

MINUTES

A public meeting of the Placentia Council was held December 19, 2018 at the Town Hall with the following in attendance:

Council

Mayor: Bernard S. Power
Deputy Mayor: Keith Pearson
Councillors: Noella Collins
Lorraine Collins-Power
Jamilee Fitzpatrick (6:20 p.m.)
Jane Hynes
Kay Smith

Staff

Mary Greene, Manager of Finance; Acting CAO
Rhonda Power, Manager - Tourism, Marketing & Com.
Adam Greene, Public Works Superintendent
Debbie Gear, Executive Assistant (Recording)

Spectators: 1 - Arrived at 6:55 p.m.

Mayor Power called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The agenda for the December 19, 2018 meeting was circulated prior to the meeting.

Motion #18-399

Councillor Collins/Councillor Smith

Be it resolved that the motion to adopt the agenda for the Council meeting of December 19, 2018 is approved.

(CARRIED: Mayor Power, Deputy Mayor Pearson, Councillors Collins, Collins-Power, Hynes and Smith voted in favour of the motion.)

2019 BUDGET SPEECH

Good evening , Mr. Mayor, fellow Councillors and staff as well as the members of the general public who are viewing our 2019 Budget Presentation via the internet.

It is hard to believe that it's been a year since I stood here for the first time as Finance Chair to present our 2018 Budget. The year has passed quickly and I am glad to report that Council has achieved this past year's goals within its projected budget. Our thanks is offered to the members of the community who support our efforts with payment of taxes.

This evening I am pleased to advise that we are presenting a balanced budget based on past performance and projected requirements for all municipal departments. And I am even more pleased to say that there is no increase in the mil rate even though there has been fluctuation in the assessment values imposed by the Municipal Assessment Agency.

As per Council's mission statement, we are striving to meet the needs of all citizens in the areas of municipal services, infrastructure development and community programs while promoting prosperity through economic activity. Our aim was and is to embrace openness, respect and fairness for all taxpayers while deliberating this budget - we feel we have accomplished that goal. I welcome the opportunity to point out the following highlights of this year's projections before delivering the budgetary figures.

Community Engagement

Public input was sought throughout the year where suggestions were welcomed from residents on how the Town of Placentia could improve delivery of information to our citizens. Input was received and reviewed during budget meetings. Council extends thanks to the members of the public who took part in the process thereby helping to develop this budget.

Our Community Engagement and Communications Committee held several public forums this past year and approved upgrades to our website. The Placentia Aware System remains operational and we continue to provide electronic alerts as needed. This year Council introduced live streaming of our monthly public meetings and for those that do not avail of social media, the airing is followed by a publication of our Municipal Minute which is available at the Town Hall.

General Government

I am pleased to report that Council was able to make some reductions in administration costs of the Town under General Government; however due to legal fees required for supervision of the new wellness centre and to deal with legal disputes, the projection for these costs will increase the overall departmental administration.

We are happy that funding is in place for the next phase of our Capital Works project. This year Council will connect Clarke's Pond to the Dunville system with funding approved in the amount of \$1.8 million dollars. Further to that, we have made application for federal funding to connect Barron's Pond, Gull Pond and Clarke's Pond. If successful, this project will be for approximately \$2.7 million dollars.

Recreation

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.

This past year a partnership with Placentia Area Development Association resulted in delivery of a very successful and fiscally efficient offering of the Summer Recreation Program; this partnership will continue in 2019 with a grant from the Town of Placentia.

Community sports and activity groups have 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.

Council is delighted to be part of the plan to install a Splash Pad at the Town of Placentia's Regatta Site. This budget has approved funding to ensure that maintenance of all town owned facilities, playgrounds, green spaces etc. are maintained to safe and superior standards.

Our arena has undergone noteworthy improvements to its ammonia plant, storage facilities, and public areas for the safety and use of its workers and patrons, which was supported in part by a grant applied for by the Town which reduced the outlay of taxpayer dollars. This proactive maintenance will be implemented throughout 2019 with plans for insulation upgrades and other cost saving efficiencies as they are identified.

Tourism

Tourism events continue to play a large part in the economic development of the Town of Placentia. Countless visitors are invited to take part in our annual Voices of Placentia Bay Festival and to visit the many historic sites in our area such as the Voices of Placentia Bay Exhibit, the Great Beach Boardwalk or the O'Reilly House Museum to name a few.

