



Town of Penhold – Council Media Release

Highlights From December 12th, 2016 Council Meeting

Mayor Cooper welcomed the resident's that joined in for the council meeting.

Administration has been in discussion with Fortis for pricing to obtain temporary lighting at Waskasoo Avenue and Highway # 42 intersection.

Penhold Multiplex:

In November there were 16,005 people who came through the complex; an increase over last year.

Demands for the ice and gymnasium have increased over last year by 5.3 %.

The Fitness Centre had 42 new members sign up during the month. Due to the variety of fitness classes the usage has escalated.

A request from the Multiplex Manager was made to move to the fitness centre to a possible 24 hr operation. Access would be through the key FOB system. Some minor locking changes will be required at a minimum cost to the Town. Council approved this new directive and we anticipate launch will be within the next month.

Have you noticed a change on Twitter or Facebook? Penhold now has a person who regularly monitors our social media. We are attempting to reply quickly to media inquiries. Have a question? Wanting to be in the know? Check out the Town's Twitter account.

Penhold Community Christmas was a great success. To all who participated to make this day possible - a special thank you. It was so well attended we ran out of cookies for decorating and crafts. Great job Volunteers!

Public Work Projects:

Review of design drawings and details for the new water reservoir continues over the winter months. Tendering for this project is anticipated for February.

Fall work with crack filling, fertilizing, and line flushing is now complete; sand piles have been built for winter. Preparations are in progress for snow removal with truck boards being put onto the units and the blower installed ready for action.

Outdoor skating rink is now ready and open for use.

2017 Operating and Capital Budget have been approved:

Some key items of focus were as follows:

1. Council froze the salary grid to reflect no Cost of Living increase for 2017.
2. Utilities will see a flat fee increase, with an increase in the sewer per cube costs reflecting the regional sewer system rate increase. This will be reflected on your February billing.
3. Council gave Administration the green light to investigate funding avenues for the new water reservoir construction and for the development of the RV Park on the north side of the multiplex.
4. Taxes on the residential side will see a decrease in the amount on average of 5%.

Corporate Services Manager Trish Willis identified that there remains two areas that need clarity to finalize the budgets for taxation.

1. Alberta Schools Requisitions
2. Capital funding - previous commitments from the province

Council expressed thanks to Administration in finding ways to decrease the taxes in light of the current difficult economic times.

Discussion with residents on a variety of topics occurred at the end of the meeting.

Council's December 26th Regular Meeting has been cancelled.

On behalf of all Council & Staff:

MERRY CHRISTMAS

May this season bring you and your family peace, a time of relaxation and a prosperous new year.

For complete reports and information on this meeting please visit the Town of Penhold website:

www.townofpenhold.ca/Council_Briefing.php.

Council Meetings:

Regular Council Meetings are held the 2nd & 4th Monday of each month starting at 6:00PM. They are open to the public and questions are welcome at the end of each meeting.

For further information contact:

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