MINUTES

A public meeting of the Placentia Council was held January 21, 2020 at the Town Hall with the following in attendance:

Council		Staff
Deputy Mayor:	Keith Pearson	Mary Greene, Manager of Finance; Acting CAO
Councillors:	Lorraine Collins-Power	Adam Greene, Public Works Superintendent
	Jamilee Fitzpatrick	Rhonda Power, Manager - Tourism, Marketing & Communication
	Jane Hynes	Debbie Gear, Executive Assistant (Recording)
	Kay Smith	
Absent:	Mayor Power (Ill)	
	Councillor Collins (Work)	Spectators: (1)

In Mayor Power's absence, Deputy Mayor Pearson assumed the Chair and called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

HOUSEKEEPING

Council and staff of the Town of Placentia join with all municipalities in Newfoundland and Labrador and throughout Canada in sending sincere condolences to the family of the late John Crosbie. Mr. Crosbie was well-known for his honesty, his candor and certainly for his wit. The residents of Newfoundland and Labrador in particular recognize Mr. Crosbie as a strong advocate for our causes; his presence will be deeply missed.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion #20-001 **Councillor Fitzpatrick/Councillor Hynes**

Bet it resolved that the agenda for the January 21, 2020 Council meeting is adopted.

(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 19, 2019

Motion #20-002 **Councillor Smith/Councillor Collins-Power**

Be it resolved that the minutes of November 19, 2019 are adopted as circulated.

(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

(Mayor Bernard Power, Chair; Deputy Mayor Keith Pearson, Councillor Kay Smith; Resource Person - CAO)

Motion #20-003 **Councillor Collins-Power/Councillor Smith**

Be it resolved that the motion to approve the hiring of Boyd O'Keefe in the position of Operations Supervisor, Public Works is adopted.

(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Councillor Hynes declared conflict due to family connection and left the meeting.

Motion #20-004 **Councillor Fitzpatrick/Councillor Collins-Power**

Be it resolved that the motion to approve the current members of the Placentia Wellness Centre Fundraising Committee with Anne Whelan assuming the role of Chair is adopted.

(CARRIED: 4 of 5 Councillors Present (Councillor Hynes did not vote on the motion)

Councillor Hynes returned to the meeting.

Motion #20-005 **Councillor Fitzpatrick/Councillor Smith**

Be it resolved that the motion to appoint Mitchell J. Moran as the Commissioner for the Town of Placentia is adopted.

(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Motion #20-006 **Councillor Fitzpatrick/Councillor Smith**

Be it resolved that the motion to approve the five year Payment in Lieu of Tax Agreement (**PILT**) with the Argentia Management Authority and its subsidiary Port of Argentia for the period 2018 to 2022 inclusive is adopted as per the signed agreement dated December 23, 2019.

(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Motion #20-007 **Councillor Collins-Power/Councillor Smith**

Be it resolved that the motion to approve the adjustment of the 2018 and 2019 tax invoices levied under accounts in the name of Argentia Management Authority and/or its subsidiary Port of Argentia is adopted; this adjustment is to be exclusive of any previous PILT payment received.

(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Motion #20-008 **Councillor Fitzpatrick/Councillor Collins-Power**

Be it resolved that the motion to approve the issuance of an invoice to the Argentia Management Authority/Port of Argentia to bill for PILT payment retroactive to 2018 and 2019 as per terms of the agreement signed December 23, 2019 is adopted.

(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Motion #20-009 **Councillor Hynes/Councillor Smith**

Be it resolved that the motion to approve current account overdraft protection of $350,000 with the Royal Bank of Canada for the fiscal year 2020 is adopted; this is as per past practice.

(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Motion #20-010 **Councillor Collins-Power/Councillor Smith**

Be it resolved that the motion to approve the shredding and proper disposal of aged accounting records for the fiscal year 2012 is adopted; this is in keeping with generally accepted accounting records retention guidelines.

