

Mount Pearl Presents Budget and Unveils New Strategic Plan

Tuesday, December 18, 2018 -- Mount Pearl – Today, the City of Mount Pearl presented its 2019 budget of \$54,433,000. The budget details were presented alongside the City’s new strategic plan, *On the Horizon*, including a new vision for Mount Pearl to become a smart city of engaged citizens, leading the way in sustainable growth.

“This budget is about making sure Mount Pearl continues to be the community we want to live in,” said Mayor Dave Aker. “It’s about establishing not only who we are, but who we want to be – and making sure we have a plan to get there. The choices we make today chart a path to what we want our City to look like in ten, twenty and even fifty years. After all, the process of building a great City never ends.”

In 2019, the City will invest \$750,000 in digital transformation, including the development of a new enterprise resource program (ERP) that will allow the City to integrate and automate all back-office operations related to technology, services and human resources. It will invest over \$300,000 in economic development including allocations for the launch of a temporary location for the A1Next Innovation Park and the completion of a Waterford River Commercialization Feasibility Study. Additionally, this budget includes a \$2 million allocation to support the implementation of a fleet renewal project.

“We must always be caring stewards of taxpayer dollars,” said Councillor Andrea Power, Co-Chair of the Corporate and Community Services Committee. “We understand that this investment is a shared cost and has an impact on the hard-working residents and business owners in our City. We also know that they want to see Mount Pearl grow and want to continue to be a part of our story.”

The 2019 residential mil rate will be set at 7.4 and there will be no impact on water rates. For an average home in Mount Pearl, this increase is equal to about \$50 a year, or less than \$5 per household a month.

“Budget 2019 demonstrates an ongoing commitment to our business community,” continued Councillor Power. “To offset increases in commercial property assessments, we have reduced Business Tax rates by 4%. Additionally, commercial property tax rates will also be reduced to 11.5 mils, or 4%.”

Full details on the budget can be found at www.mountpearl.ca.

To read the new Strategic Plan, *On the Horizon*, please visit www.onthehorizon.ca.

For more information or for media requests, please contact:

Lesley Williams
Marketing and Communications Officer
709.748.1009
lwilliams@mountpearl.ca