

Highlights from the Mayor



Hello Everyone; Last letter of the year, so before I get going I want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas. I think a review of this year is in order, and though I don't have enough space for list everything that happened I hope to at least hit the highlights.

Earlier this year we were approached by a family that owned approximately 30 acres of undeveloped land in town, to see if we would be interested in purchasing this land. Normally in the current economic climate, we would have said no, but we ended up paying just over half the assessed value and our main service lines run either right through this land or right by it. This means it will be less expensive to develop. When the time is right for the town to expand we wont have to annex land and bare the cost of servicing it. Our plan is not to develop this land our selves, but rather sell it in chunks to developers and let them develop the land as the market dictates.

After receiving the bad news that the cost of our Water Treatment Plant had increased from the original cost estimate by 40 percent, we were lucky enough to be approved for a grant to cover a good portion of the increase and still maintain the integrity of the plant. When completed the new plant will improve the quality of the discharge into the lake by about 95%.

By now most of you will have seen our new town brand, and with it there is a new Strategic Plan in the works. Later this coming spring there will be an opportunity for public input and you will get a chance to have input into the future direction of the town.

I'm hoping many of you got a chance to see our updated Tourist Information Center. Under the guidance of our new manager, the Center is now showcasing local artists and artisans and is serving some great coffee. If you haven't seen it, make of point of dropping in when it reopens in the spring.

With the implementation of "iCompass", our agenda, policies and bylaws are now accessible by you through our website.

During the later point of last year and the beginning of this year, we went through the process of developing a new General Ledger (G/L). We are pleased to say we have a new G/L that is not only easier for staff and Council to understand but is a valuable planning tool. In conjunction with budgeting tools we look forward to having a three year operating plan and a five-year capital plan for Council to approve this spring. This budget will reflect the objectives of our new Strategic Plan upon completion.

When we came into office in October 2017, there were three outstanding environmental issues that had to resolved. In the past 2 years we have managed to check off two of those issues and we have definitely moved forward on the outstanding drainage issue in the southwest corner of town. Though not complete yet we are still hopeful for a resolution.

So I've just about run out of space, but I want to once again on behalf of Council, wish you a happy and safe Christmas holiday and I look forward to working for our town in the New Year.

Sincerely,
Maureen Miller, Mayor

FINANCE



Friendly Reminder

**Property Taxes:
A 15% penalty will be
applied to all
outstanding amounts on
January 1, 2020**

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES



Saturday, December 28, 2019

Shinny Hockey:
9:15am - 11:15am

Public Skating:
11:30am - 1:30pm

Clancy Richard Arena

Sunday, December 29, 2019

Public Skating:
1pm - 3pm

Shinny Hockey:
3:15pm - 5:15pm

Clancy Richard Arena

PUBLIC WORKS



Christmas Garbage Schedule



December 24 Garbage Pickup will be Tuesday(24th) & Wednesday(25th) Routes

December 27 Garbage Pickup will be Thursday(26th) & Friday(27th) Routes

January 2 Garbage Pickup will be Wednesday(1st) & Thursday(2nd) Routes

Regular Routes in Effect on:
Dec. 23, Dec. 30,
Dec. 31, Jan. 3

PARKS & RECREATION



ST. PAUL AQUATIC CENTRE MEMBERSHIP SALE DECEMBER ONLY ~ 20% OFF

1 MONTH MEMBERSHIP
SENIOR (55+): REG. \$47.25 - **NOW \$37.80**
ADULT: REG. \$63.00 - **NOW \$50.40**
YOUTH (7-17): REG. \$42.00 - **NOW \$33.60**
FAMILY: REG. \$105.00 - **NOW \$84.00**
(FAMILY INCLUDES UP TO 4 CHILDREN AND THEIR PARENTS)

12 MONTH MEMBERSHIP
SENIOR(55+): REG. \$315.00 - **NOW \$252.00**
ADULT: REG. \$420.00 - **NOW \$336.00**
YOUTH (7-17): REG. \$315.00 - **NOW \$252.00**
FAMILY: REG. \$630.00 - **NOW \$504.00**
(FAMILY INCLUDES UP TO 4 CHILDREN AND THEIR PARENTS)

CONTACT THE AQUATIC CENTRE AT 780-645-3388