(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Motion #20-011 **Councillor Fitzpatrick/Councillor Hynes**

Be it resolved that the motion to approve an amendment to Motion #19-241 to reflect a revised figure from $707,560 to $797,468 to include engineering services for the 2020 MYCW Blivet Retrofit and Upgrades application is adopted.

(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Motion #20-012 **Councillor Fitzpatrick/Councillor Hynes**

Be it resolved that the motion to approve the amendment of Motion #19-268 to include an additional $31,347.83 (costs and engineering) for full retrofit of the Lawton's Lift Station; total revised project cost is $125,210.65 HST included.

(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

The lift station repair is approved and some initial work was done; however the project is delayed pending improved weather conditions. There is a life expectancy of 20 years for this work.

Motion #20-013 **Councillor Hynes/Councillor Smith**

Be it resolved that the motion to approve the application for an extension to the Wayfinding project to February 11, 2020 is adopted; completion was delayed due to weather conditions.

(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

A holdback of 10% of the Wayfinding Project funding will not be released until all work, including landscaping is completed.

The Town has received confirmation of gas tax funding for the current year.

YMCA discussions are ongoing, paperwork is being reviewed by staff.

The Southeast Splash Pad installation has been postponed, the project will proceed in the spring. The RFP that was issued this fall will be retendered at that time.

Motion #20-014 **Councillor Smith/Councillor Fitzpatrick**

Be it resolved that the motion to ratify the approval of the Operating portion of the 2020 Budget in the amount of $4,763,588.00 which was tabled at the January 13, 2020 privileged meeting of Council is adopted.

(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Second round interviews for the CAO position will continue next week.

Council has received requests for Town staff to clear the sidewalks on the lift bridge. The structure is owned by the provincial government and as such the Town has no jurisdiction to work on their property. Staff will once again ask the province to assign their workers to take care of this.

Update on Action Items

The list of action items from the November 19, 2019 Council meeting was reviewed. It was noted that the welding work to repair the wave wall flap near the post office has yet to be completed by the contractor, delay was caused by inclement weather and tide conditions. Public Works staff effected temporary repairs which proved beneficial during normal tides; however during the weekend of the recent storms (January 17 & 19) storm surge weather caused some minor flooding.

Replacement of the damaged siding on the Fire Hall has been completed.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

(Councillor Kay Smith, Chair; Deputy Mayor Keith Pearson, Councillor JJane Hynes; Resource Person-Mgr. of Finance)

Meeting Date: December 11, 2019

Motion #20-015	**Councillor Smith/Councillor Jamilee Fitzpatrick** Be it resolved that the motion to approve the Accounts Payable Transaction Journal dated December 6, 2019 in the amount of $33,412.25 is adopted. **(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)**
Motion #20-016	**Councillor Smith/Councillor Collins-Power** Be it resolved that the motion to approve the Cheque Register for the Operating Account in the amount of 168,395.25 for cheques numbered 028117 to 028218 is adopted. **(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)**
Motion #20-017	**Councillor Smith/Councillor Jamilee Fitzpatrick** Be it resolved that the motion to approve the Special Accounts Cheque Register for the month of December 2019 is adopted. **(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)**
Motion #20-018	**Councillor Smith/Councillor Jane Hynes** Be it resolved that the motion to approve the Visa statement expenditure for the period from October 29 to November 27, 2019 in the amount of $3,641.62 is adopted. **(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)**
Motion #20-019	**Councillor Smith/Councillor Jamilee Fitzpatrick** Be it resolved that the motion to approve credit adjustment of $555.72 for account number GOLDE002 is adopted; the Town received notification on October 1, 2019 that the retail portion of this company ceased operation. **(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)**

Motion #20-020

Councillor Smith/Councillor Jamilee Fitzpatrick
Be it resolved that the motion to approve a credit adjustment of $1,511.49 to Account #GOLDE002 is adopted; the Town received notification on October 1, 2019 that operation of the seniors' care portion of this company ceased.
(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Motion #20-021

Councillor Smith/Councillor Collins-Power
Be it resolved that the motion to approve an adjustment of $219.02 to account #QUILL005 is adopted; there was an error in the entry of the billing address on the town's accounting system resulting in missed discount period.
(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Motion #20-022

