



Thank You Rate Payers

Thank you to our rate payers for your patience and understanding over the winter. The winter weather was like non-other we've seen. The weather itself was hard enough to keep up with, but we were also plagued with numerous equipment breakdowns and COVID, which provided further delays and service interruptions.

Payment Methods

You can add the RM to your online bill payments through most Credit Unions and Scotiabank. The account number is your customer number found in the upper right-hand corner of your tax notice in brackets. The RM also accepts e-transfers to rm457@sasktel.net. **Please add your customer number of the accounts you are paying in the memo section.**

e-Transfer

If paying with CASH please have the correct amount or round up to the next \$1 and a credit will be applied to your account. Unfortunately, we are unable to provide change.

There is no need to send your tax notice with your cheque. Please write your customer number in the cheque memo line of all the accounts that cheque is paying.

Changes to Taxes

Changes were made to the municipal discounts on taxes. Prepayments and taxes made prior to August 30 have a 6% discount, September has a 4% discount and October has a 2% discount. Discounts are not applied to the school tax. The municipal mill rate saw a slight increase from 8.6 to 9.0 mills for 2022.

Development Permits

If you are planning on any building projects (regardless of use), you are required to fill out a development permit. There is no cost for the permit and are available in the office or online at www.rm457.net/bylaws-minutes

As per Legislations, the RM will be adopting a Building Bylaw prior to Dec. 31, 2023. This will mean that a Development Permit will no longer be sufficient. More details will follow in the upcoming months.

Rate Payer Meeting

The RM is tentatively scheduling a rate payer meeting for **October 26, 2022**.

Depending on harvest, this date may change. The main purpose of this meeting will be to discuss infrastructure costs and provide a general update of what is happening in your RM.

****More meeting details to follow, watch our social media and your emails. ****

Burning

If you are planning to do any burning, you must call the **Controlled Burn Hotline at 1-866-404-4911** to ensure that the fire department is not called. Anytime the fire department is dispatched for a fire call, false or not, the landowner is charged with that expense. Landowners are encouraged to carry fire insurance.

Ratepayer Communication with Public Works Staff

We love hearing from our rate payers, but in order to ensure that the correct information is being provided and to keep you safe we ask that you do not stop the operators when they are on the roads doing their jobs. If you have requests for custom work, comments or any other issues, please direct them to your councilor, the Foreman (306-852-9656) or the office. **Stopping equipment on the roads or visiting construction sites poses a liability to you, and our employees and contractors. Safety for everyone comes first.**



Bridges & Gravel

Bridges and gravel continue to be the biggest expenditures for the RM. The costs for stockpiling and gravel spreading in 2021 were \$332,000.

The RM currently has 44 bridges that require various levels of maintenance. In 2021 the bridge maintenance was a total cost of \$223,500. In 2021 the bridge at NE 19-48-13 (Wartman's) was removed and culverts installed. This project was cost shared with the Nipawin C&D.

2022 Bridge Projects:

- \$360,000 on general bridge maintenance. Tendered and awarded to Pier Solutions.
- NE 34-46-14 (Keays') being replaced with concrete culverts. Tendered and awarded to Torrent Energy Services. The RM received the CCBF grant of \$480,000 to use for this project.
- NE 32-45-13 - south boundary road east at NE-32-45-13 (Edmonson's) being replaced with a new bridge. Tendered and awarded to Warman Construction.
- SE 20-46-15 (Neale's) being removed and the road closed.
- NE 33-48-13 (Anderson's) bridge removed and replaced with culverts. This is a project cost shared with the Nipawin C&D.
- E 06-46-13 (Brett's) bridge was tendered but the costs came back substantially over budget and the RM was unable to secure some of the materials for the install, resulting in the project being postponed.

Beaver Bounty



With the recent changes to the Beaver Bounty Program **trappers/hunters need a valid Saskatchewan Trapper's License to receive the full \$30/tail bounty.** *Before* you hunt make sure you have permission from the Division Councilor, the land owner and note the land locations on the Bounty Claim Form.

APAS

The RM is a member of APAS, which provides many benefits to ratepayers such as discounts on insurance products, discounts at Mark's and vehicles purchased through Dodge/Chrysler/Jeep/Ram. For more information go to <http://www.apas.ca/my-rewards> for a complete list of available rewards.

Going forward, a stand-alone Marks card is no longer required. The Marks discount is on the APAS membership card and is valid until 2024. Tired of losing your cards? Take a photo and keep them on your phone. A digital copy is valid, just make sure the picture is clear and the entire image is viewable.

2022 Elections

2022 is an election year for divisions 2, 4 and 6. Nomination forms will be available online and, in the office, once the nomination period opens. Election day is Wednesday, November 9th, 2022.

What is a Councilor and what is Council's role in the RM?

Council's main role is to provide leadership and to make policy. Council members collectively make decisions about what services a municipality will provide to its citizens, how services will be provided, and at what level. You will rely on the support, advice and assistance of administration during the decision-making process. Once decided, administration is responsible for implementing the policies. More info at:

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/municipal-administration/tools-guides-and-resources/information-for-council-members#councils-roles-and-powers>

2021 Audited Financial Statements

The 2021 Audited Financial Statements are available to view online at www.rm457.net/about.

Household Battery Recycling

The RM Office has a household battery recycling depot to safely dispose of your used and unwanted batteries. *Please no corroded or damaged batteries.*



Thank you to Sask Lotteries for their grant contributions. The RM receives a per capita based grant from Sask Lotteries every year. If you have a community group that provides sport, culture or recreation within the RM and would like to receive funding, please contact the RM for more information.

Ditch Mowing & Haying Policy

The Council of the Rural Municipality of Connaught No. 457 has implemented a permit system for all landowners within the municipality wanting to hay municipal right of way. All roads are intended to be mowed twice a year commencing June 1. The purpose of the permit system is to minimize conflict between the municipality and landowners who want to cut and bale hay along municipal right of way as well as to be consistent with the Ministry of Highways and surrounding municipalities.

Landowners must apply for a Roadside Haying Permit from the RM of Connaught No. 457 **prior to May 15** of each year. All landowners permitted to hay municipal right of way must have their haying completed **before August 15** of each year. Permits are available at the Municipal Office or online at <https://rm457.net/bylaws-minutes>.

Garbage

The RM is no longer a member at the BARWA Landfill (formerly the Nipawin Landfill). All rate payers have access to the Town of Tisdale Landfill, regular fees still apply.

Office Hours & Contact Info

Hours: Monday to Friday 8:00 am – 4:00 pm Office is now open through the lunch hour.

Closed Statutory Holidays.

Email: rm457@sasktel.net Office Cell: 306-852-8969 Website: <https://rm457.net> @rm457



2022 RM Council and Staff

Reeve Ian Boxall Ph: 306-873-9054

Div 1 - Guy McCrea Ph: 306-670-0174

Div 2 - Dale Poggemiller Ph: 306-873-4953

Div 3 - Quentin Thibault Ph: 306-873-1888

Div 4 - Dan Marchildon Ph: 306-767-2283

Div 5 - Lyndon Wrigley Ph: 306-862-7947

Div 6 - Gary Jones Ph: 306-873-0730

Foreman – Everett Murray Ph: 306-852-9656

Operator – Ken McEown Seasonal Operators – Bryan Eberle and Tyson Friske

Administrator – Jaime Orr