



## Council Committee as a Whole

# MINUTES

November 14th, 2019

5:30 pm in the Council Chambers

**In attendance: Tim Lewis, Mel Baxter, Trevor Thiessen, Ruth Murray, Margaret Johnston, Chris Hamblin and Mayor Scott Crick**

**Also in attendance: CAO Brigitte Doerksen, CFO Chris Janke, Wes Zilkie Fire Chief**

### Delegations:

- 5:30 Petro-Tech and owners of Husky re: Tank issue
    - Upright Fuel Tank installation and possible variation request
    - Fire Chief Wes to communicate with Petro-Tech and Owners
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### -Minutes from last Meeting:

*Moved by: Tim Lewis*

*Seconded by: Margaret Johnston*

Be it resolved that the Minutes for the October committee as a Whole meeting be adopted as presented.

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### Council Round Table (Committee, Board, and Personal Reports):

- Mayor Scott Crick

#### Mayor's Report

For Committee as a Whole – Nov 14, 2019

### Events attended or Mayoral activities (paid):

Oct 15 - Community Partners Meeting (1.5 hours)  
Oct 21 - Call with Deputy Minister of Infrastructure (1 hour)

Oct 21 - Golf Course Board Meeting (1 hour)  
Oct 22 - Daycare AGM (1.5 hours)  
Oct 28 - Public Forum (2 hours)  
Nov 1 - Dekalb Rings of Influence/Sponsor's Evening (3 hours)  
Nov 4 - Council Strategic Planning Meeting (3 hours)  
Nov 5 - Meeting with Southern Health (2.5 hours)

**Events attended or Mayoral activities (unpaid):**

Nov 11 - Remembrance Day (2 hours)  
Nov 12 - In the Mayor's Chair interview (.75 hours)  
Oct-Nov Various Correspondence, phone calls, etc. (10 Hours)  
Oct-Nov Planning – Public Forum and Strategic Planning (3 Hours)

**Items of Interest to Report on:**

1. It was disappointing to hear from infrastructure that since the northbound lanes of PTH 75 have been completed to PR 205, that there is now no option for properly flood proofing it until the southbound lanes are rebuilt. Despite having federal money available, and with the Town able to apply for disaster mitigation funding from the federal government as well, our requests to discuss the issue were only addressed after no other decision could be made. I will make one last appeal at AMM, and see if there is any hope of finding some other solution.
2. Considering PR 246 is also still not open, I have concerns about the level of inconvenience possible high water could create in Spring 2020.
3. The golf course may require assistance next spring. The high river levels in fall took the Board unaware, and the lower bowl of the course is now full of water that will not drain until river levels go down. Unfortunately, the culverts the Town was going to replace had not arrived in time. Spring pumping will be guaranteed, and there may be a claim made due to the closing of the floodway gates.
4. The Daycare had a successful year, and managed to turn a surplus versus budget. Although this was encouraging, it is not sustainable as they did run short-staffed for much of the year. Looking forward, they still require a long-term solution.
5. I was very happy with the attendance at the Public Forum – it was an excellent opportunity to share some of what has been happening on Council over the last year, and get feedback from our citizens. We may make this an annual event, and I welcome others thoughts as to the value of this.
6. This feedback was equally valuable when we sat down to look at our strategic priorities the next week, and line up our areas of focus for the next 1-3 years. I am looking forward to seeing what we can accomplish with what is a very substantial list.
7. Congratulations to Deputy Mayor Chris and Lorne for another successful Dekalb SuperSpiel. Most impressive was the commitment from Bayer to continue title sponsorship for another three years – quite the accomplishment in a challenging era for ag companies.
8. The meeting with Southern Health did not provide much more clarity to the future of our hospital and its services, though the budget to bring it to code was a fairly intimidating number. It will be interesting to see what the eventual plan will be, its timeline, and how health care in our community will look a decade from now. That being stated, if it is decided the hospital is

viable for an extended period of time, it was encouraging to hear that a partnership over the addition of an elevator could move forward.

**Noted and discussed**

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- **Deputy Mayor Chris Hamblin**

*Report to Council on Activities to November 14, 2019*

Chris Hamblin

Attended the Triple R Community Futures meeting on Monday, October 7. (along with Scott, Margaret, Mel and Tim as our representative on this board) Scott welcomed the board to our community and thanked them for their work. It was especially interesting to hear the various regional reports on what other municipalities are dealing with. (water was high on the list for several)

Joined a meet and greet with Candice Bergman on October 17.

Participated in the Public Forum on October 28. I felt the meeting was well attended with some good discussion and good questions. It was good to hear from our citizens. I think this was a positive thing to do and worth doing again in the future.

