

The Banner

News from the City of Martensville



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the **Banner** is produced and distributed every two months. We'd love to hear if you find this information useful!

Please contact us via email at inquiry@martensville.ca with your comments.



BALANCING RISING COSTS AND MAINTAINING SERVICES: COUNCIL APPROVES 2024 BUDGET

Martensville City Council formally approved the 2024 Operating and Capital Budgets at a Special Council Meeting on February 6, 2024.

Over the past number of months, City Council has reviewed and deliberated over the budget with efforts to minimize property tax increases, manage rising costs, while maintaining services to the community being a top priority.

The City has budgeted for a 4.9% increase in total property tax revenue. The average homeowner in Martensville with a total assessed value of \$375,000 will see an estimated increase in their municipal property taxes of \$10.00 per month or \$120.00 per year. Increases in property taxes are attributed to several factors for 2024 including a significant increase in the cost of wages, support contracts, and utilities. The 2024 property tax increase will ensure that existing services can be maintained.

Growth in Martensville continues with estimated property taxes from new properties projected to bring in another \$145,000 in new tax dollars. The focus of these new revenues will be on enhancing and improving service levels through new staffing positions with the City.

The City of Martensville will see increases in rates from contracted service providers. This includes garbage, recycling, organics and water. SaskWater rates will see a 5.5% increase in 2024 resulting in an increase of approximately \$5 per month for a home consuming an average of 19 cubic metres per month. Garbage and recycling will cost each household an extra \$15 per year. Homeowners who subscribe to the organics program will see the monthly fee increase by \$2.50 per month, each month the service is provided.

The City also continues to work towards the new multipurpose recreation facility as committed in 2020. Construction is over 50% complete and will be funded through allocated reserves, long-term borrowing, fundraising and the Investing In Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP), the grant approved by the Federal and Provincial governments in 2022.

In 2024, the City will invest just over \$33 million in capital projects including: \$23.6 million for the new Martensville Community Recreation Centre, \$5.7 million in water and wastewater upgrades through the New Build Canada Fund; \$1.2 million on a temporary pedestrian overpass; and \$925,000 on upgrades and improvements in the Martensville Sports Centre.

Mayor Kent Muench addressed the 2024 budget, "Escalating costs across all sectors presented Council with real challenges this budget. As a municipality, we are not immune to the impacts of inflation but are very aware of the pressures it presents to residents and operations. We believe this budget provides us with the ability to account for the rising costs of goods and services, continuing to invest in infrastructure and amenities, while building on and improving services for residents."

For more information on the 2024 Capital and Operating Budgets, along with departmental highlights, visit the City Hall section at www.martensville.ca.



2024 TAX INFORMATION

Once the new mill rate is set for 2024, tax notices will be distributed. Watch the City's Facebook page for updates as to when the notices will be mailed.

Taxes can be paid using equalized monthly payments through TIPPS (Tax Installment Payment Plan Service Program). For more information on property taxes, programs, payment options, and to enroll in TIPPS, visit Martensville.ca - Property Taxes - Services for Residents, or contact City Hall at (306) 931-2166.



2023 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

The 2023 Report to the Community has been released and is available at Martensville.ca. The report highlights accomplishments, projects and priorities from this past year and provides an overview of use of resources and civic governance.

THE SPRING THAW IS HERE! WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

With warmer temperatures here, City crews are working to ensure streets, catch basins, drainage ways, and culverts are clear so that water from the spring melt does not back up onto city streets and properties.

During the spring thaw, residents are encouraged to limit using lanes which are secondary access to a property, as heavy or repetitive vehicle use in wet conditions can cause rutting, reduce drainage and affect the ability of crews to conduct lane maintenance in a timely manner as the amount of material and time required to reshape lanes increases.

Residents with back lanes can help ensure spring runoff drains effectively by inspecting the rear fence/property lines and removing any debris or material which may cause water to drain slowly or pool in the lanes.

A rapid melt can also lead to water seeping into basements or accumulating on your property. Tips on how to protect your property during the spring thaw are available at Martensville.ca under Services for Residents.

Finally, as the weather warms, potholes may begin to form. Permanent repairs from potholes can only be completed when temperatures are warm enough to complete the work. In the meantime, City crews will be temporarily filling potholes with gravel. To report a pothole, please call City Hall at (306) 931-2166, or report a pothole online at martensville.ca (Report an Issue).

