

Summer Village of Larkspur **Council Newsletter - Spring 2025**



Welcome to the Spring 2025 Newsletter. On behalf of Summer Village Council, we would like to share some updates on things we've been working through over the past winter and in preparation of our summer season.

2025 Municipal Election

This summer represents the final season of the current term for Summer Village Council. It's been a privilege to serve the community and Council is proud of the many accomplishments over the past four year term. Looking ahead, steps are underway to prepare for the next term and the upcoming election. Our Summer Village election is scheduled to take place August 23, 2025. More information about key dates as well as the nomination process can be found on the Summer Village website ([link](#)) or please contact Kim Bancroft, Chief Administrative Officer.

Operating Budget

Council has approved the annual 2025 operating budget for the Summer Village that includes another year with no change - or 0%. Similar to last year, this unfortunately doesn't mean that you will see no change on your tax notice. As you are probably aware, your tax notice includes two components. The first is based on a requisition of funds based on the Summer Village Operating Budget (which will remain unchanged again), and a second amount is based on a requisition of funds collected by the Summer Village and remitted to the Province of Alberta to fund public education. The amount that the Summer Village is required to collect and requisition to the Province for education increased by 12% in 2024 and is forecast to increase again another 11% for 2025. Tax notices will be sent in the mail in May 2025. For your reference, the 2024 Tax Assessment information in which the tax notices are based on, is available on our [website](#).

Fire and Emergency Management

There continues to be ongoing discussion about the level of preparedness by the Summer Village to respond to emergencies, including the threat of fires. Council has been actively discussing our community's readiness and different steps for how to enhance our capabilities. The first area of focus is around enhancing our training opportunities to operate our equipment located in the Fire Hall. Our goal is to have more residents involved and participate in the training to ensure our equipment is more effective should a fire occur. More work is underway to organize another orientation and training session this spring. The next priority for council is to confirm a plan for a water source (Dry Hydrant) that is easily accessible, compliant with environmental rules, and technically compliant with fire equipment standards. This work requires preliminary planning to support the regulatory requirements which can take some time.

Community Shelter

The Community Shelter structure is in place and we're pleased with the positive feedback we've received! More work is still required to get it fully ready for community events. We have purchased tables (8) and (64) chairs which are being stored in the fire hall. We also are in the process of energizing the shelter to include lights, fans, auxiliary power, and security cameras. More work will be required to address the landscaping and grading around the shelter as well. If you have any feedback or additional thoughts with the Community Shelter please share them with Council.

Good Neighbour Guide

This past winter Council, with the support of Kim our CAO, have been working through the development of a "Good Neighbour Guide". We're excited to share that the first version is ready and has been posted on our website ([link](#)). We expect that this Good Neighbour Guide will evolve over time and there would be additions, modifications, etc needed but we feel like this is a good place to start. Within the guide you will find information helpful for new residents (and old ones!) from everything from FireSmart, Noise, Reserves, etc. Most of what is included follows the "Golden Rule".... Treat others as you wish or expect to be treated.... We're a small community and we want to get along as best as possible. No bylaw can address this... it's really about being courteous and thinking about others. If you have any suggestions, please let us know!

Temporary Seasonal Docks and Lifts Bylaw

In 2024 council approved a [Bylaw](#) including [maps](#) to respond to an update to the Mooring Disturbance Standard requirements provided by Alberta Environment & Protected Areas (formerly Environment & Parks). Last year we saw a great response from the Community to align to these plans and we want to share our appreciation in this. We had anticipated this would be more difficult, but your thoughtful consideration of these plans and your efforts to ensure we are following them was greatly appreciated. Last year was a "practice" run of sorts to ensure we were prepared for 2025, when these changes come into full effect. This year the requirements of the Mooring Disturbance Standard are enforceable, however if we continue to follow our Bylaw and maps i'm sure this summer we will experience no issues.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting has been scheduled for September 6, 2025 at 10AM. This date is after the 2025 Election and will be the first opportunity for the Community to engage with the new Summer Village Council. Please hold this date and time.

If you have any comments, inquiries related to any of the information provided in this newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact any of the Councillors. Contact information is available on the Summer Village [website](#).