

# **Parking Reminder**

Just a reminder to residents that parking or stopping along 48 Ave both Eastbound and Westbound is prohibited under the Traffic Safety Bylaw 763 Section 6.2 and 6.3. Please use designated business parking or off street parking.

# Grow a Row for your Food Bank!

Give the Redwater Fellowship of Churches Food Bank a helping hand by planting an extra row of veggies this summer in your garden. With your help, we will be able to provide those in need of food assistance with fresh, homegrown vegetables.

Any vegetables are welcome, whether they are carrots, cucumbers, potatoes, beans, peas, onions, cabbages, lettuces, squashes, peppers, radishes, tomatoes, beets, etc. YOU will be making a difference! Your support is very much appreciated!

*Contact* 780-942-2061 *if you have any questions.* 



## **Council Meetings**

To provide for physical distancing measures we have changed the process for attending our upcoming council meetings.

We have arranged for the public to call to listen to meetings live. Please check our website or Facebook page for call-in information for each meeting.

- Regular Council Meeting *Tuesday, May, 19* (a) 6:30pm
- Committee of the whole Meeting Tuesday, May 26 @ 6:00pm
- Regular Council Meeting Tuesday, June, 2
   @ 6:30pm
- Regular Council Meeting Tuesday, June, 16
   (a) 6:30pm

**Contact Us** Phone: (780) 942-3519





# **Information Bulletin**

May 2020

## Taxes

The 2020 Combined Assessment and Tax Notice will be mailed prior to May 31, 2020. If you do not receive your Tax Notice please contact the Town Office. The extended tax payment deadline for 2020 is August 31.

The average residential assessment of \$205,700 will see a total overall annual decrease of \$73 to their taxes.

This contribution allows for the provision of many municipal services including water, sewer, natural gas, street maintenance, snow removal, bylaw, recreation facilities, community programs, fire and disaster recovery protection.

# **Changes to Tax Penalties for 2020**

Council approved a change the Tax Penalty Bylaw for 2020; instead of 10% penalty effective July 1, the penalty for 2020 will be split to a 5% penalty September 1 and a 5% penalty November 1. This penalty is applied to current taxes unpaid.

# **Community News**

National Public Works Week May 17-23, 2020

Visit <u>www.apwa.net</u> for more information.

#### **Community Planting Bee**

Thursday, May 28 at 11:00 am Pembina Place Parking Lot Bring your trowel and come out to help us plant flowers around Redwater. If you would like to help out or would like more information, contact the Community Services Office at 780-942-4101.

#### Volunteer Income Tax Program

The revised deadline for filing your Income Tax this year is *June 1*. Volunteers may file your return for free if you meet eligibility requirements (lower income, simple return – no business, farming, rental, or self employment). Call the Community Services office at 780-942-4101 for more information.

# 2020 Budget

Recognizing pressures related to COVID-19 on Town taxpayers, Town Council amended the 2020 Budget at the May 5 Council meeting to reflect a zero-budget increase. Updated budget information is available on our website.



The 2020 Budget Information Booklet is also available on the website, check your mailbox in the coming weeks for your printed copy.

# **2019 Audited Financial Statements**

The 2019 Audited Financial Statements have been finalized and available on our website.

Our local pharmacies are offering delivery service for prescriptions and medications if needed. Check with other local businesses as well for ordering and delivery services available. A full business directory is available at **www.redwater.ca** under the business tab.



As part of our ongoing management of the COVID-19 pandemic, Redwater has taken steps to assist our residents during these difficult times. Council has approved budget reductions of \$138,652 from the current operating budget. These cuts are a result of not filling vacant positions and the decision not to hire additional summer staff. The result will be a 0% budget increase for 2020. We have made a conscious effort to keep staff employed, thereby contributing to our economy as well as ensuring we continue to provide effective service delivery to our residents.

Council has also implemented a utility payment deferral for those affected by the pandemic. The Province originally provided a deferral from March 18 to June 18, Council has approved the deferral period from March 18 to June 30. We will continue to provide utility arrears notices; however, no disconnections will be done during this period. Payment may also now be made by credit card to assist utility account holders with cash flow.

In addition, Council has approved a change for the property tax due date from June 30 to August 31 and changed the tax penalty to be split instead of 10% effective July 1 to a 5% penalty-imposed September 1 and a 5% penalty November 1. A new payment system will be in place to allow for tax and utility payments by credit card. Council and administration are mindful of the impact this pandemic has created, and believe they will help those who need the help most.

As you are aware, all Town facilities are currently closed and all programs and events in which people gather have been cancelled until further notice. This includes the Seniors Block Party and

Summer Programs. The Premier has suggested that some relaxation of restrictions may be forthcoming. Considering this, we will be making a decision regarding the pool operation by May 20 – assuming any restrictions can be addressed. Our FCSS department is also available should you require information related to mental health or other social supports. Our goal is to maintain services in an as normal practice as possible.



# **Contact us**

We want to hear from you when it comes to complaints, concerns or questions about the Town of Redwater and the programs or services we run. Here is an easy guide to help you connect with us.

Visit <u>www.redwater.ca</u> or our Facebook page <u>https://www.facebook.com/TownofRedwater/</u> for updates.



For general questions email: redwater@redwater.ca For more pressing concerns contact the Town Manager:

cao@redwater.ca



For general questions phone: 7**80-942-3519** For more pressing concern



For more pressing concern contact the Town Manager: Extension 230

# www.redwater.ca