



RM of Clayton No 333

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The RM now has a webpage! You can read the monthly minutes, bylaws, policies, next meeting, and so much more. We also put up important notices and you can download a mobile app that will let you know when something comes up. Check it out!!



Road Hazards and Our RM



Our RM is 15 townships large! About 2.5 of those townships are Provincial Forestry and so not 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 staff cannot possibly know of every situation. If you are aware of something that needs our attention, please call your Councillor or the office and let us know, we will get there to take care of the situation.

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 80 kms 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, gravel and other road material back to the driving surface, which is squished out because of traffic, we put it back to extend

the life of the road 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 your 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 possible.

PENALTIES AND DISCOUNTS

Council Passed bylaw 2018-02 which changed discounts for taxes. The penalty is 2% per month, this 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.



TAX ARREARS

We are continuing to bring down the tax arrears. The total Municipal arrears as of December 31, 2017 are: **\$29845.90!** This is just fantastic news. Please keep up the great work and soon arrears will be a thing of the past!



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 has ordered everyone's new house signs and about 2/3's of them have been purchased and installed. For the remainder of the people we are urging you to come to the office and pick up your sign, post, hardware and instructions to get them all up. 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. For the next year or so please keep both addresses by the phone so that in an emergency you can report both of your addresses until all emergency services are online with the new 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 your sign ordered so that we do not miss anyone.

Congratulations everyone in being the first Municipality in the province to have the new civic addressing up and running.



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.



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

The RM could be passing a burning bylaw to enable us to put on a fire ban. More information will be released if and when this happens.



DYCK MEMORIAL BRIDGE

We are in negotiations with the Ministry of Highways to be able to build a safe bridge that better suits our needs but without the 1-Million-dollar price tag. The discussions are underway and are very promising. We have the request for proposals and some very good options, we just need Ministerial approval so that we can still qualify for the MREP grant AND build a safe and fiscally responsible bridge. No matter what happens with the negotiations we are aware that repairing our bridge is of the highest priority and we have been looking at alternatives if we do not receive the grant. We are still on a timeline that will see the bridge repaired or replaced this year, hopefully in time for harvest.



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 repairs can be very costly.



e-Notices

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