Councillor Smith/Councillor Jane Hynes
Be it resolved that the motion to approve a one time interest adjustment of $523.71 to account #BARRP010 is adopted, the account is now paid in full.
(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Motion #20-023

Councillor Smith/Councillor Jamilee Fitzpatrick
Be it resolved that the motion to approve invoice adjustments to the following permit applications that were not accepted by the individuals is adopted.; adjustments are: Accounts Numbered HEFFJ003, PENNC001 and ART0S001 adjustment of $50 each; Account Number HYNES001 adjustment of $150.00 and Account Number TAYLF001 $100.00.
(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Motion #20-024

Councillor Smith/Councillor Collins-Power
Be it resolved that the motion to approve a one time adjustment of $3,600.00 previously invoiced to Account Number PLACE036 for rental of the arena is adopted. .
(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Motion #20-025

Councillor Smith/Councillor Jane Hynes
Be it resolved that the motion to approve the expenditure of $1,350.00 for the upgrade to the existing camera service at the arena as a risk management measure to cover blind spots upstairs and on the ice is adopted. Price includes the supply, installation, setup and and HST.
(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Motion #20-026

Councillor Smith/Councillor Collins-Power
Be it resolved that the motion to approve an annual fee of $1,260.00 plus HST (12 months @ $104.99) to Infotech Monitoring and Management for computer support/service is adopted.
(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Motion #20-027

Councillor Smith/Councillor Jane Hynes
Be it resolved that the motion to approve the award of a contract to Sansom Equipment Limited in the amount of $2,486.00 for the maintenance of Town owned generators for a one year period is adopted.
(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Motion #20-028

Councillor Smith/Councillor Jamilee Fitzpatrick
Be it resolved that the motion to approve the quote of $1,577.50 for the provision of meals, delivery and cleanup for the annual Employee Recognition Dinner held December 14, 2019 is adopted. The cost includes gratuity and HST.
(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Meeting Date: January 14, 2020

Motion # 20-029

Councillor Smith/Councillor
Be it resolved that the motion to approve the Accounts Payable Journal dated January 10, 2020 in the amount of $99,780.02 is adopted.
(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Motion # 20-030

Councillor Smith/Councillor
Be it resolved that the motion to approve the General Accounts Cheque Register in the amount of $187,512.71 for cheques numbered 028219 to 028335 is adopted.
(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Motion # 20-31

Councillor Smith/Councillor
Be it resolved that the motion to approve the Special Accounts Cheque Register for the month of January 2020 is adopted.

Motion # 20-032

Councillor Smith/Councillor
Be it resolved that the motion to approve a one time only interest adjustment in the amount of $376.53 to Account #HICKT001 is adopted,
(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Motion # 20-033

Councillor Smith/Councillor
Be it resolved that the motion to approve a one time only interest adjustment in the amount of $815.32 to Account #HYNEG001 is adopted.
(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Motion # 20-034

Councillor Smith/Councillor
Be it resolved that the motion to approve a one time only interest adjustment in the amount of $136.53 to Account #O-RED001 is adopted.
(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Motion # 20-035

Councillor Smith/Councillor

Be it resolved that the motion to approve the expenditure of $3,507.50 plus HST to Afonso Group Limited for emergency inspection of the Wyse's Pond intake in December 2019 is adopted.
(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Motion # 20-036 **Councillor Smith/Councillor**
Be it resolved that the motion to approve the purchase of a used ride-on sidewalk snow blower with an attached rear salt spreader at a cost of $16,000 pending an approved mechanical inspection is adopted.
(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT

(Councillor Collins-Power, Chair; Councillors Noella Collins and Deputy Mayor Keith Pearson; Resource Person - Public Works Superintendent)

