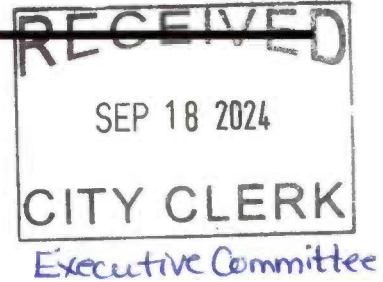


**Terri Mercier**

**From:** Dale Blenner-Hassett <d.blenner.hassett@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 17, 2024 3:43 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Public Agenda - Monday September 23, 2024  
**Attachments:** 20240917152836150.pdf



[You don't often get email from d.blenner.hassett@icloud.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

To the City Clerk, City of Prince Albert

Please put this matter on The Public Agenda - for Monday, September 23, 2024

Please circulate the attached eight pages to all concerned.

The taxpayer presenter will be present - and will speak to the matter before Mayor and Council.

Please confirm receipt of this material

- If any questions, please ask.

Thank you very kindly for your service - and time and assistance.

- Dale N. Blenner - Hassett  
Prince Albert, Sask.

**Recommended  
Disposition:**

Receive as  
Info & File

>

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**Property Owner and Taxpayer** Dale Blenner – Hassett

**The Property** 1545 McIntosh Drive, Prince Albert, Sask.  
(Mailing address is # 3 – 138 – 9<sup>th</sup> Street East, P.A.)

**Nature of Matter** An invoice from the City of Prince Albert -  
Park, Recreation & Culture Department  
Amount \$ 420.00 – date Aug. 30, 2024

**Documents attached, include**

1. the August 15, 2024 City of Prince Albert letter (“Weed Control Notice” to the taxpayer; and
2. the envelope it came in; and
3. The email from the City (Cheryl Clayton, Sec. Parks, Rec.) to the taxpayer (with c.c. to Tim Yeaman, Parks Manager) setting out the dates involved;
4. The Invoice from the City of Prince Albert to the taxpayer, dated August 30, 2024 (\$ 420.00, being \$ 400.00 plus GST 20.00)

The **Invoice** is for Cutting of Weeds/grass at 1545 McIntosh Drive, Prince Albert, Sask.  
By the City of Prince Albert on August 27, 2024  
(Date is incorrect - actually it was August “26”)  
INVOICE000123936, \$ 420.00

**The Act or Regulation at issue**

ss. 7(a) of The Weed Control Act / Regulations of December 1, 2010  
in this case concerning Dandelion, Canada Thistle  
The quote from the August 15, 2024 letter from the City (Weed Control Notice) reads  
“In accordance with Section 7 (a) of the Regulation, you are hereby notified that the designated weeds shall be destroyed **within seven (7) days of the posting of this letter.**”

**The taxpayer submits** that the actions of the City Dept. and staff, using the said Regulations was an unfairness on the taxpayer, and resulted in an unfair, improper, without notice Invoice to the taxpayer, that should be waived, and the taxpayer should not have to pay.

As well, the combination of this Regulation concerning within seven days of posting and the operation and inflexibility of the City Staff puts an unfairness on the taxpayers of Prince Albert. The Regulation is improper, faulty, out of date, ill thought out and should be revised, so as not to continue to force improper invoices and costs on Prince Albert taxpayers.

**The Relief Requested by the Taxpayer**

1. City Council Waive Invoice No. INVOICE000123936, dated 8/30/2024, in the amount of \$ 420.00
2. City Council Revise ss. 7(a) of The Weed Control Act Regulations of December 1, 2010 to avoid this recurring problem now and into the future.

**What Happened – and The Timeline**

**Fri. August 23, 2024**

The taxpayer found a notice in his mailbox that there was a (registered) Letter at Canada Post Cornerstone for pick up.

The taxpayer went down to pick up the Letter .

The Letter was not available, and or staff were not available, they would not or could not give the letter to the taxpayer.

