



Community News

...Council Reports and Updates

Email: thode@xplornet.ca

July 2010

LOCAL WASTE WATER PROJECT UPDATES

...You are not being forced to connect, the choice is still yours

On August 27 last year many from the community met at the Legion Hall in Dundurn to share ideas and information on the proposed Waste Water Management system and the options and opportunities for consideration. Allow me at this time to offer some reminders as to what was said at that time and what we know now based on better information. As your Mayor, I wish to correct any misinformation and offer my sincere apologies if any information from Council or others has resulted in confusion for any of you.

I sincerely hope that the information below offers better information so that you may use this to help you decide whether you wish to connect to the collection line.

- 1. Government Support for Thode** - It is true that the Local Improvement Project (New lagoon and waste water collection line) was approved by the Governments of Canada and Saskatchewan, and also the Municipality of the Resort Village of Thode. Based on current estimates the senior governments are contributing more than \$1,030,000 to the Thode portion of the lagoon and line alone. Our community is only responsible for 1/3rd of the lagoon and line capital costs if the work is completed before March 31, 2011. If it is not completed by that date, the financial support from the senior governments is withdrawn.
- 2. New Lagoon a Must** - If we had not agreed to proceed with the collection line, our community would still have participated in the lagoon portion of the project which carries a cost of roughly 1/3rd of the total capital cost. The lagoon is not an option as we need to eliminate the trips we now make to Hanley and participate in the new lagoon being built to the west of Dundurn. Roughly 95 % of respondents to a survey last fall agreed to support the new lagoon. The new lagoon is under construction southwest of Dundurn and once complete we will terminate our agreement to access the lagoon in Hanley. **Completion and access is expected by September.**
- 3. Collection Line Costs** - As I met with many of you before the last election, I did express my strongly held belief that some estimates discussed at the time might not fairly reflect actual costs based on my understanding of construction costs and the labour market and contractor capacity in Saskatchewan. The costs estimated last year by Associated Engineering to bring the line through the village and access the new lagoon were estimated to be between \$3,200 and \$4,000 if a lift station was deemed to be necessary. We are indeed adding a lift station and more current cost estimates indicate that the line and lagoon costs will be approximately 17% higher if all contingencies in place are required. Since no petition in opposition was received by the deadline and based on the 2/3rd funding from the senior governments Council voted to allow the collection line to proceed.

RESIDENTS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO CONNECT TO THE LINE

**RESORT VILLAGE OF THODE
P.O. BOX 202, DUNDURN, SK S0K 1K0
PHONE 492-2259 FAX 492-2068**

A Message from Our Administrator, Jessie Williams

It has come to my attention that there is some confusion in our village regarding the distinction between the sewer collection line and the individual connection lines in terms of cost and financing.

It is unfortunate that this has occurred, but if you look back to the October 2009 newsletter, it was estimated that the total cost would be between \$10,900 and \$11,700. The local improvement portion which we estimated at \$4,000 has come in higher at \$4,695.60, but may be reduced if the contingencies are not needed. The estimate of \$7,700 for the connection line seems to be in line with the quotes that many residents are receiving. If you wish to obtain another quote the design specs for the pumping equipment have been posted on our website at www.resortvillageofthode.ca. Your contractor may not proceed with your connection during line construction. You will be required to wait until M and L Backhoe has completed construction of the line and is finished all aspects of the line install.

There have also been some questions regarding financing of the individual connection lines. At one point I did advise Council that in order for the individual lines to be included in the local improvement process and receive long term financing; Council would need to compel everyone to connect to the system. This was never considered an option as the preference of Council was to allow individuals the right to chose to connect or not.

To clarify - the local improvement cost for the main collection line may be put on your taxes and paid for over 10 years. There is no provision to allow property owners to pay out their individual connection to the line over time. If you decide to contract with M & L Backhoe Services for your connection, they have asked the municipality to act as collection service to receive the payments for the work & pass same on to them. You will be required to sign the request for connection and forward a \$1000 deposit to the office. Some of you already have done so. These cheques have not been deposited yet. Please advise if you will be proceeding & I will process your deposit. Otherwise I will return your cheques. We hope this information is helpful. Thank you.

