



NEWSLETTER

Village Office Hours
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Phone: 306-682-2794
email: muenster@sasktel.net
Website: villageofmuenster.ca

DECEMBER 2022

- ❖ Foreman Job Posting
- ❖ Twinkle Tour 2022
- ❖ Tax Payment Deadline
- ❖ Snow Removal Policy
- ❖ Childcare Centre Approval
- ❖ BHP
- ❖ Christmas Hours Village Office
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- ❖ Blue Bins and Christmas Wrap
- ❖ Lots for Sale
- ❖ Bins Vs Tags
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Career Opportunity Village Public Works Foreman

The Village of Muenster is currently accepting resumes for the Public Works Foreman position.

Please see the village website or Facebook page for the full job posting details.

Submit resumes to the Village of Muenster at muenster@sasktel.net or call 306-682-2794.

3rd Annual Twinkle Tour

On Sunday, December 18, 2022, starting at 6:30 p.m., residents are invited to head out on their self guided tours of Village of Muenster and vote for your favourite Christmas light display.

The Muenster Fire Department will start off the evening off when they hit the streets with lights flashing and siren blaring. Word has it, Santa will be making an appearance.

Weather permitting, there will be an outdoor firepit in the Community Centre parking lot for residents to stop by and warm up. The outdoor rink beside the curling rink will be fully operational thanks to Councilor Karl.

We encourage you to start your tour by picking up a ballot from the Muenster Hotel. At the end of your walk drop your vote for best light display down the Village Office drop chute.

No registration is needed. Residents are encouraged to turn on their lights to get in the running for winning a nice prize and the honour of the title of Best Light Display of 2022!

2022 Tax Deadline

The payment deadline for 2022 Taxes is December 31, 2022

A reminder that any online payments typically require five business days to be processed.

To avoid a 10% interest penalty on 2022 taxes, please ensure your online payments are processed early.

Snow Removal Policy

Please refrain from parking vehicles on streets during/after snowfalls. The grader will do a much better job if they can pass free of obstacles. Many resourceful residents are widening their driveways to allow parking on their property rather than on the street.

A snow removal map is **attached** and will identify priority streets and removal responsibility.

Muenster Cooperative Childcare Center Licensed Approval

The MCCC has been approved for 25 child care spaces ages 18 weeks to 12 years of age. The joint federal and provincial agreement was announced on November 18, 2022.

Muenster will receive \$10,000 per child-care space to be used towards capital development of a child care centre. Facility plans have been drafted and discussions are taking place to further narrow down a design that will best suit our community needs for a child care facility.

The next meeting date is scheduled for January 9, 2023. Everyone is encouraged to attend. You do NOT need to have toddlers to be part of this or future meetings. Now is the time for input and shaping the facility to best suit our community and families' needs.

Congratulations to the board and community members who have worked diligently on pursuing this much needed service in our community. The Village of Muenster supports you and wishes you all the best in your future project planning.

For more details, visit the village website or the Muenster Cooperative Childcare Center facebook page.



BHP Meeting Summary

On November 1, 2022, BHP Billiton Executive visited the Village of Muenster. Several groups gave presentations and engaged in various conversations highlighting what our community has to offer and how we will evolve with the operational presence of BHP Jansen in our region.

Thank you to those groups who attended: Muenster Sports Club, Muenster Childcare Centre, Muenster Seniors, Muenster School, and St. Peter's College and Muenster Public Works.

Christmas Hours

The Village Office will be open for regular business hours at year end.
Tues Dec 20th 8:30 a.m. to 3:30p.m.
Wed Dec 21st 8:30 a.m. to 3:30p.m.
Thurs Dec 22nd 8:30 a.m. to 3:30p.m.
Tues Dec 27th 8:30 a.m. to 3:30p.m.
Wed Dec 28st 8:30 a.m. to 3:30p.m.
Thurs Dec 29nd 8:30 a.m. to 3:30p.m.

*ensure online payments are sent 5 business days prior to Dec 31 to ensure payment processing.

Pub Works in Review 2022

The Village of Muenster is planning a community engagement opportunity for January 2023. You do NOT want to miss this discussion. The improvements that are required for Muenster’s water and road assets will have a very direct impact on taxes in Muenster. Come, get informed, offer your insights, help shape our future. Council has many decisions to make at budget time in 2023. Having your input will directly guide their ability to make these decisions on how to maintain and improve service delivery in Muenster.

