



WAIPAROUS VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

September 2013

Council 2013 - 2017

During the August Municipal Election the following candidates were elected to a 4 year term of office as councillor of the Summer Village of Waiparous:

Larry Anderson, Ken Birkett and Dan Kingston

At the organizational meeting held on August 28th, **Larry Anderson was appointed Mayor and Dan Kingston as Deputy Mayor** for a two (2) year term.

The next Meeting Date is:

Wednesday, October 2, 2013

The meeting will commence at 6:30 pm and will be held in Room 242 of the Provincial Building in Cochrane located at 213 - 1 Street West.

Please check the Village Notice Board, website or call the Village Office to ensure that the meeting will be held.

When all councillors are unable to attend a meeting, usually the meeting is rescheduled to a different date.

Reminders - all council and committee meetings are open to the public – consider this your invitation.

At the beginning of each council meeting, Council hosts a “Resident Dialogue Session” where residents can informally ask questions, make inquiries, etc. The session will be limited to a maximum of 20 minutes in total and limited to 10 minutes per resident. *(if you attend and*



notice more than 2 residents wanting to speak, please try not to use the max. 10 minutes so that everyone present has an opportunity to speak)

If you would like to formally address Council on a specific item, please forward your written request, either by mail, fax or email, stating the nature of your presentation with a summary of the presentation to the Village Office at least one week prior to the meeting in order to be placed on the agenda.

Council Committee Reps:

Following is a list of the 2013-14 council representatives:

Public Works (*ie. snowplowing, roads, garbage disposal, etc.*) **Dan Kingston** – councillor responsible for public works.

Emergency Services **Larry Anderson** (Director of Disaster Services – councillor responsible for emergency services *(coordinating the emergency plan for the village)*)

Subdivision Authority – **Larry Anderson, Ken Birkett and Dan Kingston**

Trails - **Ken Birkett** - *upgrading and development of trails within the Village and in East LOC and serves as Council rep on the Ghost Waiparous Trails Association (GWTA)*

FireSmart – **Ken Birkett** – *developing strategies and programs with firesmart initiatives.*

Village Office: Box 19554 RPO South Cranston, Calgary, AB T3M 0V4 Phone: (403) 554-5515 Fax: (403) 206-7209
email: admin@waiparous.ca Village Website www.waiparous.ca

Mayor Larry Anderson (403) 809-9192 Deputy Mayor Dan Kingston (403) 932-7164
Councillor Ken Birkett (403) 932-1883

RCMP, Ambulance: 911 Forest Fires: 310-FIRE (3473) toll free -or- Telus Mobility cell phone dial #3473

Public Representatives on Committees:

We are very fortunate to have many local residents that volunteer their time to assist with committee work in Waiparous. Following is a list of residents who will serve a two (2) year appointment on:

Local committees:

Subdivision and Development Appeal Board Carmen Huffman, Shirley Begg, Steve Kalny

FireSmart Committee - Joleen Molenaar and Sandra Barker

Regional committees/boards:

Marigold Library – Sandra Barker

Note: Council has decided to suspend the **Highway 40 Committee** due to inactivity from the Province. (*Highway 40 upgrade is not appearing on their project list at this time*) Our thanks to Shirley Begg, Mark White and John Velletta for all their efforts in the past that convinced the Province that a major upgrade of the highway through Waiparous was not a viable alternative. In the event there is any future activity from the Province surrounding discussions of major upgrade to the Highway, Council will look at reactivating the committee.

Council thanks each of the representatives for serving on these very important boards and committees - It is this type of community involvement that makes Waiparous a very special community.

School Board Trustees

The school boards are holding nomination day for school board trustees on September 23 2013 For more information please watch local newspapers for ads or contact the school division office. (note this is only applicable to Waiparous residents that reside full time in Waiparous)

False Alarms

If you have a security company that monitors for fires in your home, please note that false alarms responded to will be charged back to the property owner

Keeping Control of your Dog

There have been several incidents of aggressive dogs in the Village attacking other dogs and threatening people. In the most recent incident a dog required veterinary attention. Thankfully the dog will recover but the outcome could have been a lot worse. Nobody wants to see an animal or person injured by an aggressive dog.



