



Council Committee as a Whole

MINUTES

February 13th, 2020

5:30 pm in the Council Chambers

In attendance: Ruth Murray, Margaret Johnston, Chris Hamblin, Tim Lewis, Scott Crick, Mel Baxter

Not in attendance: Trevor Thiessen,

Also, in attendance: CAO Brigitte Doerksen, CFO Chris Janke

Delegations:

- 5:30 Lorne Hamblin Re: Curling Club updates

Minutes from last Meeting:

- *Moved by: Chris Hamblin*
- *Seconded by: Ruth Murray*

Be it resolved that the Minutes for the January Committee as a Whole meeting be adopted as presented.

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

- Mayor Scott Crick

Mayor's Report

For Committee as a Whole – Feb 13, 2020

Events attended or Mayoral activities (paid):

Jan 24-20: Meeting with Deputy Mayor (1.5 hours)
Jan 31-20: Meeting with Reeve of Rhineland (1.5 hours)
Feb 6-20: Multiplex Committee Meeting (1.5 hours)
Feb 6-20: Reeve/Mayor/D. Mayor/CAO Meeting with RM of Morris (2 hours with travel)
Feb 6-20: Meeting with Business Owner (.45 hours)
Feb 6-20: Meeting with Residential Developers (2.5 hours)

Events attended or Mayoral activities (unpaid):

Jan 31-20: Chamber of Commerce AGM (3 hours)
Feb 5-20: Love to Read Month, Morris School (1 hour)
Feb 8-20: Winter Carnival (1 hour)
Feb 8-20: Twisters Cancer Care Event (2 hours)
Feb 11-20: In the Mayor's Chair Interview (.5 hours)
Jan-Feb: Interviews, various phone calls and correspondence, work on by laws (10 hours)

Items of Interest to Report on:

1. A reminder that I am leaving for vacation tomorrow, and will not be returning until March 7th. Deputy Mayor Hamblin will be chairing the regular Council meeting in Feb, and Brigitte will refer any inquiries to the Mayor's office to others until my return. I will have limited access to email, and likely no access to phone, but will try and respond to inquiries that come in.
2. The hot item while I am away will likely be the release of additional flood forecasts from the United States, and possibly a first forecast by the Province. Although the early forecasts suggest there will be elevated river levels this spring, we know how uncertain these forecasts can be. That we have had nice mild weather has certainly helped, as we can already see the evaporation and reduction of our already light snowpack. Please let Brigitte know your availability as requests come in for interviews or feedback.
3. The available members of the Economic Development Committee met with Reeve Don from Rhineland to discuss how they have successfully formed a partnership with the Town of Altona to jointly approach Economic Development. It was good for us to understand how the arrangement came about, and what framework exists for cost and tax sharing between the two municipalities. This gave us some ideas on how we could structure any possible partnership with our neighbor Municipalities.
4. We had our first Multiplex Committee Meeting with Mel, Brigitte, Sherri, and myself on February 6th. This was a very productive meeting, and allowed us to establish a standard agenda and reporting framework to allow our Council Subcommittee to have a more in-depth view of the Centre's operations, and allow us to more fully discharge our financial oversight duties. Even after just one meeting, I think we have already developed better communication, and I was encouraged to see that we have already made changes regarding how we evaluate the viability of Town-sponsored events at the centre. A thorough review of rates and how we present them to customers is going to be looked at, as well as options for local resident discounts.
5. We continue to discuss marketing opportunities for our new land, and continue to see an opportunity to work jointly with the RM for marketing. Each of us offer different locations for a potential business, and being able to offer a regional solution to business appears promising. Discussions are only preliminary at this point, and I have formally sent a written request to the RM Council to see if they would like to look at crafting a joint solution. Developing a project like

this will take some time and effort, but we need to first determine if the willingness to proceed is there.

6. It is exciting to have been approached by individuals investing in our community. The private home care firm "Heavenly Care" will be opening in Morris in March, and requested me to attend their grand opening. This is great to see.
7. Deputy Mayor Hamblin will speak in depth to this, however, we met with a firm interested in building seniors' housing in Morris. The model discussed is a hybrid - a private alternative to the Personal Care home, with a likely-attached independent living with supports facility. It is an interesting concept, and we look forward to the developer refining their model and engaging in public consultations facilitated via the Town.

