TOWN OF MILESTONE - 2021

2021 BUDGET AND TAX POLICY INFORMATION

The 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 \$46,897,700, which is down from \$54,705,560 in 2020:

2020 Municipal Mill rate – 5.00 mills

Base Tax - \$215.00 - Ag., Res, Comm

Base Tax - \$865.00 Land & Improvements – Ag., Res., Comm

Applying the above Tax Policy to the Taxable Assessment results in a Municipal Tax Levy of approximately \$512,835. The 2021 Mill rate has increased 0.303 from 2020. The Base Tax threshold has also increased \$50. Mill rate increases and Base Tax increases reflect the decrease in Total Taxable Assessment.

Municipal Operating Revenues, excluding any capital grant allocations that may be received, total \$1,126,398; Operating expenses, excluding depreciation of asset calculations and capital purchases total \$1,124,892.

2021 – ASSESSMENT REVALUATION YEAR

2021 is a reassessment year in Saskatchewan. The Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency (SAMA) updated values based on a 4-year Revaluation cycle. These values are used for assessment purposes from January 1, 2015 to January 1, 2019. The Town of Milestone provided the 2021 assessment information in April of 2021.

COMMUNITY BYLAW ENFORCEMENT

The Town of Milestone receives complaints on a number of 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 cordially and positively. However, in some instances the Council may be required to consider referring the matter to an outside agency for enforcement of bylaw regulations. These considerations are usually costly to utilize and in turn cost every ratepayer accordingly, as excess service costs are borne by the municipal taxes. The council is currently in discussion with a 3rd party bylaw enforcement agency for bylaw enforcement purposes. Some of the areas to addressed are as follows.

Pets Running at Large – The Council is respectfully requesting your co-operation to be a responsible pet owner and make sure your dog is properly restrained to your property while it is outside. Your dog or cat should not be allowed access to streets, lanes or neighboring properties while being restrained to your property. As well your dog shall be properly restrained with a leash while being walked. 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, hereby designated as the Regina Humane Society Inc. located in Regina, where it shall be kept, released or disposed of in accordance with their impoundment regulations.

Barking Dogs — Dogs continuously barking create an un-necessary hardship on shift workers, seniors and infants, as well as becoming an annoyance to neighbors. Any person residing in the municipality who owns, harbors or is in possession of 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

Unsightly and Untidy Premises - Concerns sometimes are received regarding overgrowth of grass and/weeds, unsightly materials being stored on the property, derelict vehicles and others. Council will request the issues as identified be addressed. If the property remains in an untidy condition, the Council may, however reluctantly, proceed under <u>The Municipalities Act, 2005</u> and local bylaws to have the work performed. If the municipality is required to proceed with such action, costs associated thereto will be added to and form part of the taxes on the property.

<u>PARKING</u>: In accordance with the town's TRAFFIC CONTROL BYLAW, council is requesting your cooperation in ensuring that your vehicle(s) (THIS INCLUDES RV's, Camper Trailers, and Utility Trailers etc.) are not parked on the street for more than a 24-hour period. The extended parking of vehicles etc. is not only in violation of the Bylaw but it also creates undue and unnecessary hardship for street cleaning, street maintenance and snow removal operations. It can also hamper sight lines and creates a hazard when school children are travelling to and from school. Also, if you are parking your trailer for *extended* periods of time on your property and/or on part of the boulevard, please be cognizant of your neighbor. It may be blocking his view or may be causing them an inconvenience you may not be aware of. Your consideration will be appreciated by all concerned.

SCHOOL ZONE PARKING: Signs are erected with the speed and No Stopping Areas in front of the school on Prairie Ave. (From King St. to Solberg St on Prairie Ave.). Please do not stop within these areas during the times of 8:30 AM and 4:00 PM. Stopping in these areas causes concerns for the children getting on and off the bus and kids walking to school. It also makes it hard for the busses to get in and out of the parking lot when the street is congested. Parking will be enforced this fall and tickets will be given if found stopping in this area. Please refrain from stopping in designated areas.

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, pursuant to these regulations, that a summary of the Town of Milestone's water quality and sample submission compliance record for the January 1st, 2020 to December 31st, 2020 time period is now available at the town office. This information can also be seen online at www.saskh20.ca.

LANDFILL HOURS (WEATHER PERMITTING AND EXCLUDING STATUTORY HOLIDAYS):

WEDNESDAYS: 9:00 am TO 12:00 NOON SATURDAYS: 8:00 am TO 10:00 am

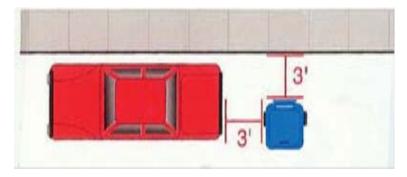
Town Truck(s)

The old garbage truck has outlived its useful life and has been retired. In its place the Town of Milestone has purchased a 14' dump trail to replace it. It is currently parked by the fire hall and is to be used for grass clippings and compostable materials only. 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.

GARBAGE AND RECYCLING PICKUP

Blue and Grey curbside pickup in the residential areas is currently scheduled for Friday mornings. Residents are to have the garbage bins placed at the curb by 7am or the night before if possible.

There are a few streets that are getting in pretty rough shape. In particular that street without curb and gutter. (Solberg, King St, 4th, 5th and 6th St etc.) When placing you blue and Grey bins at the curb, please try and have them approx. 3ft from the edge of the street (as indicated in the image below)



PAYMENT OPTIONS

Tax and utility payments can now be made online thru most financial institutions, as well as, 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 with regards to online payments.

The Town of Milestone is pleased to announce that we will be setting up OptionPay as another form of payment. This will allow us to start accepting payments with select credit cards, and debit cards through the OptionPay System. Payments for Town of Milestone services, including utilities, taxes, accounts receivable payments, permits/licenses and others, may be paid online, over the phone or through the Town Office. Payments using this online service may take a minimum 3 business days to process, please allow plenty of time before the due date to avoid interest fees. OptionPay uses a tiered fee schedule with a minimum fee of \$2.00. We have attached a link for fees associated with this payment @ https://www.optionpay.ca/tiered-rate-table.php. All fees associated with OptionPay are paid by the cardholder.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor: Jeff Brown

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