Topics to be discussed:

- 1) Water line replacements
- 2) Sewer lines surveyed
- 3) Snow removal services and costs
- 4) Engineering our future
- 5) Road surfacing
- 6) Property taxation

2022 has marked a research and discovery phase for infrastructure conditions and management in Muenster.

As you all know potholes, dust, washboards and surfacing concerns are prevalent.

Background History:

January - March 2022

*Snow:

Excess snow was removed by outsourced contractors who had the required equipment for large scale snow removal. Decisions around particular sections of snow removal were based on need/priority level and the ability or inability of the area to shed the water as the excess snow melted in the spring.

Snow removal budgets will be hit hard going forward with continued excessive quantity of snowfall. Equipment owned by the Village can only get so much snow moved. As for ridges left in driveways – we apologize but there **will be snow left due** to the nature of the grader blade and **amount** of snow. As you see on our snow removal plan, ridges can be cleared but not until main roads are opened up. As we have one operator, this can take some time.

June - Sept 2022

*Roads:

Engineers have been engaged to address a comprehensive Road Analysis Plan and Drainage System Analysis in Muenster. The Road Concept Plan is 90% completed and will guide Muenster on what to set as priorities for asset management/roadwork to approach.

-Taphorn stormwater drainage needs to be addressed – Currently only 0.5% grade from #101 Taphorn to #213 Taphorn.

-Sewer lines were scoped and flushed, conditions were rated as “good”. These will not need replacement at this time.

-Surface road work is not recommended until underground water lines (60+yrs old) be replaced. Underground sewer lines are in decent shape and have a lengthy lifespan relatively speaking.

-Prudent management would include not only replacing old lines but at the same time when things are dug up, cap off old hydrants to eliminate leaks and install new hydrants for better emergency management as well as isolation valves to encourage better handling of unexpected breaks or concerns.

-There are sections of Rangeline which are now safe to resurface as underground line conditions are good in that newer area. It has yet to be executed due to soft section of Rangeline having to firm up during the summer of 2022. Rangeline and Scott St intersection and ditches were monitored, pumped out, ditch edges were removed and the Rangeline was able to harden up by Sept.

-Engineering and Council findings show overweight vehicles using the Rangeline are causing substantial damage to roads. A method of eliminating such heavy traffic must be in place prior to redoing this road surface. Whether this includes bylaw traffic enforcement (cost of hiring an officer) or pedestrian crossing lights/boulevards to prevent large implements from traveling the Rangeline or other ideas, it has to be considered before the Rangeline is upgraded.

-Dust Suppression attempt of Recycled shingles seemed to work well keeping dust down on Scott Street where traffic was lighter however proved very poorly on Range and College where product was re-worked to eliminate potholes/washboards which prevented shingles from setting up , plus the amount of traffic and excess weights proved to pulverize the

product creating airborne particle issues. During Sept 2022 Water was applied to try to keep dust down created by the RAS and traffic. Council will be keenly aware of safely improving the dust situation going forward. In all likelihood - a harder surface like chip and seal or paving may have to be applied to the busy road sections to deliver the quality of service that residents have expressed as their expectation and to minimize dust in our rural community. Please come to the community engagement meetings planned for the latter part of January to further discuss this issue and the effect on property taxes.

Oct-Nov 2022: Muenster applied for NIF and ICIP grants for addressing drainage concerns on Taphorn and required Water distribution line replacement. No word back yet on awarding of these grants.

Conclusions drawn include:

- Taphorn Street will require drainage issues to be address.
- Quantity and weight of vehicles has to be addressed on Rangeline.
- Sewer lines in good condition
- Water lines and service connections need upgrading.
- Road surfacing decisions will include discussion on product types and how to go forward with our municipal budget after considering all preliminary concerns being addressed regarding underground infrastructure, traffic types and affordability of service level expectations voiced by residents.

Water Meter Readings -Clear Snow to enable Access to Water Meter Pucks

Residents must make sure to enable access to your water meter pucks in your yard for the monthly water meter read. Please clear your gates of snow to allow Village Foreman entry and clear a path to your meters to enable actual readings.

An alternative to clearing snow is to take a photo of your water meter in your basement and email the reading to muenster@sasktel.net in the last few days ~27th of the month to ensure you are being billed for actual consumption versus an estimated usage.

Christmas Tree Pick Up
Enjoy your time with loved ones and family this Christmas season.

