# CAO Corner

Hardist

The numbers are in. Tough economic times in our province are starting to show up in our local assessment. The final 2019 assessment figures which form the tax base for the 2020 mill rate and budget are showing a small decline.

Linear Assessment (cable, electric, pipeline, telephone, rail) decreased 3.55% from 2018 mainly due to aging telephone cable and a now obsolete cablevision.

Residential and Non-Residential taxable assessment decreased 2.2% from 2018. A slump in housing sales and lower revenue numbers on non-residential (commercial/industrial) properties brought valuations down and therefore could not totally hold 2018 valuations. With minimal new housing and commercial / industrial starts, additional assessment was not enough to fully combat the effects of a tough Alberta economy on assessment. The additional assessment we did get was enough to mitigate some of the assessment decreases seen by other municipalities in east central rural Alberta which are seeing decreases of 5% or more in assessments.

Overall, Council is looking at a \$24,000 loss in revenue from assessment decline. Budget 2020 delivered on February 27th by the Province further reinforces that tighter financial times are ahead. What we did learn from Budget 2020 is that the Provincial school requisition will increase each year for the next 3 yrs by 4% starting with 2020. The Town of Hardisty's school requisition increased 4% plus an under levy that carried forward to this year from the late delivery of the 2019 Provincial budget of \$2342 for a total requisition of \$312,634. Another new cost that was introduced into this year's budget for the Town

### ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH

Church service & Sunday school at 11:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome!

Spaghetti supper and auction April 6th. Supper and silent auction 5 -7 p.m., live auction to follow. Adults \$10, 6-12 yrs \$8, under 6 are free.

Pancake breakfast and town-wide garage sale - June 13th



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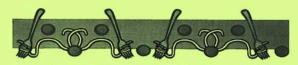
was for Policing. The Provincial government has introduced a new police costing model that applies to urban municipalities with populations under 5000 and all rural municipalities. This new model adds \$11,941 to the Town's 2020 Budget as an additional expense. Following are the estimated costs over the next 4 years: 2021 - \$17,925, 2022 - \$23,882, 2024 - \$35,849 and 2025 - \$35,849.

With the small decrease in assessment and the increase in the school requisition in addition to the new policing cost to the Town's 2020 Budget, Council is confident that they will be able to hold the municipal mill rate and absorb these increased expenses without ratepayers seeing any significant change to their overall tax bill. Many may see a small decrease in their overall tax bill unless their assessment increased or if they are subject to paying minimum tax. This year residential property assessments with a value of \$120,000 or less will be subject to paying municipal minimum tax of \$1000 and non-residential properties with an assessed value of \$71,420 or less.

Good news, Gibson Energy will be commencing the building of their PCC in April – weather permitting according to their contractor Chandos Construction. The Town will be implementing storm water improvements with culvert rehabilitation and resizing to accommodate the development in this area. These stormwater improvements will consist of three new culvert installments and one culvert to be decommissioned. We are currently in the design stage with preparation for tendering late spring with an anticipated completion date of late fall 2020.

Save the date for the United Church Spaghetti Supper with a Silent & Live Auction April 6th and check out your dance shoes and get them ready for the annual Spring Fling April 18th hosted by the Hardisty Rodeo Association.

*"Great opportunities can be and have been created during tough economic times"* – Howard Schultz



St Paul's United Church

And

SILENT and LIVE AUCTION

Hardisty Community Hall Monday April 6th Supper 5 to 7 pm Adults \$10; 6-12yr \$5; under 6 free Live auction following supper For information call \$88-2266 or \$88-3504 Auction items may be brought to the hall afternoon of auction day or call for pickup

Hardisty Lakeview Golf Association

### Annual Spring General meeting

7:30 pm Mon Mar 23, 2020

@

#### **The Clubhouse**

#### Presentation of 2019 financials and budget for 2020.

We are really looking forward to new ideas that people may have. Come out and lets keep the club going!!!!!! March, 2020 Newsletter | Hardisty.ca | 780-888-3623





# **MARCH 2020**

Monday		Tuesday	Wedne	Wednesday		day	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	
									1	
2	W	3	4	<b>*</b>	5	\$	6	7	8	
9	W	10 Coucil meeting @ 7 p.m.	11		12	<b>*</b>	13	14	15	
16	W	17 St. Patrick's Day			19	<b>*</b>	20	21	22	
23	W	24	25		26	<b>*</b>	27	28	29	
30	₩	31	1							

### LEGEND

- Curb-side Gargbage Pick-up
- Hardisty Fire Department Meeting
- Hardisty Library Open
  - Hardisty Bottle Depot Open
- Bingo at Elk's Hall

# Would you like to see your event listed in our newsletter and our website or announced on our Facebook and Twitter accounts?

Email upcoming events to **marketing@hardisty.ca** no later than the 29th of the preceding month.

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Website: www.hardisty.ca Phone: 780-888-3623 Fax: 780-888-2200



# HARDISTY THRIFT SHOP

The Hardisty Thrift Shop is open five days a week to serve the community and surrounding area. **CLOSED Mondays OPEN Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday** 1:30 - 4:30 p.m., Tuesday evening 7 - 9:00 p.m., Friday 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

# Seniors FIRST with FFCS

Thursday, March 5th 10:00 a.m. - Noon FFCS will be in Hardisty at the Town Office to assist Senior Citizens.

# **COFFEE TIME**

Monday to Friday 8:30 - 10:30 a.m. At the Seniors Drop In Center