

Mayor: Clayton Branton
Deputy Mayor: Dave Fowlow
Councillors: Bev Bryant-Canning
Clarence Chislett
Tina Chislett
Stanley Legge
Isabel Sooley

SPRING NEWSLETTER 2017

Mayor's Report

We just endured a very cold, hard winter. With the ice in the bay in early April, this winter certainly reminds us of when we were young boys and girls. Hopefully summer is fast approaching and we can enjoy the warmer months ahead.

This year we were able to keep our property taxes the same as last. The Municipal Assessment Agency will reevaluate our properties again this fall, as it is done every three years. We thank those residents, who pay their taxes on time; however, for those of you who lag behind, please ensure that you make immediate arrangements with the Town Clerk/Manager to pay the arrears. Sometimes, we have no choice but to turn off water or list the arrears with the collection agency. This is your community and to provide essential services to you, we must collect all taxes.

I encourage everyone to read and get to know our Town Plan. We will continue to clean up our Town, deal with dilapidated buildings, and review all land within our boundaries that has not been assessed by the Municipal Assessment Agency.

It is that time of the year again when construction season starts. <u>Please be reminded that prior to the start of any work, a permit must be obtained.</u> A stop work order will be issued to anyone that starts any construction, development, or renovations without a permit.

This year National Volunteer week is from April 23rd to the 29th. To honour Volunteers in our Town, Council will be hosting a *Volunteer Social Night on April 27th starting at 7:30 PM*. The public is welcomed to come along for some fun and refreshments.

With spring here and summer on the horizon, we encourage everyone to take pride in our community and make a special effort to paint and clean up their properties and surrounding areas. <u>A "Clean up Week" is scheduled for June 12th - 16th and our next bulk garbage day is July 11th. Also, we would like to remind residents that the Waste Recovery Center in Cavendish is open on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons (noon to 4:00 pm.) and (9:00 am to 5:00 pm) on Saturday. Please note, that the burial or burning of construction or demolition waste anywhere outside an approved landfill is illegal. Complaints have been received from concerned residents about dilapidated properties, vehicle wrecks and other types of garbage around the community. Council will be contacting the owners and ask that they clean up or demolish the properties.</u>

Birthday Certificates are presented to any resident reaching 80 years old and every five years thereafter. Also, anniversary Certificates are presented to couples celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary and every five years thereafter. However, in order to present the certificate, a family member or acquaintance should contact the Council Office and inform the Clerk of the date for the presentation of the certificate.

Our Town website is still active. Please visit <u>www.townofhdi.ca</u> on a regular basis to keep up to date on newsletters and events in our community.

In closing, I would to take this opportunity to thank you all for supporting and trusting your Council. We are proud of the community. Together We Grow! Have a happy and safe spring and summer.

Deputy Mayor Fowlow's Report

Our Water Treatment Plant is providing good and safe drinking water to the residents of our Town. A slight discolouration has occurred during the winter months when the demand on water was very high. There is too much water going through the plant for all the colour to be removed. This water is still safe to drink. We must make every attempt to reduce our water usage.

Sometime in May or June the Water Treatment Plant will have to shut down for 3 to 5 days so that the filter system can be replaced. Hopefully, the lines will be flushed at the same time.

Right now, we are experiencing 2 or 3 leaks. These will be corrected as soon as possible. If you think or know of a leak, please let the Town Office know.

This year, the Water Plant is 17 years old and parts have already been replaced and other parts may need to be replaced in the future.

Thank-you for your co-operation and understanding when there is a problem with our DRINKING WATER.

Residents are encouraged to tour our Plant. Call the Office to make arrangements.

Councillor Bev Bryant's Report

The Library continues to be an asset to the community. It is operated by a group of dedicated volunteers and is open on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm. There is a good selection of reading material for all age groups and a computer is available for public use. We would also like to thank those of you who support the weekly coffee hour and the donations from Legge's 50/50 draw. These funds are used to purchased books and supplies for the Library.

Council would like to thank Mrs. Ruby Warren for 25 years of Volunteer Service at the Municipal Library.

Councillor Clarence Chislett's Report

Being the representative for Public Works, I would like to let residents know that if you have a concern regarding the roads, streetlights, etc., please contact the council office or myself. If you know of any streetlight outage, please get the pole or light number and report it to the office.

We are pleased to announce that we have been approved for funding to pave some of the secondary roads in the Town in June.

Councillor Tina Chislett's Report

Recreation held their annual meeting on March 30th and elected a full slate of committee members. Thank you to past members and welcome aboard to new members. I am quite confident this group will bring great things to our town over the next year.

There are some events coming up that may interest you. There will be an adult dance held at the fire hall May 13th at 9pm, just \$5!

Recreation Bingo is an ongoing fundraiser starting the beginning of every month. Cards are on sale in local stores.

This year for Canada Day, July 1, we will be celebrating our countries 150th birthday with a "Party in the Harbour". It will be a full day of fun and entertainment. We have a committee put in place with members of council, recreation and the fire department. More details will be released soon as things are finalized. Our annual Town Day will be held Saturday, July 15. Details are still being worked out and will be announced soon. Save the date!!

Our Recreation committee just put off a fabulous Easter party for children. It was well attended and fun times were had by all. Thanks to all who attended! Thanks to RBC for your help, much appreciated!

Again, thank you to all who come out and take part in our events. Thank you so much to our volunteers, you are priceless!

"Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much!" Helen Keller

Councillor Stanley Legge's Report

Our Fire department continues to be active and dedicated group of volunteers in the community. They attend regular meetings and training sessions and are always there when called upon. We would like to thank everyone who supports our fundraising events including the weekly TV Bingo and our Annual Poker Run.

As usual, we encourage everyone to be Fire Wise, please ensure that you have smoke detectors in your home and that it is working properly. As the hot dry summer season approaches, the Fire Department wants to remind everyone to be overly cautious with outdoor fires. We'd also like to remind boaters and other water users to be safety conscious this summer.

In closing, I would like to notify you all that I have taken on the position of Fire Chief for a two year term.

Councillor Isabel Sooley's Report

We are very pleased to continue the operation of our ambulance, a vital service to the community and surrounding areas. We have two fully equipped ambulances and a staff of two paramedics and six emergency medical responders on call 24-7. Our goal is to keep response time at a minimal, however, there could be times when both ambulances are out on a call and we have to avail of our nearest neighbouring service for back up.

If you need to call for service, there are ways to help the attendants respond more efficiently. When you call the emergency number, don't forget to give your telephone number. Then remember to leave your telephone line clear as an ambulance attendant will call you back. This will enable the attendant to assess the situation while responding to your call.

We would like to thank those of you who have placed numbers on their properties. For those of you who have not, we urge you to do so as it could save time in an emergency situation, when the attendant on call is not familiar with the area. If you are unsure of your civic number, it can be obtained by calling the Council Office at 588-2708.

We purchased a new ambulance last fall and now we are secure for the next six or seven years. For the past couple of years, the Ambulance Service has held a "Pack the Back." It was a great success and all items collected were donated to the Salvation Army Corps in Greens Harbour. We would like to thank all residents who supported this important charity.

For ambulance service you may still call our local emergency number 588-2333 or 911.