After the holiday season is over, Christmas tree pick up will be

scheduled mid-January. Real trees may be left on the front curb ~January 12th – 17th for pickup.

REACT Holiday Schedule

As a REACT schedule becomes available, we will post Christmas holiday garbage pickup on our Village website and Facebook page. You may also search Holiday hours updates on the React Website: <http://www.reactsask.ca/>

REACT Recycle Blue Bins and Holidays

Christmas wrap is not to be recycled in the blue bins but treated as waste. Please flatten all boxes before putting into recycle bins.

Lots for Sale

The Village of Muenster has affordable residential lots available for sale. Residential lot prices range from \$34,000 to \$46,000 in Phillips Bay.

The Village also has a total of five commercial lots for sale listed at \$35,000 each. There is also one private commercial storefront t available for purchase at #303 Railway St.

REACT Garbage Tags versus Individual Bins

Information is coming on pricing estimates on the cost of curbside containers vs tag a bag systems currently in place.

Remembrance Day Banners

Our prairie winds have not been kind to our Remembrance Day banners. The Village is pursuing options to ensure they are able to withstand the wind. Thankyou to residents who found and returned banners which had blown off.

Opportunity – Affinity Branch Building

Please be clear no final decisions or agreements have been signed regarding these potential changes to our buildings below. If you have any concerns or input, please come to council, which meets the third Tuesday of every month.

Affinity Credit Union has verbally approved of the Village of Muenster relocating our Administrative Office into the Affinity Muenster Branch building upon their vacating the premises in Spring 2023. No formal agreement has been signed yet. The

Village Council is excited about the potential to increase our available space for hosting public meetings as well as increased record retention. The public works department will come online with improvements in asset management and organization for record keeping. The size of the building would allow the Village Administrative Office to potentially rent out some office space to small business entities, which may be suited to operate under the same roof as our office. (Ex: accountant, massage therapist, book keeper, etc) We are open to discussions. Call us 306-682-2794.

The remaining space in the current Village office will allow Muenster Library to increase the library footprint to accommodate more patrons and more bookshelf space. The Story Hour and Summer Reading programs will greatly benefit from this expansion in the library.

Muenster Library

We welcome Miranda to the library staff! The Library is open to the public;
Library Hours:
Tuesday 10:30 AM to 4:30 PM
Wednesday 2:30 PM to 7:30 PM
Thursday 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM
[306-682-5252](tel:3066825252)

Social Media

Go to our Village of Muenster Facebook page and website at VillageofMuenster.ca for important community updates, notices, and reminders.

Payment Options

There are a number of utility and tax payments options offered by the Village of Muenster:

- Auto Debit (Automated Fund Transfer) *
- Internet Banking through any Credit Union or CIBC *
- Cash or Cheque by mail, in person, or by the drop-off chute available 24/7 (we encourage residents to use to avoid late payments).

ETransfers for water and/or taxes can be forwarded to muenster@sasktel.net

HOWEVER, one must *clearly* state in the “message” portion of your ETransfer what the payments are for: For Example:
Water at 306 Railway OR
Taxes at 306 Railway

ALSO, we are moving to a standard security question, which is:
What is the name of our village?
The answer will be muenster

If the payment name is not stated in your message as to what the payment is for, and as a result is applied to the improper account, you will be billed late charges.

Pet Licences

Annual Pet Licences are due January 30, 2023. Licence fees are \$10 per dog and cat. Please note fine increases were established within our current revisions to our Animal Bylaw. See website for details.

Carbon Monoxide

After a significant snowfall or cold snap, Muenster residents are strongly advised to check their heat vents for snow and ice pile up ensuring they are not completely blocked off. Carbon monoxide can get trapped and head back into your house.

The Village encourages residents to visit www.saskatchewan.ca/smoke-co-alarms to learn about different types of alarms and where to install them in your homes.

Arena Schedule Online

Want to know when there is public skating or scheduled hockey games? Please access details on the Arena Schedule via the new online calendar. QR Code is available at the Arena. Online Link to calendar is:
<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=muenstersports2022%40gmail.com&ctz=America%2FRegina>

Outdoor Skating Rink

The outdoor rink beside curling rink is now open for use. Thankyou to the volunteer who has spent so much time making this a phenomenal surface for outdoor fun.

Volunteer Snow Removal

Thank You to those of you out with shovels, quads and equipment moving snow to make our community more accessible this winter! Your efforts are not going unnoticed!



See attached snow removal policy.