

# Sunset View Beach Newsletter 2024



Hello Sunset View Beach residents!

The Board has had a very busy year, and will require your insights and direction at the upcoming SSVB 2024 AGM.

The Board has made every effort to consider both Sunset View Beaches' immediate and future needs.

It is very important that you read the newsletter to gain insight on the number of significant projects and initiatives that are being explored.

We are looking forward to another great year and hope to see you all at the AGM in May.

This newsletter is available on the [www.ssvb.ca](http://www.ssvb.ca) website

## Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held in person on May 19 @ 10:00 am at the Faye Hope Memorial Park following the Water Board meeting, weather permitting. Please plan accordingly.

All board positions are on a varying term length, to try and ensure there are always 2 experienced people on the board.

Darryl's term is expiring this year 2024, Rhonda in 2025 and Kyle in 2026.

A call for Nominees is required with Darryl's term expiring and will not run for another term, please consider to let your name stand. For more information on being a Board Member, contact any board member for their insights.

### **Nomination requirements:**

***Any voter of the organized hamlet is eligible to be nominated to serve on the hamlet board.***

1. Nominations are to be submitted at the annual general meeting;
2. Nominations are to be verbal and made by a qualified voter of the hamlet;
3. Nominee must accept the nomination verbally;
4. If Nominee is not present at AGM to verbally accept nomination a written acceptance of nomination will be allowed.

### **Voting Eligibility**

1. Registered SSVB Titled Landowners on the most recent RM of Mervin SSVB Resident Owners List;  
*Name(s) of the Title Owner are required to be on the list regardless of relationship with the Title Owner;*

#### ***Example:***

- *If spouses name is not on the title they are not eligible to vote*
  - *If multiple names are on the title, all names listed are eligible to vote*
2. Renters of a SSVB property for 3 months preceding the AGM are deemed an eligible voter;
  3. Eligible voter requires to be present at AGM to vote;
  4. Only one voting card issued per eligible individual present at the AGM, regardless of how many titled properties they own;

***\*New this year will be the use of Voting Cards, when an eligible voter registers they will be issued a voting card and the number of cards will be recorded.***

## Swimming Lessons

Swimming Lessons will be offered again this year by Erin Kobelka this year. She is a resident of Turtle View and can be contacted through email at [erin.kobelka@gmail.com](mailto:erin.kobelka@gmail.com)

## Public Utility Board

The Public Utility Board AGM will be held at the Faye Hope Memorial Park @ 9:00 am May 19. Current Board members include Sheldon Hood, Kevin Painter and Ron Rommel. The Board Secretary/Treasurer is Lorri Eskelson. Please note, water fees are due by July 31<sup>st</sup> and can be paid by e-transfer ([susetviewpub@gmail.com](mailto:susetviewpub@gmail.com)) or cheque (Box 30 Livelong SK, S0M 1J0).

## Emergencies

AEDs are available at the North Beach, Hamlet Office, and South end of the Hamlet.

Hamlet Email: [ssvbhamlet@gmail.com](mailto:ssvbhamlet@gmail.com)

RM of Mervin Website: <https://rmofmervin.ca>

Public Utility Board Email: [ssvbpub@gmail.com](mailto:ssvbpub@gmail.com)

## Volunteers

We are attempting to spread the workload around a little this year by having sign up sheets for different jobs that are required to be completed.

Most jobs only require an hour or two to complete and if the work can be shared by a number of residents it makes for light work and doesn't have to fall on the same 2 or 3 individuals.

1. Installing the docks in the Spring
2. Removing of the docks in the Fall
3. Installing swimming and watercraft warning buoys mid June
4. Removal of all buoys Sept. Long
5. Installing of swimming platforms mid to late June
6. Removal of swimming platforms Sept. Long
7. Park maintenance in spring and periodically throughout the season

Please consider letting your name stand, we recognize you may or may not be available on the date of the work will being completed but it allows the lead on the work to contact people to help.

## Budget Review

The SSVB Board has leveraged off last year's Budget and General Ledger to further clarify expenditures on the budget document for not only the residents' understanding, but the Boards as well.