Meeting Date: December 9, 2020

Motion # 20-037 **Councillor Collins-Power/Councillor Fitzpatrick**
Be it resolved that the motion to approve the application from Dollarama for commercial renovations pending confirmation of Government Service Centre approval is adopted.
(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Motion # 20-038 **Councillor Collins Power/Councillor Smith**
Be it resolved that the motion to approve the application from Franky's Barber Shop to occupy and operate a business at #178 Jerseyside Hill is adopted.
(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Motion # 20-039 **Councillor Collins-Power/Councillor Smith**
Be it resolved that the motion to approve the application from Freshwater 50+ Club to sell tickets at Placentia Mall is adopted.
(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Motion # 20-040 **Councillor Collins-Power/Councillor Fitzpatrocl**
Be it resolved that the motion to approve the application from Canadian Blood Service to erect a sign at the top of Jerseyside Hill is adopted.
(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Meeting Date: January 14, 2020

Councillor Collins-Power declared conflict as an employee of NLHC and left the meeting.

Motion # 20-041 **Councillor Smith/Councillor Hynes**
Be it resolved that the motion to ratify the approval of a Sheamus Traverse's permit to renovate two Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation (NLHC) units at #84 & 84A Old Settlement Hill, Freshwater is adopted.
(CARRIED: 4/5 Councillors Present (Councillor Collins declared conflict)

Councillor Collins-Power returned to the meeting.

Motion # 20-042 **Councillor Collins-Power/Councillor Fitzpatrick**

Be it resolved that the motion to approve the quarry permit renewal application for Edward Collins Contracting Limited is adopted; the quarry is located on Southeast Road.

(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Notice to Contractors Holding Quarry Permits

The provincial government will be holding a session on quarry permit legislation that a representative from Council should attend. It was suggested that Councillors provide information to permit holders in the municipality so they can comment on this.

TOURISM & BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE REPORT

(Councillor Noella Collins, Chair; Councillor Jamilee Fitzpatrick and Councillor Kay Smith; Resource Person - Manager of Tourism, Marketing and Communications)

Meeting Held December 13, 2019

Motion # 20-043 **Councillor Smith/Councillor Fitzpatrick**

Be it resolved that the motion to approve registration and travel costs for two members to attend the Hospitality NL Conference in Corner Brook on February 25 to 27, 2020 is approved.

(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

The Chair provided a brief update that community events such as the Voices of Placentia Bay Festival, the Lighting Up the Square, the Dunville Lions Club/Town of Placentia Santa Claus Parade and the Mummers Parade were all successful events.

A committee was formed and a meeting held to discuss fundraising possibilities for the stabilization of the convent. New members are invited to attend the next meeting of the Convent restoration committee, information on which will be posted on the Town's web page and other social media sites.

The Committee has requested that the Manager of Tourism, Marketing and Communications reach out to the Anglican Church Minister to reiterate the importance and historic value of St. Luke's Church before they make a firm decision on the disposition of the property.

Sunnyside Heritage Committee asked the Town of Placentia to donate a cannon to their community. Council is not in favour of giving away its historical artifacts and has in past denied a request for cannon donation.

The plaque denoting Frank G. Best Library in Dunville is still located in the room used as a library at the Dunville Lions Club.

Meeting Held: January 8, 2020

This meeting centered around the topic of the stabilization of the convent and informing interested community stakeholders of steps taken to date. A structural assessment has been completed which, at the time, determined it would take between $100 and $150k to effect immediate safety repairs to the structure.

Steps to determine future use of the building were discussed. Ownership of the land is an issue and the Manager of Tourism, Marketing and Communication will reach out to the Archbishop to discuss either purchase or long term lease by the Town.

Motion # 20-044 **Councillor Smith/Councillor Hynes**
Be it resolved that the motion that the Town of Placentia prepare a funding application to be submitted to government partners for stabilization of the convent is adopted.
(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

The Manager of Tourism, Marketing and Communication will reach out to Councillors and other prospective attendees to advise of the next meeting to be held on March 4, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. Councillor Fitzpatrick, who is a member of this committee advised that although she missed this meeting due to work commitments, she is very interested in the topic and wishes to be kept informed.

RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT

(Deputy Mayor Keith Pearson, Chair; Councillor Collins-Power and Councillor Jane Hynes; Resource Person - Manager of Recreation and Community Programming

Meeting Held December 3, 2020
Usage of the fitness room at Unity PARC continues to grow. During November 545 people signed in to use the facility. Ventilation concerns will be addressed by the committee in the 2020 budget.

The Recreation Advisory Committee continues to meet regularly. A list of their upcoming events will be supplied to the Community Engagement & Communications Committee to post on social media.

A priority list for ball fields upgrade was discussed and referred for 2020 budget considerations.

Meeting held January 9, 2020

The Manager stated that ice rental revenues at Unity PARC over the Christmas season are up $500. The projected revenue for 2019 was exceeded by 7%. It was noted that the arena is being utilized frequently throughout the day for other activities in addition to ice rentals.

The date for Winter Carnival is set for February 13 - 16, 2020. Ideas of activities were discussed and a schedule of events will be released to residents when completed. This year there will be pre Winter Carnival events leading up to the opening ceremonies on February 13th. The Manager will be attending the next Recreation Advisory Committee meeting at which time he will request ideas for Winter Carnival activities.

A copy of the community winter activity guide was circulated; Council noted that this is a well put together document that will be shared with residents via the Town's social media sites.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Councillor Jane Hynes, Chair; Councillor Jamilee Fitzpatrick; and Councillor Kay Smith; Resource Person - Manager of Tourism, Marketing and Communications)

Motion # 20-045 **Councillor Hynes/Councillor Fitzpatrick**
Be it resolved that the motion to change the name of the monthly Council meeting summary from Municipal Minute to Municipal Highlights to avoid confusion with Council minutes being posted on the Town's website.
(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Council's committees have been asked to provide a written schedule of events for 2020 that the Tourism, Marketing and Communications Manager can post on social media. An on-line tutorial will be prepared on how to use the Town's media and APP sites so that citizens can avail of all communication.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Meetings held December 11, 2019 and January 16, 2020

The Economic Development Committee has been discussing ideas geared toward the promotion of economic development. The need for strong partnerships with agencies working toward the same goal is encouraged, these would include the Chamber of Commerce, Port of Argentia, local government offices, business entities, volunteer groups and any other interested parties.

Ideas are being generated such as lunch and learn sessions for sharing resources that will benefit participants without financial burden.

The committee will continue to strategize on incentives for new and existing businesses and looks forward to the hiring of a CAO to implement them.

There is a Sense of Arrival meeting being held on February 6 at 6:30 with an open invitation for attendance. Anyone wishing to attend should register with the Chamber of Commerce at 227-0003.

Council acknowledges the input from residents on innovative ideas. In particular, Mr. Tom O'Keefe's correspondence on Placentia as a Silicon Valley was appreciated.

Council will look at ways to continue the twinning initiative with Plentzia and asks the committee for ways to foster the relationship.

COUNCILLORS' CONCERNS/COMMENTS

Council was represented at the recent Placentia Area Chamber of Commerce session on economic development.

All members of the Council thanked the Public Works Superintendent and his staff for the work they did during the recent storm to ensure safety in the community. In addition, the work of office staff to field calls and get messages out to the general public was much appreciated.

The Winter Carnival is scheduled for February 13 to 16. Snow sculpture pictures can be submitted to the Town Hall between January 6 -15. Individual or group projects are accepted.

There was a significant snowfall during the recent storm which left a lot of people with mountains of snow to clear away. All residents are asked to help neighbours where possible. Council acknowledges residents who are assisting Town staff with hydrant clearing where possible. This is a very valuable service to help be ready in case of fire.

Everyone is encouraged to be aware of their own safety by wearing reflectors when walking, and to exercise caution when building snow forts or sliding with children. Residents should pace themselves when shovelling.

It is repeatedly noted by residents that the area between the bridge and Bradshaw Place is a high traffic area. Drivers appear to be distracted and driving faster. In this congested area there are two businesses, three road intersections and a bus stop. All motorists are asked to please slow down and respect pedestrians and bus stop users.

