**Council Comments # 38 – Resort Village of Cochin – July 16, 2020**

**Resort Village Elections**

1. The election for Mayor and four Councillors has been set for Saturday, August 29, 2020 with the polling station to be located in the Community Hall.
2. The poll will be open from 8:00 am to 9:00 pm.
3. Ratepayers and a spouse of a ratepayer are eligible to vote as are persons who have resided in the Village continuously from May 29, 2020 to the date of the election.
4. There will be an advance poll on Saturday, August 15, 2020 at the Community Hall from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.
5. Council has passed Bylaw No. 8-2020 being a Bylaw to Establish a Mail-in Ballot Voting System.
6. Anyone eligible to vote who wishes to do so by a mail-in ballot must make application to do so at the Village Office during regular business hours no later than Tuesday, August 4, 2020.
7. Whether a person wishes to vote by mail-in ballot or at the advance poll on August 15, 2020 or at the regular poll on August 29, 2020, they must bring proof of their eligibility to vote. The best proof is a copy of their tax notice.

**Fireworks**

Everyone is reminded that Bylaw No. 7-2019 prohibits the setting off, firing or lighting fireworks is prohibited unless the same occurs on the sand portion of the main beach with the trajectory of any projectile being over the water and before 11:00 pm. Debris from the activity must be cleaned up forthwith following the fireworks show.

**Community Safety Officer**

The Village has contracted with the RM of Meota to have their Community Safety Officer provide bylaw and provincial statute enforcement services in the Village of Cochin. The CSO will be carrying out his duties in the Village as early as the weekend of July 18 – 19, 2020 and carrying on to the end of 2020 at which time the contract will be reviewed.

Speeding, unlicensed and/or underage drivers, stop sign infractions, unlicensed vehicles and stunting will be high on the list of initial concerns.

**Trees**

The Village does not have the funds required to cut down healthy poplar or other trees on crown land or village property. If one or more ratepayers wish to remove such a tree from near their property, they may make application to the Village to do so – at their cost.

**Cochin Facebook Page**

Our administrator is experiencing disruptive requests to post items on our Facebook page. It is not cool to send such requests outside of regular office hours and certainly not overnight. Requests to post should be sent to cochinadmin@sasktel.net

It is equally uncool to be disrespectful, insulting and threatening in the comments section of the Facebook page.

**Lynx Sighting**

Council has received two reliable reports of a lynx sighting near Bigway and along the walking trail which proceeds west from the north side of Bigway. We reported the sighting to a Conservation Officer and were told that, because to have a lynx in the area is so rare, his department will take no action without photo proof. ***Until resolved, Council recommends avoiding these areas but if you insist on ignoring our advice, be careful.***