

Town of Bassano

403-641-3788 | 502 – 2nd Avenue | town@bassano.ca | www.bassano.ca

Council Appointments

It was encouraging to see so many residents out to vote in the 2021 municipal election. A 44% voter turnout over 41% in the prior election.

Bassano's new council has been appointed:

- Irv Morey, Mayor
- John Slomp, Deputy Mayor
- Sydney Miller, Councillor
- Mike Wetzstein, Councillor
- Kevin Jones, Councillor

On October 22, 2021 councillors were assigned to their boards and committees for the next year. This is a comprehensive list. Board and committee appointments can be found under *Meet Our Council* www.bassano.ca.

The first regular council meeting is November 8, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. and will be held in-person at the Community Hall. As a reminder, all council meetings are open to the public.

We extend our appreciation to Cpl. Sebastian Andrews for his leadership in our community. Andrews received a promotion to Sgt. and will be transferred in the coming months. The receiving community is lucky to have you! Cst. Jia, another dedicated member, has been accepted into a specialized international crime unit and will be transferred. Congratulations! And, welcome to Cst. Manveer Singh.

Community Standards Bylaw Update

The Town has spent the past three years implementing Community Standards Bylaw 878/18 in conjunction with the Beautify Bassano Initiative. When implementing the Community Standards Bylaw, the Town's enforcement team relied on citizen engagement and education to achieve outcomes. As explained in the September newsletter, that approach was partially successful however, the Town has experienced approximately 40 percent of clean-ups as repeat offenders.

In an effort to mitigate the reoccurring property deficiencies, council determined that while supporting an educational enforcement approach, the Town will begin to levy penalties with all unsightly property Orders. The penalties may be a warning or a fine.

Community Standards Bylaw 920/21 was passed on October 12, 2021 and replaces Bylaw 878/18. The intention behind the new bylaw remains the same as the previous bylaw 878/18. The parameters around the enforcement team were expanded to include the CAO or designate, Peace Officer, or RCMP where applicable. This means Orders may be issued by one or a combination of any officer where required.



Schedule A (penalties) was updated in Bylaw 920/21:

- 1st Offence - \$500
 - 2nd Offence - \$1,000
 - 3rd Offence - \$1,500
- Subsequent offense shall double to a maximum of \$5,000.

