

# TOWN OF MILESTONE – 2022

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## 2022 BUDGET AND TAX POLICY INFORMATION

2021 Operating and Capital Budget was considered and passed by the Council of the Town of Milestone on April 13, 2021.

The following Tax Policy information was passed and applied to the Total Taxable Assessment for the Town of \$47,569,930, which is up slightly from \$46,897,700 in 2021:

2022 Municipal Mill rate – 5.00 mills

Base Tax – \$215.00 – Ag., Res, Comm

Base Tax - \$915.00 Land & Improvements – Ag., Res., Comm

We are applying the above Tax Policy to the Taxable Assessment resulting in a Municipal Tax Levy of approximately \$523,545. The 2022 Mill rate remains the same as in 2021. The Base Tax threshold has also increased by \$50. The Base Tax increase is a direct reflection of the reflected decrease in Grant revenue, specifically revenue sharing.

Municipal Operating Revenues, excluding any capital grant allocations that may be received, total \$1,116,357; Operating expenses, excluding depreciation of asset calculations and capital purchases, total \$1,114,724.

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### Milestone Landfill – Information

#### LANDFILL HOURS: (WEATHER PERMITTING AND EXCLUDING STATUTORY HOLIDAYS)

WEDNESDAYS: 9:00 am TO 12:00 NOON

SATURDAYS: 8:00 am TO 10:00 am

As most residents will now be aware, at the May 2022 regular council meeting, the decision was made to implement a “fee for Service” structure at the Town of Milestone Landfill. This decision was made in direct response to increasingly strict requirements for compliance and the possible future closing of the Milestone Landfill. The Town incurred over \$50,000 in 2021 for Environmental Assessments and a closure plan (as required by the Ministry of Environment), with additional expenses in 2022 of Approximately \$12,000. Initial estimates to close the Landfill at this time are in the area of One Million dollars. While there are no immediate plans to close the landfill, forced closure is a reality that we may face in the future.

The Town of Milestone has a 14’ dump trailer parked by the fire hall and is to be used for grass clippings and compostable materials only, with it being suggested that the materials be bagged. The 3-ton truck will be left there for trees only. The Town crew will lend out the 3-ton during weekdays, and we would like to ensure the truck is accessible to all residents beside the fire hall on weekends. ***Improper use of the Compost Trailer & Tree Truck (i.e., dumping garbage) could lead to the discontinuation of this service.***

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### **COMMUNITY BYLAW ENFORCEMENT**

The Town of Milestone receives complaints on several issues. The Town generally will attempt to address such concerns via correspondence from the municipal office. In a vast majority of the cases, these issues are dealt with internally, while in some instances, the Council may be required to consider referring the matter to an outside agency to enforce bylaw regulations. These considerations are usually costly to utilize and, in turn, cost every ratepayer accordingly, as the municipal taxes bear excess service costs. The council is currently discussing with a 3rd party bylaw enforcement agency for law enforcement purposes. Some of the areas to be addressed are as follows.

**Pets Running at Large** – The Council respectfully requests your co-operation to be a responsible pet owner and ensure your dog is properly restrained while outside. Your dog or cat should not be allowed access to streets, lanes, or neighboring properties while being restrained to your property. Your dog shall also be properly restrained with a leash while walking. A fine for not properly restraining dogs to property and for dogs running at large is \$50.00 for the first infraction and \$100.00 for any subsequent infraction. The designated officer or any person may take any dog or cat found running at large contrary to the provisions of this bylaw to the municipal pound, at this moment designated as the Regina Humane Society Inc. located in Regina, where it shall be kept, released or disposed of by their impoundment regulations.

**Barking Dogs** – Dogs continuously barking create an unnecessary hardship on shift workers, seniors, and infants and become annoying to neighbors. Any person residing in the municipality who owns, harbors, or has a dog or cat which creates a disturbance to the annoyance or discomfort of other persons within limits of the town of Milestone or to the public at large is guilty of an infraction of this bylaw and shall be subject to a penalty of \$50.00 for the first infraction and \$100.00 for any subsequent infraction.

**Unightly and Untidy Premises** - Concerns sometimes are received regarding the overgrowth of grass and weeds, unightly materials being stored on the property, derelict vehicles, and others. Council will request the issues as identified be addressed. If the property remains untidy, the Council may, however reluctantly, proceed under The

Municipalities Act, 2005 and local bylaws to have the work performed. If the municipality is required to proceed with such action, costs associated with it will be added to and form part of the taxes on the property.