We have a renewed interest in our archaeology program and staff have been working with the re-energized Placentia Area Archaeology Committee to revitalize the Fort Louis site. Council will continue to provide in-kind support of their efforts.

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 and the Town is pleased to support their activity by maintaining a high level of product delivery equipment, i.e. sound and lighting, to ensure the maximum pleasure of performances for them and all users.

To tie all our many tourism assets together, the Town - with funding from other levels of government - is embarking on a new signage program with stationary and technological features. These features will help visitors to the community identify our sites as well as our local amenities.

Public Safety

The umbrella for our Volunteer Fire Department is our Public Safety Committee; the Fire Department continues to provide second to none fire protection and response services with their approval. The Town is supporting the purchase of firefighting equipment such as self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and bunker gear as it did last year and is budgeting for replacement of additional protective clothing again this year. In addition to supplies and materials, monies are also allocated for training to ensure that all firefighters are afforded the opportunity to maintain certification levels.

Traffic calming measures are taken and the Town will continue 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. Maintenance of radar speed signs and posting of stationary signs will be part of this initiative as well.

Public Works

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 road improvement work.

Beautification of our community is top priority for Council; we were very fortunate to enter into a partnership with the Provincial Government to effect brush cutting, drain clearing and ditching work on provincial roads. We are making application for this partnership to continue in 2019, and are requesting a larger funding allocation for this purpose. We continue to lobby the province for improvement to their paved road surfaces as well.

The Town's waste collection project has reduced by approximately 30,000 per annum. This is evidence of good fiscal management while keep local residents employed.

The number of dilapidated properties in the community will be dealt with; funds have been budgeted to start the process of removing of some of the buildings that are unsightly and/or safety hazards.

Council has approved funding to upgrade our pumping stations, maintain buildings, operate water facilities, provide waste collection services, implement energy efficiency measures at our buildings, and to deliver response to any issues that arise in our Public Works Department.

Executive of Council

We are most pleased to announce that members of various levels of government and community groups attended a public announcement that the Placentia Wellness Centre project has been approved at a cost of nine million dollars. In addition to that, we have been successful in obtaining approval for \$1.8 million from the Provincial and Federal governments to move forward with the next phase of our integrated water supply project which is connection of Dunville water lines to Clarke's Pond. As previously mentioned, we have also made application for federal funding to connect Clarke's Pond, Barron's Pond and Gull Pond together and to upgrade the Clarke's Pond pump house at a total cost of \$2.7 million dollars.

The next couple of years will be very busy in this municipality as Council and staff work hard to make Placentia the place on the Avalon to live, grow and invest. This budget is prepared with good fiscal management exercising efficiencies in all departments and is balanced without any increase in mil rates or costs for water & sewer thereby not increasing taxes for our residents. I present the Budget for 2019 as prepared by your Finance Committee and management for your consideration and approval.

Department	Expense
General Government	\$1,006,744
Protective Services	186,511
Transportation	983,589
Environmental Health	967,013
Planning & Development	70,287
Public Engagement	35,000
Recreation & Culture	489,077
Fiscal Services	991,725
Capital	1,574,488
Total 2019 Budget	\$6,304,434

Approval of Budget

As Chair of the Finance Committee I now move for the adoption of 2019 Operating Budget in the amount of \$6,304,434.

Motion #18-400

Councillor Smith/Councillor Fitzpatrick

Be it resolved that the motion to approve Council's 2019 Operating Budget in the amount of \$6,304,434 is adopted.

(CARRIED: Mayor Power, Deputy Mayor Pearson, Councillors Collins, Collins-Power, Fitzpatrick, Hynes and Smith voted in favour of the motion.)

Approval of Tax Structure

As Chair of the Finance Committee I now move for the adoption of 2019 Tax Structure as presented and reviewed by Council.

Motion #18-401

Councillor Smith/Councillor Collins

Be it resolved that the motion to approve the 2019 Tax Structure as presented and reviewed by Council is adopted.

(CARRIED: Mayor Power, Deputy Mayor Pearson, Councillors Collins, Collins-Power, Fitzpatrick, Hynes and Smith voted in favour of the motion.)

Councillors noted that many other municipalities have raised their mil rate while the Town of Placentia Council is maintaining and/or improving on services without an increase to taxes.

HOUSEKEEPING

Condolences

Mayor Power acknowledged the passing of former Councillor Jamie Neville's father yesterday and extended condolences to Jamie and all members of his family on behalf of Council and the staff of the Town.