Jessie Williams

BUILDING A BETTER COMMUNITY TOGETHER

— SPORT COURT AND ANGEL PARK UPGRADES PROPOSED BY COUNCIL

Some residents have been donating generously with time and money to improve our community and enhance the services for our residents to enjoy. We have nearly \$2,000 and also have commitments to add another \$28,000 to the Community Building Fund that was established by the Mayor. With some more help there is an opportunity to have a multi-use outdoor tennis court, basketball court and skating and hockey rink, facility upgrades and enhancements to Angel Park. The goal is to raise \$50,000 and apply for matching funds have a total of \$100,000 to bring more improvements to our public spaces and improved facilities for the enjoyment of our youth and families.

If there are residents interested in helping this community initiative with labour or financially please call our Village office at 492-2259. The Mayor is asking for a Facilities Planning Committee to be established and is seeking your support to grow the Community Building Fund and build a better community.

DONATIONS TO THE COMMUNITY BUILDING FUND ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE. RECEIPTS PROVIDED

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BUILDING THE SPIRIT OF THODE

...AUGUST 22, 2010 SHIELDS HALL

Please join the Mayor and your Council for a day full of activities and enjoy time with your neighbours at the Community Hall in the Resort Village of Shields.

The Social Committee is working with your Council to fill the day with activities for the entire community. The Mayor and Council will offer a recap of the first year of their term, present the 2009 Audited Financial Statements and discuss some exciting opportunities for the future. We look to you to help us build this great Community and plan a future that offers quality services, improved facilities and builds on our strong community spirit.

Building Thode, August 22, 2010 Shields Hall

(Subject to change – more fun may be added)

9:00am to 11:00 - Annual General Meeting
11:00am to 3:00pm - Community Barbeque
12:00pm to 2:00pm - Mayor's 1st Annual
Invitational Golf Classic - Texas Scramble
(Everyone invited)

We are looking for help and volunteers as well as prizes for the Golf Tournament, and any ideas for children's activities

Please join us as we celebrate our community spirit and meet your Mayor, Council and neighbours. More details to follow in the coming weeks

GREENSCAPES COMMITTEE

The Greenscape Committee has completed another project! Residents take note of the plantings by the stairs at Thode Village center. On Canada Day a tree was planted in Angel Park by the Mayor and Committee. We hope to do this every year.

If anyone would like to volunteer to help with future projects call Liz 492-4716 or Lil 492-2042

Dogs are being let off leash and defecating in parks, the playground and near the swimming area. There is no off leash area in the Village

Liz and Lil - Greenscapes Committee

FROM OUR VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR

Jessie Williams

GARBAGE COLLECTION

Garbage services are now included again in basic services covered through municipal property taxes. **Effective July 1, 2010 residents will no longer be billed for garbage collection.** You may have received a final invoice for service to June 30. Please contact Jessie if you require further information regarding your account.

WATER UTILITY BILLING

To make water bills for our residents and families more manageable **Council has opted to change to a quarterly billing cycle.** A bill for water consumption to July 1 was recently sent.

Taxes – Water – Septic – Garbage Water Project Charges

Please ensure that all accounts are current and submitted to the office in a timely manner to continue to receive community services

Now Pay by Email Money Transfer

You can now pay all your Village bills using **Interac Email Money Transfer.** Some banks place limits on the amount of funds that can be transferred via email. Please consult your bank if you have any questions. Funds can be transferred via email to thode@xplornet.ca

OFFICE HOURS PART TIME MONDAY-FRIDAY

Currently about 70% of the village is registered to receive Council minutes, updates and info by email. If you would like to receive this information and your newsletter electronically, please forward your email address to Jessie at thode@xplornet.ca

Speed Limit!

