

AH, SUMMER, WHAT POWER YOU HAVE TO MAKE US SUFFER AND LIKE IT - RUSSELL BAKER

UPCOMING TOWN HALL MEETING

A town hall (community) meeting to update residents on Planning, Asset Management and other items. Our Official Community Plan Consultant will be in attendance to provide an update. The meeting is scheduled for 7:00 pm August 9, 2021 at the Lemberg hall. All residents are invited and encouraged to attend ... we value your input and hope to address any questions or concerns you may have.

Due to covid the SUMA Meritorious Service and Honorary Membership Awards were presented virtually at the SUMA Annual Convention. Council is pleased to present these awards in person to our 5 well deserving recipients at this meeting.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW EMPLOYEES!!!



(L-R: Josh McLeod, Tristan Duquette, Connor Mannix)

You may have seen these young fellows around town already and we take this opportunity to introduce our newest employees: Tristan Duquette, Connor Mannix and Josh McLeod. Tristan joined us April 6 as our seasonal employee. Connor and Josh are our funded summer employees.

JUNE WATER CRISIS

Many thanks to residents for their patience and perseverance throughout our water crisis in June! Although we came way too close to running out of water on one of those days, your efforts in reduced consumption made the difference. Council commends Tristan on his superior efforts and commitment to the community during this time while Peter was away on holidays. Job well done!

Many thanks also go out to Abernethy, Neudorf and Balcarres for allowing us to draw water from their communities in order to keep our taps running.

I think everyone has a new appreciation of the importance of the quality and quantity of water in our community!

CSCL PRAIRIE GIANTS – STRONGMAN COMPETITION

The Town of Lemberg is excited to be one of four locations in Saskatchewan chosen to host the CSCL Prairie Giants. Chatter about the event is growing as residents and visitors from far and wide look forward to the event taking place on Saturday, August 21 beginning at 12:00 noon. It promises to be a day of great entertainment with 5 strongman events, live bands, beer gardens, good food and some much needed “fun time” for the community. Don’t be late, you’ll want time to sample the vendors and find a good viewing spot!

This is a perfect time for us to showcase our community. Let’s all make extra efforts to ensure our yards are tidy and trimmed to roll out the Welcome mat!

Thank you to our local sponsors Xseed Mobile Grain Cleaning, Nutrien and Pattison Liquid Systems for this opportunity. Out of town sponsors are Inner Strength, SBD, Quality Tire and JB Sausage.

REMINDERS

- > Minutes of Council and financials continue to be available on the Town of Lemberg website. Check it out and stay up-to-date.
- > A secure drop box was installed in the lobby of the Town Office for residents who are unable to visit during regular business hours to drop off payments or correspondence and is cleared on a daily basis.
- > Council meetings are always open for residents to attend. We encourage everyone to do so, especially those that feel the need for greater transparency. This is your opportunity to witness decision making in action, get the facts first-hand and have a better understanding of the “why” some difficult choices need be made.

THE SEARCH BEGINS AS WE SAY FAREWELL

With the upcoming departure of our CAO/Administrator on August 12, council is in the beginning stages of finding a qualified replacement. We ask your patience as this may take some time. In the interim, the office will continue to operate with our regular business hours in order to transition as smoothly as possible.

Nancy, All the best to you in your future endeavours and thank you for your service to the community!

CONGRATULATIONS to Connie Michael, winner of two free months of utilities (\$220 value), drawn from our Official Community Plan (OCP) survey submissions. Thank you all residents who participated. Your input from the survey is valued as we move forward with the OCP and Zoning Bylaw.

ADMINISTRATOR'S CORNER:

Hello Friends! As many of you are aware, I tendered my resignation to Council on July 25. As I continue to strive for transparency, I feel it only fair for you, the residents, to know why. My letter of resignation includes: "Due to the changes within the working environment since the election of 2020, the actions of the two new councilors and the divisiveness at the council table has affected the manner in which I am able to perform my duties." While I will not dwell on additional details, I will admit I am overwhelmed by your support of my efforts and accomplishments during my almost 4 years as your Administrator/CAO. When I was hired, I vowed to carry the torch of the previous administrator to modernize the administrative office and make appropriate recommendations of policies, procedures and bylaws that not only follow legislative requirements but ensure our community is positioned for success well into the future. We know that success starts with a plan. We have seen many successes over the recent years:

- successful funding application that provided funds for a youth group called Kidz Club,
- successful funding application that provided \$15,000.00 to our local fire department for equipment upgrades,
- successful funding application for street signage to enhance safety within the community,
- successful funding applications for planning documents such as Asset Management, OCP and Zoning bylaw,
- funding for 3 out of 4 years for summer students and youth summer programming, funding for cultural activities,
- successful compliance of legislative permits to operate for water works, sewage works, lagoon and landfill facilities,
- success changeover from landfill to transfer station,
- successful upgrade of sewage lagoon;
- creation of governance documents including policies and bylaws authorized by Council to provide Administrator/CAO with direction of Council.

I could go on. These small achievements have all contributed to the healthy well-being of our community in order to ensure our community moves forward in a positive direction.

One of my priorities when I first started with the town was to increase the communication between Council and residents and therefore, I suggested a community newsletter. This was also to ensure that the CORRECT information was communicated. However, there still seems to be a lot of false information spread in our community, more so over that last 8 months. I am hopeful that going forward, you will give the town office a call to confirm any information before spreading falsities.

There have been implementations of fees and charges over the recent years and comments made, "Oh this doesn't feel like a small town". Council's decision regarding the implementation of the infrastructure fee of \$25.00/month in 2018 has now realized a reserve in our bank of over \$157,000.00. These funds are a start and in place for our water treatment plant upgrade which will hopefully, with funding partners, be a realization in the next few years. Council's implementation of user fees such as waste management, fire calls, tax enforcement fees are exactly that, user fees. Only the person obtaining the service receives the benefit - why should you or I have to carry that cost when we don't receive the benefit? Truly, this makes sense! A simple example is fire call service fees. Frank has a fire. He is charged for the cost for our fire department to attend the fire. Why should YOUR taxes pay for Frank's fire service call??

There have been rumblings that I have been the force of such change. I wish to remind residents that at the end of the day, it is your elected officials who are the decision makers in this and any community. Your Councilors are the ones who say yea or nay. That is their statutory obligation. I, nor any other Administrator/CAO gets a vote.

In the days and years ahead, I am hopeful that residents are able to realize that change is a part of life. Good or bad. You elect your councilors to represent YOU. They have only YOUR best interests in mind and their decisions reflect what they feel is best for YOUR community. I am reminded of a quote by Eldridge Cleaver, "You're either part of the solution, or you're part of the problem." Please don't be part of the problem. Lemberg has a lot of positives! However, if you focus on the negatives, it will be exactly that.

As I retire from municipal administration and move on, my only hope is that Lemberg continues to be "an even nicer place to live" but that needs YOU to be part of the solution. Take Good Care Lemberg!

Most sincerely, Nancy Duns, CD, RMA, PSGov

Your Municipal Officials are:

Mayor Murray Clarke Councilor Gerry Kohlert
Councilor Bob Peace

Councilor MaryAnn Carswell Councilor Greg McKenzie
The Town of Lemberg Municipal Office is open to the public:

Tuesday through Friday, 8:00 to noon and 1:00 – 4:00 pm.

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