Council **will NOT tolerate aggressive behaviour from dogs** either towards people or other animal. We ask all residents that witness aggressive behavior from dogs to contact the RCMP immediately. Depending on the seriousness of the incident, the complaint may be investigated under the Dangerous Dogs Act and can result in large fines and removal of the dog from the Village.

We are a very small community where everyone enjoys to spend time walking on the beautiful trails that surround us. No one should feel threatened that either themselves or their pet will be attacked by a dog each time they leave their property. Although you may think you have the friendliest dog in the Village - as predictable as you might think your dog is - sometimes their behavior can change when reacting to another dog or person - it is your responsibility to ensure that your dog is under your control at all times - not running at large or off leash when walking with you. Make sure anyone visiting your property keeps their dog under their control.

Waiparous is an urban community - we require the same degree of control over your dog as is required in villages, towns and cities.

Emergency Services Building Update

The building is progressing along through its construction, with no major surprises and is on schedule to be completed by mid October.

Firesmart Community Plan

Open House October 23 7- 9 pm



The FireSmart Committee, along with CPPENV consultants are nearing completion of the update to the Community FireSmart Plan and

Wildfire Preparedness Guide. There will be an Open House on **Wednesday, October 23rd, between 7 - 9 pm at the Ghost River Firehall in Benchlands** to review the Plan and Guide with residents. Copies of the Plan will be available for download around October 10th to provide you with an opportunity to review prior to the Open House. Watch the Notice Board & email for more information in early October.....

Flood Remediation

During the June flooding, the Village sustained some damage to trails that are located near the water. Work will be undertaken this fall by Lucky Loggers to clear and repair the damaged trails. The cost for the remediation work will be paid for through the Municipal Disaster Recovery Assistance program.

Emergency Services Building Update

The building is progressing along through its construction, with no major surprises and is on schedule to be completed by mid October.

Fire Insurance

Please check your fire insurance policy to confirm that our nearest "manned" fire station is in the Town of Cochrane. Ghost River Fire Hall is the first responder for Village fires, however, they are classified as a volunteer fire department. It is important that your insurance company is aware of that.

Also, under the provisions of the fire bylaw, property owners can be billed for the cost of fighting fires on their property. This can amount to thousands of dollars. Check with your insurance company to ensure that you have adequate coverage for fire fighting expenses.

Did we call you?

If you did not receive a phone call in the spring announcing a "test" of our emergency broadcast phone service, please contact the Village Office to add your phone number(s). You can add home, work and cell phone numbers for yourself, your children and if you have renters, them too! Although it's not a formal emergency system - it is an excellent "*best attempt*" at quickly reaching as many people as possible in the event of an emergency

Seismic In Motion 2013 Demonstration Sept 30 - Oct 4

The CAGC will be hosting a Seismic in Motion field trip just east of Waiparous with the MD of Bighorn's gravel pit being used as a staging area. We will be in the area during the week of Sept 30 with completion by October 4. The set-up will be virtually identical to those of the last few years. The Highway area near the site will be traffic controlled however delays will be minimal to traffic. Participants will be bussed in from Calgary and as such only participating contractor vehicles will be onsite.

If you have interest and/or questions, please contact Mike Doyle, President 403 265 0045 email mjd@cagc.ca

Ghost Waiparous Trails Assoc.

Saturday October 5th – Woodlot Management Firewood collection. If you are interested in participating please contact the GWTA by email at gwta.ab.ca@gmail.com for more details.

Those assisting in the woodlot management days and wishing to take firewood for personal use must have a valid permit TM66 available through Alberta Sustainable Resource Development. Permits are available either at your local SRD office in Calgary or by going online:

<https://extranet.gov.ab.ca/srd/TreeCuttingPermits/Permits/Default.aspx>



WAIPAROUS VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

April 2013

2013 Tax Notices in the Mail by April 22nd

The tax rates have been set for 2013 and represents an average tax increase of 7.98% (*rate will vary from property to property depending on assessment changes*). This represents 6.04% increase in municipal taxes and 9.28% in school taxes.

The Provincial Budget decisions adversely affected the Summer Village's budget, resulting in higher than planned tax increases:

MSI grant decreased	\$1,766
STEP program cancelled	\$1,260
School Requisition increased	\$6,577

The deadline date for paying 2012 taxes is **June 30, 2013**. Cheques received postmarked after June 30th will be assessed a 10% penalty. We accept postdated cheques, so if you were not planning to pay your taxes until June 30th, please mail a post dated cheque ahead of time and we will hold on to it until June 30th.

