



VILLAGE OF RYLEY

“LIVE THE LIFE OF RYLEY”

CAO's Corner – May 6, 2026

Hello Ryley, enclosed is your monthly utility bill, the fourth this year with our new 2026 fee rate structure that includes your *Claystone Waste Garbage Rebate*.

Claystone Waste Limited is our Garbage Collection Service Provider. Ryley is part owner of the company along with the four other Beaver County regional municipalities. As such, we enjoy company profits in the form of an annual dividend. This year, the Village received \$344,517.03 as its share of the annual dividend.

Dividend revenue does two things for you: it reduces the amount of taxes the Village needs to raise to pay for programs and services, and it provides Council with the ability to invest in much needed capital infrastructure upgrades. This year, \$154,158 of the dividend funds will go toward the \$1.6 Million, 56 Avenue Water, Sewer and Road Replacement Project. Paving of 56 Avenue will be completed in 2027 to allow for the road to be packed down and to give time in case we need to go in and adjust any new work before covering it up tight with asphalt. Other funding for this project is from the Clean Harbors Donation and the Province of Alberta Infrastructure Grants (Local Government Fiscal Framework - LGFF).

So, what about the remaining \$190,359 from the 2026 Claystone Dividend? As mentioned, this money would otherwise be raised in taxes – your tax bill is lower than it would otherwise be because Council has applied it to reduce the 2026 Municipal Tax Levy. Here is where that money will be spent:

CLAYSTONE DIVIDEND FUNDS	
Public Works Maintenance	\$144,359
Business & Commercial Grant	\$15,000
Garbage Rebate/Subsidy	\$25,000
Advertising & Promotions	\$6,000

Maintenance for our Village of Ryley roads and properties is costly. From snow clearing to road sweeping to grass cutting, and from managing water, sewer and stormwater drainage systems, the dividend will contribute \$144,359 of these maintenance costs. Overall, Ryley maintenance costs are around \$560K each year. Utility fees collected will be around \$375K and \$128K of your taxes will pay for the remainder of Village Public Works Maintenance.

Council invests in Ryley's business and commercial district through two grants to assist our businesses. \$15K of the dividend funds is allocated to the two annual initiatives called the Business Grant and the Commercial Grant.

Garbage collection and sewer utility rates have been the same since 2009. A significant portion of your taxes were subsidizing the actual cost of these two services for many years. As of January 2026, the Village now pays for the actual cost to provide utility services from the fees charged and this has removed that budget pressure from your taxes.

Unfortunately, this means that sewer and garbage rates went up significantly in 2026.

However, when you look at your utility bill, you will see a "**CLAYSTONE Garbage Rebate**" credit applied to your bill. This reflects the \$25K that Council has taken from the dividend funds to subsidize your actual cost garbage fee. For example, the Residential Garbage Fee is now \$15 per month. This is the actual cost to provide the service. The Residential Claystone Garbage Rebate is **\$6.54** which reduces the actual cost to \$8.46 per month.

As 2026 rolls into Spring, watch for 49 Street finally being paved now that it has had a chance to be packed down properly. In these times of financial challenge, your Council and Staff are working hard to keep costs as low as possible while providing the best programs and services. Let's keep *Living the Life of Ryley*.



Glen Hamilton-Brown
Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)