



SEGUIN TOWNSHIP

R.R. #2, 5 Humphrey Drive, Parry Sound, Ontario P2A 2W8

Telephone: (705) 732-4300 Fax: (705) 732-6347

www.twp.seguin.on.ca

SUMMER 2004 NEWSLETTER

Message From Reeve David Conn

It has been a very busy but productive first 6 months in office for your new Reeve and Council. We assumed governance of a Township with no financial planning, no single unifying official plan, and no strategic plan. Addressing these issues has been our priority.

We focused first on financial planning. Shortly after taking office, we were presented with several very negative financial surprises. These included an '03 operating deficit, major cost overruns on the contracted Rankin Lake Road project, and necessary increases in the Township's contribution to our employees' pension plan. To help manage our financial challenges, we appointed a Finance Committee composed of highly talented, motivated residents. Working closely with Township staff, the Finance Committee froze '04 operating spending at basically the '03 level, developed a 3 year financial plan, and proposed two budget options for '04. Neither of these options were very attractive since, even after curtailing operating spending, the Finance Committee concluded that a 30% increase in taxation revenue was required to pay for previous years' cost hangovers. One option proposed a 30% increase in '04 tax revenue. The second option proposed smoothing out the financial pain over a 3 year period via a combination of debt and increased tax revenue. These options were discussed thoroughly at a well attended public meeting. The Finance Committee's presentation at this meeting can be accessed on the Township's web site.

The two budget options were vigorously debated by Council. The combination debt with lower tax increases prevailed. Accordingly, based on our new three year plan, tax revenue will increase by 12% in '04, 16% in '05, and about 5% in '06. Council and I, with the continued help of the Finance Committee, are committed to continue to search for operation savings and potential new revenue sources to reduce the 16% tax revenue increase predicted for '05.

I am very pleased by the progress to date on our new Official Plan which is discussed in more detail further in this newsletter. In my view, the Official Plan is absolutely critical to protecting and enhancing the quality of life values cherished by all residents of Seguin Township. Further, development of a strategic plan will commence during the second half of the year.

After years of promises, we are planning to commence in '04 necessary repairs to the Rosseau Memorial Hall and the Rosseau waterfront project, both of which are significantly funded by Provincial and Federal government grants.

I'm delighted that Tom Stockie has joined us as Chief Administrative Officer. You can read more about Tom in this newsletter. Without question, he represents a major strengthening of our management team. I am also very pleased about the promotion of Dave Thompson from Deputy Fire Chief to Fire Chief. Dave will do a great job. I hope everyone has a wonderful summer!

David Conn, Reeve

**DON'T FORGET TO KEEP UP WITH NEWS AND EVENTS IN SEGUIN TOWNSHIP
BY VISITING OUR WEBSITE AT www.twp.seguin.on.ca !**

Township of Seguin Appoints CAO

We would like to welcome Tom Stockie to our municipality as the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) effective June 7, 2004. Tom will be responsible for the overall management of the Township and will be working with Township Council, staff and citizens to achieve the long term strategic goals of the community. Tom is a highly experienced manager and leader in local government and brings 28 years of experience, including the last 10 years as CAO of the City of Waterloo. "Seguin Township is very fortunate to have somebody of Tom Stockie's experience and ability join us as CAO. He will provide the type of leadership Seguin requires to capitalize on the outstanding potential of our Township" said Reeve David Conn.

2003 Financial Statements

The 2003 audited Financial Statements are now complete and are available at no cost to any ratepayer or resident of the Township. Please write, call, fax or e-mail your request to the Municipal Office.

2004 Budget & 2005 Tax Revenue Increase

Because the (19.9%) increase in the Township's CVA is higher than the spending increase in the '04 budget, the residential tax rate in '04 has been reduced to .4645% from .4903% in '03. This means that anyone with a CVA increase less than 8% will pay lower dollar taxes in '04 vs. '03; anyone with a CVA increase higher than 8% will pay more dollar taxes.

An important, but largely unnoticed, announcement in the recent Provincial budget was the decision to freeze CVA at its current level for a 12 month period. This means that your property will not be re-assessed this year (unless you have made improvements to your property) and your '05 taxes will be calculated based on your current assessment. For the benefit of your future personal financial planning, our 3 year financial plan requires a 16% increase in tax revenue in '05 (see Reeve's Message). Generally, the plan calls for all Seguin residents to pay 16% more in tax dollars in '05 vs. '04. Council and Staff are committed to work very hard to reduce the projected 16% increase.

Rosseau Memorial Hall

Seguin Township Council approved some capital improvements to the Rosseau Memorial Hall in the 2004 Budget. The objective is to replace and insulate the new roof. Subject to budget pricing, tenders will be issued in the short-term and construction will begin in the fall. Future improvements include replacement of the boiler, installation of proper drainage and making the necessary masonry repairs.

Rosseau Waterfront & Village Project

The first phase of the Rosseau Waterfront & Streetscape Project is proceeding in 2004. The consultants are preparing tender specifications so that work can commence this year.

Fundraising and Private Donations

The Rosseau and Area Business Association and the Royal Canadian Legion, Rosseau Branch, are sponsoring a Raffle (Draw date of September 4/04). Also, a dance will be held at the Rosseau Field House, July 31, 2004 at 8:00 p.m. To help with funding the community centre improvements, private donations would be very much appreciated to assist with the Memorial Hall or the Waterfront Project. Donations should be made payable to the "**Township of Seguin**" who will then issue an "Official Receipt" for Income Tax purposes.

