



## **2020 Final Newsletter**

Remember to find us on Facebook at: [facebook.com/Township.Minden.Hills/](https://facebook.com/Township.Minden.Hills/) and follow us on Twitter at: [twitter.com/twpmindenhills](https://twitter.com/twpmindenhills).

### **Township Contact Information**

Telephone: 705-286-1260  
Toll Free: 1-844-277-1260  
Email: [admin@mindenhills.ca](mailto:admin@mindenhills.ca)

After Hours Emergency: 1-866-856-3247

Fax: Administration 705-286-4971, Building Bylaw Planning and Finance 705-286-6005, Community Services 705-286-3070, Cultural Centre 705-286-2146

Address: 7 Milne Street, PO Box 359 Minden Ontario K0M 2K0

Hours of Operation: Monday to Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

### **Municipal Telephone Numbers**

Administration/Clerk's Office 705-286-1260 x 212

Finance/Tax 705-286-1260 x 0

Building/By-Law & Planning 705-286-1260 x 209

Cultural Centre 705-286-2808

Agnes Jamieson Gallery 705-286-3763

Minden Hills Museum 705-286-3154

Community Centre/Arena 705-286-1936

Public Works 705-286-3144

Minden Library 705-286-2491

Fire Chief 705-286-1202

Nature's Place 705-286-2298

## **Members of Council**

**Mayor:** Brent Devolin, phone 705-455-7077, email [bdevolin@mindenhills.ca](mailto:bdevolin@mindenhills.ca)

**Deputy Mayor:** Lisa Schell, phone 705 286-1035, email [lschell@mindenhills.ca](mailto:lschell@mindenhills.ca)

### **Councillors:**

**At Large:** Ron Nesbitt, phone 705-328-5590, email [rnesebitt@mindenhills.ca](mailto:rnesebitt@mindenhills.ca)

**Ward 1:** Bob Carter, phone 905-302-7510, email [bcarter@mindenhills.ca](mailto:bcarter@mindenhills.ca)

**Ward 1:** Jennifer Hughey, phone 705-854-1205, email [jhughey@mindenhills.ca](mailto:jhughey@mindenhills.ca)

**Ward 2:** Pam Sayne, phone 705-454-9804, email [psayne@mindenhills.ca](mailto:psayne@mindenhills.ca)

**Ward 3:** Jean Neville, phone 705-286-2345, email [jneville@mindenhills.ca](mailto:jneville@mindenhills.ca)

## **Department Information**

### **Clerk's Office**

As a result of the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) outbreak, all Council and Committee of the Whole meetings will be conducted virtually via web conference, until further notice.

During this unprecedented time, the health and safety of our community is of paramount importance. Members of the public are invited to observe Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link available on our website at <https://mindenhills.ca/council/>.

### **2020 Remaining Meeting Schedule**

<b>Committee of the Whole (COTW)</b>	<b>Council</b>
COTW cancelled for July	Council July 30
COTW cancelled for August	Council August 27
COTW September 10	Council September 24
COTW October 8	Council October 29
COTW November 12	Council November 26
COTW cancelled for December	Council December 10

### **Services**

The Clerk's Office Provides the Following Services:

) Council Agendas, Minutes Coordination.

- ) Marriage Licences issued by appointment.
- ) Civil Marriage Ceremonies by appointment. Performed on the second Friday of the month, subject to availability, between the hours of 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM on Municipal property in town.
- ) Birth, Marriage and Death Certificates. Application Forms available.
- ) Lottery Licences.
- ) Municipal Elections.
- ) Commissioner of Oaths administered on prescribed forms that state "Commissioner for taking Affidavits". Please provide all information sheets and signature must be performed in front of the Commissioner. Valid Government issued photo ID required. \$10.00. Please note: Health Cards will not be accepted as Government ID.

## **Landfill and Water/Sewer**

Thank you for your patience.

COVID-19 presented the waste industry with unprecedented challenges through the early part of 2020. As a result, we had to make significant changes to the operations at our waste sites. We understand that these changes were inconvenient and difficult to understand. We want to thank you for the patience you have shown while we work to put alternative payment and waste inspection systems in place. Stay tuned.

## **2020 Household Hazardous Waste Event Schedule**

All events take place at the Scotch Line Landfill and run from 8 AM to 11:30 AM. Please visit [mindenhills.ca/landfill](http://mindenhills.ca/landfill) for a list of accepted materials.

Dates: June 20, August 8, September 5 and October 10

At Minden Hills Household Hazardous Waste collection events, you may now be asked to remain in your vehicle while a staff person unloads your materials for you. There are many reasons for this:

1. While COVID-19 is still a threat, this practice reduces the number of people gathering at the hazardous waste drop off point, allowing for social distancing.
2. During the events, the site is very busy and there is a lot of traffic. Reducing the number of people outside of vehicles keeps you safe and makes driving around the site less confusing for those operating a vehicle.
3. Serving one customer at a time prevents spills and allows full and proper review and sorting of the waste.