- A number of initiatives are being considered this year and will require your direction;
- The budget presented reflects the projects brought forward, plus a 6% increase to most expenditure lines. The budget was based on 2023 expenditures from the RM of Mervin's SSVB General Ledger Accounts;
- Reserves \$416,999 as of Jan 1, 2024;
- 2024 Budget as presented has a \$12,021.91 deficit;
- The budget for 2024 is attached to the Newsletter for your review. Questions regarding the budget can be addressed during the AGM or via email.

## Projects Completed in 2023 (Looking Back to Move Ahead)

Below is a quick overview of the projects completed in 2023.

1. **Kakwa Lane / Muskwa Back Lane Drainage Project:** Completed and a big thanks to Major Mitchell who completed the work. Major's insights allowed us to get the project back on track after many years of trying;
2. **SSVB Website:** [www.ssvb.ca](http://www.ssvb.ca) Completed in August of 2023 and has allowed enhanced communication to the SSVB community;
3. **Best Practices and Procedures Creation:** Historically the day to day management of roads and waste, the creation of budgets and preparing for the AGM largely fell on the Chairpersons shoulders; SSVB has had 4 Chairpersons in the last 5 years which required a relearning of how processes and services were completed.  
Knowledge transfer is problematic when there is a change of Chairpersons without documentation, as a result the 4 processes listed above are now documented and will guide future boards.  
If concerns arise, the documented process can now be reviewed for effectiveness versus pointing at individuals' decisions who are volunteering their time. (Processes available to the public on the SSVB Website)
4. **Policy Creation:** Creation of 6 Policies to meet new Provincial Government requirements for Organized Hamlets. Meeting policy / procedure, Election policy / procedure, Reporting policy, Public Disclosure Policy, Hamlet Board Member Policy and Providing Notice Policy. (Once approved will be posted on the ssvb website)
5. **Mini Turtle Lake Village Rebuild:** The Mini Village had design issues which accelerated the decaying of the lumber. A significant portion of the Mini Village was rebuilt with upgraded lumber and some design changes to prevent deterioration in the future.
6. **Library access:** An emergency lock box installed for residents to access life saving meds.

## Projects in Progress, Paused, Suspended or Study Required

1. **Resort Village of Turtle View Amalgamation-** *Review Resort Village of Turtle View Amalgamation;* (Study required)
2. **Bear Proof Trash Bins-** Purchase of 3 Bear proof bins for the North Beach, South Beach and Park; (Recommended)
3. **Drainage issues on North end of Hamlet-** Contingency to ensure money is earmarked for drainage issues identified towards the north end of the Hamlet; (Recommended)
4. **Wake Buoys-** Installing buoys to slow down watercraft in front of Swimming areas; (Recommended)
5. **Dock Extensions-** Lower water levels require docks to be extended; (Recommended)
6. **Fire Support Equipment-** Purchase fire support equipment once approval is attained (Recommended)
7. **Water System Upgrades-** Numerous curb stops and isolation valves require to be upgraded. It is significantly cheaper and quicker to upgrade than repair in the frost;(Recommended)
8. **Public Washrooms-** Installation of rented, odor free washroom that accesses the South Beach; (Recommended)
9. **Electronic Speed Limit Signs-** Installation of Electronic speed limit signs by accessing SGI grant funds (Recommended)
10. **North Emergency Egress-** Evaluate and create a North Hamlet emergency exit if Kenderdine Lane cannot be accessed; (Study required)
11. **South Emergency Egress-** Evaluate and create a South Hamlet emergency exit if Kenderdine Lane cannot be accessed; (Study required)
12. **Beach Erosion Project-** Evaluate and create a suitable and compliant barrier to mitigate further erosion of the South Beach (Study required)
13. **Community Activities Area in Faye Memorial Park-** Not approved by RM of Mervin Council (Paused)

14. RM of Mervin Allocation of Hamlet Taxes- Numerous hamlets have met with the RM of Mervin requesting where 60% of the portion of our taxes is spent on and how it impacts our community; (On going)

***Priority determined through both effort required to implement and Community need.***

<b>2024 Projects List Table</b>	<b>Projected Cost</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Status Comments</b>
Bear Proof Trash Bins	\$6,000	Medium	Recommended
Other Drainage Projects	\$10,000	Low	Recommended
Wake Buoys	\$10,000	Low	Recommended
Dock Extensions	\$2,000	High	Recommended
Fire Support Equipment	\$2,500	High	Recommended (Waiting on RM approval)
Water System Upgrades	\$25,000	High	Recommended
Public Washroom	\$5,000	Medium	Recommended
Electronic Speed Limit Signs	\$1,000	Low	Recommended
Total Projected Cost of 2024 Recommended Projects	<b>\$61,500</b>		
<b>Future Potential Projects and Potential Costs</b>			
Community Activities Area in Park	\$65,000	Low	Not Approved by RM
North Emergency Egress	\$10,000	High	Study Required
South Emergency Egress	\$15,000	High	Study Required
Beach Erosion Project	\$15,000	Medium	Study Required

