUDGET

Council brought down the 2021 Budget at special meeting of Council held on December 2, 2020 with expenditures in the amount of \$2,221,396.63 this is a balanced budget. We are pleased to announce that there will be no taxes increases in 2021. We have eliminated the Poll Tax in 2021.

METHODS OF PAYING YOUR TOWN TAXES

Council has set up a payment plan 12 equal payments, postdated cheques, EMT to yyoung@nf.aibn.com or by interact.

All taxes are due and payable January 1, 2021 and are considered in arrears if not paid in full by June 30, 2021. 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.



2021/2022 CAPITAL WORKS

Again this year council has applied for Provincial funding under the 90/10 cost shared ratio to do upgrades to the water and sewer lines on Seal Cove Road, the estimated cost to do the entire road is approximately 14,000,000.00

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

We were very fortunate to have received \$3.1 million to do phase 1 and 2 of Seal Cove Road. Tenders will be called in the spring of 2021.

PARKS AND RECREATION

As promised in the 2020 budget we have purchased new playground equipment however, with Covid -19 the equipment has not been installed. We have applied for funding under the Covid-19 Stimulus Program for funding to purchase a piece of equipment for the Senior Playground in the amount of \$65,000.00. In



2021 we will be doing upgrades to the playgrounds on Hospital Road. Along with keeping our green areas mowed and clean.

We are very pleased to see residents and visitors taking advantage of the picnic area on Veterans Memorial Square

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 BEWARE



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:

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- ❖ 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 preceding the meeting.





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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.

2021 Spring Cleanup will take place May 10-14. This will be the only bulk cleanup in 2021.

The 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 2021 remains at \$164 ton 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, and 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 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, and all community volunteers for their hard work throughout the year. Once again, the citizens have to be commended for their diligence in paying their taxes on time.

Thank you 