Congratulations

A number of local residents received Senate Sesquicentennial Medals on December 17th from Senator Fabian Manning and Senate Speaker George Furey. The medal was created in commemoration of the 150th Anniversary of the Senate of Canada and is presented in recognition of valuable service to the nation. The Town of Placentia's Fire Chief, Wayne Power was among 20 individuals province wide honoured at this ceremony for his more than four decades of volunteer and emergency response service. Other residents of Placentia who received medals for their contributions in their respective fields were Kevin Collins, Dennis Kendal, Bill Neville Jr. and Con Parsons. Mayor Power extended sincere thanks to the Fire Chief for his years of dedicated service with the Placentia Fire Department and congratulations to all medal recipients for their achievements in their chosen fields.

Congratulations were also extended to the Tri Pen AAA Girls hockey team on their recent gold medal performance at the kick-off tournament held on the Southern Shore. Heidi Fitzpatrick was the sole representative from this area on the team. Congratulations to Heidi and her team members.

Proclamation

Mayor Power declared the week of February 1 - 7, 2019 to be *Eating Disorder Awareness Week* with a theme of "*Eating Disorders Can't Afford to Wait*" aimed at promoting support, treatment and information about matters related to eating disorders.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 20, 2018

The minutes of the meeting of November 20, 2018 were circulated prior to the meeting. There were several errors noted with regard to motions (#376, 382-384 and 385) having been recorded as approved by persons who had declared conflict and left the meeting. These were corrected by the minutes recorder.

Motion #18-402

Councillor Fitzpatrick/Deputy Mayor Pearson

Be it resolved that the minutes of November 20, 2018 are adopted as circulated, reviewed and corrected.

(CARRIED: Mayor Power, Deputy Mayor Pearson, Councillors Collins, Collins-Power, Fitzpatrick, Hynes and Smith voted in favour of the motion.)

Business Arising from the Minutes

At the November 20, 2018 Public Council meeting, the Public Works Committee made a motion to accept a revised development permit that was not voted on due to the fact that all councillors had not reviewed the documents. The original motion stated that it was moved by Deputy Mayor Pearson and seconded by Councillor *Hynes*. A new motion replacing that one was presented as follows:

Motion #18-403

Deputy Mayor Pearson/Councillor Collins

Be it resolved that the motion to approve the Town of Placentia's new permit application forms as reviewed by Committee and circulated for Council's review is adopted.

(CARRIED: Mayor Power, Deputy Mayor Pearson, Councillors Collins, Collins-Power, Fitzpatrick, Hynes and Smith voted in favour of the motion.)

NEW BUSINESS

Approval to Borrow

The Executive Committee requested approval to borrow the 20% municipal share of the funding for the Clarke's Pond Connection to Dunville Project #'s 17-MYCW-18-00042 and 17-SCF-19-00129.

Motion #18-404

Councillor Smith/Councillor Hynes

Be it resolved that the motion for approval to borrow the 20% municipal share of the funding for the Clarke's Pond Connection to Dunville Project #'s 17-MYCW-18-00042 and 17-SCF-19-00129 is adopted.

(CARRIED: Mayor Power, Deputy Mayor Pearson, Councillors Collins, Collins-Power, Fitzpatrick, Hynes and Smith voted in favour of the motion.)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT December 10, 2018

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

The Executive Committee did not have any recommendations from its regular monthly meeting; Mayor Power noted some highlights from the meeting.

Repairs and Upgrades - Wave Wall & Fire Hall

Public Works staff will be investigating the repair of flanges on the Orcan Drive wave wall. They will also check the insurance on the siding at the Fire Hall and explore options for repair/replacement.

Arena Efficiencies

The Recreation Committee will explore options to reduce use of the brine pump at the arena in an effort to make the unit more efficient and cost effective.

Tax Collection

Collections for 2018 are very successful; however there are still outstanding accounts. Staff will be using any measures available under the Municipalities Act to collect arrears including water shut off, attachment of rents, etc. Council thanks all residents who are dedicated to paying their taxes on time and assures that Council will do its best to ensure that all taxes are collected.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING WITH MHA GAMBIN-WALSH

During the MHA's constituency visit, Mayor Power met with Minister Gambin-Walsh to discuss items of mutual concern.

Route 100 Work

Route 100 road work was discussed; Council is requesting that government approve repair of at least the 3 kms of Dunville that had water and sewer work done last year as well as address the condition of the Southeast Road. The MHA will speak to Ministers Crocker and Letto on these matters.

