## **December 2021 Utility Bill Insert ALMIRA TOWN HALL 639-2601**

## **HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!**

## STARTING JANUARY 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2022 TOWN HALL WILL BE OPEN MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY 8-4. CLOSED ON FRIDAYS!!!!

Bills are due on the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month and late after the 25<sup>th</sup>. They are due the 25<sup>th</sup> even if I am not in the office. You can pay by debit or credit card online through the website; drop a check or money order off in the payment box. Please do not use my absence as a reason not to pay your bill.

**UPDATES BY STAFF:** Jeanette has been working on SAM registration and the Budget for 2022.

Brent has been spending quite a bit of time at the school with water and sewer plans for the portables. Otherwise he is just doing regular maintenance around town.

**NEW BUSINESS:** A citizen inquired about purchasing the old Meyers snow plow from the town. The motion was made to surplus the plow as the price offered was very fair.

Ordinance #568 - 2022, the budget for 2022 was approved.

Resolution 2021-136 – Vacation Carry over was approved.

**<u>BUDGET:</u>** Utility Rates for 2022: Tipping fees are going up at the Transfer station. Council decided to do a 1% increase in the utility rates to cover increasing expenses.

Payroll was discussed also. Council will follow the same schedule as last year; employees will get the same increase as minimum wage plus 2%.

**STATUS OF UTILITY ACCOUNTS:** Water went off at two locations for lack of payment. We are carrying around \$10,000 in unpaid utility bills, the majority of that is three accounts that have the water off or disconnected.

RECYCLING: Please remember to break down your cardboard so we can get as much in the bin as possible. No Styrofoam or trash in the bin and <u>cardboard must be corrugated cardboard only</u>, no cereal boxes. It costs \$194 each time we dump the bins so we want to fill them as full as possible. You can put plastic in both sides of the 10-bin. If one side is full go to the other side, please don't leave it barely hanging there and smash your plastic if possible.

If you live in town you pay \$1.25 a month for the privilege to use the recycling bins, we ask that anyone not from in town please pay the same cheap fee. (Fees just increase to help pay for the heavy use of the recycling bins.

The next council meeting is January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 7 pm Please attend and have an input in our community.

**ADJUSTED HOURS:** FRIDAYS - CLOSED

January 3<sup>rd</sup> – Closing at 2:30 pm January 17<sup>th</sup> – HOLIDAY!! Other closures will be posted.

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The <u>Wilbur Food Pantry</u> is open the third Wednesday of every month from 11 a.m. - 1 pm and 5 - 6 p.m. It is located at the Lutheran Church Campus <u>The Food Pantry is for Almira, Wilbur and Creston.</u> If you need more information or want to donate call Lori Retthowski at 647-5402.

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## WE STILL HAVE MASKS AVAILABLE AT TOWN HALL

SNOW PLOW GUIDELINES: Parking on the street is prohibited. Alleys must be kept at a 20' width. Please check your alleyway to make sure it is free and clear by removing all clutter, including all overgrown bushes, shrubs and trees. If a car is parked on the street the snow plow will not clear that side of the road. There will not be a second trip if the plow comes by before vehicles are moved. The same applies to parking in the alleys.

\*Snowmobiles are permitted only on arterials, only at a slow speed, only to get in and out of Town.

\*Leaving faucets turned on slowly during low temperatures can help avoid frozen

IF YOU SEE OR HEAR ANY ALARMS AT THE SEWER PLANT, RESERVOIR OR WELLS PLEASE CALL ONE OF THE FOLLOWING NUMBERS TO REPORT IT!

977-1218 – Brent Robertson 1-509-770-5604 – Mayor Jason Evers 1-509-237-5320 – Dave Phillips