Budget 2020
Speech Presented By
Councillor Kay Smith, Finance Chair

Good evening , Deputy Mayor, fellow Councillors and staff as well as the members of the general public who are viewing our 2020 Budget Presentation on the internet.

It is a pleasure to be here as the Finance Chair to deliver my third budget speech to you. Council is proud to report that our planned goals and objectives for 2019 have been met within budget. Our sincere appreciation is offered once again to the members of the community who support our efforts with prompt payment of taxes. We end the year with a collection rate of 98%.

For the third straight year, our Council has worked with staff to develop a balanced budget without any increase in taxes; the residential rate will remain at 6.2 mils. Our Tax Structure will reflect a new minimal charge of $100 for water and sewer services to vacant land as mandated by the Provincial Government. All permit fees and other taxes will remain the same.

Council's mission statement dictates that we meet the needs of all citizens in the areas of municipal services, infrastructure development and community programs while promoting prosperity through economic activity. We provided a venue of openness through public consultation on the budget. We strived to be fair to all taxpayers while developing this budget along the guidelines of our mandate and appreciate the input of our citizens in this regard. We have achieved our goal of a balanced budget using information collected from all available sources.

At this point I will take a moment to point out the major highlights of this past year's activities before delivering the forecasted activities and 2020 budgetary figures for each department and their respective committees.

The Community Engagement and Communications Committee provides a public forum for residents to voice their concerns and offer suggestions on how the Town of Placentia could improve delivery of services and information to our citizens. They held several meetings this past year and approved upgrades to our website in an effort to remain accountable to our taxpayers.

The Placentia Aware System remains operational and we continue to provide electronic alerts to the general public. The number of users on this system has increased steadily. We encourage all residents to avail of this valuable service. Council offers live streaming of monthly public meetings and for those that do not avail of social media, the airing is followed by a summary publication of our Municipal Minute which is available at the Town Hall and select locations throughout the municipality. This has all been part of Council's commitment to be open and accountable.

Council experienced a difficult year of operations when faced with a union strike that lasted six weeks this past summer. The reduction in staff resulted in delayed response to issues with municipal infrastructure but I am happy to report that we were not faced with any insurmountable problems during the strike. The Town office continued to function effectively and we commend administrative staff for their supportive efforts during this trying period. Council is pleased to have been able to negotiate an acceptable contract with CUPE Local 1761. All operations of the Town are restored to normal capacity with an acceptable agreement reached without putting any additional burden on taxpayers.

We are pleased to report that funding is in place to continue with our single source water supply project. Council is preparing to tender for the next phase of the Dunville Water Line Project which is to connect Gull Pond, Barron's Pond and Clarke's Pond and to Upgrade the Existing Pumphouse to allow flow of water from Clarke's Pond to Dunville. This project is estimated to cost $2.7 million, funding for which has been approved through a Multi Year Capital Works Project. Council's funding commitment to this project is allocated in this year's budget.

The Town endorses community health, wellness and recreational programs at all its municipal sites and will continue to support other agencies who advocate health and wellness.

The partnership developed with Placentia Area Development Association has proven to be a very successful union for the delivery of the Summer Recreation Program; this partnership will continue in 2020 with a grant from the Town of Placentia.

As promised in last year's budget, community sports and recreation groups united to create a Recreation Oversight Committee to seek funding as a unified group and to develop a schedule of events that recognizes the importance of all public organizations committed to improved recreation activities. This committee continues to grow and develop a mandate that will realize fair and equitable growth in all sports and recreation venues.

Council had committed to install a Splash Pad at the Town of Placentia's Regatta Site, this endeavour is possible with an approved grant from Aviva which was applied for by a local community group. There was a delay in this development due to unforeseen circumstances; however the project is slated to move forward in spring 2020.

Unity PARC continues to experience growth as a community centre. This past year we installed new exterior lighting and sound equipment, constructed new stairs on the exterior of the building, reinstated the 6th dressing room, created a storage room and addressed OH&S issues to ensure the utmost safety for all users. Safety continues to be a priority this year; funds will be allocated for the supply and installation of Carbon Monoxide (CO) detectors at Unity PARC.

