

## Ratepayer Meeting 2023 – Deputy Mayor address – Joanne Brochu

Welcome and Thankyou for coming out to our 2023 Ratepayer meeting.

I would like to open tonight's meeting by acknowledging some very important people and making sure we thank them for everything they do:

Our CAO – Brandy Losie, Town Foreman – James Lewellyn, CAO Assistant – Karen Joel, Our Recreation Manager – Marnie Forsberg, Our Custodians – Margo Maxwell, Kathryn Garnes and Wendy Cafferata, Our Fire Chief Tyler Gifford, Our Part-time maintenance help – Paul Ganes. Past members of our team, Jocelyn Martens, Randy Ruuth, Connor Griffin and Jan Dolman. We are very fortunate to have this team. They work hard for our Community and go above and beyond – Thankyou for all you do!

Secondly I would like to take a minute to acknowledge and thank Our Council – Mayor Colleen Hoppenreys, Councillors Russ Stevenson, Brian Ford and Rhett Bokitch for the time and dedication to the betterment of Our Community – Thankyou. Colleen and Russ both send their regrets for not being able to attend tonight's meeting.

Last, but certainly not least, I would like to thank you, our Ratepayers and our Volunteers for all that you do. You continually pursue to dedicate precious time to fill all the volunteer roles that keep Elbow the happening place that it is. It is you, our team of employees and Council that bring together all the needs to form a strong backbone that each Community is built on.

Elbow has experienced steady growth from year to year and we are managing to create a place that works to meet the needs and lifestyle that people are looking for. We are a great Community to raise a family, operate a business, a great place for retirement, building a career or simply a great place to holiday.

What have we been up to:

- Recently we have been working to complete the expansion of the Industrial area. The water and gas utilities are complete and once the power to each lot is completed, we will have 14 industrial lots for sale.
- We completed some electrical upgrades at Tufts Bay. This work was needed for safety reasons.
- We completed the building of the Harbor Golf Community Center in which we have enjoyed the use of for 1 year.
- We implemented the Telematik "Elbow Alert" phone system.
- Working with Waterwolf and Our Community Planner we completed the Official Community Plan and are finishing up the Zoning bylaw update.
- We have seen many improvements within our Volunteer Fire Department including new members, training and long-term planning. We have had an increase of volunteers join the First Responders group.
- A new Parks and Recreation committee has been formed and is moving forward with numerous beneficial programs and projects.
- We have purchased a new Grader and Road Boss scraper.

Some of the challenges we are currently working on include:

- We are working with SAL Engineering on some issues with the lagoon and assessing the situation. We are developing some short-term solutions to address the issue but also looking at long-term solutions to not only

address the issue but to also address the needs as we continue to grow. We will be applying for a grant through the Targeted Sector Support to have a study completed regarding an expansion of our Lagoon.

- Regarding our Water plant, we have had a few meetings with Sask Water to begin discussions on long-term planning for expansion of the water plant and the water storage. Brad Dunlop & Sylvie Koskie Briere are here tonight and will speak more about this later in the agenda.

Some short term and long-term planning discussions include:

-Relining of the sewer main from Princess Street – heading south to the 1<sup>st</sup> manhole.

-We Recently applied for a grant through SGI for lighting along South Elbow Drive, between the railroad tracks and the Harbor Golf Community Center.

-Discussing the sale of lands across from the Harbor Golf Community Center.

-Listed for sale the Civic Center and Library.s

-still on the list is the plan to complete the Saskatchewan Street improvement project from Bison Street to Pacific Street.

-In the near future reviewing a large portion of our bylaws to get them up-to-date.

Provincially we have attended the SUMA convention, a few SUMA webinars along with the regional meeting. We have been involved in the 4 Sask Power REP meetings and updates regarding the Small Modular Reactor and Brian Ford attends the Central Area Transportation Planning Committee meetings on our behalf.

2 items I would like to bring to your attention are:

1. Sask Power will be hosting 2 pop-up sessions in November at the HGCC. November 22<sup>nd</sup> from 2pm to 7pm and November 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9am to 1pm.
2. In November of 2024 will be the Municipal elections. The dates for such are set by the Provincial Government. We urge anyone interested in putting their name forward to please reach out to any-one of our Council members or CAO for any information or inquiries you may have. SUMA is working on a package to have available in the summer of 2024 for anyone who may be interested. We will keep you informed when this information comes available.

Thank you