## Resort Village of Turtle View Amalgamation Deliberations

*In the spirit of continuous improvement the SSVB Board has met with the Resort Village of Turtle View 3 times to discuss how we could share services to attain the best value for our residents' property tax dollars spent. This discussion graduated to what opportunities may exist for SSVB, if we were to amalgamate with Turtle View.*

*The SSVB Board recognized that making a transition to join another municipality should not be taken lightly or allow personal bias to influence decisions.*

*To shed personal bias and to best understand the impacts of an amalgamation to the Resort Village of Turtle View, a list of areas of impact were created;*

- Identified areas will be analyzed to determine the impact from a financial and functional perspective to provide decision makers the best possible insights.*
- Information provided will be fact based to minimize speculation or personal bias.*

*This overview is to ensure the SSVB Titled Landowners of Sunset View will have been provided sufficient insight for a Vote at the May 19 AGM for the Hamlet Board to further explore amalgamation or exit discussions.*

- A vote yes would set in motion a deeper understanding of the impacts to the amalgamation and a Public Meeting held at a later date to determine if SSVB wants to join the Resort Village of Turtle View.*
- A vote no would have the Board exit discussions with the Turtle View Council.*

### **Areas Analysis Regarding Amalgamation**

- 1. Tax and Fees Burden:** *SSVB's Annual Tax Burden is very similar to the RV of Turtle View. However when SSVB water utilities top up and waste management costs that are paid out of SSVB's Property taxes, a tax / fee burden gap occurs. Further discussions are required in this area;*
- 2. Water Utilities:** *The RV of Turtle View does not have a potable water system, but has had much success in attaining government grant money. Most years SSVB forwards a minimum of \$25K towards the water system. If amalgamation were to occur those funds would have to be generated through additional fees or through grant money. These extra funds are largely upgrades to the water system. Turtle View has a Municipal Administrator familiar with grant research and approvals and believes SSVB's water system would benefit from the Administrator's insights.*
- 3. Waste Management:** *Turtle View residents pay for each bag of garbage and deposit it at their waste transfer site. This approach would not be palatable for SSVB residents. Other approaches to waste management will be explored to ensure cost effectiveness and ensure residents have continued ease of access. SSVB also needs a deeper understanding of the tax contribution to the Mervin Waste Transfer site today. If similar contributions were made to the RV of Turtle View the difference in waste management costs may be similar;*
- 4. Reserves:** *Turtle View has approximately \$1 million dollars in reserves and is growing very quickly since forming their own Municipality. SSVB presently has \$400 thousand dollars in reserves. More discussion will be required, including topping up of Water System reserves to merging the two reserve funds together or the combination of both;*
- 5. Street and Grid Road Maintenance:** *The RV of Turtle View utilizes the services of same contractor that SSVB presently has as a backup for road maintenance;*
- 6. Home and Fire Protection:** *The RV of Turtle View has a fire hall, fire truck and ancillary equipment and numerous volunteers which are leveraged as a fire brigade until their primary fire service from Meadow Lake can arrive;*

7. **Governance Model:** *If an amalgamation occurred the RM would be divided into wards with SSVB having 2 Councillors for representation;*
8. **Hamlet Project Execution:** *The execution of projects are similar in nature with both RV of Turtle View and the RM of Mervin. The primary difference with the Resort Village of Turtle View, the approvers of the projects, are also tied closely to the execution of the projects and with administrators help to review and organize all projects.  
Presently when a project is approved by the RM of Mervin, the Hamlet Board is left with their own expertise, experiences and time to complete the project;*