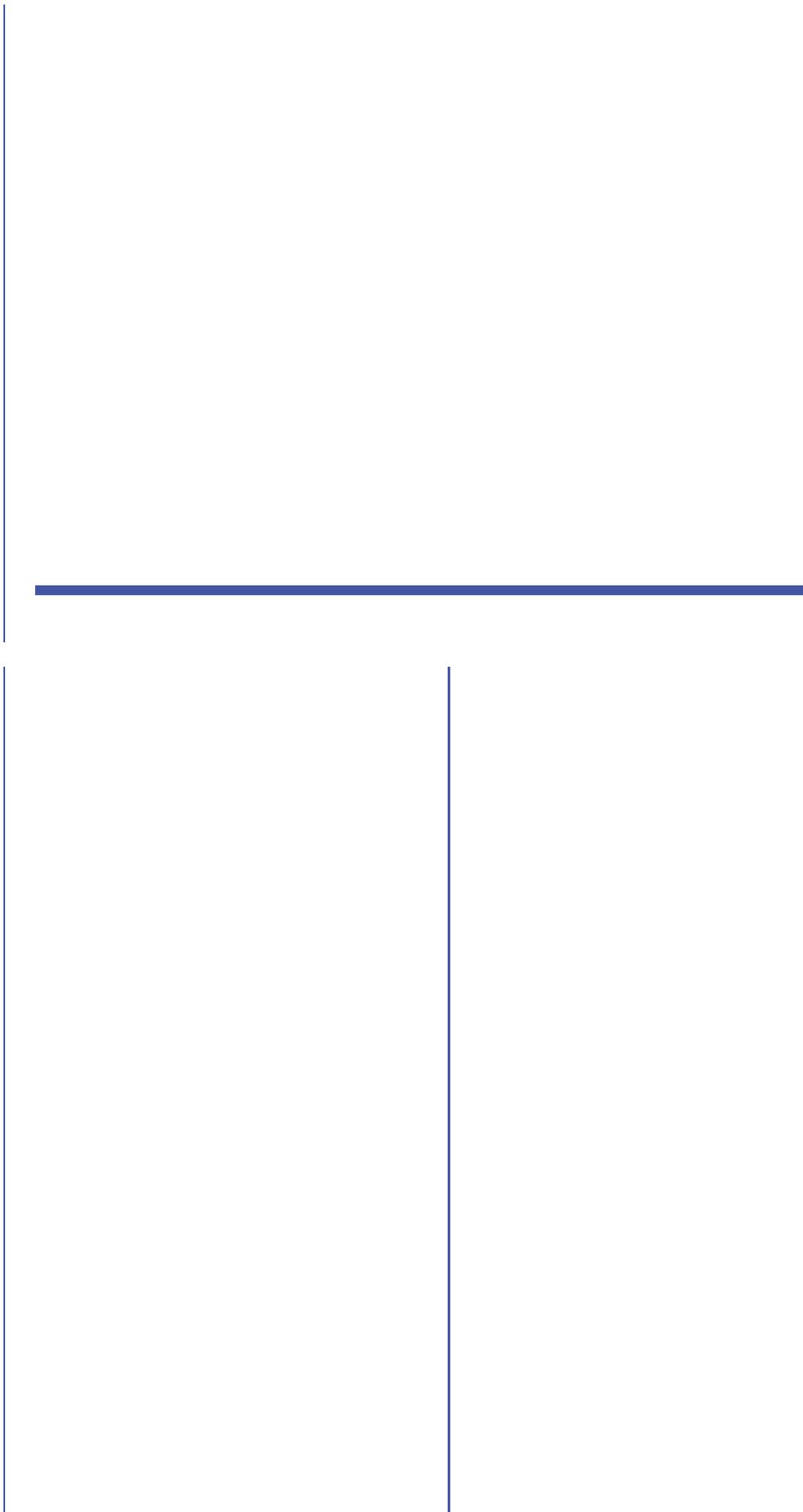
Offenses and penalties shall be issued per calendar year, Jan. 1 – Dec. 31 annually.

Penalties were stricter within Bylaw 878/18 as they were doubled for each reoccurring issue. The difference was that for the first 3-years of implementation the Town did not levy any penalties under the Community Standards Bylaw. Penalties will now be in effect.

The Town and its enforcement team will continue to work with residents to gain compliance and we ask for your assistance in keeping your property clean. Every action helps us meet our end target of building a vibrant community, supporting local needs, and attracting investment.

Fall/Winter bylaw priorities are:

- Civic addresses,
- Traffic enforcement,
- Unhooked trailers,
- Unregistered/inoperable vehicles,
- Dog control, and
- Snow patrol (sidewalks)



Community Standards Bylaw Update Continued...

Our goal was to complete 10 unsightly property files in 2021. We exceeded this. Final year-to-date actions are listed below.

	2021	2020
Unsightly files	28	20
Complaint follow-up	16	10
Fire bylaw – civic addressing	28	12
Total files	73	42

New Land Use Bylaw 921/21

We are so excited to announce that the Town’s new Land Use Bylaw has been passed by council. Lots of new development options for the community and investors. Keep an eye out for more details!

Old Water Tower (317 – 1st Avenue)

In early 2021, the Town began an investigation into the structural integrity of the old water tower. It was confirmed that the water tower was not structurally safe and that relocating it and using it for an alternate purpose was not feasible. As a result, council accepted a business proposal from Ry Bar Oilfield Services Ltd. to purchase the lot to support a business expansion.

The Town issued a public tender for the demolition and abatement of the water tower. The contract was awarded to Titan Contracting and Demolition Ltd. for \$46,271.50.