**Sat. August 24, 2024**

The taxpayer went back to Canada Post Cornerstone to try again, to pick up the Letter. He obtained the letter, opened up, and the letter read that he needed to destroy the weeds (cut the grass) within seven (7) days of the posting of the letter, or else be charged the cost of \$400.00 for a first offence under The Weed Control Act / Regulations.

August 24 was a Saturday, City Hall was not Open on August 24 or 25, 2024.

**Mon. August 26, 2024**

The taxpayer (through his secretary) called City of Prince Albert Park, Recreation to tell them that he just received the letter and was on his way to cut the grass, and for the City to be aware of this and take no further action.

City staff passed on the call a few times and eventually told the taxpayer that it didn't matter if he was going to cut, he had missed the deadline, he would be charged, and that he better pay better attention, that this was his fault only. The City would not wait, and it would Bill \$ 400 plus, no matter what the taxpayer did.

Meanwhile the taxpayer did attend at 1545 McIntosh Drive to cut the grass and tidy the property, he found the grass had been cut down (and left).

The taxpayer wanted to explain the letter and deadline mix up to City Park, Rec. and clear up the misunderstanding.

The taxpayer called first "Jordan Parenteau" the writer of the August 15, 2024 Letter, who would not talk to the taxpayer, and he was told the matter was in the hands of Tim Yeaman, Parks and Open Spaces Manager.

The Taxpayer called Mr. Yeaman, and was told he was busy or out of the office.

The Taxpayer emailed Mr. Yeaman, and dropped in to City Hall to talk to Mr. Yeaman.

The Taxpayer was told that Mr. Yeaman was either not in or not available and would not be talking to the taxpayer.

When the Taxpayer finally heard from Mr. Yeaman (by return email) he was told that there was nothing he could or would do, and that he would not meet with the taxpayer, as there was no purpose to. He specifically said that his obligation was simply to have the letter prepared and put it in the mail, and that his obligation ended there – and that whatever happened in the mail was not his concern, no matter when the taxpayer recipient actually received the Letter, even if it was way later than the deadline imposed. He said that he, the City had complied with the Regulations (within seven days of posting of the letter)

The taxpayer asked for the Parks Manager’s supervisor, and that information was not provided to the taxpayer. The taxpayer asked for a supervisor to talk to or an Ombudsman or Complaints officer to speak to, and was told there was none, that he could go talk to The Mayor if he wanted – and that nobody else at City Hall would be talking to him.

The taxpayer never did get to speak to the Parks Manager or anyone. The taxpayer spend the rest of the afternoon (Mon. August 26, 2024), as he planned, raking the property from the mess the City cut made, and tidying up any garbage or weeds or wrappers, trimming trees, cutting grass, etc. - & the property was in Excellent condition by the end of day.

**Thursday, August 15, 2024**

It turns Out that The City Park, Recreation had put the letter in a post box somewhere, sometime on Thursday, August 15, 2024 (could have been at the very end of the day). The Letter was a Registered Letter, with extra steps and extra process to go through before the recipient ever touched or saw the letter. The letter probably would not move until at least Fri. August 16, and then there was a full weekend (August 17 and 18, 2024). The letter likely doesn’t move much anywhere until Mon. August 19, and then would have to be sent to the sorting plant (and out of town ??) and finally making its way to Canada Post Cornerstone, and then out to the taxpayer at 138 – 9<sup>th</sup> Street East, and indeed it wasn’t delivered to the taxpayer’s address until Thurs. August 22 (“attempted delivery on Wed. August 21, whatever that means.) And that is / was The Deadline for The Fine Costs – and that was just a simple notice that there was a letter at Canada Post Cornerstone – and even that it may not be available for pick up until the next day August 23 or the day after – August 24, 2024 Sat. – and that is when it was picked up – on a Sat. August 24, 2024, two days after the unfair City – Imposed Deadline. *“left + notice” Aug. 22*

It was Impossible for the taxpayer to comply with the demand of the City – destroy the weeds or else be fined \$ 400.00 plus.

