

Municipal Highlights



Photo: John Bruce

January 2021

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 is published following each Council meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council extended a warm welcome to the Town's new Chief Administrative Officer, Mr. Rob Beaupertuis. Rob will lead our administration in delivering Council directives set for the Town, while ensuring that the Town remains compliant with all legislation pertaining to municipalities in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Council extended congratulations to Jared Picco for making the 2021 U14 Provincial Softball Newfoundland and Labrador team and Kaitlyn Sweeney who was selected for the NL U22 Female Canada Games Softball team.

EXPENDITURE HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights of Council expenditures included:

- \$14,347.84 plus HST as the Town's portion towards COVID Stimulus Program for upgrades to the Public Works Facility on a 90/10 Provincial/Community cost-shared basis.
- \$1,080 for renewal of Travel Accident Policy from Cal LeGrow
- \$1,324.80 for installation & balancing of tires for F350 truck
- \$1,428.30 for water treatment supplies
- \$3,444.48 for annual renewal of email apps business accounts
- \$1,610 for 14-hour rental of semi dump truck to transport salt from Point Verde to Argentia
- \$2,309.20 for professional services rendered for grievance hearing
- \$17,361.50 for first quarter assessment fees by Municipal Assessment
- \$1,265 for shipment of water supplies in November
- \$1,630.70 for shipment of water supplies in December
- \$1,524 including HST for emergency electrical repairs to O'Reilly Street lift station.
- \$6,863.07 for software licencing.
- \$25,731.25 for motor replacement at Placentia Pumphouse

- \$11,261.38 for heavy equipment rental from August to October 2020
- \$3,660.70 including HST for maintenance to Town owned generators
- \$2,500 (not to exceed) to acquire a survey of the convent land

PERMITS

Council approved the following permits:

- Two vendor permits
- One Commercial Development Permit

FIREWORKS

The Town's Community Fireworks Display was a success and thanks were extended to the Fire Department and Tourism Department. Family fireworks were frequent during the days around New Years and are becoming an issue. The option of the Town creating a bylaw for the use of fireworks during a specific timeframe was discussed. Flares were also being set off in the Town over the holidays. This misuse of flares is illegal, and the matter will be forwarded to the RCMP.

PLACENTIA WINTER CARNIVAL

Planning is underway for the 2021 Winter Carnival scheduled for February 18-22nd. Follow our website and social media for updates! The theme for this year's carnival will be "Carnival 2021 is here! So let's do it another way this year!" The schedule will be a combination of virtual and small gathering events following public health guidelines. Organizations and businesses interested in sponsoring an event can contact the Manager of Recreation & Community Programming 227-2151 x 225 or gpik@placentia.ca.



INDISCRIMINATE DUMPING

There have been more reports of indiscriminate dumping in Argentia. Crime Stopper signs have been placed around Argentia for awareness. Below is a picture of the most recent illegal dumping. The Town's Tourism Cultural and Beautification Committee will also be working with Public Works to address the unsightly properties throughout the Town.



ANIMAL CONTROL

The issue of roaming dogs in Dunville continues to be pursued by the Municipal Enforcement Officer; however, current bylaws restrict the Town's authority to resolve the issue. Current bylaws will be reviewed and required amendments will be made. Residents are reminded to keep their dog licenced and to call the Town's emergency line, 227-4314 or 227-4316, for issues after 5:00 pm or during weekends.

RETURN TO PLAY

Staff are remaining vigilant and are continuing to follow guidelines and rules in place at the arena. Safety remains the number one priority. Participants up to the age of 18 are now permitted two parents/guardians to accompany them into the facility for any practices and games. Note that the renter is still responsible for ensuring that those who are in the building are registered on the declaration Form. Council supports all decisions of management regarding the return to play document. Up to date information pertaining to the Arena can be found on the Town's Facebook page, Recreation page or website at www.placentia.ca/return-to-play-unity-parc

UNITY PARC FITNESS ROOM

An air exchange unit is being purchased for the upstairs fitness room to improve air quality. Council also approved a temporary position - Fitness Room Attendant. The room is will be open weekdays from 2-8pm. Opening date will be posted soon!

SOCIAL MEDIA COMMENTING

The Communications and Community Engagement Committee will be introducing rules on the Town's social media platforms to ensure that users are respectful. Negative comments will not be tolerated whether it is towards the Town or towards other users as everyone should be treated with kindness and respect. Violators will be issued a warning and blocked if necessary.

COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT

The Town's existing equipment for live recording is outdated and needs to be upgraded. The Manager of Tourism, Marketing and Communications will seek advice on improvements to the system before referring to appropriate Committees for funding approval and tender documents.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 7PM February 23, 2021. Submissions, including permit applications, for consideration by Council are due by Friday, February 12, 2021. The full meeting will be aired live on the Town's YouTube Channel. The recordings can be found on YouTube by searching for Town of Placentia Council.