

Municipal Highlights

January 2020

Photo: John Bruce

We decided to change the name of the Municipal Minute to Municipal Highlights to prevent confusion with minutes of Council meetings. This publication is dedicated to providing residents with important information to highlight significant developments and other noteworthy items from the Placentia Council Chamber. The Municipal Highlights will be published following each Council meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Condolences were extended to the family of the late John Crosbie on behalf of Council and Staff. Mr. Crosbie will always be remembered for his honesty, candor and wit. He was a strong advocate for NL and his presence will be deeply missed.

EXPENDITURE HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights of Council expenditures included:

- \$1,350 to cover upgrades to the existing camera service at Unity PARC.
- \$104.99 per month for a 12 month period to Infotech Monitoring and Management for computer support/service.
- \$2,486 for the maintenance of Town owned generators for a one year period.
- \$1,577.50 for the annual Employee Recognition Dinner
- \$3,507.50 plus HST to Afonso Group Limited for emergency inspection of the Wyse's Pond intake in December 2019.
- \$16,000 to purchase a preowned ride on sidewalk snow blower pending an approved mechanical inspection.

2020 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Council's 2020 balanced budget of \$7,248,485 was prepared with good fiscal management, exercising efficiencies in all departments.

- No increase in mil rate
- New minimal charge of \$100 for water and sewer services to vacant land mandated by Provincial Government
- Community consultations, Placentia Aware, Council meeting live streaming and Municipal Highlights will continue
- Proceed to tender for next phase of the Dunville Water Line Project (connect Gull Pond, Barron's Pond and Clark's Pond and upgrade to existing pumphouse)

- Grant to Placentia Area Development Association for delivery of the summer recreation program
- \$8,000 for supply and installation of Carbon Monoxide detectors at Unity PARC
- Continue with RFP to design and construct new Wellness Centre
- \$5,000 towards new rowing equipment
- \$15,000 for softball field improvements
- \$40,000 for energy conservation
- \$4,000 for fire prevention supplies
- \$5,500 for Arts Centre Supplies
- \$60,000 for new asphalt.
- \$10,000 for the removal of dilapidated properties process

| Department | Expense |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| General Government | \$1,025,667 |
| Protective Services | 184,135 |
| Transportation | 1,001,335 |
| Environmental Health | 906,166 |
| Planning & Development | 67,286 |
| Public Engagement | 25,000 |
| Economic Development | 25,000 |
| Recreation & Culture | 481,051 |
| Fiscal Services | 3,532,845 |
| | |
| Total 2020 Budget | \$7,248,485 |

The total overall 2020 budget reflects \$4.7 million for operating expenditures with the balance of 2.5 million being invested multi year capital works and gas tax projects.

CONVENT RESTORATION

The Town's Cultural, Tourism and Beautification Committee held a community engagement session in January regarding the urgency for



repairs to Our Lady of Angels Convent. Parish Priest Father Jose, members of Council, the Placentia Area Historical Society and interested individuals from the community attended the meeting. Council supported the Committee's recommendation to seek provincial and federal funding for immediate repairs to Placentia's

oldest heritage structure. The Committee will also be exploring suitable ways to repurpose the structure while safeguarding its cultural integrity.

ON-STREET PARKING BAN CONTINUES

The Town reminds all residents, on-street parking is prohibited between the hours of 12:00AM and 10:00AM for the period of December 1st to March 31st in order to effectively carry out snow clearing activities. Also, for safety reasons, the dumping of snow from driveways onto public roadways will not be tolerated.

The Town has been authorized by the Provincial Government to issue summary offense tickets for such infractions. A full list of infractions as well as their associated fines can be seen at <http://www.placentia.ca> in the *Town of Placentia Traffic Regulations*. Please note damages to personal property (fences, garbage boxes etc.) due to the accumulation of snow are not the responsibility of the Town or its contractor. Residents are asked to keep their garbage boxes free of snow to allow for safe waste collection.

RECREATION WINTER ACTIVITY GUIDE

The Recreation Department released a Winter Activity Guide this month. The guide includes information on recreation programs and activities available in Placentia. You can find it on the Town app, website and at the Town Hall.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The following is a list of upcoming events that the Town is hosting or partnering with various community stakeholders to deliver: Visit www.placentia.ca/events for more details!

- Placentia Winter Carnival - February 13-16
- Community Clean up Challenge - May 2
- Age Friendly Expo – May 29-30
- Multicultural Celebration – June 27
- Canada Day Celebration – July 1
- PATH Summer Theatre Festival - July & August
- Argentinia Days - July 10-12
- Annual Placentia Regatta – July 18
- Voices of Placentia Bay Festival – July 31– August 2
- Placentia Area Historical Society Tea Party - August 8
- Ferndale Family Fun Day - (TBA)
- Orak-Bat Basque Dancers - August 9 -12
- Jake's Car 'N Shine - August 22
- Placentia Bay Industrial Showcase – September 15-17
- Trunk or Treat – October (TBA)
- Light up the Square – November 30
- Santa Parade – December 5
- Mummies' Parade – December 27

PLACENTIA WINTER CARNIVAL

Deputy Mayor Pearson and Councillor Jane Hynes will Co-Chair this year's winter carnival scheduled for February 13-16, 2020. If your business or community organization would like to sponsor or coordinate an event, contact either Gord Pike gpike@placentia.ca or Rhonda Power rpower@placentia.ca.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next public meeting is scheduled for 7PM February 18, 2020. Submissions, including permit applications, for consideration by Council are due by Friday, February 7, 2020. Members of the public are welcome and encouraged to attend all public council meetings. The broadcast of future meetings can be found on YouTube by searching for Town of Placentia Council.

Community Kindness

Winter weather is upon us. There are many residents, especially Seniors who are unable to keep their property clear of snow and ice. Help keep them safe.

Here are some things that people are doing to help.

- Plowing or shovelling driveways
- Clearing walkways and entrances
- Keeping exhaust vents clear
- Shovelling out fire hydrants



If you would like to acknowledge someone that helped you, post it here! #PlacentiaSnowAngels

"Do something nice for somebody today, you'll feel better for it." (Bas Jamieson)