Annual Meeting & Picnic – July 20th

The Village Annual Meeting will be held on **Saturday, July 20, 2013** at the Picnic Area located between Poplar Place and Willow Drive. The meeting will **commence at 10:30 am** to discuss the civic business of the Village from the past year. Find out what is happening in your community.

If there any specific items you would like Council to address at the Annual Meeting, please submit in writing, your questions, comments to the Village Office by June 21st to allow Council ample time to review prior to the meeting. The meeting agenda will be posted on the website in early July

The Annual Picnic and Horseshoe Tournament will follow the meeting.

SUMMER VILLAGE OF WAIPAROUS NOTICE OF NOMINATION DAY

Local Authorities Election Act
(Sections 12,26)

Notice is hereby given that Nomination Day for the Summer Village of Waiparous, in the Province of Alberta is **Saturday, July 20, 2013** and that nominations for the election of candidates for the following office will be received between the hours of **10:30 am and noon** at the Village Picnic Site, Willow Drive, Waiparous Alberta.

Position _____ Number of Vacancies

Councillor _____ 3

Dated at the City of Calgary, in the Province of Alberta this 18th day of April AD 2013.

Sharon Plett Returning Officer

Nomination forms may be obtained from the Returning Officer by contacting The Village Office:

- phone (403) 554-5515
- fax (403) 206-7209
- email admin@waiparous.ca

NOTE: Council term is for FOUR (4) years.

Qualification for Candidates

In order to qualify for nomination as a Councillor, a person is not required to be a resident of Waiparous but must be entitled to vote* in the election and have been a resident of Alberta for 12

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consecutive months immediately preceding election day.

*a person is entitled to vote if:

- a) he (she) is eligible to vote under section 47 of the Local Authorities Election Act

Sec 47 states that:

- *he (she) be at least 18 years of age,*
- *a Canadian Citizen and*
- *has resided in Alberta for 6 consecutive months immediately preceding election day and*
- *is a resident of the summer village on election day,*

b) he (she) is 18, a Canadian citizen and is named on the certificate of title as the person who owns property within the summer village, or

c) he (she) is 18, a Canadian citizen and is the spouse or adult interdependent partner of a person referred to in clause (b).

The candidate must not be ineligible under provisions outlined in the Local Authorities Election Act.

(The above is being included as information only – for complete information on qualifications and ineligibility, please refer to the Local Authorities Elections Act R.S.A.)

Pay Your Taxes Online

Many residents have inquired about paying their taxes online. There are 2 ways to pay online:

1. If you have an account at a TD Canada Trust branch, you are able to set up the Summer Village of Waiparous as a Payee on your web banking portfolio. If you are interested, please contact the Village Office and we can provide you with the information that your TD Canada Trust branch requires to set Waiparous up as a payee.
2. Pay through Telpay

For residents that are not TD Canada Trust customers you are able to pay online through a secure website bill payment company called Telpay. There is a \$.50 fee for using this service. If you are interested in this service please to www.telpay.ca then click on personal and click "sign up now"

Seniors Property Tax Deferral Program

New this property tax season! The Seniors Property Tax Deferral program allows eligible senior homeowners to defer all or part of their property taxes through a low-interest home equity loan with the Alberta government.

How it works

If you're eligible, you apply to the Seniors Property Tax Deferral program and the Alberta government pays all or part of your property taxes on your behalf.

The Province does this by giving you a low-interest loan that is secured against your home equity. You then re-pay the loan with interest when you sell your house, are no longer eligible for the loan, or at any other time you choose.

The Seniors Property Tax Deferral program is 100% voluntary, so it's up to you whether you want to apply.

Additional program details and application forms will be available in spring 2013. Check at <http://www.health.alberta.ca/seniors/property-tax-deferral.html> for information and updates, or call the Alberta Supports Contact line at 1 877 644 9992

Summer Grass Cutting

The Province has cancelled the STEP program where the Summer Village was subsidized a portion of wages for a student to cut grass. Council is looking at various options they can undertake for controlling the grass within the limited funds that they now have available for grass cutting. If residents have ideas or suggestions, please contact the Village Office at admin@waiparous.ca or 403 554-5515.