Noted and discussed

- **Deputy Mayor Chris Hamblin**

Chris Hamblin – Report to the CAAW – February 13, 2020

Red River Basin Commission – report submitted separately

January 24, 2020 – met with Mayor Scott to discuss various issues

January 25, 2020 – wonderful evening with council and staff at the New Canadian Curling Club. Thanks to Margaret and Arien for organizing the evening. (no time charged)

January 31, 2020 – met to learn more about shared EDO with multiple jurisdictions. Exploring potential opportunities for promoting business in Morris and the future industrial park.

January 31, 2020 – attended the Morris Chamber of Commerce AGM. (no time charged). This was a nice evening with businesses and volunteers being recognized.

February 5, 2020 – VAS – attended a meeting in Grunthal to review Agricultural Society by laws. Believe that the VAS by laws are in good shape but did learn where we could make a few changes/improvements. Also discussed briefly Policy and Procedures with some ideas for some that should be looked at going forward.

February 6, 2020 – a series of meetings starting with meeting with the Reeve, Deputy Reeve and CAO of the RM of Morris. A good opportunity to discuss shared interests and concerns. Some follow up identified for further discussion in the future.

A few meetings to discuss senior's housing / assisted living. I had a discussion with the regional home care coordinator to seek information on what is available and how the system works and could work within any potential new housing facilities in our community. We met with organizations that provide private home care and with a builder that is interested in the potential of some independent units along with some units with more care provided. The approach is interesting and worth further thought and discussion. We continue to recognize the need for more senior housing and housing with a higher level of care. No plans in place at this time but we need to be supportive of these kinds of initiatives where it makes sense.

Valley Agriculture Society – February board meeting (along with some time spent preparing the January month end report for this meeting). Plans are progressing well for the 2020 events. There have also been a few grants applied for to facilitate some improvements on the grounds.

Noted and discussed

- **Councillor Mel Baxter**

The first meeting of the Multiplex Committee was held on Feb-6th at which a discussion of operations and potential changes occurred. Some immediate ideas such as regular hours for skate sharpening and identifying a core individual in charge at an event (by means of a common jacket, etc) were suggested. An agenda for future meetings was established to include financial data, event results on bookings, fee structure and rental agreements.

At a recent meeting, the MAF approved the granting of the Build 150 matching funds to 7 applicants from the MAF endowment area. These, plus the 3 applications approved in Nov/19 are to be officially announced in May 2020. Projects are to be completed in 1 year. Thanks to Enns Bros. for raising \$1560. Through employees, clients and matching funds from John Deere at Christmas. The Southern Health Fund stands at \$397,016.44 and generated \$5312.15 in interest earned last year. The current MAF endowment fund total value is \$273,675.

Noted and discussed

- **Councillor Margaret Johnston**

Red River Valley Interagency- Mtg Jan 28th

Sgt. Vrooman reported that there was a spike in property in the RM of Stuartburn the last quarter, but now property crime is down significantly across all detachments, due to the effort of monitoring offenders and preventative measures. He mentioned the possible build of a new detachment building once the property has been secured.

He also inquired as to whether we had received his report. I assured him that we had. I think that he is interested in attending a CAAW meeting to report in person and answer any questions that we may have.

Randi Bourke from Southern Health- There is a Healthy Communities Conference will be held April 18th at the Fairholme Colony, the topic is Mental Wellness.

There will be a 6 week Chronic Disease Self-Management Program offered in Morris this spring.

Anne Vermette- Training and Employment Services has been overwhelmed with newcomers and increasing requests for literacy programming.

All programs are being renewed and they have requested increased funding.

Laurel Driedger is no longer the Community Living Disability Services Caseworker. Her caseload will be distributed between several CSW's.

Letters are being sent to families to advise them of this change.

Red River Valley Parent and Child Center Mtg- Feb 4th- A lot of information was shared around the various grants that Cheryl has or will be applying for. Cheryl has received an email from the Government to advise that the program called the Healthy Child Coalition is ending. The reason for this is that it was found that funds were being misused by some of the communities. Cheryl was advised that Morris's RRVPC was one of the few that were doing a great job of providing services. Kudos to her!

