

Resort Village of Cochin
Council Comments
2 of 2022

1. The second July meeting of Council was held on Tuesday, July 12, 2022, and two ratepayers were in the gallery. Ratepayers and residents are reminded that Council meetings are open.
2. In this Council's first year in office, it amended its Policy and Procedure manual to provide that the net profits of Cochin Days, if any, would be segregated from the Village's general revenue account and placed in a separate bank account. The monies in this account may only be spent on the recommendation or approval of the Cochin Days Committee.
3. Several ratepayers attending the AGM raised concerns about Council's decision to change the Village's garbage collection procedures and its plan to move to standardized bins to be emptied by a garbage truck rather than by hand. The first issue is that of cost. Each tax notice sent out in June has a one-time charge of \$125 for the purchase of the bin. That is the only additional cost to ratepayers. From that point forward, there will be no further charge for garbage collection. There was a concern that if one puts their bin out on Sunday for pickup on Monday and then leaves Cochin for a few days or weeks or until next year, who will put the bin back onto their property? Council suggests that most neighbours will willingly attend to this. On Tuesday of each garbage pick-up week, the Village will insure that the bins still out are returned to the appropriate properties.
4. At the AGM, there was a suggestion that the Parking Bylaw be amended to permit the parking of semi-trailer and tractor units on any commercially zoned lot whether fenced or not. Council is of the view that without the fenced and gated compound requirement, there is a risk of numerous such units parking on commercial property throughout the Village. Council sees this as a safety issue and an undesirable potential. The bylaw will not be amended.
5. At the AGM, there was a suggestion that the Village's previous year's financial statement and current budget be provided for audience consideration and comment. Finalization of the financial statement and budget may not occur until the financial statement is audited. Historically, this does not occur until after the AGM. Even if the audited financial statement is completed before the AGM, there is the logistical issue of volume of material. The last audited financial statement was 52 pages in length. From this point forward, both the audited financial statement for the previous calendar year and the current year's budget will be posted on the Village's web site once available.

6. The issues of the general appearance of the Village and the state of repair of playground equipment and benches, all as noted at the AGM, have been brought to the attention of our Village Foreman and he will endeavor to remedy the concerns.
7. Anyone not receiving this communication by email who wishes to so receive future issues should send a request to cochinadmin@sasktel.net
8. Council has directed the Village Foreman to check the lighthouse and sign boards on a regular weekly basis and attend to any writing on the lighthouse and obliterate obscene writings on the sign boards.
9. Residents are reminded that leaf and grass clipping pickup by the Village only occurs twice a season: once after the long weekend in May and once in early September. Apart from these two pickups, it is residents' responsibility to take such items to the transfer station where they may leave them at no cost. Additionally, the Village will not pick up anything else (such as old furniture) and residents are responsible to dispose of such items themselves.
10. The Jackfish Lake Lehman Creek Breakwater Rehabilitation Committee is proceeding with its plan to rebuild the breakwater (weir). Wood PLC has been hired as the construction engineer. Geotechnical drilling has been completed on site and detailed engineered drawing should be delivered by early fall. Serafina Energy Ltd. has provided funding in the amount of \$35,000, Battlefords Agency Tribal Chiefs Community Development Corporation has provided \$20,000 and the Village has committed \$24,000: all as and by way of start-up costs. The goal is to have this \$1.2M project completed before the end of 2023.

July 16, 2022