**Opportunities identified to date:**

1. **Dust Free Grid Road Surfaces:** *If amalgamation occurred, with access to grants and the additional funds generated because of no tax allocation requirements, it is believed a dust free road surface could be completed in 3 years; (For clarity, dust free is not pavement)*
2. **Waste Transfer Access:** *Turtle View's waste transfer site is 7 KM away from SSVB versus 38 KM to the RM of Mervin site;*
3. **Fire Protection Services:** *SSVB presently has no fire brigade and will not anytime soon. A rapid response to contain a fire would be much more attainable with the RV of Turtle View;*
4. **Governance Model:** *Approval and direction of the Resort Village of Turtle View would be based on similar issues and concerns as Sunset View Beach;*

## Other Information

### Organized Hamlets Role inside the RM

**Organized Hamlets** operate differently than Resort Village or Town Councils.

The Hamlet Board is an ADVISORY branch of the RM. Hamlet Board members are volunteers and are responsible for preparing an annual budget for our community within the framework of responsibilities between the Hamlet and the RM. This includes maintaining infrastructure such as roads, drainage, recreation areas, and garbage collection. The Hamlet Board is NOT responsible for bylaws issued by the RM, including those pertaining to RVs, property development, animal control, etc.

The following may help to clarify how an Organized Hamlet AGM operates:

1. The only binding votes that take place at an AGM are those for electing new board members.
2. Committees formed by a motion at this level are not recognized by the RM and are not representative of the Hamlet as a whole.
3. Any non-emergency items can be addressed through hamlet email [svbhamlet@gmail.com](mailto:svbhamlet@gmail.com). The email is monitored daily and responses can be expected within 2 business days.
4. Any concerns beyond the Hamlet's scope can be addressed with Ken Hergott, RM of Mervin Councillor for our area, or to the RM of Mervin email.

## SSVB Community Guidelines

The following provides information about general SSVB rules and considerations to encourage community members to be mindful of their neighbours and use of Hamlet resources and the lake. We encourage residents to review this

information and share with guests and others who may be using your property. You are responsible for your guests in the community. If you have questions or concerns, please contact the Hamlet Board at [ssvhamlet@gmail.com](mailto:ssvhamlet@gmail.com)

**Garbage:** There are two bins available for waste.

- The RED bin is for bagged household waste only (**No Construction Material**).
- The YELLOW bin is for recycling , (**please flattened the cardboard**).
- From mid May through September long weekend garbage and recycle pickup is on a predetermined schedule. If the bins are filling quicker than the schedule, the Board will reassess frequency to ensure access.
- Please do not leave bags or garbage outside the bins as this will not be picked up and can attract unwanted wildlife.
- Absolutely **no fish remains** to be placed in the garbage bin.

**Fireworks/Fire bans:** When fire bans are active, signs will be posted around the Hamlet. Information on bans can also be found on the RM of Mervin website ([www.rmofmervin.com](http://www.rmofmervin.com) ). Fireworks are **not allowed** during fire bans.

Fireworks are permitted only on the beaches if no bans are in place. Again, be a good neighbor and clean up the mess when finished.

**Building Permits/Requirements:** Building Permits are required and are available at <https://rmofmervin.ca> .

**Public Reserve:** Please refrain from parking along Hamlet roadways. Grass cutting occurs frequently along public reserves. Should you require additional storage space, there are many local providers. RV, camper, and boat parking is permitted alongside the road in front of your property for 48 hours, but in consideration of long weekends, we allow 72 hours. No camping is permitted on public reserve. ***Removal of trees or alteration of any kind on public reserve is prohibited without approval from Hamlet Board.***

**Quiet Time is 11pm to 8am.** Sound travels so be respectful of your neighbours.

**Speed limit** within our community is 20 km/hr. Watch for children playing.

**Pets** must be leashed in public areas and are **NOT allowed on beaches and playgrounds.**

**Cutting of trees** on hamlet property, public reserves, and in unopened laneways is not permitted without approval from the Board.

**SSVB roads / streets** are public and, as such, are governed by Saskatchewan Highway Traffic Bylaws. Please do not allow children to use golf carts, ATVs and/or motorbikes unsupervised on Hamlet roads.

**AEDs** are available at the North Beach, Hamlet Office, and South end of the Hamlet.

**Water Scheduling:** An odd/even watering schedule is in effect (e.g., if your house number is an odd number, you can water on odd dates).

Hamlet Email: [ssvhamlet@gmail.com](mailto:ssvhamlet@gmail.com)

Hamlet Website: [www.ssvb.ca](http://www.ssvb.ca)