The taxpayer didn’t even become aware of the matter until two days After the passing of the City imposed deadline. There was nothing he could do not to get fined.

Not that the taxpayer did nothing wrong – or even slackly concerning this Notice – matter. Note, in fact the taxpayer acted very swiftly and did everything (and more) that a reasonable citizen could be expected to do.

**Note - In The Past – Up till Now – Bylaw**

Notably, in the past, the last few years, these matters were under the control or supervision of the Bylaw Dept. And, the taxpayer worked well with the Bylaw Dept.

The Bylaw Dept., when it noticed or became alerted, to unkept grass, yard would (phone) Call the taxpayer (or his agent) and would email the taxpayer – and tell him to get this fixed (usually in the two weeks ish a reasonable time) or else Bylaw would have to start the formal ticket process – and if it did, there was still another 30 days or so for the taxpayer to remedy the yard before he was ticketed. This system worked well – Bylaw always notified, the taxpayer always complied promptly, the taxpayer was never ticketed or charged or billed. This worked well for years and years. Then this year 2024 things totally changed somehow – and the taxpayer was not notified of these changes – and instead of what he was used to for several years, this is what happens, this false notice and boom an Offence Charge \$ 420.00, with no chance whatsoever to comply.

#### **August 28, 2024**

The Parks Manager (by email) said that he would be sending the taxpayer a bill, just as the Letter said, and he was expected to pay it and in the future not to letter this happen again, so that the City was not required to take further action again.

Approx. September 9, 10, 2024 the taxpayer received The Invoice from the City of Prince of Albert, in the amount of \$ 400 plus GST, totalling \$ 420.00, to be paid within 30 days of 08/30.

The taxpayer objects to all of this, specifically to the Invoice presented to him, and generally to the process used in this matter by the City – Park, Rec., that imposes a significant hardship on the taxpayer – and on other taxpayers and property owners, past, present and future - who find themselves in similar circumstances.

The City, especially when using the brute force of government should follow rules of fairness and administrative fairness – and should be expected to provide fair and reasonable timelines for taxpayers to fulfill what has been requested or demanded.

The City should not be able to forcibly take a taxpayer's hard-earned and too-short money out of her pocket without following a fair process, a real process, not a sham, and giving the taxpayer every opportunity to do what needs to be done, and then only penalized after the taxpayer has had fair and full notice and opportunity to comply.

This matter has been very frustrating, it has cost a lot of time and stress, and economic hardship. It is frustrating that City Hall would treat an honest and innocent taxpayer like this, and further to think that is o.k. and the taxpayer should just Shut Up and Pay. This matter has greatly diminished the taxpayer's respect for The City and its staff and processes. This is not at all the way to serve the citizens and taxpayers of Prince Albert.

The Taxpayer submits that: The City should:

- Reverse or waive the Invoice,
- Revise the faulty Regulation (seven days of posting of the letter), and
- Apologize to the taxpayer.



City of  
**Prince Albert**

**WEED CONTROL NOTICE**

ORDER NO. 029/24

DATE OF ISSUE August 15, 2024

Dear Sir/Madam:

It has come to the City's attention that the following weeds, declared **Nuisance** and **Noxious** under **The Weed Control Act/Regulations of December 1, 2010**, have become established on your land:

- Dandelion, Canada Thistle

In accordance with Section 7 (a) of the Regulation, you are hereby notified that the designated weeds shall be destroyed within seven (7) days of the posting of this letter.

At the expiration of the said seven (7) days, your property will be re-inspected. Your co-operation in destroying the above noted weeds will be appreciated; however, failure on your part to do so will necessitate the use of City forces and a subsequent charge to you for the cost of ~~\$400.00~~ for each offence. Please note that if the use of City forces is required, and/or the property falls into citable condition in the future, it will result in a regular scheduled maintenance order to be placed on the property.