Staff are trained on fast, safe unloading procedures and will work hard to make sure that wait times are as minimal as possible. We sincerely thank you for working with us under this new protocol and we look forward to serving you at our next event!

## **Summer Recycling Tips**

These summer items bring a lot of confusion. Can I recycle it? Can it go in the garbage? Here's a quick summary of some tricky summer disposable items:

Item	Disposal Method
Tin Foil	Clean – Blue Box Container Dirty - Garbage
Camping Fuel Cylinders	Empty or Full – Hazardous Waste Event
Pool Toys	Garbage
Disposable Cutlery	Garbage

## Do You Rent or Share your Cottage?

Before your guests begin their vacation:

- ) Ensure there are clear garbage bags available for use.
- ) Leave a landfill access pass at the cottage for them (We do not accept photos or photocopies).
- ) Remind your guests that this is bear country (Waste should be kept in a safe place where it won't attract animals, and recycling should be rinsed).

Your guests are welcome to call with questions about waste and recycling: 705-286-3144.

## Finance Department

### 2020 Final Tax Billing

The 2020 property tax installment dates are May 29, June 26, July 24 and September 18. However, late payment charges shall be suspended on all tax installments that are unpaid by the due dates. Interest at the rate of one and one quarter percent (1 1/4%) per month shall be charged on the first (1<sup>st</sup>) day following December 4, 2020, on all due and unpaid 2020 taxes.

Interest at the rate of one and one quarter percent (1 1/4%) per month will continue to be levied against taxes owing for previous years (2019 and older).

Preauthorized payment plan withdrawals will continue as originally scheduled. Ten (10) month plan and Arrears plan payments will be deducted on the last business day of each month. The installment plan payments will be withdrawn on July 24<sup>th</sup> and September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Post-dated cheques on file will also be deposited on the dates as indicated on the cheques.

If you have any questions regarding your preauthorized payment plan or post-dated cheques, please call (705) 286-1260, ext 201. We encourage account holders to utilize the payment methods available, and to submit payments as soon as reasonably possible.

### Payment Methods

- ) Cash and debit payments are currently suspended
- ) On-line or telephone banking

- ) Payment at financial institutions
- ) Cheque – by mail or deposit in the drop box. Cheque-by mail or deposit in the drop box. The secure (locked) drop box is labelled and located on the north wall of the Administration building facing Pritchard Lane and the Municipal parking lot. It is accessed from the wheelchair entrance and is at the top of the first ramp. Please enclose your payment stub or write your roll number on your cheque.

### **Absolutely No Cash is to be deposited in the Drop Box**

The Township offers the following preauthorized payment plans. There is NO FEE to sign up:

- ) A ten (10) month plan to make budgeting easier. There are no payments in December or January which allows you to catch up from the busy holiday season
- ) A due date plan in which your payment is automatically deducted on the designated due date.

Download the form at <https://mindenhills.ca/finance-and-tax-department/tax-information/>

### **Township of Minden Hills 2020 Budget**

On February 27th the 2020 Budget, including the Estimates By-Law #20-33 and the By-Law to Authorize the Levying of Rates of Taxation (#20-34) was approved by resolution of Council.

All reports and draft by-laws reviewed and discussed at these meetings can be viewed from the following link:

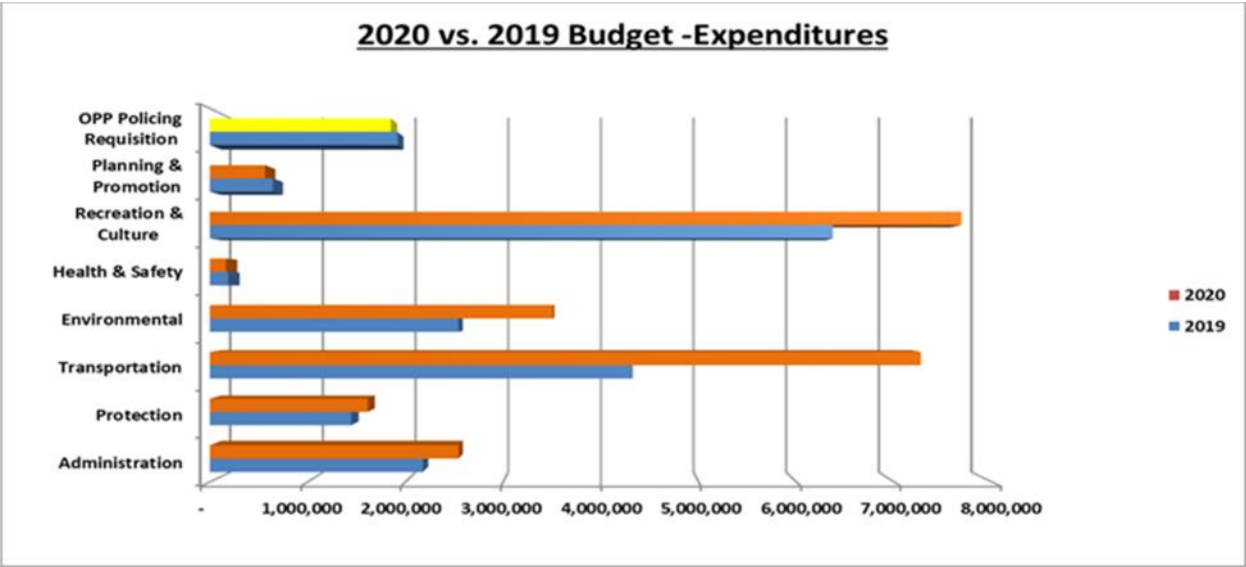
<https://mindenhills.ca/council/> and click on Agendas/Minutes.