We supported the Placentia Area Seniors for Seniors Group in the application for funding for the addition of exercise equipment for the multi purpose room at Unity PARC. Monies were approved

through a federal grant under the New Horizons Program for this purpose. Statistics indicate that this facility has steadily grown since its inception and has surpassed use expectations. Ice time rentals have increased thereby raising revenues at the facility. Walkers continue to use the building as part of their daily fitness routine.

Council is working with its Owner Advisor Consultants in the development of the Wellness Centre/Swimming Pool to be annexed to Unity PARC. The Request for Proposals to design and construct the facility is expected to be released this spring.

Tourism events continue to play a large part in the economic development of the Town of Placentia. Countless visitors take part in our annual Voices of Placentia Bay Festival and visit the many historic sites in our area.

Our Cultural Arts Centre continues to flourish with a broad range of performers, parties, and events being hosted at that venue. The success of the Placentia Area Theatre d'Heritage contributes significantly to the arts and entertainment of our tourism plan. Their seasonal operation at the Arts Centre is augmented by periodic performances throughout the year by various local and visiting artistic groups.

The introduction of a new signage program with technological features began this fall and will be completed in spring of 2020. State of the art quick response technology will help visitors identify our key tourism sites as well as local amenities from any location in the community.

The Town of Placentia played host to a visiting Irish delegation and continued to liaise with twinning communities – Plaisance du Gers and Plentzia. All events such as the annual Voices Festival, tree lighting, Santa Claus Parade, Mayors March, Canada Day Celebration and so on all went ahead in spite of the shortage of staff.

Our volunteer Fire Department continues to provide exceptional fire protection and response services on a volunteer basis by the 30 plus members of their team. The Town supported the Department with funding for their facility as well as the necessary equipment including a new compressor as well as day to day supplies and materials. Of special importance is the need for continuous training to ensure that all firefighters are afforded the opportunity to maintain certification levels; Council fully endorses proper instruction for all firefighters and supports the development of a new training centre in Argentia in 2020.

The Town continues to work closely with the RCMP and the Husky Traffic Committee to ensure that road rules are adhered to for the safety of our citizens. Alternating placement and regular maintenance of radar speed signs is a priority measure to reduce speeding. Stationary speed signs have been strategically placed and will be continuously monitored to ensure effectiveness. Council has budgeted $6,000 for additional signs in 2020.

Council was pleased to invest in paving last year and has once again allocated a significant portion of the Public Works Department's budget for municipal road improvement work. We also continue to lobby the province for funding for improvements to Route 100 throughout Dunville, Southeast and the Freshwater Loop.

The Town's waste collection contract remains in effect and has resulted in a reduction of cost of service over the past year. This contract is in effect until 2021.

Notable improvements included the replacement of sanding equipment to support more efficient winter road maintenance. A wood chipper has been purchased with the support of MMSB funding of $10,000 to assist with spring cleanup and after Christmas tree mulching. Major repairs were completed on the Jerseyside chlorinator.

Council is pleased with the approval of a $2.7 million funding agreement between the Town and the Provincial and Federal governments to move forward with the next phase of our single source water supply project in Dunville.

We are also pleased to have successfully negotiated an agreement with the federal and provincial governments to develop the Placentia Wellness Centre at a cost of eleven million, two hundred thousand dollars (11,200,000.00).

I must also mention that Council and staff worked diligently to secure proper and fair taxation from all sources – residential, commercial and industrial – to ensure that all taxpayers bear a proportionate share of the tax required to effectively and efficiently operate the Town and provide an acceptable level of service to all our residents. Negotiations for reasonable grants in lieu of taxes is the responsibility of Council's Executive department. This committee worked persistently in 2019 to reopen negotiations with the Argentia Management Authority. Those talks have resulted in an impartial, justifiable and substantial five year mutually accepted agreement for a payment schedule in lieu of levied tax retroactive to the 2018 tax year. This year there will be approximately $600 thousand received; a portion of this will be used to cover Council's share of the $2.7 million water project.