IMPORTANT DATES IN APRIL & MAY

Council Meetings Schedule for April & May

- April 2 - Regular Council Meeting
- April 9 - Committee of the Whole Meeting
- May 7 - Regular Council
- May 14 - Committee of the Whole Meeting
- May 21 - Regular Council

Waste Collection Days

- April 3 - South Side
- April 4 - North Side
- April 17 - South Side
- April 18 - North Side
- May 1 - South Side
- May 2 - North Side
- May 15 - South Side
- May 16 - North Side
- May 29 - South Side
- May 30 - North Side

Recycle Collection Days

- April 10 - South Side
- April 11 - North Side
- April 24 - South Side
- April 25 - North Side
- May 8 - South Side
- May 9 - North Side
- May 22 - South Side
- May 23 - North Side

Organics Collections Days

- May 7 - North Side
- May 14 - South Side
- May 21 - North Side
- May 28 - South Side

DON'T GET MISSED ON GARBAGE AND RECYCLING DAY

Here are some tips from the City and Loraas Disposal to help make garbage and recycling pick up as safe and efficient as possible:

- Carts must be curbside by 7 am on collection day. Do not assume there is a 'regular' pick-up time as routes, drivers or daily schedules can change.
- Lids on the carts must be closed to ensure your cart gets picked up. Overflowing carts are at risk of spilling on the street or truck and the contractor reserves the right to bypass these bins.
- Do not place oversized items outside of the cart. The cart must be able to be accessed and the oversized items will not be picked up.

Too much Garbage or Recycling? Here are some options:

- Extra bins can be ordered directly from Loraas via a pre-paid annual subscription.
 - Garbage carts: \$171.99 per year
 - Recycling carts: \$111.08 per year

Contact Loraas Disposal or call (306) 242-2300.

- Too much cardboard and paper? Extra cardboard and paper can be taken to the Loraas Landfill area along Lutheran Road at no extra charge.
- Take large or extra garbage to the Landfill - Loraas Northern Landfill is a 5-minute drive from anywhere in the community and they can accept any large or household items and properly dispose of these items. Entry rates and dumping rates do apply.
- Just one extra bag that won't fit into the bin? Ask a neighbour if they have room to help you for this garbage pick-up week.

THE ORGANICS PROGRAM STARTS UP AGAIN IN MAY

The Green Bin/Organics program starts again in May with the first pick-up scheduled for Tuesday, May 7th for homes North of Main Street. The Program is by subscription, with a monthly \$12.50 charge per month during operating months (May-October). Contact City Hall today for information or to subscribe.



LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO THIS SPRING?



The 2024 Spring Program Guide provides information on programs for toddlers, youth, adults and fitness classes.

The Guide can be viewed or downloaded at Martensville.ca under Parks and Recreation - Recreation Activities. To register for a program click on the Program Registrations icon at Martensville.ca.

UPCOMING EVENTS

COMMUNITY INFORMATION & VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION NIGHT APRIL 17TH

Our Community Information & Volunteer Appreciation BBQ will take place at the North Ridge Hall from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. This annual event is held to thank our dedicated, hard-working community volunteers who help run various sports, culture, and recreation organizations. We want to give you a chance to see the great things they have to offer while enjoying a meal with us. We hope to see you there!

AMAZING RACE - MAY 4TH

All ages are welcome to attend this great event full of fun indoor and outdoor challenges! Teams embark on a quest throughout Martensville, challenging themselves physically and mentally to win the Amazing Race Martensville! Teams of 4 can register at the MAP for the cost of \$25/team. Local businesses who are interested in getting involved should contact 306-683-5575 or jmcculloch@martensville.ca

REGIONAL RACE: RUN OR RIDE MAY 11TH

Registration is now open for the Regional Race: Run or Ride. This unique race between the City of Martensville and the City of Warman is a beautiful 10 km route through the country that you can walk, run, or bike. This year's event will begin in Martensville at the MAP and will end in Oasis Park in Warman. All proceeds raised will go toward Warman, Martensville & Area KidSport so all kids can get involved in recreation, culture, and sport!

MONSTER GARAGE SALE MAY 24TH & 25TH

The Spring Monster Garage Sale will take place on Friday, May 24th & Saturday, May 25th for the City of Martensville and the City of Warman. The registration fee is \$5 and that gets your address listed on the flyer along with the map of our City, balloons, and a Monster Garage Sale sign. The flyers will be available to pick up at various gas stations, the MAP, and City Hall. We will advertise this event through numerous local papers and social media to guarantee a great turnout! Register by Wednesday, May 22nd at 12:00 pm to take part.

BUSTER DAYS - MAY 31ST - JUNE 2ND

The full schedule of events for Buster Days 2024 will be available soon. If you would like to take part in planning the festivities, consider becoming a Buster Days committee member. For the most up-to-date information, check out busterdays.com or visit our Facebook page.

LAZY MAN TRIATHLON

The Lazy Man Triathlon challenge runs July 1-31. Complete a full marathon (3.86 km or 80 lap swim, 180 km bike ride, and 42 km run on your own, at your own pace over the month. More information on this event will follow in the Summer Guide.

