

RESORT VILLAGE OF

Manitou Beach Matters

Box 1 RR# 1 Watrous SK S0K 4T0 PH: 306-946-2831 FAX: 306-946-2017

EMAIL: manbe@sasktel.net WEBSITE: www.manitoubeach.ca

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Spring 2010 Newsletter

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9-12 & 1-5 Wednesday Closed

For your convenience the office will be open the following Saturdays from 9-1 May 22 to June 26 and September 4 to September 25

Your Council:
Mayor, Eric Upshall
Councillor, Ernie Kochylema
Councillor, Matthew Knezacek
Councillor, Larry Zemlak
Councillor, Fraser Murray

Your Staff:
Administrator, Bobbi Crittenden
Assistant Administrator, Bev Laird
Foreman, Keith Polley
Maintenance, Ivan Peacock
Maintenance, John Volk
Maintenance, Lena Franson

Welcome back to all of the snowbirds and summer residents. Your staff and council hope that everyone has wintered well!

Your council and staff have been very busy this past winter. Council notes have been regularly posted to our website www.manitoubeach.ca and published in the Watrous Manitou. These notes are a condensed version of what's happening around the resort village and are written by Mayor, Eric Upshall on a bi-monthly basis.

The Community Hall has received much needed repairs to the roof and the Lagoon expansion is well underway. Council has received a grant through Sagehill Community Futures Corp. to develop a watercraft that can be used to clean the algae that forms on the lake. Sewer main relining has been completed on part of Elizabeth Avenue.

A marketing group has been formed with the village, the Town of Watrous and the R.M. of Morris to promote tourism and economic activity and a Community Development Officer has been hired.

Canada Post has identified locations for postal box expansion around the village. You can view the sites on the enclosed map.

Communities in Bloom have been very busy raising money for more heritage plaques. This community groups is always welcoming new volunteers and participants, so get involved! Call the Village Office @ 946-2831.

The Resort Village of Manitou Beach has played host to a movie crew filming "Hard Core Logo 2." Danceland and The Diner are both in the film as well as many local folks from Manitou Beach and Watrous.

Bylaw #7/2010 has been passed. This bylaw provides for minimum tax to be levied for 2010. Both residential and commercial land will have a minimum tax amount of either 0.07 cents per square foot, up to 50,000 square feet or 14 mills of the assessed land value to be applied to all taxable assessments. The mill rate bylaw for taxing improvements has received 2 readings setting the mill rate, as it was in 2008 at 14 mills. Council needs to read this bylaw once more for it to be passed.

Council Meetings are held the first and third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm. The first meeting of the month is for planning and policy issues and the second meeting each month is for regular business. These meetings are open to the public and held at the Council Chambers at the Village Office at 701 Lake View Avenue. If there is something you would like to submit for council consideration or attend a council meeting as a delegate please contact the office by the Thursday preceding the meeting you wish to attend/submit. All requests must be in writing. The general public is encouraged to come out and observe our political process.

Pet owners are reminded that Bylaw # 13/2001 prohibits animals running at large. This means off the premises and boundaries of the land occupied by the owner of the animal and is not under control by being tied or secured to a leash or chain or other similar restraining device not exceeding two meters in length. Part III Section 16(a) of the same bylaw states "if a dog or cat defecate on any public or private property other than the property of its owner, the owner shall cause such feces to be removed immediately. Part IV Section 29 states that "every owner of a dog or cat shall not permit his dog or cat to be or become a nuisance by barking or howling or emitting other sounds if such sounds can be easily heard by a person not situated on the property where the dog or cat is situate." Any pet owner in violation of bylaw #13/2001 is subject to applicable penalties and fines.

Taxes

Bylaw # 04/2006 is cited as “The Nuisance Abatement Bylaw.”

The purpose of this bylaw is to provide for the abatement of nuisances, including property, activities or things that adversely affect: a) the safety, health or welfare of people in the neighborhood; b) people’s use and enjoyment of their property; or c) the amenity of a neighborhood. The owner of a property, including land, buildings and structures, shall be responsible for carrying out the provisions of this Bylaw.

We all want to be proud of our community and keeping our yards neat and tidy reflects an attitude of carrying. Let’s everyone do their part.

Bylaw # 11/2007 is cited as “The Civic Addressing Bylaw.”

The purpose of this bylaw is to ensure that all cottages, houses and buildings have the civic address posted prominently so it may be seen from the street. This is essential for emergency services to find you in case of an emergency. It also helps utility companies do meter readings and connect and disconnect utilities when ownership changes occur.

Garbage reminder

REACT picks up garbage on Mondays (unless it is a holiday then it will be the Tuesday.) Please be sure to have it in the front and the REACT tag is visible from the street. **The maximum weight per bag is 44 lbs (a standard 77 litre bag or garbage can.) REACT will not pick it up if it is overweight.**

Grass clippings, leaves, garden debris needs to be bagged and tagged as well so REACT can pick it up with the garbage.

The Village will do one spring cleaning (last week of May) of large branches and tree trimmings and one fall cleaning (last week of September.) These times may vary slightly depending on what other work needs to be done.

New construction reminders

New construction requires a building permit and is subject to building inspections and approval. Please visit our website at www.manitoubeach.ca for printable copies of forms and information regarding new construction. During the construction process debris and building supplies must be stored in a safe, tidy manner. Recent high winds have resulted in construction garbage and supplies being blown all over the village. This is unsightly and dangerous-please be a responsible builder. Also, proper safety precautions when digging basements, crawl spaces etc. need to be observed. These areas need to be roped or fenced off to keep the general public safe especially children who could easily fall into one of these holes.

When you’re ready for water

When connecting to the Resort Village of Manitou Beach’s municipal water and sewer system a municipal water/sewer connect permit is required. The connection and meter must be installed by a journeyman plumber and inspected by the Regional Health Authority before water can be turned on at the curbside. The Village requires a ¾ inch dual check valve and pressure reducer with the meter assembly.

New resident information for water and sewer utilities

All utility accounts require \$150 meter deposit and the total of one minimum billing. When you are ready for water please call the office at 946-2831 to make arrangements for paying your deposit and being assigned a water meter.

Reminder for summer water residents

The Resort Village of Manitou Beach suggests that summer water should not be turned on prior to May 1st and should be turned off by September 30. This is a guideline to avoid water lines freezing. **Please notify the office at least two days in advance when you require your water turned on or off.**