This budget is prepared with much consideration by Council and staff and with input from interested residents. The end result is designed to ensure good fiscal management exercising efficiencies in all departments without any change to our tax structure. We are confident this budget achieves that goal.

I'll take just another moment to provide you with an overview of department activities for 2020:

- *The Finance Committee will deal with all matters related to the fiscal operations including pre-approval and authorization of expenditures, approval of tax recovery plans and financial statement preparation. They will work with all residents to negotiate an agreement for back taxes that will be mutually acceptable to the account holder and the Town. In addition to day-to-day oversight, Finance will review requests for non-budgeted items and work with staff to ensure all funding venues are explored to safeguard against arbitrary spending of taxpayers' funds.*

- *Council fully supports the Public Works Committee's budget for maintenance of our pumping stations, water facilities, and related public works operations. Prompt delivery of response to any issues that arise in this department is a priority of our Public Works staff. Maintenance of Town owned buildings falls under this mandate and Council has budgeted for an energy efficient heating system for the Town Hall to replace the failing current system.*

· *Our Tourism & Beautification Committee will continue to promote tourism development and market our community as a welcoming and prosperous community. Events implementation and liaison with community groups with similar mandates will be their key focus.*

· *The Recreation Committee is committed to support of local recreation groups as well as growth of in-house programs such as the Music and Friends group. They will oversee the administration of recreation facilities and work with staff to promote sporting events in our municipality. Council will be investing in recreation infrastructure with money allocated for softball fields and playground improvements. In addition to the foregoing, we continue to support our Regatta group with a $5,000 donation toward the purchase of much needed rowing equipment and improved infrastructure.*

· *Community Engagement & Communications plans to continue with Council's directive to ensure that each and every resident has a venue in which to be updated on municipal happenings and to voice their concerns. This includes You Tube streaming of monthly Council meetings, quarterly public forums on issues of concern, an active Facebook page and Twitter account, an updated web site and circulation of summaries of Council's monthly activities at public venues.*

· *The newly formed Economic Development Committee will focus on development and implementation of marketing strategies geared toward industrial and business development.*

As the foregoing objectives unfold throughout the year, they will be vetted through the Executive Committee whose purpose is to administer all matters related to personnel, policies, procedures and strategic planning. All members of Council's Committees and staff are committed to supporting the overall mandate to promote a positive image of the Town of Placentia to residents, visitors and potential investors.

Deputy Mayor and Fellow Councillors: I present the Budget for 2020 as prepared by your Finance Committee and town management for your consideration and approval.

DEPARTMENT	EXPENDITURE
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

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

Councillors thanked all the committees, staff members and the general public for their input and/or assistance in the preparation of this budget. There were a number of sessions held before agreement was reached but the end result is a fair and balanced budget that will allow Council to move forward without increase in taxes for its residents.

Motion #20-046 **Councillor Smith/Councillor Hynes**
Be it resolved that the motion to adopt the Town of Placentia's 2020 Budget in the amount of $7,248,485.00 as prepared for submission to the Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment is adopted.
(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Motion #20-047 **Councillor Smith/Councillor Hynes**
Be it resolved that the motion to approve the Town of Placentia's 2020 Tax Structure as presented and reviewed by Council is adopted.
(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

Council advises the general public that the only change to the Tax Structure is the addition of a $100 water and sewer tax on vacant land. This is as mandated by the Provincial Government's *Municipalities Act, 1999* that requires a council of the municipality served by a water system, sewage system or water and sewage system to impose upon the owner of real property located inside or outside the municipality that is connected or is capable of being serviced by that system, a tax to be known as the water and sewer tax.

ADJOURNMENT
There being no further business, the Deputy Mayor called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion #20-048 **Councillor Fitzpatrick/Councillor Collins Power**
Be it resolved that the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. is adopted.
(CARRIED: Unanimous (5 Councillors Present)

BERNARD S. POWER, MAYOR

MARY GREENE, CAO(A)

February 18, 2020
DATE