



Botha

Going Forward

Guidelines for Service Provision in the Hamlet of Botha

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT: WWW.STETTLERCOUNTY.CA

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Council & Elections

Council

As a newly formed hamlet, all village residents now reside in **Ward 3: Botha Gadsby**. The current representative for that Ward is **Greggory Jackson**.

The rest of Council consists of the following members:

Reeve Wayne Nixon:	Donalda - Red Willow
Councillor Les Stulberg:	Byemoor - Endiang
Councillor Dave Grover:	Big Valley
Councillor Ernie Gender:	Stettler
Councillor James Nibourg:	Erskine South - Warden
Councillor Joe Gender:	Erskine – Buffalo Lake

The Deputy Reeve is on a 6-month rotation so each councillor gets an opportunity to be the Deputy Reeve during their term.

2017 Election

All Botha residents are now eligible to run for County Council as a Ward 3 Councillor. There is one seat available, and nomination and candidate packages are available at the County of Stettler Office or by contacting the Returning Officer, Doreen, at 403-579-2460.

Nomination Day is **September 18, 2017** from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM.

Advance Poll Dates:

Thursday, October 12 – 10:00 am – 8:00 pm - Stettler Agriplex
Friday, October 13, 2017 – 10:00 am – 8:00 pm – Stettler Agriplex

Election Day is:

October 16, 2017: 10:00 am – 8:00 pm

Residents in Botha may vote at the Botha Community Center or the Stettler Agriplex.

Administration, Finance & Taxes

Office Location & Hours

The County of Stettler Administration Office is located at 6602 – 44 Avenue, right between the Museum and Points West.

Hours of Operation are 8:30 a.m – 4:30 p.m.

The County of Stettler Public Works Shop is located at 19561 Township Road 38-4. It located south of the Town of Stettler on Highway 56.

Hours of Operation 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

The two locations provide the following services:

Administration Building	Public Works Facility
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pay Bills• Tax Inquiries and Payments• Council Meetings• Planning and Development Services• Recreation Inquiries• Bylaw Enforcement• Mapping	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Snow Plow/Laneway Grading Agreements• Agricultural Services Rentals• Strychnine Sales (Spring)• Utility Emergencies• Tenders and Bid Postings• Road Maintenance Requests• Parks and Maintenance Inquiries• Engineering
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fire Permits	

Taxes

County of Stettler Taxes are determined by Council in the spring, and tax notices are mailed out. Your new Tax Deadline is the last working day in October, every year. Penalties are applied on November 1 of the current tax year and February 1 of each year on any and all outstanding taxes.

Botha taxes were already levied for 2017. Botha residents will fall under the existing County Tax Bylaws for 2018. If Botha Residents wish to sign-up for Auto-Pay (pre-authorized debit payment plans), they need to do so prior to January 1, 2018.

Auto-Pay or Monthly Payments

Autopay (pre-authorized debit payment plans) is a secure, easy and convenient way to pay your tax bill and we debit the account of your choice. You don't have to worry about misplacing a bill or missing a due date. In order to qualify for AUTO-PAY, your taxes have to be up-to-date with a zero balance owing (as of January 1 2018). You must be enrolled by January 1.

As part of the County of Stettler, you will be required to enter into a new Autopay Agreement. Under Auto-Pay, your tax payments will be spread out over 12 months in 2018, January – December. Under the pre-authorized debit plan, payments are withdrawn directly from the bank account of your choosing, at the beginning of each month, starting January 2018.

Previously, the Village of Botha allowed for payment for Auto-Pay to be done through telebanking since the Village had not set up Auto-Pay to be withdrawn from your account. You may still make tax payments through TELEBANKING – however this method is not considered under the AUTO-PAY plan.

If you choose to continue to TELEBANK payments, you must pay the entire balance of your tax bill by the County of Stettler's tax deadline (rather than spreading payments out over 12 months).

The County's tax deadline is always the last working day in October (October 31, 2018).

Other Options for Payments

Other options for tax payments are cheque, cash, Interac, Telebanking or at most financial institutions.

*The County does not accept Credit Card Payment for Taxes.

Telebanking

To pay online (Telebanking) please use your new ROLL #. The payee will be: County of Stettler instead of the Village of Botha:

i.e.	County of Stettler Tax	ROLL# 1234 or
	Stettler County Tax	Roll # 1234

*Please note, there are many various descriptions of how the County of Stettler is listed, different for each financial institution. Please ensure you are paying COUNTY OF STETTLER (or STETTLER COUNTY) **TAX** beginning immediately (you no longer pay Village of Botha).

Tax Levy's

The County of Stettler Tax Levy includes requisitions for the following items:

- Seniors Housing
- Recreation Capital Projects
- Stettler Waste Management

Due to the collection of waste management fees within the tax process, residents of Botha will no longer have to pay the fee for garbage on their utility bills.

The County of Stettler has a minimum tax levy of \$50.

Local Improvement Taxes

The County does have the ability to impose a special or local improvement tax on the residents of Botha to fund services or

projects that will benefit the area of Botha. After an overview of Botha's needs, Council may feel this to be necessary.

Utility Bills

It is the County's general practice to ensure water lines are looped for proper circulation of water. A 'Water Looping' project was identified in the Infrastructure Audit, and was approved and undertaken while the Village Council was still presiding. The water looping project will continue, with the addition of two hydrants which are necessary for flushing and fire protection.

Water and Sewer systems were already maintained and monitored by the County of Stettler on a contract basis and that service will continue with no interruption to service.

The County of Stettler has already begun the process of acquiring and tendering the installation of water meters for every home and charging water based on consumption. The County of Stettler has a policy direction that requires the full cost recovery of utilities, and water meters are part of that strategy.