Depot Upgrade

A request was made that government effect some repairs to the Department of Transportation's depot in Southeast.

Pool Funding

The official announcement of the pool funding was held earlier today at the Arts Centre. This is welcome news for all. The RFP for the Town's Owner Advisor has been published and it is hoped that ground will be broken on the project by July/August of 2019.

Port of Argentia PILT

Negotiations continue with the Port of Argentia on a Payment in Lieu of Tax (PILT) agreement.

Provincial Infrastructure Maintenance Project

Council will make application to the Department of Transportation to continue the maintenance agreement to brush cut, clear drains, ditch and effect cleanup on provincial streets in 2019.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT December 11, 2018

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

Accounts Payable

The Finance Committee recommended that Council approve the Accounts Payable Transaction Journal dated December 7, 2018 in the amount of \$8,601.40.

Motion #18-405

Councillor Smith/Councillor Collins

Be it resolved that the motion to approve the Accounts Payable Transaction Journal dated December 7, 2018 in the amount of \$8,601.40 is adopted.

(CARRIED: Mayor Power, Deputy Mayor Pearson, Councillors Collins, Collins-Power, Fitzpatrick, Hynes and Smith voted in favour of the motion.)

Cheque Register - General Account

The Finance Committee recommended that Council approve the General Accounts Cheque Register dated December 7, 2018 in the amount of \$136,931.87 for cheques numbered 027236 to 027324.

Motion #18-406

Councillor Smith/Councillor Fitzpatrick

Be it resolved that the motion to approve the General Accounts Cheque Register dated December 7, 2018 in the amount of \$136,931.87 for cheques numbered 027236 to 027324 is adopted.

(CARRIED: Mayor Power, Deputy Mayor Pearson, Councillors Collins, Collins-Power, Fitzpatrick, Hynes and Smith voted in favour of the motion.)

Visa Statement

The Finance Committee recommended that Council approve the Visa statement for the period October 30 to November 27, 2018 in the amount of \$699.86.

Motion #18-407

Councillor Smith/Councillor Collins-Power

Be it resolved that the motion to approve the Visa statement for the period October 30 to November 27, 2018 in the amount of \$699.86 is adopted.

(CARRIED: Mayor Power, Deputy Mayor Pearson, Councillors Collins, Collins-Power, Fitzpatrick, Hynes and Smith voted in favour of the motion.)

Interest Adjustment - Account # BROWE001

The Finance Committee recommended that Council approve a one time interest adjustment of \$1,752.06 to account #BROWE001; the principle on the account has been paid in full.

Motion #18-408

Councillor Smith/Councillor Hynes

Be it resolved that the motion to approve a one time interest adjustment of \$1,752.06 to account #BROWE001 is adopted; the principle on the account has been paid in full.

(CARRIED: Mayor Power, Deputy Mayor Pearson, Councillors Collins, Collins-Power, Fitzpatrick, Hynes and Smith voted in favour of the motion.)

Interest Adjustment - Account #EIMSK001

The Finance Committee recommended that Council approve a one time interest adjustment of \$450.00 to account #EIMSK001; interest was applied while negotiations were taking place; the principle on the account is paid in full.

Motion #18-409

Councillor Smith/Councillor Fitzpatrick

Be it resolved that the motion to approve a one time interest adjustment of \$450.00 to account #EIMSK001 is adopted; interest was applied while negotiations were taking place; the principle on the account is paid in full.

(CARRIED: Mayor Power, Deputy Mayor Pearson, Councillors Collins, Collins-Power, Fitzpatrick, Hynes and Smith voted in favour of the motion.)

Business Tax Adjustment - Account #73427001

The Finance Committee recommended that Council approve a business tax adjustment to account #73427001 in the amount of \$130.52; notification that the business ceased operation in 2015 was received on November 21, 2018; the adjustment was prorated from that date.

Motion #18-410

Councillor Smith/Councillor Fitzpatrick

Be it resolved that the motion to approve a business tax adjustment to account #73427001 in the amount of \$130.52 is adopted; notification that the business ceased operation in 2015 was received on November 21, 2018.

(CARRIED: Mayor Power, Deputy Mayor Pearson, Councillors Collins, Collins-Power, Fitzpatrick, Hynes and Smith voted in favour of the motion.)

Expense Claim - Fire Chief

The Finance Committee recommended that Council approve the payment of an expense claim submitted by the Fire Chief in the amount of \$1,450.00 for Fire and Life Safety Inspections conducted from May 15, 2018 to September 21, 2018.