The property in question is described as follows:

**Lot(s)** 14  
**Block** 117  
**Plan** 78PA22838 EXT 0  
**Known As** 1545 MCINTOSH DRIVE

**TO:** EVA BLENNER-HASSETT

**ADDRESS:** C/O #3, 138 9 STREET EAST  
PRINCE ALBERT, SK S6V 0X5

If you have any questions about the above notice, or require an extension, please contact the number provided below.

Jordan Parenteau  
Park, Recreation & Culture Department  
(306) 953-4800

/cc

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City of Prince Albert  
1084 Central  
Prince Albert  
Canada S6V  
www.citypa



103645 910 177 574

CORNERSTONE PO  
SHOPPERS DRUG MART #0447  
230-800 15TH ST E  
PRINCE ALBERT SK  
S6V 8E0

103645

FP041 6473118  
003946 uszfy  
0815 146836



REGISTERED RECOMMANDÉ

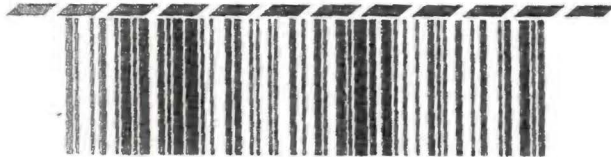
RN 664 064 376 CA

RN 664 064 376 CA

SIGNATURE



109



TRACKING NUMBER RN 664 064 376 CA N° DE REPÉRAGE

Sender warrants that this item does not contain non-mailable matter.  
L'expéditeur garantit que cet envoi ne contient pas d'objet inadmissible.

113

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**From:** Cheryl Clayton CClayton@citypa.com  
**Subject:** RE: 1545 McIntosh Drive  
**Date:** August 28, 2024 at 10:34 AM  
**To:** Tim Yeaman TYeaman@citypa.com, Dale Hassett d.blenner.hassett@icloud.com

Morning, Please find all details attached and below. Thank you.

**Citing info:**

Complaint came in August 9. Caller was advised by Police to report property after an incident as they stated it was a safety concern.

Inspected August 13

Property cited August 15

Attempted letter deliver August 21

Attempted letter deliver and left notice August 22

Deadline August 22

Letter picked up August 24.

Cut by City mid-day August 26

Called for an extension at 1:19pm of August 26. Foreman was called at 1:22pm but they had already started and/or completed the cut.

**Cheryl Clayton**

Secretary II, Parks, Recreation & Culture

City Hall | 1084 Central Avenue

Prince Albert SK, S6V 7P3

P: 306.953.4804

E: [cclayton@citypa.com](mailto:cclayton@citypa.com)

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City of  
**Prince  
Albert**



4



# City of Prince Albert

1084 Central Avenue  
Prince Albert, SK S6V 7P3

## INVOICE

**EVA MARINA BLENNER-HASSETT**  
**138 9 STREET EAST**  
**NUMBER 3**  
**PRINCE ALBERT SK S6V 0X5**

Customer Number: BLENNE0

Page: 1

Invoice: INVOICE000123936

Date: 8/30/2024

Payment Terms: Net 30

Contact: (306) 953-4321

GST #: 121683239RT0001

Quantity	Description	U Of M	Unit Price	Subtotal
1	CUTTING OF WEEDS/GRASS	EACH	\$400.00	\$400.00
	CUTTING OF WEEDS/GRASS @ 1545 MCINTOSH DR. P.A. SK, COMPLETED BY THE CITY OF P.A. ON AUG. 27, 2024 IN RESPONSE TO WEED CONTROL ACT ORDER #029 AUG. 15, 2024			

Interest shall be charged on all overdue accounts at 1.5% per month commencing 60 days after the date of this invoice.

Subtotal	\$400.00
GST	\$20.00
PST	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$420.00</b>

Please return this portion with your payment.

Customer ID BLENNE0

Customer EVA MARINA BLENNER-HASSETT BL #

Invoice No. INVOICE000123936

**City of Prince Albert**  
1084 Central Avenue  
Prince Albert, SK  
S6V 7P3

Invoice Total	Amount Paid
\$420.00	