



The Westview subdivision began around 1980 and over time 90 lots were developed in 6 phases. A couple of weeks ago the last lot was sold! The new subdivision adjacent to Westview (name to be announced soon), will have 7 more lots for single detached housing. As reported previously, the remaining 4+ acres will be subdivided for higher density housing. The layout is available at Bowisland.com/build-now. All the property in this subdivision will be on the market at \$85 per square metre and a pre-sale policy has been put in place. Developers and builders may obtain further details from CAO Matz at the Town office. The Town is able use the Federal Housing grant to provide one time tax discounts on the higher density properties only.

Council recently gave first reading to 3 bylaws, two of which are updates and one is brand new. The Noise bylaw has been updated to change the beginning of "quiet time" from 9:00 pm to 10:00 pm. Additionally, the use of equipment such as snow blowers and leaf blowers is better defined. This link will take you to the bylaw and changes are highlighted in red: [Bylaw 2024:03 Noise Bylaw](#). This link is to [The Fire Services and Protection Bylaw](#) that is being updated to include a definition of a fire pit, including dimensions and specifics of placement to ensure safe use. Second reading of these will be at the April 8th Council meeting.

A new bylaw has been introduced to allow a limited number of residents to raise hens within the Town. [Bylaw 2024:04 Urban Hen Bylaw](#) has been given first reading and proposes allow 5 licenses in Town for up to 4 hens per licensed residence. Roosters are strictly prohibited. The bylaw includes requirements for the keeping of hens to ensure there is an adequate coop, water, food and proper animal welfare and that the hens are kept for personal use only. The link above provides the details of the proposed bylaw and questions and comments can be made by emailing townoffice@bowisland.com or calling CAO Matz at 403-545-2522. The next reading is planned for April 8th and as always, the public is welcome to attend.

I have been pleased to see an increased police presence in the community as staff numbers are returning to normal and that we now have 2 members back living in Town. Members are more available now to deal with complaints and help with other issues and can often be reached at 403-545-2784. Emergency calls should go to 911 or 403-545-2100.

Tim Horton's Smile Cookie campaign is coming up April 29th to May 5th. Proceeds from local cookie sales during that time will go to Meals on Wheels and FCSS social programs.

The Environment Minister will be making an announcement on or around April 15th about the water supply situation. Our water is delivered to us by the SMRID, and they are starting out the season with a reduced allocation to irrigators. Municipalities have been asked to be prepared to implement water conservation measures if the situation does not improve. Hopefully the Town will not have to impose severe restrictions but would rely on residents' cooperation by following a watering schedule, avoid yard watering in the heat of the day, and generally wasting water. The recent moisture does give a little hope, but we will have to see what develops with the supply over the coming weeks, especially since the snowpack in the mountains is low.

This Wednesday AHS held a public engagement session here in Town to get feedback on what local people feel about the healthcare system. The Government has announced that AHS is being split into 4 parts: Acute Care, Mental Health & Addictions, Primary Care and Continuing Care. The facilitators wanted to know what the group thought is working, what isn't working and what should be done moving forward with the new structure. Those in attendance weren't shy, sharing their experiences, thoughts and ideas. There was lots of support for our local healthcare providers and the great work they do. You can still go online and share your thoughts at this link: [Refocusing health care in Alberta | Alberta Online Engagement](#).

The Chamber of Commerce Spring Trade Show returns for one day, on Friday April 12th at the Servus Arena from 11am to 7 pm. I look forward to seeing you there!

Mayor Gordon Reynolds