**PARKING:** Per the town's TRAFFIC CONTROL BYLAW, the council is requesting your cooperation in ensuring that your vehicle(s) (**THIS INCLUDES RVs, Camper Trailers, Utility Trailers, etc.**) are not parked on the street for more than 24 hours. The extended parking violates the Bylaw and creates undue and unnecessary hardship for street cleaning, street maintenance, and snow removal operations. It can also hamper sight lines and create a hazard when children travel to and from school. Also, if you are parking your trailer for **extended** periods on your property or the boulevard, please be aware of your neighbor. It may be blocking his view or causing them an inconvenience you may not be aware of. Your consideration will be appreciated by all concerned.

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### **YEARLY COMPLIANCE REPORT FOR DRINKING WATER**

Saskatchewan Environment "Drinking Water Quality and Compliance Regulations" requires that at least once a year, The Town of Milestone provide notification to consumers of the quality of water produced and supplied, as well as information on the performance of the waterworks in submitting samples as required by the "Permit to Operate Waterworks." This is to notify, under these regulations, that a summary of the Town of Milestone's water quality and sample submission compliance record for the January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021 time period is now available at the town office. This information can also be seen online at [www.saskh20.ca](http://www.saskh20.ca).

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### **BUILDING AND LOT DEVELOPMENT YOUR PROJECT - YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES**

\*\*\*On January 1, 2022, *The Construction Codes Act* came into force to replace the *Uniform Building and Accessibility Standards Act (UBAS)*. The Town of Milestone will be reviewing our current bylaws to ensure our compliance with National codes. The most significant change will be the requirement for ALL residential buildings to have Fire and Carbon Monoxide detectors.

All municipalities in Saskatchewan are responsible for orderly and regulated development within their municipal boundaries. Within today's mortgage requirements, insurance requirements, and an onus on **ALL** municipalities to ensure residential and commercial buildings are constructed to a minimum standard, it is only appropriate to advise and re-enforce the Town of Milestone Building Development procedures and policies.

There are essential steps to follow when considering building development and lot development. Building Permits are required when: new construction is contemplated, major building renovations where structural changes are necessary, and when buildings are moved into the municipality.

***Proper municipal approval must be obtained before any construction or alteration of buildings.*** Plans for new construction and major renovations are subject to the Development Permit Application process. The Development Permit Application and construction details must be submitted to the Town's Building Inspector may review the development permit application, accompanying building plans, and specifications to apply the National Building Code of Canada Regulations and Provincial Fire Regulations. Once the plans have been reviewed by a building inspector appointed by the municipality and alterations made if necessary, the municipality may approve the Development Permit Application. **NO WORK MAY COMMENCE UNTIL THE DEVELOPMENT PERMIT, AND BUILDING PERMIT HAVE BEEN ISSUED.**

Owners and contractors should be aware that when the Building Inspector performs onsite inspections to review development conformity to regulations, any deviations or deficiencies found outside of what was approved on the Building Development Permit Form, costs to remedy such alterations or deviations are the owners' responsibility. The municipality shall not be held liable for such costs. ***IT IS the responsibility of the owner and contractor to follow the proper building and development codes.***

Not all types of development require Development Permits. Please inquire with the Town office to determine if your project requires a permit. These steps ensure that your building, whether residential or commercial, may be constructed per national, provincial, and local regulations. Again, this is extremely important as financial institutions and the insurance industry is becoming more focused on ensuring their investments meet minimum construction and development standards.

**When considering building a fence, the property owner should contact the municipality to see if property pins may be located. The Town does not guarantee that this constitutes a legal survey. If property lines are in dispute, it is the responsibility of the property to contact a surveyor to establish the lot pins in their proper location. The cost of such work is the responsibility of the property owner.**

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### **PAYMENT OPTIONS**

Tax and utility payments can now be made online through most financial institutions and the pre-authorized payment program. Please contact the Town Office if you are interested in setting up pre-authorized payments or if you have any questions about online payments.

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### **COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Mayor: Jeff Brown

Councillors: Mike Gallais, Rena Ohrt, Kevin Siebert, Mike Sjodin, Greg Treleaven & Jamey Wolfe