SCULPTORS' IN THE PARK EXPLORE, EXPERIENCE, ENJOY

This gathering of artists will be creating art on-site at the MAP from August 6-15. Meet with the sculptors as their works progress from ideas to finished pieces. The event includes workshops in various three-dimensional media. See, learn, experience, enjoy.

INTERESTED IN SPONSORING AN EVENT?

The City of Martensville thanks all of the wonderful sponsors who are supporting our 2024 events including CanWest and North Prairie Developments Ltd, Gold Sponsor Lakeview Insurance Brokers, aodbt, and Catterall & Wright. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor in 2024, please contact jmcculloch@martensville.ca.

CITY COUNCIL RECAP – FEBRUARY 2024

- The 2024 Budget was approved.
- Council appointed Timothy Furlong, Kirby Fesser, Glen Neuert, Sabrina Saccucci as Board Members and Mike Ligtermoet as Board Secretary to the 2024 Board of Revision.
- The 2024 Strategic Actions were approved (Governance, Economy, Environment, Social and Culture).
- The City Manager was authorized to sign the Operating Contract with Nustadia Recreation Inc. (NRI) to manage and operate the new Martensville Recreation Centre. NRI had previously been awarded the pre-opening contract in November 2023 to assist with the facility's opening.
- Bylaw 1-2024, a Zoning Bylaw Amendment was read for the second, third and final time." This bylaw moves 'Welding Shops' from a discretionary use to a permitted use under the Zoning Bylaw.
- Bylaw 4-2024, an Economic Tax Incentive Bylaw Amendment was read and approved. This is for the development of a building on 909 1st Avenue North.
- Bylaw 5-2024, a District OCP Bylaw Amendment was read for the first time.
- Council discussed concerns about the current policing structure with the RCMP operating out of several facilities which include Martensville, Warman and Delisle. A shared facility between Martensville and Warman was considered but challenges in location and the participation of the province in building the facility in a timely manner arose. Warman is now planning to build a facility within their boundaries. Administration presented options for Council to consider: 1) Remain as part of the regional force that will have a base facility in Warman. 2) Remain in the existing location and withdraw from the regional force. 3) Explore alternate policing arrangements such as joining other police forces. Administration was asked to conduct additional research and bring back a report to a future meeting.
- In September 2023 the City received notification from SaskWater of rate increases to occur in January 2024 (5.5%) and January 2025 (5.5%). For 2024, the city is proposing the increase be passed on to consumers by amending the consumption rate from \$4.63 to \$4.88 per cubic meter. Bylaw 3-2024, a Water & Waste Water Rates Administration Bylaw Amendment was read and approved.
- At the Committee of the Whole Meeting in January 2024, Council heard from residents and the developer of a proposed 87-unit Multi-Unit Dwelling at 225 Main Street. The proposed Dwelling will include private balconies,

a suite for guests to rent when visiting tenants, and an amenities room for those living there. At that time Council asked Administration to report at February 13th meeting on plans for lane paving, trees, fire protection and a Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA). The developer will consider flipping the development from the east to the west side of the property to assist with limiting shading on the adjacent properties, will pave the rear lane from the property to 2nd Ave N and will do their best to retain trees on the property. The building design also includes a sprinkler system. Administration recommended a TIA, and Council agreed this was required before a decision, Once the TIA has been completed a report will be brought back to Council for future consideration.

- An application has been made by Viking Land Corp. to amend the P4G District Official Community Plan Land Use map (DOCP) for Parcels A, B, D, E, F, G, H & J within the NW 10- 37-4-W3 located east of Saskatoon. As this is a District Official Community Plan amendment, all five partnering Councils must pass complimentary bylaws before submission to the province for approval. The application proposes to amend the land use designation on Schedule B of the P4G DOCP from 'Urban Residential Neighbourhood' to 'Rural Commercial/Industrial' and amend Schedule C by removing the subject lands from the Growth to 1,000,000 Future Urban Growth Area. The bylaws will be brought forward to the next Regular Council meeting for formal approval.

CITY COUNCIL RECAP – MARCH 2024

- City Council appointed the Library Board for 2024.
- Several discretionary uses under zoning were closed due to no longer being active or valid.
- Administration has received a demolition permit for a house and garage at 31 2nd Avenue North. This location is part of the R1A Core Area Residential District. The lot has several trees around the area and the property owner wants to remove the trees as they will be in the way of the demolition. Options for redevelopment of the site could be between one and three units. The developer has not yet indicated what type of development they plan to do, however if the plan is to build a two or more-unit dwelling, Administration is recommending a full landscape plan be included in the application.
- Council authorized the Finance Officer to begin further proceedings under The Tax Enforcement Act to acquire title for nine properties.
- Director of Recreation and Community Services Roxane Melnyk presented Council with a report about Furniture Fixtures & Equipment for the new Recreation Facility. These items will be required to run programming at the new facility. A resolution to amend the 2024 Budget will be requested at the time of long-term borrowing.