

MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF
LOON LAKE HELD IN THE SENIOR CENTER AT 502 RAILWAY AVE, LOON LAKE, SK
ON MONDAY JUNE 16, 2022 AT 7:00 P.M.

Mayor Brian Hirschfeld called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Agendas were circulated at the beginning of the meeting. The following is a synopsis of what was discussed.

1. Application for a cannabis store.

General discussion took place on the pros and cons of having a cannabis store within our community. One member in attendance pointed out that cannabis is now legal and the additional increase in taxes for our community would be a benefit. Additional foot traffic in Loon Lake's down town could be a benefit to existing businesses. It may help to cut out some of the illegal drug and gang activity currently within the area. One individual did not like the idea of the cannabis shop going into the same building as the bar and liquor store as it would put all three businesses within one building. One individual was concerned about the type of clientele it may attract, but another pointed out many people use it now not to get 'high' but for medical purposes.

The question was then asked if a cannabis shop opened on the MSFN reserve would the village still want an additional shop, or is one adequate for this area? There was very little response with the exception of one comment which was, a little competition is a good thing in business.

One rate payer at the meeting addressed concerns regarding the minimum square footage of residences within the Village of Loon Lake.

2. Loon Lakes Aging Infrastructure.

Mayor Hirschfeld discussed the financial situation that the Village is faced with due to low funding opportunities and aging infrastructure. The life expectancy of the water and sewer lines are 60 years and we have now reached that point. The Village will be increasing the water rates by \$15.00 per month, and there will be an increase in taxation as the universal mill rate was increased from 7.65 to 8.65. He explained the minimum tax was increased in 2021 to \$1000.00 per lot with an improvement on it and the majority of people paying the minimum tax will not be affected by the increase in the mill rate. One rate payer asked why water rates have not been increased more frequently in the past, and he would like to see more frequent small increases until the water is self-supporting.

3. Signup for online news letters and updates

Mayor Hirschfeld requested that if anyone is interested in receiving the newsletters online and the weekly updates to sign up on the Village Website.

4. Ways of attracting people to Loon Lake

Mayor Hirschfeld requested the rate payers of Loon Lake to brainstorm some ideas of how we can attract new people to Loon Lake. Some suggestions were a secure fenced RV storage facility and a residential rental facility.

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5. Loon Lake Homecoming

The Loon Lake homecoming committee is looking for volunteers to work some bingos to raise money for the homecoming. Please let Joni Taylor or the Village office know if you are interested in helping out.

6. Presentation of Evergreen Terrace (Villa)

Shawna Lumgair the Evergreen Terrace board chair person gave a presentation on the operation of Evergreen Terrace. The board is comprised of a six volunteer positions and one paid maintenance position. The Villa can accommodate long term and short-term rentals, two nights in the minimum stay at a rate of \$75.00 per night. They have created a secure parking area in the back and have completed renovations on some rooms. The old carpet in the hall ways and common area has been replaced with laminate flooring. If you know of anyone looking for a place to stay in Loon Lake, please keep the Evergreen Terrace accommodations in mind.

Mayor Brian Hirschfeld asked if anyone had any further questions.

Mayor Brian Hirschfeld adjourned the public meeting at 7:56 p.m.

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