



JANUARY 15, 2010

Council Newsletter

Town Council

Meetings are held the first and third Tuesday of the month commencing at 10:30 a.m.

The public is welcome to come and observe.

UPCOMING TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

- January 5
- January 19
- February 2
- February 16

NEWSLETTER

If you have suggestions for topics you would like to see covered in the Council newsletter please contact any member of Council or advise Town office staff.

TOWN OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

OFFICE CLOSURE

The Town Office will be closed on
Monday
February 15, 2010
for Family Day.

REMINDERS:

THERE WILL BE AN 8% PENALTY ADDED TO ALL UNPAID TAXES ON FEBRUARY 1, 2009

There is a 72-hour parking limit for all vehicles on public roadways in the Town. Please follow the bylaw or you will/may be ticketed and/or your vehicle maybe towed at **your expense.**

NEW YEARS RESOLUTION

Promise yourself that you will change one habit to be even greener than before. Set an example for young people and show your friends how easy it is to be green.

Town of Rocky Mountain House

SOLID WASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL 2010 Residential Rate Change

Effective January 15, 2010, bi-monthly rates for solid waste collection and disposal, landfill, recycling and composting and spring clean-up will increase for residential customers. Commercial rates will see no change.

As a result of the increase in the Residential Solid Waste Collection and Disposal contract, residential customers will see an increase in the rate. Residential service for waste collection, transfer station services, spring clean-up, account administration, landfill, recycling and composting will increase from **\$18.39 bi-monthly to \$23.35.**

Commercial rates for transfer station services, spring clean-up, account administration, landfill, recycling and composting will remain at \$7.41 bi-monthly base rate.

(Note: This does not include waste pick-up. Waste pick-up for commercial businesses will continue to be provided by private waste contractors).

For further information please contact the Town Office at 403-845-2866 or e-mail: utilities@rockymtnhouse.com

SNOW REMOVAL

The continued cooperation of the public is respectfully requested to assist Town staff in snow removal. You can assist by:

- ✓ Obeying **“No Parking”** signs for snow removal.
- ✓ Removing inoperative vehicles from streets.
- ✓ Shoveling snow onto your own property; please do not shovel snow onto Town streets.
- ✓ Call 403-845-3220 to report any problem areas on Town sidewalks.
- ✓ Call 403-845-3720 to report any problem areas on trail system.

To see the snow removal policy and map for snow clearing.

Go to the Town's website at www.rockymtnhouse.com and click on Winter Maintenance Manual or Winter Maintenance Policy

Unfortunately, if it snows before the graders and snow blowers have time to make it to every street in town, then our staff has to start over again at the very top of the list, and work their way towards the bottom, and that goes on all winter long. Please be patient we will get to your street as soon as we can.

Thank you for your cooperation!

Note: If necessary, the Town will tow and impound vehicles, which obstruct snow removal operations.

SAND

A limited amount of sand is available for public use on slippery sidewalk sections. The sand pile is located in the north east corner of the arena parking lot. Please limit your use to a maximum of 2 ice cream pails of

Town of Rocky Mountain House

5116 50th Avenue
Box 1509

Rocky Mountain House,
Alberta
T4T 1B2

PHONE: 403-845-2866

FAX: 403-845-3230

E-MAIL:

town@rockymtnhouse.com
www.rockymtnhouse.com

PLEASE KEEP YOUR SIDEWALK CLEAN

As per Bylaw 06/27V the town may after the expiration of the 24 hours remove and clear away any snow, ice, dirt, gravel, concrete, material, equipment, or other obstruction required to be removed and the costs incurred are charged to the owner who has placed, caused, or allowed to be placed the snow, ice, dirt, gravel, concrete, material, equipment or other obstruction upon the highway or Town property.

Pre-Authorized Tax Payment Plan

The pre-authorized tax payment plan may be a benefit to you. The following are some of the highlights of the plan:

- Your installments will be based on your previous year's taxes (e.g. taxes divided by 12 equal monthly payments.)
- When taxes are levied, for current year, your monthly payment will be adjusted to pay the balance owing by December 31, of that year.
- There will be no penalty levied on unpaid current taxes for those participating in the plan.
- On signing an authorization form, your monthly payments will automatically be deducted from your bank account. All tax arrears must be paid before you can participate in the plan.

For more information please call 403-845-2866.

ALBERTA ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES (cats, dogs & skunks)

For questions and concerns during office hours, please call toll free 1-866-340-2388.

Office hours are:

Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturdays 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Sundays closed and closed on all statutory holidays

In case of an emergency related to animal control please call 1-866-340-2388.

Animal Licensing Tags can be purchased at the Town Office in Rocky Mountain House at 5116—50 Avenue.

Purchase of licensing tags for cats and dogs made between December 1, 2009 to January 31, 2010 will be the following rate:

Spayed or neutered \$15.00

Not Spayed or neutered \$40.00.

Purchase of licensing tags made after January 31, 2010 will be the following rates:

Spayed or neutered \$30.00 Not Spayed or neutered \$60.00.

If you have lost your pet you can check their website: www.albertaanimalservices.ca and then click on Petlynx to enter your information about your animal.

Community Standards Bylaw fines increase due to the acts of vandalism

Due to the amount of vandalism and cost associated with it, Town Council made a request to have the Community Standards Bylaw Fines increased in an effort of deterrence.

The following offences have had their fines increased to the following:

- Graffiti - \$300 / \$500 / Court to: \$2,500 / \$5,000 / \$7,500
- Loiter in public place - \$125 / \$250 / \$500 to: \$250 / \$500 / \$750
- Fight in public place - \$250 / \$500 / \$750 to: \$500 / \$750 / \$1,000
- Urinate or deposit waste other than toilet \$250 / \$500 / \$750 to: \$500 / \$750 / \$1,000

Inappropriate, abusive, undesirable, dangerous or criminal behaviour will not be tolerated. Please do your part by showing respect for people and property at public facilities or other places, and reporting any suspicious persons or activities to the R.C.M.P. at: Emergency Line - 911, Complaint Line – 403-845-2881, Administration Line – 403-845-2882 or Crime Stoppers – 1-800-222-TIPS

Did you know that in 2009 the cost of vandalism to the community was over \$13,860.00?

Method of Vandalism	Labour	Materials
Graffiti	25 man hours	\$ 1,100
Torching/burning	32 man hours	\$ 6,360
Structural & Windows	25 man hours	\$ 2,200
Flora/fauna	45 man hours	\$ 300
Human excrement	8 man hours	\$ 100
Signage removal and damage	15 man hours	\$ 300
Thefts	10 man hours	\$ 300

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Community Advisory Committee (C.A.C.), in partnership with the local RCMP, advises the Detachment Commander on policing concerns and problems of the community in terms of social, safety, security and crime prevention issues.

C.A.C. members reside or work in and around the Town of Rocky Mountain House and Clearwater County and serve the committee for a period of two years. Membership should strive to represent our community in terms of age, ethnicity, gender and socio-economic status.

Having citizens participate in identifying concerns and seeking suitable solutions enhances Community Policing. Committee members serve as a liaison between the community and the RCMP

The focus of the CAC is to find solutions to manage the incidence of violence, supporting victims of violence, reducing youth crime, reducing poor driving habits, decreasing the number of break and enters, and decreasing the incidence of theft and vandalism in our community.

If you are a member of our community and you have a concern, an opinion or an idea that could benefit our community we need to hear from you.

Next CAC meeting which is open to the general public will be held at the Clearwater County Office on January 13th, 2010 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Please contact CAC Chairman Todd Hicking at (403) 845-8524 for further information.