

# MEWATHA BEACH

May 2020

## COVID-19

This has been a rough year for everyone. As everyone begins heading out to the lake to enjoy the season, we ask that you obey current government regulations. Please visit the provincial website to stay up to date on what these guidelines are.

## Annual General Meeting

Due to the covid-19 pandemic and current social distancing requirements, we will not be holding an AGM this year. We would not be able to meet current safety guidelines. Instead, we ask that all residents send in any questions or comments that they might have to [bancroftkim@hotmail.com](mailto:bancroftkim@hotmail.com). Council and administration will be working together to prepare a report that will be emailed to residents and posted on the website and we will attempt to address your concerns as best as we can. We ask that any questions be sent in to administration by June 15. Please ensure that we have your email address on file to receive a copy.

## Property Taxes

Council understands that this has been a hard year for many people. In an effort to help those residents affected by current events, council has decided to delay the due date on property taxes until September 30, 2020. This is for this year only. Those residents unaffected financially are still encouraged to pay by July 31 however no interest will be charged until October 1, 2020.

## Fire Bans

We know many people have been unhappy about the fire ban in the summer village. Please know that we remove them as soon as it is considered safe. We base our decisions on the information received from the Director of Agriculture and Emergency Services in Athabasca County. This year fire bans may be more cautious than in the past. The province is making recommendations to ensure that emergency services are not tied up fighting fires when they are needed to deal with the covid-19 pandemic. We appreciate your patience during this crisis. I assure you, we do not want a fire ban on any more than you do.

You can also go to [www.albertafirebans.ca](http://www.albertafirebans.ca) and sign up to receive alerts for whichever are you select.



## Fire Bans

Just a reminder to check the fire sign at each entrance to the village to see if there are any fire restrictions. Please remember that fireworks are strictly forbidden during a fire ban. For more information please visit [www.albertafirebans.ca](http://www.albertafirebans.ca)

## **Projects**

We have a few projects planned for this summer;

- Our maintenance contractors will be building a new outhouse on the current outhouse location. The new outhouse will have 2 unisex bathroom stalls, with one side being larger and handicap accessible. A concrete ramp will be poured in front of it.
- The gate going down to the beach is going to be modified to allow wheelchairs and strollers to pass through.
- New 'no parking' signs will be added around the village as well as a few 'no littering' signs and 'children playing' signs.
- We have ordered new bear proof garbage and recycle bins for the beach. The old bins will be moved under the shelter for the time being.
- General clean up on the beach including softening up the sand under the playground equipment and repairs to the equipment itself.
- Repairs on the path on Glade Way. We will be installing honeycomb material to prevent the washout from happening again in the future.
- The third and final round of surveying for the village which was paid for with grant funding.

## **Playground and Outhouse**

The playground and outhouse will remain closed for the time being. Once we are given the green light to begin lifting these measures, we will open them back up. Please keep children off the playground equipment as it is not being sanitized.

## **Golf Carts**

The bylaw allowing the use of golf carts on summer village roadways has been repealed. It is unlawful for the summer village to allow this as the province strictly prohibits the use of golf carts on public roadways. You may be fined for driving a golf cart on summer village roadways by the RCMP.

## **Littering**

In past years, littering at the top of the beach parking lot has been an issue. We ask that residents do not litter at the top of the beach parking lot. Please either place your garbage in the bin on the beach, or take it back to your lot. We understand that the littering is likely done by outside use and will be putting some no littering signs at the beach parking lot to discourage it.

## **Development**

Just a reminder that development on your property requires permits just as in a town or city. For more information about the regulations for building please visit the development page of the website [www.mymewathabeach.com](http://www.mymewathabeach.com) and review the land use by-law.

### Bears

Bears were an issue last summer in the summer village. Please take proper precautions this year to prevent a similar issue. Ensure that all garbage is secured tightly and that all animal feed is locked away in buildings or in bear proof containers. This includes any bird feeders. Report bear sightings to 1-800-642-3800.

### Council Meetings

If you have an item you would like discussed at a council meeting, please contact administration or one of your council members. We would be happy to add you to the agenda. A meeting schedule can be found on the summer village website.

### Storing on Reserves

Items allowed to be stored on the reserves over the winter season should soon be removed so all residents can enjoy the reserves.

### Did you know?

1. If your lake residence is a second residence, you are not entitled to disaster relief from the provincial government in the event of a disaster in the community.
2. You need a development permit if
  - You are going to change the drainage flow on your lot
  - When you build a fence
3. No seacans or similar structures are allowed in the summer village
4. No RV, utility trailers, boat trailers or other obstacles are allowed to be on the road allowances in the summer village. There are no exceptions to this rule and fines will be issued in the future.

### Administration Office

Administration contact numbers are below. The best time to contact us is on a week day. If you have an emergency (including dog related emergencies) you may contact the local RCMP at 911 or 780-689-3622. If the emergency is fire related please contact the Boyle fire department at 911 or 780-689-3611.

*Please be respectful of your neighbors and obey the rules of the summer village. Remember that this is your summer village and you want it to be there for your future generations.*

## Council Members

**Mayor Barry Walker**

780-991-5790

**Deputy Mayor Dave Boychuk**

780-689-2286

**Councilor Gerry Demers Jr.**

780-818-4052

## Administration

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**COUNCIL WISHES RESIDENTS A WONDERFUL SUMMER  
SEASON AT THE LAKE!**