Once the project started, we discovered that the water tower was approx. 1/3 full of pigeon waste and nesting material. The total weight of the waste was 123,877 lbs which put even greater stress on the structure. In partnership with Newell Solid Waste, the Town was able to dispose of the bird waste at no cost because it had decomposed enough to be used as compost material.

The total cost of the project came in under budget by \$2,724.08. Actual cost was \$43,547.42.

The lot was sold at fair market value \$1.50/sq. ft. = \$16,875 and will be used for outdoor storage.

This will enable Ry Bar Oilfield Services Ltd. to expand his business and build another shop (up to 6,400 sq. ft.) across the street. The Town’s investment in the water tower demolition will be recovered through taxation of the new shop in the coming years. It supported business growth and job creation in Bassano, a core objective of the Town.

Capital Projects

Lagoon Project Update

The lagoon project is nearly complete. Riprap is being placed within the storage cell, we are completing the installation of the wet well, fencing, installing final air release valves ,and will conclude with the installation of new transfer structures at the anerobic cells.

There has been a valve delay due to supply chain issues. Missing valves are expected to arrive at the beginning of December. Pending this happens, we will achieve substantial completion this year. The project remains within budget.

A public site visit has been scheduled for November 8. An invitation is below.

Joint Use Facility – Addressable Fire Alarm

MPE Engineering was contracted to design the addressable fire alarm system for the Joint Use Facility. Local contractors were engaged for the project, and we were advised that this type of upgrade is beyond their scope of services. Therefore, the project will be publicly tendered on November 3 with construction planned for the Spring of 2022.

Former Stiles Building (413 – 2nd Ave.)

The Town finally received confirmation that our amended application to use our \$143,000 Municipal Stimulus Program (MSP) funds for the abatement of the building was approved by the provincial government.

The abatement project (removal of hazardous materials from the building) was awarded to Remediclean and is nearly complete.

Total project costs to date including the structural and hazardous assessment, air monitoring, and material removal is \$135,990.

When the abatement is complete, the interior will be stripped to a minimum. Essentially, the building will be a shell.

At their October 12 meeting, council passed a motion that upon completion of the abatement, the Town will obtain an assessed value for the building and market it for sale. The Town will not proceed to demolish the building as it still has useful life once the hazardous materials are removed. Think of a new live/work development on main street. Marketing will commence later this year.

An invitation was extended to the Bassano Historical Society to help design a mural to depict the history of the water tower. If they agree to partner with the Town, the project must be completed within two-years. The mural would be installed on an undetermined building in Town. More to follow.

Lagoon Project Site Visit Invitation

This is a significant project for our community, and we have arranged to host a 2nd educational site visit on **November 8, 2021, at 9:30 a.m.**

Town council/administration, White Fox Group, and MPE Engineering will facilitate the educational tour. Those that wish to attend **must** wear a reflective vest and have closed toed footwear. **This is an active work site. A safety orientation will take place and you will be required to sign a liability waiver. The event will occur regardless of weather, please dress appropriately.**

As a reminder, this is an invitation to learn about the project. After the site visit, you will not be permitted to be onsite and must leave immediately following the event.

Who: Everyone welcome

What: Lagoon Project Site Visit Educational Session Event

When: November 8 at 9:30 a.m. sharp (concluding by 11:00 a.m.)

Where: Meet us at the entrance to the anerobic cells. **Do NOT enter the site without being escorted by Town Administration and White Fox Group.**

Why: This is a follow-up educational session from July to see the progress we have made. The project is nearly complete and has to be seen to be appreciated. For more information, contact Amanda Davis at the Town Office 403-641-3788.



Enter the site off the old TransCanada highway driving east past Range Road 183 towards Highway 1. Look for Town vehicles and an entrance arrow.

As a reminder, you will be walking on uneven ground. Ensure you bring any walking aids that you may need to stay safe.

Social distancing will be in effect.

We look forward to seeing you on site!

A Message from the Beautify Bassano Volunteers

The Beautify Bassano Committee have been busy over the spring and summer months with several projects: helping with the annual spring community cleanup; creating a perennial bed at the campground; trimming trees and bushes at the campground; weeding town flower beds; weeding, hedge and tree trimming, lawn edging at the cenotaph; garbage pickup at the town entrances.