Strategic Planning – session held on November 4. This was a good session to help us set priorities for the coming year and beyond. Information from the forum was incorporated into these discussions as well.

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*Report to Council on Senior's housing Activities to November 14, 2019*

Chris Hamblin

I spoke to the Prime Timers on October 17. This is a group of 55 plus that meet monthly for lunch and speakers/discussion on various topics. Organized by Elaine Edel. I used this opportunity to hear back from this group about the needs/wants for our community. There is lots of interest in having an assisted living facility in town. Most understood the challenge and the costs that would be associated with a facility of this nature. This was a good opportunity for me to learn and share what I have been hearing through other discussions. I also used this opportunity to encourage them to attend the town forum on October 28<sup>th</sup>.

October 31, 2019 – joined a meeting with the Manor committee and Dale Wahl's and Associates along with Bruce Gregory. We had a good discussion. He is encouraging us to look into using the provinces Loan Act Agreement to move forward to replace the Manor. It is an interesting approach and we will follow up.

Spoke with the RM of Gimli to discuss with how their project got up and going (not open yet but looking to early in 2020). Their situation was similar to ours with an older facility and looking to build a new one. Instead of having to displace people to tear down and rebuild, they agreed to refurbish the old units and Manitoba Housing is building a new one. They were able to show the need for both facilities.

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*Report to Council on Economic Development Activities for November 14, 2019*

Chris Hamblin

Highway 75 –conference call with Department of Infrastructure – updated on their position on Highway 75. Sounds like all decisions have been made and there is no interest or budget to consider anything else. The answers re: cost differences between the proposed flood time access versus the original plan of raising highway 75 were, in my opinion, were less than satisfactory other than to be clear the decision is done.

Economic Development Committee meeting –

October 30 – the committee gathered to discuss a future opportunity for the town. Nothing concrete to report at this time but a good discussion.

November 6 – committee met again to begin planning for the development of the industrial park. Based on these discussions, the consultant will have a draft plan to us by the end of November and the committee will meet again December 4.

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*Report to Council on Valley Agricultural Society for November 14, 2019*

Chris Hamblin

Valley Agricultural Society – AGM is coming up on November 28 in the Coral Room at 7:00 PM. The books are into the auditor and should be completed prior to the AGM. The year was a positive one with revenues up and expenses kept in control. The payables has been brought under control with all of last year’s payables looked after the 2019 year end payables in line with what would be expected at this time of year. There has been a number of upgrades to the facilities with more in the planning. Most of these improvements have been completed with sponsorship or grants and lots of volunteer labour. Kudos to the Board and the volunteers for all the hard work and diligence this past year.

**Noted and discussed**

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- **Councillor Mel Baxter**

*Morris Area Foundation Report*

The Morris Area Foundation has approved a list of grants for 2019. Unfortunately, the list cannot be published until all applicants are notified. The request for grants continue to grow annually and the need to increase the foundation's donations is ever more important. To that end the endowment campaign will start approximately Nov-7th with ads circulated and informational tables set up at Bigway (Morris) and at Rosenort Co-op.

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*Valley Library Report*

The regular meeting of the Valley Library committee was held Oct-28/19. A donation of \$500 was received from the VAS in thanks for helping to man the Morris Stampede gates during this years rodeo. The library computer problems have been resolved and continue to get lots of use. A procedure policy has been put in place in the event of power failures before locking the library. The 25th annual report is available for viewing. The numbers continue to show increases as the residents of the town and R.M. are supportive of the library services.

**Noted and discussed**

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- **Councillor Margaret Johnston**

2019 Christmas Party –discussion

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Morris Minor Ball held a re-organizational meeting on October 29<sup>th</sup>.

Apparently a few years ago, as there was no executive, the organization was turned over to the recreation director.

So they have set up a new constitution, have an executive, a new logo, and in the new year will return to being their own entity.

With 105 registered players last year this is a great undertaking for them.

RRVPCC- Cheryl Crick gave her directors report. All of their programming is up and running.

They are receiving good response/attendance, particularly in Lowe Farm where typically interest wasn't there before. The Women's empowerment program is also being well attended. Tracey Holness is spearheading a Community Kitchen, a once a month dinner program to be run out of the multiplex. They are hoping that individual groups will host these once a month dinners. Cheryl will be busy filling out grant applications for the next year.

**Noted and discussed**

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- **Councillor Tim Lewis**

**Council Report**

**For Committee as a Whole – Nov 14, 2019**

**By: Councillor Tim Lewis**

**Medical Clinic Committee meeting:**

A meeting was held on January 3, 2019 with Tim Lewis, Margaret Johnston, Mel Baxter, Brigitte Doerksen and Scott Crick from Morris Town Council, Jane Curtis, Ron Morris, Reynold Peters, Ken Klassen and Cheryl Harrison from Southern Health as well as Scott Noble from EMS. This was a follow up to the meeting held on May 13, 2019 and the AMM Eastern District meeting.

