



RM of Clayton No 333

OFFICE HOURS: 9-4 Monday to Friday
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Burning Permits

When burning a field you are required to get a permit if you are burning within 3 miles of the Provincial Forestry. Everyone should notify the 911 system that it is a controlled burn so that if a call comes in for a fire they know not to send the fire department. The phone number to report a controlled burn is: 1-866-404-4911



In case of a fire, please call 911, not the fire station they no longer have a phone.



ROAD NUMBERS AND CIVIC ADDRESSING

Everyone has noticed our new road numbering signs. This new numbering system was created to help emergency service personnel in finding rural houses. Council is in the process of ordering everyone's new house signs and we are hoping that they will be here sometime in the month of July, this will enable everyone to purchase and take the sign home with the installation instructions. Once the system is fully functional these addresses will be available to any GPS system so family, friends, and other services will

be able to find your rural home just by inputting your address into a GPS system.

Your address which will consist of the number that is at the end of your driveway followed by the road number that your driveway connects too, be it a range road, township road, grid road, highway or named road. Your address appears on your tax and assessment notices. If you have noticed that you do not have an address yet please contact the office so that Kelly can assign your address and have you sign ordered so that we do not miss anyone.



EQUIPMENT ON ROADS

When you meet our equipment on the roads, no matter which piece it is, the speed limit is 60 kms per hour.

Our equipment is considered to be the same as Highways and Transportation, therefore the same penalties apply when they are on the road. The fines for speeding past working equipment and men have tripled. Please help us keep everyone safe while work is being performed on the roads. **DO NOT** cross a road closed barricade or sign, this creates a very dangerous situation for the workers and for you! We know you want to see what is going on, but really it is dangerous and creates a situation where the workers now have to look out for you too, let them finish and come back later to check it out.

OUR RM

Our RM is 15 townships large! About 12.5 of those townships are not Provincial Forestry and fall under our jurisdiction. We have 464.25 miles of roads, 296.25 are all season roads and 168 are seasonal roads, these do not include the little dirt back roads. We have 2 bridges left and hundreds of culverts. All of this takes considerable time to repair, plow and grade. The 7 council members and 5 staff cannot possibly know of every situation. If you are aware of something please call your Councillor or the office and let us know, we will get there to take care of the situation.



TAX ARREARS

Well we are continuing to bring down the tax arrears. The total Municipal arrears as of December 31, 2016 are: **\$21194.35!** This is just fantastic news. Please keep up the great work and soon arrears will be a thing of the past!



DUST CONTROL

We use an approved dust control product on our roads that is why it must be purchased through us. Just because you buy some from us does not mean you can still cover it with your own, especially a canola based product. Do not do this, our bylaw and the *Municipalities Act* is very clear about this and Council has the right to charge you with the repairs and pursue the issue in court. No one wants that, so please just don't do it. Canola based products will start to smell and also damage the road, it causes them to be slimy when wet, hard when dry and slick in the winter. All of which are dangerous situations. The only fix is to dig out the portion of road and reconstruct it, which is a very costly procedure.

PENALTIES AND DISCOUNTS

Council Passed bylaw 2018-02 which changed discounts for taxes. The penalty is 2% per month has not changed and the discounts have gone down to 3% for July, 2% for August and 1% for September.

We still and always will accept postdated cheques and prepayments for taxes. Prepayments qualify for the earliest discount. Council is very strict with the last day of the month policy for receiving payments. If your payment is not in the office by the last day of the month it DOES NOT qualify for discount or the lower penalty, date of mailing or the date on the cheque is not acceptable for date payment is received. Please mail your payment early and postdate it so that it is not late. We also accept email transfers for taxes.



SNOW PLOW POLICY

Council has changed the Snow Plow Policy slightly, for a copy of the policy call the office and Kelly can get you one. The Staff has the authority to change the route slightly to consider the weather and road conditions. But mainly it is still the main Grids on the first day. The policy is still that the graders do not go out until the storm is over, this includes wind. On the first day after a storm the men work very long hours to get the roads open so that no one has more than 4 miles to drive to an open road. This is the best that we can do given the amount of roads that we have, and asking the men to do more is just not right. If you have a serious drift or issue please let your Councillor or the office know.

If you require special snow plowing please give us a lot of notice. Also the policy now does not allow for snow clearing in pastures, these are dangerous places for our machinery, the rocks and such are not good for the graders and the repair can be very costly.



e-Notices

We are now offering e-Notices for taxes, assessment notices and custom letters. If you are interested in this service please contact the office via email and we will send you a consent form that needs to be filed with us.



Road Hazards

Our crews and council try their best to keep our roads safe and in good driving condition. It is impossible for us to know of every hazard out there at all times, changing weather conditions and traffic are unpredictable and totally out of our control. It is not unreasonable for council to expect drivers to take extra care and caution with these changing conditions. The law states that the speed limit is maximum under good conditions, if a road is wet or slippery it is expected that drivers will slow down and drive according to road conditions.

When a shoulder is pulled, it is done to bring the clay and other road material back to the driving surface, which is squished out because of traffic, we put it back to extend the life and reduce the cost of repairs. This material is clay.... When clay gets wet it gets slippery.... We cannot control the weather, it is unfortunate and inconvenient that it rains when shoulders are pulled, but it is the best way to get the road back in good condition. Drive with extra care and know that this condition will not be forever, take another route if you vehicle cannot handle the conditions. We do not do this road work to inconvenience anyone we do it to save money and maintain the roads in the best condition that we possibly can.