The Utilities rate includes a monthly administration and transfer to reserves for maintenance and upgrades (Flat rate \$20/month). Consumption is billed at \$2.71 per cubic meter of consumption. Wastewater charges a flat rate of \$18.00/month.

The County has 24 hour on-call service for water emergencies and maintains a strict testing and maintenance schedule by certified staff for all water and wastewater systems.

Options for Payments

Options for Utilities payments include *credit card, cheque, cash, Interac, Telebanking or at most financial institutions.

*Credit Card payments are not accepted for County Tax Payments.

Telebanking

To pay online (Telebanking) please make sure you are paying **UTILITIES** (not taxes) and use your entire ACCOUNT #, but do not include the decimal.

i.e. County of Stettler **Utilities** Account # 1234.00 (enter 123400)
or

County of Stettler No. 6

Stettler County **Utilities** Account # 1234.00 (enter 123400)

*Please note, there are many various descriptions of how the County of Stettler is listed, different for each financial institution. Please ensure you are paying COUNTY OF STETTLER, COUNTY OF STETTLER No. 6 (or STETTLER COUNTY) **UTILITIES.**

PAYING YOUR UTILITIES ONLINE

Payee: County of Stettler Utilities
Account #: Stated at the top of your invoice YOU MUST INCLUDE ALL NUMBERS, BUT DO NOT INCLUDE THE DECIMAL POINT (e.g. account # 560100.00 would be entered 56010000)

	County of Stettler PO Box 1270 6602 44 Avenue Stettler, AB T0C 2L0 Canada Phone: (403) 742-4441	UTILITY INVOICE PAYEE → County of Stettler Utilities
Statement Date: February 9, 2016 Billing Period: January 1, 2016 - January 31, 2016		
Your account number 515090.00 ← Account # For service at: 524178		Enter your entire number WITHOUT the decimal (e.g. this account # would be entered as 51509000).

Road Maintenance

Snow removal will be coordinated by the County of Stettler. Snow will be removed from main streets only (no back alleys) and response time varies on severity and duration of the snow event. Generally, all snow is cleared from County roadways within 4-7 days. Road maintenance is handled by Public Works. You can

reach them through any of our Ratepayer Request options or by calling 403-742-4441 Ext. 3.

Land Use – Planning & Development

Botha’s current Land Use Bylaw will remain in effect for the time being. The County’s Planning & Development Department will handle all Land Use Planning and Development functions. Residents will make development permit applications and subdivision applications to our Planning & Development department.

Fire & Emergency Services

There will be no changes to the delivery of Emergency Services to Botha.

Community Groups, Facilities & Volunteerism

The County of Stettler operates under a Recreation Board. There will be no changes to the allocations under the Recreation Operation Assistance Grant and the Recreation Special Project Funding.

There will be no changes to the management of any Botha Facilities unless requested from the managing associations.

The cemetery will continue to be managed by Woodland Cemetery Fund.

The operation of the ‘Take it or Leave it’ Library will have to be reviewed and considerations made as to the willingness of community members to maintain it.

Communicating With Us

The County of Stettler's website and social media accounts are your main source to stay up-to-date on County information.

Visit www.stettlercounty.ca where you will find community events, news items, election information, a county calendar and information about all our departments and services, as well as Council agendas and minutes. Sign up under the 'Notify Me' button, and you can receive ALERTS and NOTIFICATIONS about information items you are interested in via text message or email. You can subscribe, and unsubscribe at any time!

Personalize which notifications you would like, by choosing from:

- Buffalo Lake Alerts
- Emergency Alerts
- Fire Department Alerts
- Bid Postings from Agricultural Services; Public Works; Stettler Waste Management; Utilities
- Jobs
- News Flash – news affecting our County, as it happens
- Agenda Centre – Receive agendas from Agricultural Services, County Council and/or Municipal Planning Commission as they become available, and notifications when minutes are posted

You may also choose to follow us on:

Facebook: StettlerCounty or Twitter: @StettlerCounty

The County also publishes County Connection magazine 3-4 times a year. You will automatically receive it if you own property in Botha, or you can sign up by contacting the office at 403-742-4441 or email info@stettlercounty.ca. You can also choose to receive your magazine by email and you can view all issues on our website.

Ratepayer Requests

The County of Stettler has established a proactive and trackable method of handling all Ratepayer Requests. As a County resident you have a few ways of making a Ratepayer Request:

- 1) Go to our website and click on 'Submit a Request'
 - a. Choose from Brushing; Potholes/Damaged Road; Snow removal; Traffic Concern or Report a Weed Problem
 - b. Fill out a description of the problem, the location and your contact information
 - c. Your request will be assigned to the appropriate department; tracked; and followed up on.
- 2) Email: info@stettlercounty.ca
 - a. State your question, request for information or problem, the location and your contact information
 - b. Your item will be added to our Ratepayer Request line and it will be assigned to the appropriate department and followed up on.
- 3) Call 403-742-4441: Press 0 to submit a Ratepayer Request on Monday-Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Bylaws

County of Stettler Bylaws are available for viewing on our website at www.stettlercounty.ca and should you wish to report an infraction contact our Protective Services Department at 403-742-4441 ; Press 0.



The County of Stettler No. 6
Office Hours: 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM Monday-Friday

Box 1270
6602-44 Avenue
Stettler, AB
TOC 2L0

Email: info@stettlercounty.ca
Website: www.stettlercounty.ca

Phone: 403-742-4441

For the Office/Finance/Payments: Press 1
For Planning & Development: Press 2
For the Public Works/Shop: Press 3
For General Reception: Press 0

County of Stettler After Hours 'On Call'

403-741-6133

Emergency: 911

Ambulance: 911

Fire: 911

Police: 911

Hospital: 403-742-7400

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