**Items of Interest to Report on:**

The next update on Shared Health initiatives will likely be in late December or early January, which will still be high level planning. Longer term updates will be in the next year or two.

Based on the models of health care delivery discussed at the AMM Eastern District meeting, Morris would likely fall into the Urgent Care/Primary Care level. Some of the current assets to the primary care model for Morris are Diagnostic Services, Homecare, Mental Health and Public Health departments currently in the facility. If the facility is not maintained as a hospital in the future it could transition into a “waiting placement” facility or even a personal care home, however the costs to retrofit the building are astronomical.

After a complete assessment of the facility was completed, it was determined that the cost to bring it up to a full hospital standard would be about \$45 million. The cost to upgrade to current standards as any other type of facility would be about \$25 million. At this time both sides agreed that it would be prudent to wait on adding an elevator or any other type of upgrades at least until after the next initiatives are announced.

The next possible meeting would be in at least 3-4 months.

Tim also met with Bruce Gregory to update him on what is happening. Bruce will be moving forward with a petition to the courts to turn the money over to the Town. This should take a couple of months to complete and then we would need to pass a resolution stating that the money from the Poersch bequests would be set aside to be used for a medical facility in Morris.

**EMS:**

Scott Noble from EMS announced that they have been given the go ahead to do an RFP for building a standalone EMS station in Morris. This could be located on current Southern Health property or they may be looking for other property within the Town of Morris.

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**Council Report**

**For Committee as a Whole – Nov 14, 2019**

**By: Councillor Tim Lewis**

**Committees, Boards, and Activities Attended:**

Transportation and Infrastructure (Chair)

**Items of Interest to Report on:**

A meeting was held November 7 between Brian Wiebe, Mel Baxter and Tim Lewis.

#### Golf Course

- Gate valves should arrive in the next week
- They will be installed once the water goes down

#### Dutch Elm Disease

- The list of trees has arrived and it is down to 65 this year compared to about 80 last year
- PW is waiting on quotes from 2 companies

#### Splash Park

- The lines have been blown out and it has been winterized

#### Training

- Jimmy and Pat attended the pool operator course in October
- Looking at getting two employees arborist certification

#### Winter Preparations

- Meter removals completed except the golf course due to flooding (may need to replace some of the line in spring)

#### Ditching at Motown Motors and along Main Street

- Much better drainage now (this was approved by MI)
- Motown contracted additional ditching on the sides and rear of their property at their cost

#### Wagon Trail

- New culverts installed for 2 approaches for Build-all, 1 new approach for Lavallee Gravel and 1 new approach for Motown
- Ditching along Wagon Trail completed for 2019

#### Fall Cleanup

- Went very smoothly despite the weather
- Zone system worked well but may change dates next year

#### Valley Fiber

- Working together for line placement and locates
- We may need a person spending more time with VF when doing residential hookup next year

#### Agassiz Trail

- Brian is waiting for feedback from Southwood Ventures engineer about drainage

#### Long Term Planning

- A lift station and everything required from the new industrial park to the lagoon would cost in the neighbourhood of \$650K to \$750K if this is ever required
- Brian will get us more information on a possible water distribution plant replacement (this is for the 5-10 year plan)

**Noted and discussed**

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- **Councillor Ruth Murray**

Weed District. - We received our final report for the season from our Weed inspector, Luke Hemphill.  
Nov. 14- C of C report

The Chamber felt that the Rings of Influence was beneficial . The speaker we had was Rick Smith, from Triple R providing useful info to the business community. We were not able to give a financial report on the event as the bills were not all in yet.

The C of C will be holding their AGM on Jan. 31st,2020. Breakfast with Santa is being held on Dec 8th @ the Multiplex.

Many excellent comments were given re the Forum with Town Council and the Public.

They would like to see a similar Forum held involving Council & the town businesses.

Don't forget the Red River Basin Banquet on Nov. 21,2019, here at the Multiplex.

**Noted and discussed**

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- **Councillor Trevor Thiessen**

Morris Manor  
Animal Control

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**Project Board Reports:**

- **Morris Manor Project – Trevor Thiessen**
- **Assisted Living Project – Chris Hamblin**
- **Medical Clinic Project – Tim Lewis**

Any additional specific Board reports that need in-depth discussion outside of Mayor's/Councillors' Reports

**New Business:**

- Finance: re- borrowing By-law
  - CAO to clarify information and provide to Access Credit Union.

**Old Business:**

- MultiPlex Governance Discussion
- Council Committees and Boards

**Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.**