A big thank you to all those who worked on these projects. Also, another big thank you to other members of the community who pick up garbage on their walks. We encourage walkers to take some gloves and a garbage bag with you and pick up garbage along your route. It's great exercise and really improves the look of our town.

Welcome Bassano Transloading! Stop in at 1056 – 2nd Avenue and meet our new investors, Jot Gill, and team. Find out more about new job opportunities.

Main Street Awareness

Welcome to another phase of Bassano's Main Street Revitalization program. We are proud to announce that 16 businesses in Bassano were awarded a blade sign from the Brooks Region, an economic development partner. Our summer students helped to complete applications for all interested businesses this year. Blade signs are intended to bring greater awareness to businesses with increased foot traffic. A huge thank you to Irv Morey and John Slomp for helping to install some of the new blade signs. As always, more to follow. Congratulations to all the successful business owners - keep up the great work everyone!

Canalief Update: when the Town sells vacant land for development, the purchaser signs a Sales Agreement to confirm their intention to build. The Town is in the process of recovering 1002 – 2nd Avenue as the investor was unable to fulfill its development obligations. The land will be remarketed for sale. If/when the investors are ready to build, they will be welcomed in Bassano.

Please welcome **Theresa Kelly** as the new administrative assistant at the Town Office. Theresa brings with her many years of administrative and volunteer experience. She will be responsible for accounts payables/receivables, cemetery administration, website administration, and more. This is a great place for her to continue to serve the community in a new way. Welcome Theresa!

We also welcome **Mike Jones** to the public works department. Mike has been brought in to fulfill a seasonal role to assist with all public works related tasks from tree maintenance, road maintenance, to facility maintenance. Mike has over 10 years experience within municipal public works and has proven to be a great asset to the team. Welcome Mike!

Reminder: Sewer Line Education

If you are experiencing issues with the sewer line at your property, two calls need to be made:

1. Contact the Town's public works department and advise them that you are having issues with your sewer line. The public works department will check the sanitary main and municipal infrastructure to ensure there are no blockages.
2. Contact a plumber to have them assess the sewer issue on your property.

By working together and following these steps, it is likely that the situation can be resolved quicker and with less cost.

Grasslands Public Schools are in search of spare bus drivers. Please contact Lynetta Thiessen for more information.

Lynetta Thiessen
Transportation Supervisor
Grasslands Public Schools
p. 403-793-6703
Lynetta.thiessen@grasslands.ab.ca

Winter is coming...

We ask all residents to ensure their vehicles are not parked on the street during snow removal, and to shovel sidewalks. Remember to keep your snow on your property – do not push it onto the road as this causes safety and maintenance issues.

If you are leaving town, remember to have someone check your house to ensure your water does not freeze and to shovel a pathway so our public works staff can read your water meter.

FCSS PROGRAMS

NOV
16TH
CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Applications for community Christmas Hampers are open November 16th - December 16th.

DEC
3RD
ANGEL TREE

The Angel Tree will be available to help you spread seasonal cheer starting December 3rd at Connect First

DEC
11TH
SANTA'S WORKSHOP

Families are invited to bring their children out and complete some Christmas shopping! Appointments and walk-ins will be available.

SANTA'S SLEIGH

Get your letter's to Santa ready for this around town event! Children are welcomed to give their letter to Santa in person as he travels around town on his sleigh! Dates to be announced.

KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED FOR MORE INFO ON:

The Christmas Hamper Food Drive & Christmas in the Campground & Christmas Magic

CHRISTMAS SPONSORS

If you or your business are interested Corporate sponsorship for the Bassano Christmas Hamper program please contact FCSS to discuss sponsorship opportunities.

NOW ACCEPTING DONATIONS

for all Christmas programs. This includes hamper donations and gently used items for Santa's Workshop.

NOV - DEC 2021



WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/FCSSBASSANO