

**TOWN OF CHURCHILL  
Special Council Meeting  
Tuesday, September 20, 2011 at 12:00 pm in Council Chambers**

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- PRESENT:** Mayor Michael Spence  
Deputy Mayor Verna Flett  
Councilor Gerald Azure  
Albert Meijering, Chief Administrative Officer  
Gail Hodkin, Chief Financial Officer  
Rebecca Allen, Executive Assistant
- ALSO PRESENT:** Bob Windsor, Manitoba Conservation  
Andrew Szlaruk, Manitoba Conservation
- REGRETS:** Councilor Heather Botelho  
Councilor Jennifer Massan

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Michael Spence called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Moved by V. Flett and seconded by G. Azure**

**188/11 RESOLVED THAT** the agenda for Special Meeting be accepted.

**CARRIED**

**3. BUSINESS OF SPECIAL MEETING**

**3.1 Manitoba Conservation – 2010 Review of Polar Bear Alert Program**

Manitoba Conservation presented a power point presentation on the 2010 Polar Bear Alert Program to Mayor and Council. The following points were highlighted:

- The Polar Bear Holding Facility received a new facelift in August of 2010. An open house of the facility was held for the public in late August of 2010.
- 2010 was a slower season with only 233 polar bear occurrence reports received. The first report was received on June 1, 2010, and by mid July sightings were becoming more and more common continuing into December. November was the busiest month with 80 plus calls received.
- The first bear was captured on August 27<sup>th</sup> and the last bear on November 15<sup>th</sup>. All bears were released from the holding facility by December 1<sup>st</sup>.
- A total of 35 bears were handled by the Polar Bear Alert Team in 2010. The highest number of bears handled in one season to date is 176 in 2003, with the fewest being 18 bears in 1991. The 25 year average is 80 bears.

There was discussion that the number of bears being handled is lower from previous years due to more control over the waste management of the Town of Churchill.

There was further discussion on the 2011 Polar Bear Alert Program to date. 6 bears have been jailed, 5 relocated, and 3 removed from the population due to aggressive behaviour or injury.

The concerns that Manitoba Conservation continually have are with regards to the waste disposal in the community. There need to be more steel containers in town for garbage collection, for example the apartment complexes and the town complex. There needs to be a replacement of the current container on the Hudson Bay Beach that is bear proof.

**ACTION:** Administration to arrange a meeting with Manitoba Housing Authority to discuss the replacement of garbage bins at the apartment sites.

**4. AJOURNMENT**

**Moved by G. Azure and seconded by V, Flett**

**189/11 WHEREAS** the business of the Special Meeting has now been completed;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council do now adjourn.

**CARRIED**

The meeting concluded at 12:36 p.m.

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Michael Spence  
Mayor

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Albert Meijering  
Chief Administrative Officer

**Recapitulation**

**Motions:**

**Moved by V. Flett and seconded by G. Azure**

**188/11 RESOLVED THAT** the agenda for Special Meeting be accepted.

**CARRIED**

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**189/11 WHEREAS** the business of the Special Meeting has now been completed;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council do now adjourn.

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The meeting concluded at 12:36 p.m.