Motion #18-411

Councillor Smith/Councillor Hynes

Be it resolved that the motion to approve the payment of an expense claim submitted by the Fire Chief in the amount of \$1,450.00 for Fire and Life Safety Inspections conducted from May 15, 2018 to September 21, 2018 is adopted.

(CARRIED: Mayor Power, Deputy Mayor Pearson, Councillors Collins, Collins-Power, Fitzpatrick, Hynes and Smith voted in favour of the motion.)

Approval of Lift Station Pump Repair

The Finance Committee recommended that Council approve the total payment of \$4,699.91 plus HST to Xylem for the repair of one of the Public Works Department's lift station pumps.

Motion #18-412

Councillor Smith/Councillor Fitzpatrick

Be it resolved that the motion to approve the total payment of \$4,699.91 plus HST to Xylem for the repair of one of the Public Works Department's lift station pumps is adopted.

(CARRIED: Mayor Power, Deputy Mayor Pearson, Councillors Collins, Collins-Power, Fitzpatrick, Hynes and Smith voted in favour of the motion.)

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT

(Deputy Mayor Keith Pearson, Chair; Councillors Noella Collins and Councillor Jane Hynes Hynes; Resource Person - Public Works Lead Hand)

#8 Kelly Crescent - Residential Building Application

The Public Works Committee recommended that Council approve the application from Steven and Susie Bartlett to construct a new house and garage at #8 Kelly Crescent, Southeast pending approval from all other government agencies.

Motion #18-413

Deputy Mayor Pearson/Councillor Collins-Power

Be it resolved that the motion to approve the application from Steven and Susie Bartlett to construct a new house and garage at #8 Kelly Crescent, Southeast is adopted pending approval from all other government agencies.

(CARRIED: Mayor Power, Deputy Mayor Pearson, Councillors Collins, Collins-Power, Fitzpatrick, Hynes and Smith voted in favour of the motion.)

Vendor Permit Applications

The Public Works Committee recommended that Council approve the following Vendor Permits for sales at Placentia Mall that were issued to Loretta Cuddle Bed Campaign to sell tickets; Cyril O'Reilly Photography to sell photos, and Jake Griffiths to sell jewelry.

Motion #18-414

Deputy Mayor Pearson/Councillor Hynes

Be it resolved that the motion to approve Vendor Permits for sales at Placentia Mall that were issued to the Loretta Cuddle Bed Campaign, Cyril O'Reilly Photography and Jake Griffiths is adopted.

(CARRIED: Mayor Power, Deputy Mayor Pearson, Councillors Collins, Collins-Power, Fitzpatrick, Hynes and Smith voted in favour of the motion.)

Deputy Mayor Pearson asked if he might be in conflict on the next motion because the applicant's spouse works for him; Council agreed that he would not be.

Permit Application - Mobile Massage Therapy

The Public Works Committee recommended that Council approve the application from Mobile Massage Therapy for a one month vendor permit for the Placentia area; the applicant will be invoiced for annual business tax in January 2019.

Motion #18-415

Deputy Mayor Pearson/Councillor Fitzpatrick

Be it resolved that the motion to approve the application from Mobile Massage Therapy for a one month vendor permit for the Placentia area is adopted.

(CARRIED: Mayor Power, Deputy Mayor Pearson, Councillors Collins, Collins-Power, Fitzpatrick, Hynes and Smith voted in favour of the motion.)

Residents were reminded that vehicles impeding snow clearing during the on-street parking ban are subject to municipal ticketing.

The Public Works Superintendent has found a service technician to repair the Jersey side chlorinator at a savings of \$7,000 from the original cost estimate of \$22,000. Council thanked the manager for exercising responsibility and due diligence to avail of these savings.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT

(Councillor Noella Collins, Chair; Councillors Lorraine Collins-Power and Councillor Jane Hynes; Resource Person CAO)

Highlights of the Public Safety Committee meeting were presented by the Chair of the committee.

Fire Department Updates

The Fire Department responded to four calls since the last meeting involving a pole fire, a downed wire and transformer arcing; a motor vehicle collision and a pole/transformer fire.

The air reservoir tank was replaced in the Fire Department's Pierce Pumper truck.

RCMP Monthly Report

The RCMP have reported 61 new files opened in the last month. They have increased patrols on Route 100 through Dunville and have issued numerous warnings and tickets in an effort to slow traffic down on municipal streets.

