

2020 Newsletter

To keep residents updated on Council's activities, the following items are outlined for your information.

COVID-19

The COVID- 19 virus has tremendously impacted our communities and the world in general. It is an unprecedented health issue and also an economic concern. Even with the development of a vaccine it is not a time to "let our guard down". We must remain vigilant, exercising due diligence and careful consideration to our collective behaviours. As the Chief Medical Officer of Health has repeatedly stated the measures necessary to contain infection and transmission are very simple practices

- Wear a mask when necessary
- Social distance when necessary
- Wash hands regularly

In this province and in particular our community we have been fortunate. Through the collective efforts of all, we will remain in a safe as possible position to avoid infection and transmission.

COVID Funding

The town has been successful in receiving funding under two initiatives.

- COVID Relief Funding: \$23000
- COVID stimulus Funding \$139000

Project to be completed with this funding include maintenance to the municipal building, enhancements and development of local walking trails among other initiatives within the town.

Community Cellular Service

The town has been successful in having cell service made available within the immediate area of our municipal boundaries and somewhat beyond. The arrangement is between Bell Aliant, The Department of Environment, Climate Change and Municipalities and the town. The financial breakdown is as follows:

Town	Province	Bell Aliant	Total Cost
\$42,863	\$74,438	\$171,450	\$285,750

This upgrade in service is scheduled to come into effect during the early part of the upcoming year. The upgrade will provide all cell phone users adequate service within the illustration provided below. This is an important initiative for our community.



Emergency Response Vehicle

Council on behalf of our Fire Department secured in the last fiscal year funding in the amount of \$306,000 for a new Emergency Response Vehicle. This vehicle will serve as a replacement for the "cube van" which is in excess of twenty years old. The addition will serve as a significant update in our fire department's deployment and capacity. The cost sharing agreement is an 80/20 arrangement. Delivery is scheduled for the upcoming year. The town's share is approximately \$60,000.

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Sewer Outfall

Council has been working towards a replacement/repairs for sometime of the existing outfall which has been destroyed by heavy seas. Funding from a previous capital works project in the amount of \$260000 remains to repair/replace the current infrastructure, however additional funding will be required to complete the outfall requirements. The town has reapplied for " emergency funding" to be made available to properly complete the necessary work required. Hopefully a positive response will be forthcoming.

Town's Financial Situation

The town is currently in a very healthy position. There are no outstanding loans or financial obligations. This positive financial status allows the town to:

- Apply for capital works funding
- To receive the municipal operating grant in the dollar amount of \$ 35000 annually.
- Gives the town leverage to borrow (if necessary) at very competitive rates.

It is important at least maintain a balanced budget and preferably a surplus.

Budget 2020: Revenue: \$725,000
 Expenditures: \$580,000

Budget 2021: Revenue: \$690,000
(Projected) Expenditures: \$570,000

* Please note for the upcoming fiscal year, the taxation schedule will remain "as is", no increases are planned.

* Both the Mil Rate and the water and sewer rates are among the lowest of communities with less than 1000 residents.

Concerns/Requests from Residents

Council encourages concerns to be brought forward and will make every effort to determine an appropriate resolution. The particular issue should be presented in writing and signed by the concerned party. The correspondence can then be tabled appropriately in a council meeting. Council will, through the town office provide a response and follow-up when necessary.

Sewer Servicing

Council will continue to explore possible means to service the residents of Ladder Point and Connaille with sewer. Past considerations did not meet with a favourable solution, however council will continue to pursue a means to provide this service.

Town Website

The website has received a "new look". All minutes of council meetings will be posted in the near future and available for viewing at **www.baydeverde.com**. As well visit the Facebook Page for updates as they occur within our community.

Thank You

Thank You to our Fire Department, Recreation Committee and Heritage for their efforts throughout the year. Your volunteer work does not go unnoticed. Your efforts are a

great asset to our community. To the "Kids Group" thank you for your efforts for the benefits of the children. To our town staff who keep our community running smoothly and delivering the high level of service to all residents. ***Thank You!***

Merry Christmas to all and may the New Year be filled with peace and hope.

On behalf of Council,

Gerard Murphy
Mayor