

Question & Answer - Rolla Sewer Meeting – November 16, 2021

Q1. Is the estimated \$1,200 parcel tax going to be applied to each lot?

A1. Yes, the parcel tax will be applied to each lot. Rolla Sewer Service Parcel Tax Bylaw No. 2459, 2021 states that “the parcel tax shall be charged each year on each parcel within the Service Area”.

If you receive multiple taxes notices for different lots, than the parcel tax will appear on each tax notice for every parcel in the sewer service function area. If two lots have been amalgamated into one large lot, than there will be only one parcel tax for the lot.

Q2. Is the parcel tax applied to all the empty lots?

A2. The bylaw specifies all lots within the sewer service area are subject to the parcel tax. There are approximately 75 parcels within the sewer service function area.

Q3. Is the \$1,200 parcel tax going to be on top of our existing taxes?

A3. You have been taxed for the Rolla sewer service for years. The \$1,200 parcel tax for the sewer service will appear on the tax notice as Rolla Hamlet Sewer.

Q4. Are the repair costs including road repairs or is it just the sewer network?

A4. The 2022 repair costs only include repairs to the sewer network. The condition assessment that was conducted in 2021 found that we need approximately \$330,000 in repairs to the sewer collection network.

The condition assessment discussed in 2020 was related to the lagoons and treatment system. Part of the 2020 assessment included the access road. The access road to the treatment system and lagoons is owned and operated by the Peace River Regional District. The access road was upgraded in 2021 using grant funding.

Maintenance of the access road is the responsibility of the Rolla Sewer System users and road maintenance costs are included in the operational costs.

Q5. What if the residents opt out of the whole program and go back to putting our own septic systems in?

A5. The bylaw states that all parcels within the service function area will pay the parcel tax to cover the full costs of delivering the service.

Q6. What if all residents decided they wanted to dissolve the function because of the cost?

A6. Dissolving or removing an existing service is a complex process. The Peace River Regional District is researching the process to ensure we have the exact information for residents. We will report back with our findings once we have completed our research.



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Q7. What was the estimated Rolla Hamlet sewer taxes from 2021?

A7. In 2021, frontage tax was in place. Each parcel would have paid differently depending on how much of the property bordered the sewer line. Different parcels would have been charged a different tax amount depending on how much property bordered the sewer.

The difference with parcel tax is that every single parcel is paying the same amount for the same service. This will take effect in 2022 and is estimated to be \$1,200 per parcel.