Firesmart Clean Up Bins - July

Council has ordered a roll off bin to be in the Village from:

July 5-9 - East side –Meadowlark by LOC entrance

July 10–14 West side –Poplar Place centre median

The bin will be for branches and garden debris only.
No stumps or dirt permitted.

Aggressive Dogs

There have been several incidents of aggressive dogs in the Village attacking other dogs. Council **will NOT tolerate aggressive behaviour from dogs** either towards other animals or people. We ask all residents that witness aggressive behavior from dogs to contact the RCMP immediately. Depending on the seriousness of the incident, the complaint may be investigated under the Dangerous Dogs Act.

The Summer Village is an urban municipality, dogs are not permitted to run at large. Ensure both your dogs and any dogs visiting are contained on your property.

Community Services Facility

It's a Go.....

Council has received tenders for the Community Services Building. With the low bid on the construction along with all costs associated with constructing and servicing the facility, the total estimated cost has increased to \$ 445,120.

After going out for bid twice and understanding the higher standards that are placed on public buildings, Council has accepted that the new estimated cost is market price. Council applied to the Province for the increased budget to ensure that the entire project cost of the new building would remain 100% funded by Provincial grants. Approval was granted and the tender will be awarded shortly. It is anticipated that work will commence this spring and completed by year end.

Fire Smart Committee

Council has created a Firesmart Committee to work with the consultant/contractor on the Community Plan update and the Wildfire Preparedness Guide. Members of the committee are Larry Anderson, Sandra Barker, Jolleen Molenaar and Jason McAleenan. They will meet with the consultant/contractor during the process to ensure that the Plan Updates and Guide are meeting Council's objectives. The committee will also be coordinating Firesmart Education programs for residents this summer. Watch for more details.

2013 FireSmart Fuel Modification Update

In March, the Summer Village engaged H.I.S. Wildfire to perform firesmart fuel modification on a total of 6 hectares of public land in the Village.

Mother Nature gave us a large dump of snow as the workers were completing the job, so they were unable to finish their work. They will be returning to complete the work mid-late April.

Firesmart Plan Update & Preparedness Guide

The Summer Village is currently requesting proposals from consultants/contractors for updating the current Firesmart Community Plan and creating a Wildfire Preparedness Guide. Bids close on April 19th, at which time a consultant/contractor will be selected. Work on the plan and guide are scheduled to be completed by September 30th.

Planning any new construction or renovations?

Summer is construction season. Are you thinking of improvements to your place? Most improvements will require a development permit and/or a building permit.

For development permits please contact Planning Protocol at **(403) 230-5522** Please contact Davis Inspection at **(403) 275-3338** to determine if you require a building, electrical, gas or plumbing permit. If you happen to commence development without the appropriate permits you could be faced with double permit fees or the expense of removing the development if it does not meet land use specifications or building code regulations.

Plan ahead

Fire Insurance

Please check your fire insurance policy to confirm that our nearest "manned" fire station is in the Town of Cochrane. Ghost Fire Hall is the first responder for Village fires, however, they are classified as a volunteer fire department. It is important that your insurance company is aware of that.

Also, under the provisions of the fire bylaw, property owners can be billed for the cost of fighting fires on their property. This can amount to thousands of dollars. Check with your insurance company to ensure that you have adequate coverage for fire fighting expenses.

Ambulance Calls

If you receive ambulance service at Waiparous and the call is considered by the dispatcher to be life threatening in nature DELTA ie. heart condition, a fire assist vehicle will be dispatched from Benchlands or Cochrane at the same time to assist the ambulance. Please be aware that over and above your ambulance services fee you may be billed by the Summer Village for the cost of the fire assist. If a secondary billing is received by the Summer Village from Cochrane or the MD for the fire assist, the Village in turn, will invoice the individual receiving the service.

Weed Control

Reminder that the Village is now required to monitor noxious weeds in the Village. Property owners will be required to *destroy* weeds identified as Prohibited Noxious on their property and *control* weeds identified as Noxious. For description of noxious weeds please visit the Village website www.waiparous.ca and click on the section "Links"

Community News

Beaupre Flea Market – May 18th

Saturday, May 18, 10 am – 3 pm
Beaupre Community Hall

For information on the event or to rent a table, call Mary Hansen at 403 932-5711.