Rosseau Nursing Station

We would like to welcome Donna Kearney, B.S.C.N. (EC) BA Gerontology, to our municipality as our full time nurse practitioner. The Nursing Station will be open Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. We would also like to express our appreciation to everyone who donated time and resources to this project.

Seguin Seniors Retirement Housing Feasibility Study

The feasibility study has commenced to identify the housing needs for seniors in the Township of Seguin. The final report is expected by October, 2004 and will be available for the public to review.

New Seguin Township Official Plan

Council gave direction for preparing a new Official Plan for the whole of the Township of Seguin. The new Official Plan replaces the Official Plans of the former Townships and Village. The new Official Plan is a community based Plan in which the Official Plan Committee managing and shaping the Official Plan consists of 16 Citizens of Seguin, Members of Township Council and senior Township staff.

The initial Phase of the project is nearing completion with the Citizen members and Council members preparing a series of Issue Statements identifying the Planning Issues of the Township and recommending solutions. These Issues will be brought forward to the general public this Summer through a series of workshops and open houses. There will also be a Questionnaire / Survey sent to each property owner asking a series of questions and seeking opinion on the future of Seguin. Please respond and participate in this manner. The Township will also be hiring Consultants to undertake various specialized work and finalize the Official Plan document.

If you have any specific questions, please contact our Planning Staff at the Municipal Office.

Rankin Lake Road

The Rankin Lake Road project is proceeding on schedule with paving expected to be complete by June 30, 2004.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

 *Happy Canada Day!!*

CHRISTIE:

CANADA DAY CELEBRATION - Sunday, June 27, 2004

PANCAKE BREAKFAST - Saturday, July 31, 2004 (8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.)

Hosted by the Christie Recreation Committee

ROAST BEEF DINNER - Saturday, August 21, 2004

Hosted by the Christie Women's Auxilary

BID EUCHRE - every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. at the Orrville Community Centre

FIREMEN'S GARAGE SALE w/BBQ and Bake Sale -

Saturday, July 31, 2004 (8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.)



ROSSEAU:

ROSSEAU FARMERS' MARKET - every Friday morning from July 2 to August 27, 2004

ROSSEAU AGRICULTURAL FAIR - Saturday, August 28, 2004



FOLEY:

FOLEY FALL FAIR - September 3, 4 & 5, 2004 at Foley Fair Grounds

ATV FALL JAM - October 1, 2 & 3, 2004 at Foley Fair Grounds

CHILDREN'S HALLOWEEN PARTY - October, 2004

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA - Saturday, December 5, 2004 at Foley



Please check our website for more details and current events in various locations in the Township.

2004 Summer Swim Program

Once again, the Township of Seguin is offering Swim Programs at the Foley/Matheson Beach and the Rosseau Beach. Sessions are scheduled for July 5th to July 23rd and Aug. 3rd to Aug. 20th. Registration commences the week of June 21st at the Township Office or can be done at the beaches on July 3rd (10:00 am to 12:00 pm) or the first day of lessons. Come join us at the beaches this year for a great summer activity.

Humphrey Arena - Summer Ice

Keep **COOL** this summer and rent ice at the Humphrey Arena from June 27th to July 23rd, 2004. Various times and days still available. For further information or to book time, contact Facilities Manager, Gord Brown at 732-4313.

Fire Hazard Rating

Fire Season extends from April 1st until October 31st. During this time frame, residents wanting to have an open fire must follow the guidelines below. It is the residents responsibility to know the current fire hazard rating:

- Low/** No daytime burning allowed, unless authorized by a permit. Nighttime burning acceptable with a fire
- Moderate:** no larger than 2 meters high and 2 meters in diameter. **Approved** incinerators and camp fires allowed.
- High:** No open burning, including incinerators. Burn permits are **SUSPENDED**.
Camp fires for cooking and warmth **only** are permitted.
- Extreme:** **NO OPENING BURNING. CAMP FIRES NOT ALLOWED, EXCEPT FOR THOSE IN ORGANIZED CAMPGROUNDS AS AUTHORIZED BY THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICIAL.**
- Fire Ban:** **TOTAL FIRE BAN**



Christie Landfill Site

The Christie Landfill site, located near Orrville, is the **only** site in Seguin Township where you can dispose of **bulky items**. This site also provides household waste and recycling containers. The year round hours of Operation for the disposal of bulky items are as follows:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday - 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Closed Sunday, Monday and Statutory Holidays

Bulky waste items such as white goods (stoves, refrigerators, appliances etc.), brown goods (furniture, mattresses, carpets, TV's and computers etc.), construction and demolition debris, tires, shingles and boats are all considered 'bulky items'. Some restrictions apply to size and quantities. Please contact the Township of Seguin Municipal office for further information.

SEGUIN TOWNSHIP COUNCIL - Contact Information

Reeve: David Conn
19 Cheers Lane, RR #3 Parry Sound Ontario P2A 2W9
(705) 732-2209



Ward 1 - Councillor Bill Jameson
409 Highway 518, RR #3, Parry Sound
P2A 2W9
(705) 746-5004

Ward 2 - Councillor Doug Graham
342 Hwy 518, RR #3, Parry Sound
P2A 2W9
(705) 746-5295

Ward 3 - Councillor Lorne Campbell
RR #2, Box 61, Parry Sound P2A 2W8
(705) 732-1328

Ward 4 - Councillor Doug Sainsbury
P.O. Box 263, Mactier P0C 1H0
(705) 375-2076

Ward 5 - Councillor Everett Jacklin
104 Turtle Lake Rd., RR #1, Rosseau P0C 1J0
(705) 732-2316

Ward 6 - Councillor Jim Swift
Box 160, Rosseau P0C 1J0
(705) 732-2461