## FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

The municipal portion of the tax mill rate for residential and non-residential properties has been kept the same since 2017.

Power and gas franchise fees were reduced by approx. 1/2 in 2019.

At the end of 2017 approx. \$195,500 of unfunded reserves were dissolved. Since then, \$668,965 has been added back into reserves to be used for various capital projects.

Budgeted expenses were reduced by \$189,865 from 2017 to 2018 . Also, audited financial statements showed the Village went from a \$221,371 deficit in 2017 to a \$132,597 surplus in 2018.

Due mainly to finding & fixing leaks, Hwy 12/21 purchased water expenses went from \$282,800 in 2017 to \$145,928 in 2020.

Audit fees have been reduced from \$36,222 for the 2017 audit to approx. \$20,000 for 2021. Capital asset management and amortization are also being done internally now.



As part of the 2020 Strategic Planning process, Council made the difficult decision to transition out of Recreation Services being provided by municipal staff.

As a result of this decision, the Village has been able to focus on matters of Economic Development and Disaster Services. Great progress has been made in both areas. During COVID additional supports were provided to local businesses and the Village's Emergency Response to the pandemic was kept up to date and properly managed.

A sincere thank you to all organizations who not only managed to stay afloat during the pandemic, but also took on additional events and activities no longer being provided through the Village.

We are happy to say that of the \$79,324 of MOST grant funding received to help with COVID related issues, \$62,838 of that funding went straight out to directly support community non-profit organizations.

Council also partnered with Alix Mirror Wellness Supports by providing partially subsidized space for the Community Resource Center. A portion of FCSS funds allocated to the Village were granted to the organization in 2021 to support their ongoing success.

Please consider running for election to municipal council. During a 4 year term on Village Council, you can be a part of making significant changes that can improve Alix for all residents.



## **Village Council**

## Four Year Term Review



Council & staff at the new lift station

Here is what we've been up to lately as your elected representatives...



Council has passed 40 bylaws in the last 4 years, including a new Cemetery Bylaw, Traffic, Community Standards, Emergency Management and Urban Chicken Bylaws. The Land Use Bylaw was also completely re-done and all amendments since 2011 were consolidated into one Bylaw.

A new Strategic Plan was developed by Council in 2018 and has been reviewed and updated every year since. This plan helps guide the overall actions of Council and staff as well as provide necessary information for budget preparations.

Strategic Planning also brought about a much higher level of public consultation and communication between Council, staff and Village residents.

Work with County of Lacombe resulted in an updated Intermunicipal Development Plan and a newly required Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework document, which outlines the terms of various agreements between the Village and County.

Council members have developed strong collaborative ties with other Councillors in neighbouring and regional communities in areas such as advocacy to other levels of government, improved services, and upgrades to telecommunications. The objective of enhancing local services in a cost effective manner has been an ongoing goal of Council.

The Village, its Council and staff have worked diligently over the past 4 years to bring Alix into compliance with all legislated requirements of the Municipal Government Act and Municipal Affairs. All issues raised from the 2017 Municipal Affairs inspection have been addressed and the 6 areas for improvement from the 2021 Municipal Accountability Program review will be addressed before year end.

## **COMPLETED PROJECTS**

First thing in 2018, the Village bought out Railway House from the developer. This put the Village in the 'driver's seat' so to speak as the sole organization in charge of the facility.

Residents had been concerned about the condition of Railway Ave for quite some time, and in 2018 a large portion of it was re-paved.

A new Sewer Main Lift Station was built in 2018/2019. The project was funded through grants and came in under budget.

In 2019 the boat launch was re-built and a drainage issue by the Nature Trail was fixed.

The old Medical Clinic on Main Street was sold in 2019. Though not yet used as a storefront business, selling the property meant increased tax revenue for the Village.

More security cameras have been added around the Village and a private security company has been contracted to help ensure public safety in Alix. Significant sidewalk repairs have been happening since 2018 and are planned to continue. There has also been a major concrete project out at the Cemetery in 2021, which will add approximately 100 new cremation plots to the site.

The Old Fire Hall was leased in 2018, and by 2020 all bays of Railway House were leased. The lease revenue collected is used to offset building expenses.

Shallow water and sewer lines under 49th Street were replaced.

Three new large signs have been installed—2 on the highway to show everyone all that Alix has to offer!

Chip-seal road work was done on most roads north of the highway. Asphalt overlay on about 3 blocks in and around the Hall and Arena happened in 2021 and will continue each year, as budget allows.

Work is ongoing at the Lagoon to address wastewater storage issues.

Derelict properties taken over by the Village through tax recovery have been removed when necessary, to ensure public safety and enhance the surrounding neighbourhood.

