

County of Wetaskiwin No. 10

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PUBLIC NOTICE

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GWYNNE WATER GET READY TO TURN ON THE TAP!

The final work in the multi-phase Gwynne Water Project will be complete by the end of May and the water system ready to be put on stream by June 2, 2009.

Water meters are now available at the County of Wetaskiwin administration office for a one time hook-up fee of \$400. This cost will be spread equally over four utility billing periods, which is an eight month period. Water meters must be installed prior to water being turned on to each individual house within the Hamlet of Gwynne. Meters, once picked up at the County office, must be installed by a qualified plumber in order to meet all building codes for the Province of Alberta. After meter installation, prior to water being turned on to each residence, the County of Wetaskiwin must be notified to reserve a time for inspection and activation of water service. While mandatory hook-up is not currently in place within the Hamlet of Gwynne, in order for the system to be cost effective there must be a majority of residents tied into the system.

Project costs for the three phases total \$4,475,916.27, of which 86%, or \$3,839,637.94 has been funded by Provincial and Federal grants at no cost to the residents of the Hamlet of Gwynne. As well, the County of Wetaskiwin has made a \$289,749 contribution to the project. The unfunded portion, estimated to be \$636,278.33, represents the amount to be paid by Hamlet ratepayers through a local improvement tax, which was petitioned for by residents in 2008. Through due diligence by the municipality and the skill of staff and consultants this project has come in on budget, and will not cost residents of the Hamlet more than originally presented in 2008.

The local improvement tax debenture will begin in the 2010 tax year for all ratepayers in the Hamlet. The cost will automatically be spread over a 25 year period, with the option to pay off the full amount of the debenture at any time, with no pre-payment penalty. Total project cost, as well as the cost responsible through the local improvement, despite numerous lot consolidations within the Hamlet, is on budget with the homeowner costs presented to residents during 2008 public meetings.

The County of Wetaskiwin is proud to have completed this worthwhile project, and wishes to thank MP Blaine Calkins, MLA Verlyn Olson, County staff, and all others involved for their hard work and patience during the planning and construction phases of the Gwynne Water Project.

For questions or further information, please contact Adam Tittlemore, Research Officer at the County of Wetaskiwin at (780) 352-3321 or email atittlemore@county.wetaskiwin.ab.ca.