

RM of Caledonia No 99. - 2023

Council:

Reeve: Mark Beck

Division 1- Chris Williams

Division 2: Aaron Davidson

Division 3: Shoat Brice

Division 4: Chad Nicholas

Division 5: Ed Schiefner

Division 6: Darcy Phillips

Administration Staff: Stephen Schury, Leah Ward

Foreman: Aaron Ward

2023 BUDGET AND TAX POLICY INFORMATION

2023 Operating and Capital Budget was considered and passed by the Council of the R.M. of Caledonia No 99 on April 13, 2023. The following Tax Policy information was passed and applied to the Total Taxable Assessment for the R.M. of \$131,881,446:

Municipal Mill Rate – 7.20 mills

School Mill Rates: (no change from 2022)

- Agricultural Class of Property 1.42
- Residential and Seasonal Residential 4.54
- Commercial 6.86 – 9.88 (varies per assessment)

We are applying the above Tax Policy to the Taxable Assessment resulting in a Municipal Tax Levy of approximately \$922,310. The 2023 Mill rate is 7.20 noting an increase from 6.171 in 2022.

Municipal Operating Revenues, excluding any capital grant allocations that may be received, total \$1,236,957; Operating expenses, excluding depreciation of asset calculations and capital purchases, total \$1,235,491.

Infrastructure (i.e. Roads, Gravel, Bridges and Culverts):

Our RM currently has 30+ bridges, all were constructed 60-100 years ago. Every five years, SARM engages an independent engineer to conduct bridge inspections for each RM in the province. The purpose of these inspections is to ensure safety and to identify any deficiencies, possible problems or potential safety concerns. The last round of inspections identified issues with 3 bridges in our RM. We are currently working with an engineer to develop a strategy to have the repairs necessary on all of our bridges but we have addressed the restriction on two of the three bridges identified. The RM is working on a plan to address all bridge repairs in a fiscally responsible manner. Over the past three years, we have entered into an agreement with neighbouring RMs for a joint project to repair bridges. Our next major undertaking will be the removal of the Concrete Arch Bridge and another wooden bridge located at NE11-12-20 W2. This project has undergone extensive review with our engineers and it was determined that the most fiscally responsible approach to replace both bridges and the construction of a new, longer bridge as a replacement. The price tag for this project is in the area of approximately \$1,400,000. The RM has secured Provincial and Federal Funding in the amount of \$500,000 for this project but the reality is that construction and material costs continue to increase which influenced much of the decision during budget discussion. Additionally, we will continue to prioritize bridge and municipal road improvements and repairs.

BUILDING AND 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). In March 2023, the RM of Caledonia adopted a bylaw to ensure that the RM is compliant with all national Building and Energy Codes. All Farm Buildings with a residential occupancy are subject to the construction standards found in the CC Act. Additionally, ALL residential buildings 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 R.M. of Caledonia Building Development procedures and policies.

Plans for new construction and major renovations are subject to the Development Permit AND Building Permit Application process. The Development Permit Application, Building Permit and construction details must be submitted to the R.M. for review for municipal approval.

NO WORK MAY COMMENCE UNTIL THE DEVELOPMENT PERMIT AND BUILDING PERMIT HAVE BEEN ISSUED. IT IS the responsibility of the owner and contractor to follow the proper building and development codes. These plans will be reviewed and inspected by the RM's Building Inspectors, Professional Building Inspectors.

Municipal Wells: USERS NON-POTABLE WELL RM 99 Well S.W. 14-12-20 W2

As per the requirement of the Saskatchewan Health Authority and the Water Security Agency, the R.M. is required to advise all users regarding the non-potable public water supply. There have been no changes to this water supply but rather a change in the health district requirements. Please be advised that the water from RM 99 well S.W. 14-12 20 W2 water supply that is available to the public is not potable (unsafe for human consumption). At the April meeting, Council increased the rate \$1 to \$5/1000 gals to assist with the rising costs of maintenance and repairs. Additionally, billing for this well is on the honour system, please remember to write down your name and amounts.

DO NOT USE this water for drinking, cooking, food preparation and oral hygiene purposes. The water from this well is not treated or tested and is considered unsafe for drinking, cooking, and oral hygiene purposes.

LORAAS WASTE BINS

Please remember that the waste collection bins in Parry and other areas are for ***bagged household garbage*** only. Your co-operation to ensure tires, furniture, building materials etc. ***ARE NOT*** deposited in the bins is appreciated. If the bins require additional dumping please contact the office. Additional garbage left on the ground outside the bins requires the collection company to clean up and is subject to additional costs. If this continues to occur it could lead to a cancellation of this service. **Loraas Recycle bins:** We have provided Loraas Recycle bins offering recycling services for residents and ratepayers of the RM of Caledonia. The bins are located beside the RM shop and open 24/7. If bins are full or locked please advise the office. *The Department of Highways has asked us to notify residents that this applies to the bins located at the Junction of Highway 6 and 334 at Corrine also.*

NOXIOUS WEEDS

The RM Council has been made aware of Leafy Spurge within the municipality. If you have identified this plant or other noxious weeds, please contact the RM office so we can address this matter in a timely fashion.

RM Rate payers Supper:

The RM Council will be holding a rate payer supper in late October. This will give rate payers of the Municipality the opportunity to discuss budget increases, Infrastructure projects and other questions that may arise. Our intention is to have our engineer in attendance. Please watch for future details.