30 KPH

PLEASE DRIVE CAREFULLY

PROVINCIAL OFFICIALS AND COUNCIL WANT PUBLIC RESERVES CLEANED UP

Our community has three primary classes of property, private property, municipal public reserve and provincial crown land. Both, the province officials and the Resort Village of Thode have met regarding the appropriate use of public property especially at the south end of the Village and on the lake front. Photographs, licenses and identification of vehicles, fishing huts, sheds and trailers are being collected and recorded and residents will be contacted and asked to remove belongings to their property or to contact Jessie to make arrangements to purchase a storage permit to use our Public Storage Compound. Your cooperation in advance is greatly appreciated.

DO NOT ANGLE OR 'NOSE IN' PARK ON THE STREET.

Our Traffic Bylaw states that **ONLY PARALLEL PARKING IS PERMITTED** along the roadways throughout our village. The problem is that some residents or their guests continue to drive into their driveways and park vehicles without regard for the fact that this area is on the municipal road allowance. **Parallel park along the roadway only if you do not encroach or impede the normal flow of traffic making the road unsafe.**

Your driveway is an access to your property. In some cases driveways are large enough within the property boundaries, to be a parking area. We now have vehicles being parked on these driveways in a manner which is contrary to our Vehicle Bylaw, as the vehicle actually extends onto the street. If you are parking in your driveway, you must ensure that the end of your car is not extended onto the street. If you are unsure of where your property line is, look for the closest power pole. These are not located on private lands. These poles are approximately 2 feet into the municipal road allowance.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WILL RESULT IN FINES.
WE ARE PROVIDING THIS NOTICE AS A COURTESY IN ADVANCE OF OUR
BYLAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER ISSUING WARNINGS OR FINES.

Council Meetings

Village Centre at 7:00 pm
Second Thursday of each month unless
otherwise notified pursuant to bylaws

Council Members

Mayor:	Alan Thomarat	492-4637
Deputy:	Cheryl Reid	492-2235
Councillor:	Julie Pineault	492-4941
Councillor:	Lorne Cherry	492-4973
Councillor:	Rob Unruh	492-2494

Administrator:

Jessie Williams 492-2259

Facilities & Operations Manager:

Gregg Spearey	492-4848
Cellular	492-7511

EMAIL:

THODE@XPLORNET.CA

WEBSITE:

WWW.RESORTVILLAGEOETHODE.CA

VILLAGE CENTRE RENTAL INFORMATION:

Resident Rental Fee - \$50 plus \$250 damage deposit.
Non Resident Rental Fee - \$100 plus \$250 damage deposit. Damage deposit will be refunded if the Centre is cleaned after use. Firewood is not included in rental.

Contact Gregg Spearey @ 492-4848.

CHECK YOUR FIRE INSURANCE

Charges for fire calls have increased to \$750 per hour. Please check your home insurance policy and contact your broker/agent to ensure that you have adequate coverage on your property for fire and protective services.

Council Assignments

* Finance and Administration

Mayor Thomarat and Deputy Mayor Reid

- * Planning and development
- * Accounting/Treasurer
- * Communications (external)
- * Newsletter/Website
- * Waste Water Management/Septic

* Community Relations

Councillor Pineault

- * Public Relations (internal)
- * Municipal Relations (external)
- * Social Committee
- * Fire Department
- * Greenscape Committee

* Parks and Facilities

Councillor Unruh

- * Village Centre
- * Playground
- * Road Maintenance/Parking
- * Snow Fence/Ice Rink
- * Park and Village Maintenance (Dock Management)

* Utility Services and Environment

Councillor Cherry

- * Water and DRWU representative
- * Garbage and Recycling
- * Shore line preservation
- * Animal Control
- * EMO

* Local Improvement (Waste Water)

Admin Office at 492-2259

* Emergency Measures

Bev Johnson

* Website Development

Larry Bassett