

Municipal Minute

January 2018

The Municipal Minute is a publication dedicated to providing residents with important information to highlight significant developments and other noteworthy items from the Placentia Council Chamber. The Municipal Minute is published following each Council meeting.

CONGRATULATORY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council extended congratulations to the following:

- Matthew Power, recipient of an All Canadian Athletic/Academic Award. This award is given to university athletes with an academic average above 80%. Matthew is pursuing an engineering degree at MUN.
- Harold Power, Public Works Supervisor on his retirement from the Town after years of dedicated service.

PERMITS

Council approved the following permits:

- One residential building
- One accessory building
- One patio extension
- Approval in principle to TMSI to construct a warehouse and office trailer

EXPENDITURE APPROVAL

Council approved the expenditure of up to \$16,950 plus HST to Progressive Engineering Ltd.'s to complete the directive issued by Service NL to address the ammonia leak detection system at Unity PARC.

2018 BUDGET ADOPTED

Council's Finance Chair presented a balanced budget of \$6,619,613 for 2018 for the Town of Placentia on January 25, 2018. Council was pleased to approve the budget that deals fairly with all departments while ensuring that the needs of all citizens are met with regard to municipal services, infrastructure development and community programs.



Councillor Kay Smith, Finance Chair

2018 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights of the approved budget include:

- No increase in the residential mil rate for property tax
- No increase in residential water and sewer tax rates
- Increase in commercial industrial mil rate from 18 to 24 mils
- New fee for industrial marshalling yards
- New business tax for international shipping & salvage yards
- Increase in the minimum industrial business tax from \$400 to \$600 per year
- Increase in minimum permit fees in the industrial areas
- New permit for recyclers
- New commercial water and sewer hook-up fee
- No increase in Council remuneration or travel
- Wage freeze for all management
- Current employment contracts not budgeted for renewal
- Discussions with CUPE Local 1761 this spring on renewal of the contract
- Projected \$20,000 computerized work order system
- Engineering assessments for Station Road & Mill Brook Road
- \$10,000 for four self contained breathing apparatuses
- \$10,000 for bunker gear for new firefighters
- A second stationary traffic sign for traffic calming
- \$50,000 for street paving and capping
- \$25,000 to be used for energy cost saving measures
- New tender for waste collection services
- One-time collection of special waste (creosote blocks, nets)
- \$35,000 community engagement initiatives & partnerships
- \$20,000 community events and improvements
- \$4,000 improvements at Fort Louis archaeology site
- \$8,800 towards supplies for Arts Centre
- \$35,000 into Placentia marketing
- \$1,000,125 multi-year capital works funding for the Placentia Wellness Centre

DEPARTMENT BREAKDOWN OF BUDGET EXPENDITURES

Department	Expense
General Government	979,365
Protective Services	189,699
Transportation	959,172
Environmental Health	1,014,520
Planning & Development	101,846
Recreation	462,847
Debt Services	1,027,927
Capital	1,884,237
	\$6,619,613

The Town's current debt ratio for 2018 is at 15%.

NEW SENIORS' DISCOUNT PERIOD

Seniors of the age of 65 years or over will be offered a 10% discount if their account is paid in full by June 30th. For those seniors who cannot meet the June deadline, Council is pleased to offer an alternative incentive of a 5% discount if their account is paid in full by December 21st.

The 10% discount date for all other residential property owners will be extended this year from March 31st to Friday, April 20th to compensate for the later issuance of tax bills.



Mayor & Council during Budget Presentation 2018 L-R Back row: Councillor Kay Smith, Councillor Lorraine Collins Power, Deputy Mayor Keith Pearson, Councillor Jane Hynes, Councillor Noella

A copy of the budget presentation and 2018 tax structure can be found online at www.placentia.ca.

SPECIAL BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Mayor Power on behalf of the Town of Placentia presented Mrs. Mary Drake, resident of Beachside Manor with a congratulatory birthday certificate on for her birthday. Mrs. Drake will celebrate her 106th birthday on February 1, 2018. Happy Birthday Mrs. Drake!



TRAFFIC CALMING

Council's Public Safety Committee provided the following stats collected on the Town's stationary traffic sign during the week of January 22 to 28, 2018.

- 15,433 motorists travelled west on Blockhouse Road
- Average number of vehicles per day 2,205
- 31% of motorists exceeded the 50km speed limit
- Max speed clocked 101km

The above stats are shared regularly with the RCMP. Council urges all motorists to please slow down to keep everyone safe.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The following is a list of upcoming events that the Town is hosting or partnering with community stakeholders to deliver:

- February 2 - Seniors Synergy Cafe
- February 13 - Pancake Breakfast
- February 22-25 - Winter Carnival
- February 23 - Winter Island Tour with Matthew Byrne and Sherman Downey

Visit www.placentia.ca/event for more details!

NEXT MEETING

The next Public Meeting is scheduled for 7PM February 19, 2018. Submissions, including permit applications, for consideration by Council are due by Friday, February 9, 2018. Members of the public are welcome and encouraged to attend all public council meetings.