#### An Important Fact Regarding Your Tax Dollars

The Municipal portion of your tax billing includes an amount for OPP (Ontario Provincial Police). In 2020 this amount has been estimated and requisitioned at \$1,849,221, or 7.35% of total expenditures and 20.82% of the municipal tax levy.

The February 13, 2020 public meeting and final budget reports can be viewed at <https://mindenhills.ca/finance-and-tax-department/budget/>. Readers are encouraged to review this information in order to obtain a full understanding of the 2020 budget and budget process.

The consolidated version of the 2020 Budget can also be found at: <https://mindenhills.ca/finance-and-tax-department/budget/>



Rates	Municipal	County	Education	Total
Residential 2020	0.00372662 50.37%	0.00214199 28.95%	0.00153000 20.68%	0.00739861 100%
Residential 2019	0.00364817 49.53%	0.00210683 28.61%	0.00161000 21.86%	0.00736500 100%
<b>% Increase</b>	<b>2.15%</b>	<b>1.67%</b>	<b>-4.9%</b>	
Commercial 2020	0.00552546 29.87%	0.00317593 17.17%	0.00980000 52.97%	0.01850139 100%
Commercial 2019	0.00540914 28.72%	0.00312380 16.59%	0.01030000 54.69%	0.01883294 100%
<b>% Increase</b>	<b>2.15%</b>	<b>1.67%</b>	<b>-4.85%</b>	

This chart outlines the percentage allocation (Municipal, County and Education), as well as the percentage increase, for 2019 and 2020 residential and commercial tax rates.

The overall residential rate has increased by 0.46% while the commercial rate has decreased by 1.76%

**Fire Department**

**A Message from the Minden Hills Fire Department about Alcohol based Hand Sanitizer**

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, personal use of alcohol based hand sanitizer has received considerable attention as one method of helping to prevent the spread of the virus. Hand sanitizer presents fire safety concerns, especially when stored in bulk quantities. For any storage amount over 18 liters (5 gallons) safe storage of flammable and combustible liquids apply.

What we're seeing during [the coronavirus] pandemic is a lot of hand sanitizer being stored in places you might expect, like hospitals, but also in places that haven't traditionally stored such liquids. In doing so, these individuals or companies may be compromising safety, if protection systems designed to protect the storage of such

quantities of flammable liquids are not in place. The Minden Hills Fire Department urges everyone that containers should be kept in an upright position and properly sealed to avoid spillage. As an added precaution, containers of hand sanitizers should be kept out of direct sun- light and away from heat sources to avoid leakage from over pressurization of the container. People should be reminded that these products are flammable, and it is imperative that they read and follow directions and warnings on the labels.

In addition to the information above, the Minden Hills Fire Department has prepared the following questions and answers to assist users of alcohol based hand sanitizers:

1. Is it safe to smoke after using hand sanitizer?

Hand sanitizer is flammable and may give off flammable vapours. It should be kept away from open flames and sources of heat. When using hand sanitizer, hands should be rubbed together until they are completely dry. People should be especially careful if attempting to smoke, light candles, or use a gas stove immediately after applying hand sanitizer.

2. Is it safe to leave hand sanitizer in a hot vehicle?

According to the NFPA and the OFM, hand sanitizer will not spontaneously combust or explode if left in a hot vehicle. Containers should be kept in an upright position and properly sealed to avoid leakage. Containers should not be left in direct sunlight, as an added precaution, to avoid spillage or leakage from pressurization of the container. Product label warnings should be carefully read and followed.

3. Is hand sanitizer flammable?

Alcohol-based hand sanitizer is flammable and may give off flammable vapours which could ignite if exposed to open flame or an ignition source. Caution should be used to keep away from open flames and avoid sources of heat. Product label warnings should be carefully read and followed.