

# Annual Report



# Summer Village of Silver Beach

2005 - 2006

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*The Summer Village of*  
**SILVER BEACH**

## Mayor's Address

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*I am pleased to present the Annual Report to Ratepayers on behalf of the Council of the Summer Village of Silver Beach. We wish to thank the residents for their support over the past year, and we look forward to serving the interests of our community over the next. Council welcomes your suggestions and comments, and we wish to ensure that we address your concerns as they may arise. Please feel free to contact us at any time.*

*Allan Watt,*

*Mayor*

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## The Year in Brief

### Council

At its annual Organizational Meeting, Council appointed Allan Watt as Mayor for the second year of Council's three-year term. Mayor Watt also serves as the Council representative to the Capital Region Assessment Services Commission. Council voted to have Councilor Irving continue in his capacity as the representative to the Northeast Pigeon Lake Regional Services Commission, and Councilor Majeski continues to oversee the Parks operations on behalf of the village. Council meetings are open to the Public, and you can find information on the next regularly scheduled meeting by contacting the Administrator. Minutes are posted on the website for your perusal as soon as they are adopted at the following regularly scheduled Council meeting.

### Administration

Council has implemented a website with grant funds received from the Provincial Municipal Sponsorship Program. We believe that the website will make information more readily accessible for residents. Several Bylaws and Forms are also posted on the website for your convenience. Council has also obtained rental storage facilities for the Village's records, and a record inventory and record retention and destruction project is underway in accordance with the new Records Retention Bylaw. The Village has contracted a new Auditor, Mr. John Pawliuk. Mr. Pawliuk provides audit services for several other summer villages, and we are pleased to have his expertise at our disposal.

### Special Constable Service

Council is in the process of negotiating with the other participating villages to increase monthly service hours contracted over the winter months. If all villages agree to increased off-season hours, Council will hire an additional full-time Special Constable. The Summer Village of Silver Beach will have the same number of service hours both summer and winter if the changes come into effect, to serve you better year-round.

## Council Contact Information

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Allan Watt,  
Mayor

Norm Majeski,  
Councilor

James Irving,  
Councilor

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Wendy Nickel,  
Administrator

Blaine Alexander,  
Development Officer

## **Roadways**

The Summer Village of Silver Beach is eligible for continued grant funding under the Provincial Street Improvements Program. The funding in 2006 will be \$9,300 which will be held in the Roadway Reserve. As well, in 2006, the Village will receive \$17,407 under the five-year Alberta Municipal Infrastructure Program, and an additional \$1,659 under the New Deals for Cities and Communities grant program. These amounts will also be held in the Roadway Reserve.

The Traffic and Parking Bylaw was updated to reflect new parking restrictions. Trailers, boat trailers, and recreational vehicles are no longer allowed to park at the public lot at Ouimette Park. Signs will be placed shortly regarding this change. The Bylaw also changes the requirements for Road Permits. Permits are only required for overweight vehicles, and these are provided at no cost. Vehicles that do not obtain permits for overweight loads are subject to fines. In order to obtain permit information, please contact the Pigeon Lake Constable Service at 780-586-3882.

## **Waste Disposal and Landfill**

Council will continue to work to have bins placed for the September long weekend, in addition to the May long weekend. We will also look into the need for two bins, and the availability of same through our service provider.

Council budgets for contributions to a Landfill Reserve to cover the future costs of closing the remaining unused landfill. We are currently applying for Federal grant funding to cover the cost of physically removing the two disused landfills, so that the taxpayers of Silver Beach are not burdened with the environmental responsibilities that come with this type of infrastructure. The budget this year contains an amount for Landfill Groundwater Monitoring as required by Alberta Environment. Permanently moving the landfills would negate the need for on-going monitoring, and will decrease costs to residents in the long run.

## **Development**

The Summer Village of Silver Beach approved 6 Development Permits in 2005, all of them in the last five months of the year. The total value of construction for the year was approximately \$650,000. In 2006 to date, only 1 Development Permit has been issued.

## **Parks**

The Village has once again applied for funding for two positions for Parks Summer Staff through the Federal Summer Temporary Employment Program (STEP). We have been approved for a grant of \$1600 to help offset the cost of wages.

The old lake buoys were replaced this summer, and new signs will be installed on the beach to make users aware that there are no motorized vehicles allowed in the Swimming Area. The new buoys meet the standard requirements for buoys to mark "Off Limits" areas.

A Boat Hoist and Lift Bylaw was passed that requires that all residents register and tag their lifts and hoists by September 1st. Only residents of Silver Beach are allowed to store hoists and lifts on Municipal lands in accordance with the Bylaw, and registration and tag identification will help us police the situation. We appreciate your cooperation in the registration and tagging process,

## **Library**

Council has made application to join the Yellowhead Regional Library System in order to ensure that our permanent residents will have access to library services. Previously, these residents were not served by any Library System. Council has requested that the Yellowhead Regional Library System provide usage statistics for Silver Beach to ensure that the service is used and needed. The cost of membership is based on the number of permanent residents in the Village. At this time, our application is awaiting approval from the Minister of Community Development.

## **Taxes and School Requisition**

Taxes for Municipal Purposes increased from \$119,785 to \$123,855, an increase of \$4,070 or approximately 3.4%. The amount of taxes levied including the education tax increased by 14% as the School Requisition for 2006 was set higher based on the Village's overall property assessment value.

The AUMA and the Association of Summer Villages of Alberta have been in discussions with Provincial representatives regarding the education property tax, and Council of the Summer Village of Silver Beach has written directly to MLA Tony Abbot to express its concerns. Council will continue to support the AUMA's position to reduce the education property tax, and we will continue to add our voice through the Association of Summer Villages with regards to the issue.

Should you have any questions regarding any of the above items, or any questions or concerns related to other issues not covered here, please contact us, Thank you,

Council of the SV of Silver Beach