Come by the hall to visit, enjoy great food, and find great bargains on some gently used treasures. If you have a few treasures laying around, you are welcome to donate them to the Beaupre table.

Ghost Waiparous Trails Assoc. Annual General Meeting

Saturday, May 11, 2013 - Ghost River Fire Hall at Benchlands – 10:00 am

Agenda Items:

- Board Report including Financial Report
- Revised Resource Management Plan
- Revised GWTA Brochure
- Appointment of Auditors and Election of Officers
- Trail Crew Activities for 2013 – funding is in place

We are very interested in hearing your suggestions for 2014, or would like to be on GWTA board of directors, you are welcome to email us in advance of the meeting so we can address at the AGM.
gwta.ab.ca@gmail.com

GWTA Important Dates for 2013

- *Sat June 1st – Woodlot Management Firewood Collection 10:00 am at trailhead
- Sat June 29th – Trail Crew 10:00 am at trailhead and lunch (location to be determined)
- Sat Sept 14th – Trail Crew 10:00 am at trailhead and lunch (location to be determined)
- *Sat Oct 5th – Woodlot Management Firewood collection 10:00 am at trailhead
- * If you are interested in participating in these dates, please contact the GWTA by email at gwta.ab.ca@gmail.com for more details. Those assisting in the woodlot management days and wishing to take firewood for personal use must have a valid permit TM66 available through Alberta Sustainable Resource Development. Permits are available either at your local SRD office in Calgary or by going online:

<https://extranet.gov.ab.ca/srd/TreeCuttingPermits/Permits/Default.aspx>

GWTA Memberships will be sold at the GWTA AGM on May 11th. The cost is \$5.00 per family. The funds obtained from the membership sales help pay for the insurance we are required to get for the lease area.

Do you have any email address?

If you have received your newsletter by mail and you have an email address, please send us your email address and help us in our pursuit of becoming paperless.

NOTE: If you have not received your Tax Notice by the end of April, please contact the Village Office.....
Taxes Due June 30th



WAIPAROUS VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Mini – Newsletter

February 2013

Assessment Notices Mailed

The 2013 property assessment notices were mailed on or before January 31, 2013. Property owners have until **April 2, 2013** to file a complaint with the Assessment Review Board.

Land assessment values in the Village remained steady over last year. As a reference, we have included a revenue neutral comparison showing your actual 2012 tax levy compared with what it would have been if the current assessed value had been used to calculate your 2012 levy.

The Assessor will be available to discuss your assessment with you by phone or email. Glen can be contacted either by phone 1-403-394-6040 between 9 am – 9 pm Mon-Sat or email at glen@muniserve.ca. Please contact Glen if you have any questions regarding your assessment.

Waiparous Firesmart Program moving forward!!!

There has been a lot of interest from contractors for the Firesmart Project. Bids close on February 5th and Council will be awarding a contract soon after for the Fuel Reduction (thinning and pruning) portion of the program.

Keep watching the Village website for more details.

Next Council Meeting – Rescheduled

Note: The next regular Council meeting has been rescheduled and will be held on

- **Thursday February 28, 2013**
- **6:30 pm in Room 239 Provincial Building, Cochrane.**

Election Coming Up in 2013

2013 marks an election year in all municipalities across Alberta. The Summer Village of Waiparous will be accepting Nominations for three (3) Council positions this summer. Starting in 2013, councillors will serve a **4 year term**.

Watch for more information this spring on “Running for Office” on the Village website.

Dogs and Wildlife

As development continues to grow outside the large communities and wildlife's space is encroached upon, there is less room for wildlife. It is inevitable that people and their pets will be in closer contact with wildlife. It is important to be aware of the local wildlife and the dangers to both your pets and to the wildlife

For many dogs, it is instinctual to chase wildlife. This can result in the animals (both dogs and wildlife) getting hit by vehicles, getting caught in barbed fences or getting severely injured or killed by each other. Your dog can also be at risk of contracting rabies. In Alberta, the most common victims of rabies are wild animals; skunks have the highest rate of infection although bats, coyotes, foxes, and raccoons are also very susceptible. Dogs can contract rabies through encounters with rabid wildlife.

For the safety and protection of all animals – domestic and wild, we ask that you ensure your dogs are contained on your property or when they are off your property that they are on a leash and under your control.

