July 2019

Canada Day Celebration

Congratulations to the Canada Day Committee for pulling together an excellent parade and fireworks display.

Thank you to all of the community members who attended a fundraiser, made a donation, or shared their time and expertise to make this special day a success. Our community is strengthened by people like you.

Stay Informed

The Township of Pelee will be giving updates on blue-green algae, beach closures, emergency situations, council and/or special meetings via Twitter. This is a valuable tool to ensure residents stay informed of water conditions and other issues. To receive updated texts to your cell phone: Text Follow townofpelee to 21212

Keep up to date with what is going on in the community. Visit the Township of Pelee website at www.pelee.org. Here you will find information about the community including notices, applications, activities, fact sheets and more. Under the “Municipality” tab you can view by-laws, council meeting dates, council agendas and minutes, tax information, committees of council, and opportunities for community involvement and participation.

Facebook: Pelee Staff Twitter: @TownOfPelee

Trailer Permits

In accordance with By-Law 2016-22, all trailer owners, including those exempt from fees, are required to submit an application for permit annually. Failure to do so can result in financial penalties. For further information regarding By-Law 2016-22, visit the municipality’s website, www.pelee.org, or contact the municipal office at 519-724-2931.

Dog Licenses

In accordance with By-Law 2012-13, all dogs within the municipality must be licensed. Licenses are available at the municipal office. Your best friend deserves to be identified with a municipal license so that we can help him/her get home if lost.

Parking Permits

Parking permits are available at the municipal office, East Park Campground, and Scudder Marina during regular business hours for $30. If you are not on the island you can call the municipality and purchase a permit with a Visa or Master Card. A pass is required for all municipal lots. Please, have your licence plate number ready at the time of purchase. Current permits expire May 31, 2020.

Drain Maintenance Charges

2018 drain maintenance invoices under $25 and those that remain unpaid as of June 30, 2019 will be added to the final tax bill.

A message from our Fire Department...

The Township of Pelee Volunteer Fire Department reminds everyone that the Ontario Fire Code requires smoke alarms to be installed on every storey of your home and outside all sleeping areas. Carbon monoxide alarms are required outside all sleeping areas if the home has a fuel-burning appliance, a fireplace or an attached garage.

Municipal Tax Considerations

Farmland Classification

If you are a farmer and your tax bill does not reflect a farm classification it is likely that you did not file your annual Farm Registration Form with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) prior to the deadline. If you did not file your form or you filed it late, MPAC classifies your property as residential and it is taxed at a residential rate.

The process to correct this oversight can take one full year. The farm owner must first contact the Farm Rebate Office at OMAFRA and discuss with them any changes that may have occurred on the property and the reasons for not filing. Farm Rebate will then determine if the property qualifies as a farm and if there are any corrections to be made. Applications will still need to be completed. The Farm Rebate office will then inform MPAC of any adjustments. To contact OMAFRA you can call 1-800-469-2285 or visit their website at www. omaf.ra.gov.on.ca for more information. The municipality is NOT able to complete the application or deal with OMAFRA on your behalf.

Assessment Questions or Concerns

For assessment questions or concerns please contact the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) at 1-866-296-MPAC (6722) or visit their website at www.mpac.ca.
Request for Reconsideration (RFR’s):
These applications can be downloaded from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) website at www.mpac.ca, or by contacting the Municipal Office. The deadline to submit an RFR is printed on your “Property Assessment Notice” from MPAC.

Tax Billing and Installment Due Dates:
Two tax bills are mailed out each calendar year. Each of these bills has two payment due dates.

Interim Tax Bill (mailed in January)
*February 28th* of the current year for installment #1

*May 31st* of the current year for installment #2

Final Tax Bill (mailed in July)
*August 31st* of the current year for installment #3

*November 30th* of the current year for installment #4

Payment Options:
You may pay your property taxes by using one of the following options:
1. **Cheque** made out to “Township of Pelee”
2. **Post-dated cheques** for installment dates; please note that ALL cheques must be filled out with dates and amounts. The Township will not fill in monetary values or dates
3. **Telephone and/or internet banking** options offered by your financial institution
4. **US wire transfers** (for US residents only), please contact the office to obtain necessary information
5. **Email money transfers** (for CDN banking institutions). Please read below for instruction of how to send an e-transfer

Instructions for Sending an Email Money Transfer
1. Your account will need to be set up for online banking
2. Enter into your online banking account
3. Under transaction options, select the option for sending an e-transfer
4. You will need to add Township of Pelee as a recipient. To complete this you will be required to…
   a. Enter a recipient name, “Township of Pelee”
   b. Enter email address for recipient, m.feltz@pelee.ca
5. Now you will be able to send an e-transfer by selecting “Township of Pelee” when prompted to select a recipient
6. After selecting a recipient you will be asked to select the account from which you would like the funds to be withdrawn
7. Next you will be prompted to enter the amount you wish to transfer
8. The final step is to send the transfer

Please use your 19 digit Assessment Roll # starting with 3701 in the message section for payment allocation purposes.

Penalties
Tax penalties and interest are assessed the day following the due date and the first of each month thereafter at a rate of 1.25%. (*Note: July interest and penalties will not appear on the 2019 Final Tax Bill*)

Failure to receive a tax or water bill does not excuse a taxpayer from the responsibility of payment nor remove any liability for late payment charges. It is the responsibility of the taxpayer to ensure the Township has the correct mailing address and owner information.

Emergency Preparedness

Make a Plan
In an emergency, such as flooding, your family may not be together or you may be asked to evacuate your home. Thinking about what you would do in different situations and preparing a plan with every member of your family is the first step to being prepared. Visit emergencymanagementontario.ca for more information.

72 Hour Emergency Kit:
**Essential Items**
- Water — two litres of water per person per day (include small bottles)
- Food that won’t spoil, such as canned food, energy bars and dried foods (replace once a year)
- Manual can opener
- Wind-up or battery-powered flashlight (and extra batteries)
- Wind-up or battery-powered radio (and extra batteries)
- First aid kit
- Extra keys for your car and house
- Cash, travellers’ cheques and change
- Important family documents such as identification, insurance and bank records
- Emergency plan — include a copy in your kit as well as contact information

**Additional Items**
- Two additional litres of water per person per day for cooking and cleaning
- Candles and matches or lighter (place in sturdy containers and do not burn unattended)
- Change of clothing and footwear for each household member
- Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each household member
- Toiletries and personal hygiene items
- Hand sanitizer, toilet paper and garbage bags
- Prepaid phone card, mobile phone charger
- Pet food and supplies
- Infant formula, baby food and supplies
- Activities for children like books, puzzles or toys
- Prescription medications, medical equipment
- Utensils, plates and cups
- Household chlorine bleach or water purifying tablets
- Basic tools (hammer, pliers, wrench, screwdrivers, work gloves, pocket knife)
- Small fuel-operated stove and fuel
- Duct tape