



Town of Maidstone

Newsletter - September 2022

LIFT STATION PROJECT

The lift station is a small building on the east end of Maidstone which pumps all the wastewater produced by every household in town through an underground pipeline to the lagoon. After nearly 60 years of service, both the station and pipeline must be replaced.

This will be one of the most important and most expensive projects ever undertaken in Maidstone. Over the past two years, Town Council has taken a great deal of time deciding how to complete the project in a way that:

1. Does not over-burden ratepayers and utility customers;
2. Balances current and future community needs, and;
3. Does not sacrifice progress toward other town priorities.

An engineering assessment was completed in early 2021, which estimated the total project cost at \$3.1 million. Maidstone was awarded a grant of \$994,000 from the Federal and Provincial governments to complete the project, which must be used by June of 2024. Despite the challenges of the economic environment, Town Council is determined to proceed with the project so this grant can be used for the benefit of this community.

We look forward to sharing further news as the project unfolds.

SAVE OUR PIPES



PLEASE DON'T FLUSH WIPES

Wipes cause sewer pipes to become clogged and stop flowing. They also plug up the sewage pumps at our lift station.

Nearly \$120,000 needed to be spent to clean our sewers over the past two years. You can help lower this cost in the future by putting all wipes in the garbage.

WORK SITE SAFETY



Please help us make sure everyone gets home safe by remaining behind barricades placed at construction sites.

Safety regulations are set and enforced by Government of Saskatchewan. Any municipalities not in compliance can be fined.

COMMUNITY

Transfer Site Hours

Summer Hours

Saturday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Wednesday Noon – 7:00 pm

Winter Hours

November 2, 2022
Saturday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Upcoming Events

- September 7
Maidstone Museum Corn Roast
- September 14 – October 26
(every Wednesday)
Maidstone Health Care Pie Bingo
- September 21
Pine Island Suites BBQ
- September 22-24
Senior Mega Volley
- September 27-29
Junior Mega Volley

SPEED CAMERAS



With support from the Province of Saskatchewan through the Provincial Traffic Safety Fund, speed radar signs were purchased to increase awareness of the 40 km/hr speed limit throughout Maidstone.

These signs also collect data, such as the number of vehicles that pass by per hour, and the speed at which they are travelling. For the rest of the year and into the next, these signs will be moved to other areas in the community to serve these same purposes.

COMPOST

- Compost pick will continue every Thursday until November 3, 2022.
- Please leave your compost in clear plastic bags in your back alley. If you have no back alley, please leave it on the street.
- Please observe the following:
 - No bags heavier than 40lbs
 - No pine cones
 - No branches
 - No garbageBags not complying will be tagged and left.
- Pine cones or branches can be taken out to the transfer site by the property owner.

Mayor

Brennan Becotte

Councillors

George Bray
Scott Breadner
Mark Foster
Eleanor Pegg
Blair Ryan
Marc Telenga

If you have any concerns, please contact the Town Office at 306-893-2373 or administrator@townofmaidstone.com

Feedback is always welcome.

TOWN OF MAIDSTONE
ANNUAL WATERWORKS INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR 2021
(The Municipalities Regulations, Sec. 54 & 55)

Waterworks Financial Overview:

- Total waterworks revenues: \$616,533.82
- Total waterworks expenditures
- (includes interest paid on waterworks infrastructure loans): \$382,626.09
- Total debt payments on waterworks infrastructure loans: \$127,076.74
- Reserves allocated to waterworks infrastructure repair/replacement: \$0.00

- Comparison of waterworks revenues to expenditures plus debt payments, expressed as a ratio:

$$\$616,533.82 / (\$382,626.09 + \$127,076.74) = 1.21$$

For 2021, waterworks revenue covered 100% of waterworks expenditures.

Comments:

Waterworks revenue includes custom work, sale of water and supplies, infrastructure and connection fees, and interest charges. Waterworks expenditures include salaries, wages and benefits, training, repairs, materials, and utilities. Council closely monitors the waterworks policy to ensure revenues cover operating costs.

The objective of the waterworks rate policy is to ensure waterworks are self-financing; the users pay for the cost of the service. To accomplish this, rates need to increase over time so that the revenues cover both operating and replacement costs, to the extent possible.

Waterworks Rate Policy:

On September 21, 2021, Council passed Bylaw No. 04-2021 to establish rate policy.

The new bylaw lowered the base rate maximum water allowance to 50 cubic meters bi-monthly. The base rate remained steady at \$92. The infrastructure fee structure also changed from seven categories to three and the fee was increased to \$48 bi-monthly. Finally, the Commercial Plus water base rate was set at \$310 and the infrastructure fee at \$150. This rate is only available to those accounts whose water usage equals or exceeds 200 cubic meters bi-monthly.

Capital Investment Strategy:

The motivation to pass a new utility bylaw arose from an increased awareness of infrastructure replacement costs. The waterworks system is healthy overall, with significant improvements occurring as recently as 2018. However, the sewage pumping station is in serious need of replacement, and is currently the primary focus of capital investment. In addition, a backup water well and reverse osmosis membrane replacement will be necessary investments in the near term.

The capital investment strategy is outlined in the Town of Maidstone’s 2022-2026 Capital Works Plan.

Available for public inspection at the Town Office:

- Town Bylaw No. 04-2021
- Current municipal reserves
- Waterworks Assessment 2016
- Capital Works Plan 2022-2026
- Waterworks service agreements

August 25, 2022