CULTURE & TOURISM COMMITTEE REPORT

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

The Tourism Committee will be creating a new policy and rental form for the Arts Centre that will include the requirement for liquor and catering licenses. Renters will be required to sign to accept the policy before accessing the Centre.

An assessment was conducted of the Convent; it is estimated that \$200,000 is necessary to effect emergency repairs to make the structure safe. Staff will be researching funding agencies to help with this work early in the new year.

Although direct flights from Ireland to Newfoundland and Labrador have been cancelled, the contingent from Ireland still plans to travel here in August. Host families are being sought for the event.

The annual Mummers Parade takes place on December 30th starting at 2:00 p.m.

The Placentia 350 Committee met recently and agreed to update the mandate and terms of reference for their group. As well, a name and logo change will be considered. The AGM and election of officers takes place February 5, 2019.

RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT

(Councillor Jamilee Fitzpatrick, Chair; Councillor Lorraine Collins-Power and Deputy Mayor Keith Pearson; Resource Person - Manager of Recreation and Community Programming)

Arena - Reduced Rates

The Recreation Committee recommended that council approve the special rate of \$75.00 per hour for ice time over the Christmas season.

Motion #18-416

Councillor Fitzpatrick/Councillor Smith

Be it resolved that the motion to approve the special reduced rate of \$75.00 per hour for ice time over the Christmas season is adopted.

(CARRIED: Mayor Power, Deputy Mayor Pearson, Councillors Collins, Collins-Power, Fitzpatrick, Hynes and Smith voted in favour of the motion.)

The hot water tanks at the arena are overworked due to the amount of water needed to operate. Staff will discuss alternatives for a more effective system with engineers and report back to committee at the next meeting.

Council has approved a free skate for students from St. Anne's and Laval.

Some maintenance work was done at the arena to install a slide step that increases safety for walkers at the arena.

The Recreation Advisory Committee's Board of Directors will be established in the near future and will be establishing a terms of reference. The Manager of Recreation will be the liaison between the Committee and Council.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

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

The Community Engagement Committee is encouraging all residents to be extra careful during the holiday season; they will be publishing safety tips on the Town's social media.

Budget consultation feedback questionnaires were reviewed. The Committee has scheduled a budget presentation date for February 5, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. Residents are invited to attend.

Correspondence was circulated with Council's information package and items requiring attention were discussed at the committee level.

COUNCILLORS' CONCERNS/COMMENTS

Councillors offered staff, residents and their families a Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year. A special thank you is extend to those who have to work during the holiday season to provide health care, emergency response and essential services to our citizens.

Stress is high during the Christmas Season and everyone is encouraged to be kind to those experiencing mental health issues.

People out walking in the dark are urged to wear reflective clothing so that motorists can see them.

People using the ice for recreational purposes such as snowmobiling or ice fishing are encouraged to ensure the ice is solid.

Staff were commended on the diligence put into identifying efficiencies in all departments and for saving taxpayer dollars. The balanced budget was been prepared with the combined effort of staff and Council.

Congratulations was extended to everyone involved over the years in securing the funding for the Placentia Regional Wellness Centre. This is a positive and proud day for all those involved. The approval took 9 years to secure and it proves that dedication, determination and cooperation can result in success. It is anticipated that this facility will increase economic development, boost local business, bring additional tourism and ignite community spirit through in the community as did the arena when it was built.

Council is also very pleased to have secured \$1.8 million for the Dunville water project. Residents are reminded that this clean water project is in no way jeopardized by the construction of the wellness centre; funding for each comes from different sources that can only be accessed for their specific purpose.

Thanks is extended to the Husky Traffic Committee including the RCMP for stepping up the pressure on drivers to reduce their speed through Route 100.

Thanks was also extended to the Town's Public Works Department for all their hard work over the past year; they have made many improvements around our municipality. This appreciation extends to the Public Works Superintendent who has made positive changes in the work order system, increased efficiencies by being organized and realized significant savings in his department.

In closing, Mayor Power reminded everyone to remember that Christmas is about giving - share an act of kindness - supposing it's holding a door for someone or giving a break in traffic.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all from Council and staff of the Town of Placentia.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Motion #18-417

Councillor Smith/Councillor Fitzpatrick

Be it resolved that the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. is adopted.

(CARRIED: Mayor Power, Deputy Mayor Pearson, Councillors Collins, Collins-Power, Fitzpatrick, Hynes and Smith voted in favour of the motion.)

BERNARD S. POWER, MAYOR

MARY GREENE, CAO(A)

DATE