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WAIPAROUS VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

January 2013

Waiparous Firesmart Program is a go!!!

We are pleased to announce that the Summer Village have received a grant from the Province to undertake Firesmart projects in Waiparous.

Many thanks to all the residents that participated in our Fall Firesmart Survey. The results showed that residents annually spend in excess of 1400 hours on Firesmart Initiatives in the Village! *That* type of resident commitment to Firesmart definitely helped the Summer Village secure this grant.

The grant project components will include:

- Updating the 2008 Community Firesmart Plan to reflect work undertaken since the plan was adopted in March 2008,
- Developing a Wildfire Preparedness Guide for residents
- Firesmaring public lands in the Village areas as identified in the Waiparous Community Firesmart Plan with the objective to improve the health of the forest and decrease the risk of wildfires in the community. Thinning and pruning will be undertaken to Firesmart standards and debris cleanup will consist of burning piles per Provincial standards.
- Developing Firesmart education workshops and assessments

Request for proposals for the Firesmart component is being publicly advertised and it is hoped that work on the Fuel Reduction Firesmart component can commence at the end of February. The other initiatives will follow with

all components to be completed by March 31, 2014 (per grant guidelines)

Summer Village of Waiparous Fuel Reduction FireSmart Project Request for Proposal

The Summer Village of Waiparous will be accepting sealed proposals on the Fuel Reduction Firesmart Project .

Total FireSmart treatment area is 3.5 Hectares. Work to commence no later than February 25, 2013 and expected to be completed by March 25, 2013.

Location: Various locations within the Summer Village of Waiparous, located northwest of Cochrane, Alberta on Highway 40.

The successful bidder shall thin and prune standing live, dead and downed trees and brush and woody debris to a standard as outlined in the bid document.

Proposals will be accepted up to **Tuesday February 5, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.**

A mandatory viewing and information session for prospective vendors will be held on **Tuesday January 29, 2013 11 am.**

Bid Packages can be downloaded from The Alberta Purchasing Connection <http://www.purchasingconnection.ca> commencing on January 16, 2013.

Bid packages will also be available at the mandatory viewing.

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Waiparous Community Services Facility

In July 2012, Council invited tenders for the construction and servicing of the Community Services Facility. When the tenders closed only two (2) bids were received, both bids greatly exceeded the projected budget. Council is now retendering the project with the hope that the building can be completed in 2013.

Invitation to Bid

The Summer Village of Waiparous, Alberta is seeking General Contractor bids for the construction of the Summer Village of Waiparous Community Services Facility. The proposed Waiparous Community Services Facility is a 24' x 40', two bay storage garage for the Summer Village of Waiparous, Alberta. The proposed 885 s.f. (82 s.m.) single storey, wood frame, slab on grade structure is located in the Summer Village of Waiparous on the corner of Forestry Trail Road and Wild Rose Place. Copies of the Bid Documents may be obtained by General Contractors starting at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 23, 2013 from COOLNet or at BRZ Partnership Architecture Inc., 202, 1215 – 13 Street S.E. Calgary, Alberta T2G 3J4, (403) 532-5980. A deposit by Certified Cheque in the amount of Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) per set is required unless a member of the Calgary Construction Association Plan Deposit Guarantee Program. Sealed bids for the Summer Village of Waiparous Community Services Facility will be received until 2:00 p.m., February 22, 2013 at BRZ Partnership Architecture Inc. Lowest, or any bid, not necessarily accepted.

Council Meetings

The next Council meeting is set for **Thursday, March 7, 2013** (*watch Notice Board and website for any changes*)

The meeting will commence at 6:30 pm and will be held in the Provincial Building in Cochrane located at 213 - 1 Street West.

At the beginning of the council meeting, Council hosts a "Resident Dialogue Session" where residents can informally ask questions, make inquiries, etc. The session will be limited to a

maximum of 20 minutes in total and limited to 10 minutes per resident

If you would like to formally address Council on a specific item, please forward your written request, either by mail, fax or email, stating the nature of your presentation, to the Village Office at least one week prior to the meeting in order to be placed on the agenda.

Reminders - all council and committee meetings are open to the public – consider this your invitation.

