

VILLAGE OF VILNA NEWSLETTER January 2016



COUNCIL NOTES

2015 has closed with an overall positive position. The highlights of the last meeting included a report on Unpaid Taxes and Unpaid Utilities. We have been trying to collect unpaid taxes and utilities. Each time a property owner or resident is negligent in paying their bill it means that everyone else is carrying them. It's not fair.

We tried to enter into Tax Payment Agreements with some of the owners who were in arrears. For the most part, it didn't work. So now, we will be forced to sell properties for tax recovery.

We tried transferring utilities to taxes so we wouldn't have to shut utilities off. This resulted in larger outstanding tax accounts and people began to depend on this, so they didn't pay their utility bills. However, we still have to pay for the water, the manpower and utility costs for the water plant and the sewage lift station, and we still have to pay for the waste being hauled to the regional waste site. We have been forced to shut off water accounts for non-payment.

X-Ray Machine We are still working with Alberta Health Services to get the x-ray machine replaced in the Health Centre. We will continue to keep the pressure on Alberta Health until they either agree to replace the x-ray machine or give us a very good reason why they won't. We have used the Regional Health Care Advisory Council to assist in the lobbying.

Water Rate Increase The Highway 28/63 Regional Water Commission has increased the water rate from \$1.36/cubic meter to \$1.38/cubic meter. This cost will be transferred directly to you on your bill. Your water bill will reflect the increase showing the water rate increase from \$3.39 to **\$3.41** per cubic meter beginning January 2016 so will not be on your bill until the next one after this.

DID YOU KNOW? – If there is a **streetlight burned out** on your street call ATCO at **1-800-668-2248** or report online at <http://www.atcoelectric.com/Services/StreetLight-Repair-Form>

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

A number of residents are very thankful for a random act of kindness! A couple on their quad with a blade cleared sidewalks in the Village. We don't know who you are, but are thankful for people like you!!!

HAPPY NEW YEAR
WELCOME TO 2016

BYLAW REMINDER

BUSINESS LICENSSES ARE RENEWABLE EVERY YEAR. Contact the Village office to update yours.

DOG LICENSSES NEED TO BE RENEWED ANNUALLY. Come in and get your dog registered.

- **Winter** brings snow, remember it is your responsibility to clear the snow from the sidewalk in front of and beside your property within 72 hours of the snowfall.



By clearing the snow as soon as it falls, it doesn't get walked on, and therefore is easier to clear.

READ YOUR WATER METER

Because we **no longer** have the benefit of ACTO Electric reading our water meters, we need your help. Please read your water meter in the latter half of FEBRUARY and phone the Village office with the reading. **780-636-3620**. Leave the reading in a voice message (with your account # or address). Thank you.

If you can provide the reading, you will only be charged for the water you use. If we don't have a reading we will estimate. Guess what, we usually estimate high. It's to your benefit to get us those readings in to the office.

THE QUICKEST WAY TO DOUBLE YOUR
MONEY
IS TO FOLD IT IN HALF
AND PUT IT BACK IN YOUR POCKET.



If Plan "A" didn't
work remember the
alphabet has 25 more
letter!!!!



VILNA LIBRARY

Programs for all ages are provided at the Library throughout the year. To name a few; Adult fun colouring day, Lego Club, Computer classes.

The library is open

Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:30-7pm and Saturdays 12-4:30pm.

The phone number is 780-636-2077

Carmen's "Scraps from the Dump"



Happy New Year Everyone!!!!

Have you made a New Year Resolution to RECYCLE? It's easy! No need to separate recyclables, I take care of that. All I ask is that you rinse out the tin cans so the birds don't spread them around, and flatten the cardboard by opening both glued ends to make it easier to handle. All recyclables can be placed in the same bag. Just don't put them in your trash bin. Pick up for **winter** is every second Monday.

Recycling Pick-up dates for
January are: January 4th and 18th .
February are: Feb 1st and 29th

**(February 15th is a holiday there will be
no pick-up)**

Once again, recyclables are: all auto oils and containers,
all household chemicals and cleaners,
all spray cans and bottles, any goods containing metal
(including tin cans)

electronic components (TV's and Computers),
all fluorescent lights including compact fluorescent,
batteries of all types, tires and paint.

We burn paper, cardboard and wood. We compost yard
waste and household vegetable scraps.

When you remove these articles from your trash it can
significantly reduce the amount we pay to send
garbage to the landfill.

I recycle and my trash has been reduced from a bag per
week to one bag every 2 to 3 weeks. I find it
surprising that a Village our size fills 2 ½ to 3 bins of
garbage each week. I see a lot of recyclables being
thrown away that could be separated out of the
regular household waste stream. It takes a little
effort to start but once it becomes routine the
benefits are enormous.

**LOOSE GARBAGE IN CANS OR CONTAINERS WILL
NOT BE PICKED UP UNTIL IT IS BAGGED AND
TIED.**

The Vilna Transfer Station is open on Tuesdays and
Saturdays from 9am to 5pm.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Firemen's Dine and Dance – **Jan. 30, 2016**
- Next Council meeting – Monday, **February 22, 2016** – 7:00 p.m.
- Annual Community Supper – **February 13, 2016 5:00 til 7:00 p.m.** Adults \$18, Ages 6-12 \$9, 5 and under FREE at the Cultural Centre
- School Council Meeting - **Tuesday, January 19th at 6:30** at the school. Everyone is welcome to attend. We would love more parent involvement in school council so we can hear your ideas and concerns.
- Vilna School Annual Book Fair – **February 18th** to the 25th. (9:00 – 11:30)
- Vilna School Graduating Class is holding a **Bottle Drive February 6th** starting at 10am

Village of Vilna

Box 10

Vilna, AB T0A 3L0

Ph: 780-636-3620

Fax: 780-636-3022

Public Works (emergencies only) 780-646-3656

Email: vilna@mcsnet.ca

Web: www.vilna.ca

EVERY DAY OF YOUR LIFE IS A PAGE IN YOUR HISTORY