Election Coming Up in 2013

2013 marks an election year in all municipalities across Alberta. The Summer Village of Waiparous will be accepting Nominations for three (3) Council positions on **Saturday, July 20 2013**. (*More details to follow in late spring*)

Please note that councillors elected in 2013 will serve a **4 year term**.

Waiparous Integrated Sustainability Plan

As a requirement of the government for securing grant funds, the Summer Village of Waiparous Council has adopted the Waiparous Integrated Sustainability Plan. This Plan was created as a direct result of input received from residents in the 2009 resident questionnaire and subsequent input obtained from residents during public meetings. The Plan is available for download on the Village website at www.waiparous.ca.

Fire Insurance

Please check your fire insurance policy to confirm that our nearest "manned" fire station is in the Town of Cochrane. Ghost Fire Hall is the first responder for Village fires, however, they are classified as a volunteer fire department. It is important that your insurance company is aware of that.

Also, under the provisions of the fire bylaw, property owners can be billed for the cost of fighting fires on their property. This can amount to thousands of dollars. Check with your insurance company to ensure that you have adequate coverage for fire fighting expenses.

Spray Lakes Forest Stewardship Certification

(article submitted by Spray Lake Sawmills)

In the fall of 2011 Spray Lake Sawmills went through an FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) certification audit. The results of the audit showed several areas that Spray Lake Sawmills would need to work on prior to receiving certification. While it may seem that everything has gone quiet since then, Spray Lake is still committed to pursuing FSC certification and has been working to address the identified shortfalls. They have been working together with qualified experts and are now getting close to the point where they would like to re-engage stakeholders as a way of assessing how they are doing. Stakeholder involvement will vary depending on the nature of the item and what specific interests may be.

They are planning to use the company BLOG site as a cornerstone tool to post information and gather feedback. This includes generalized woodlands related information as well as FSC related activity. They look forward to hearing your thoughts and working with everyone to help develop a common vision for forest management in the southern east slopes of Alberta. The link is:

<http://sprayftp.com/wordpress/?p=90>

Ambulance Calls

If you receive ambulance service at Waiparous and the call is considered by the dispatcher to be life threatening in nature DELTA ie. heart condition, a fire assist vehicle will be dispatched from Benchlands or Cochrane at the same time to assist the ambulance. Please be aware that over and above your ambulance services fee you may be billed by the Summer Village for the cost of the fire assist. If a secondary billing is received by the Summer Village from Cochrane or the MD for the fire assist, the Village in turn, will invoice the individual receiving the service.

Dogs in the Village

Each year we see more people moving into Waiparous on a full time basis. More gardens, flower beds and manicured yards sites are appearing as residents take pride in their homes. We are also seeing a larger population

of dogs. Periodically we receive complaints dealing with dogs. As much as we'd like to think we are "in the country" when at Waiparous, the population density definitely makes it an urban community. As with all urban communities, we must have consideration for our neighbours and keep our dogs under control. Waiparous is a small enough community that we all know our neighbours and can appreciate their right to the quiet enjoyment of their property. We ask all dog owners to take note of the accepted dog etiquette in Waiparous:

- Ensure your dog is not barking or creating a nuisance either day or night;
- Dogs are to be confined to your yard, please ensure they're not wandering into the neighbour's yard;
- When walking your dog in the community, keep them on a leash;
- If your dog tends to be aggressive towards other dogs, make sure to hold your dog and leash close to you when passing other dogs to avoid potential dog fights,
- If your dog happens to defecate on a neighbour's property or on public property, be courteous, carry a baggie and "scoop the poop";
- Ensure your dog does not chase after cars, bikes, people. Your dog may be friendly but a frightened person on a bike could injure themselves in the panic.
- Remember - not everyone is as fond of your dog as you are.
- If you run into a problem regarding dogs, please talk to the dog owner. That is the best way to resolve issues.

Waiparous is a special community of friends. We all appreciate our fellow resident's desire to enjoy the serenity of Waiparous. Please consider your neighbours and practice the suggested dog etiquette with the canine member of your family.

*Note - Provision from Land Use Bylaw: **Number of dogs per household is limited to two (2).** Exceptions include time duration of 5 days or less or harboring puppies under the age of 9 weeks*

Note: Bylaw 80-02 the Dog Control Bylaw outlines many of the above items as violations which are subject to fines ranging from \$100 - \$400.