The Community Kitchen program is currently on hold, due to no applications be received to run it.

St Pierre may have secured a space for them to run their programming out of. They will have to rent this space, similar to how the United Church is utilized here in Morris.

Lowe Farm programs are being well attended. This is a very positive trend.

Morris continues to provide programming for many families at the United Church. The Jets fundraiser is doing well. Draw date is March 18th

Cheryl is hoping to be awarded equipment (A hockey dangler, snow shoes, and a pitching machine) through the Healthy Living Initiative Grant.

I too, went to the winter carnival. It was great to see so many people out enjoying all of the different events. I was really impressed with the toboggan runs. Super fun for everyone. Great job by all the town staff, fire department and all of the volunteers.

Noted and discussed

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- **Councillor Tim Lewis**

Council Report

For Committee as a Whole – Feb 13, 2020

By: Councilor Tim Lewis

Committees, Boards, and Activities Attended:

Transportation and Infrastructure (Chair)

Items of Interest to Report on:

A meeting was held February 10 with Brigitte Doerksen, Brian Wiebe and Tim Lewis.

Two out of four water tanks on the Vac truck needed to be replaced. They were built and at a total cost of \$2800 compared to \$4900 for one new tank.

The door frames for the barns for the Valley Ag Society were completed and taken to the RM shop for metal cladding.

The snow blower on the new skid steer has been a great asset for sidewalks & walking trails.

The COR external audit was completed in early December and the closeout meeting is to happen on Thursday Feb 13th.

Disaster Management Conference was very informative and had great speakers.

Dutch elm disease trees removal was completed by January 30th and the paperwork was completed and on budget (65 trees).

Winter Carnival: 2 toboggan hills made
 Horse drawn sleigh ride trail cleared

Looking at ideas for the outdoor rink for next year.

Recommendations:

Noted and discussed

• **Councillor Ruth Murray**

CAW Report for February 13, 2020 by Ruth Murray

Jan. 31- Chamber of Commerce AGM as well as Awards Night.

This was a very fun filled evening for all of the Chamber members held after the AGM. It was also great to see our Mayor Scott, Deputy Mayor, Chris, and Norm Gauthier from Valley Ag , and Grace Crick take part in the Murder on the Menu Presentation. The awards were given out to the following:

Business- Valley Agro,-Doug Edle, Entrepreneur -Country Stitched- Ashley Budge, Citizens of the year for Volunteers - Bill & Terry Howie.

Feb. 6- Mass Meeting in Lowe Farm

Reports were given by John Voth as treasurer, & Pat Eidse as the Coordinator. The kitchen improvements were made in Lowe Farm & should be completed this week. A new garburator had to be installed requiring extra electrical work. Pat Eidse, the coordinator is doing an excellent job with seniors in our area. The meal program is doing very well in Morris but the numbers in Lowe Farm are low and will have to be increased so expenses can be met. Pat is encouraging seniors to use this program. She has also purchased 3 new articles of medical equipment which can be rented & used by seniors. They are very grateful to all the Volunteers who help with these congregate meals.

Leslie Poulin has agreed to serve as chair for the MASS program as Bud Stupnisky wishes to retire. We had a visitor there from Southern Health drop in and she is pleased with the program in Morris & Area. The books will be audited prior to the AGM.

Feb 8- I did attend the Morris Winter Carnival in the inside while activities were taking place outside...the sleigh rides, the bon fire, the sliding on the hill, etc. The children inside were having a great time in the Bouncy Houses, playing games & enjoying the cotton candy & cones. The Norman Chief Dancers put on a great show doing their jigs, dancing, as well as providing the music. It was good to see some of the residents from the Red River Valley Lodge also watching the show. I must compliment the workers with the Rec Dept., as well as the Multiplex workers .The Public Works did a great job with the snow hill outside and the Fire Dept. was there as well. What a fantastic idea to provide good entertainment for all families and their children at little or no cost to them. The weather also co-operated. ;(No time charged)

Noted and discussed

- **Councillor Trevor Thiessen**
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Project Board Reports:

- **Morris Manor Project – Trevor Thiessen**
 - Nothing new to report
- **Assisted Living Project – Chris Hamblin**
 - Nothing new to report
- **Medical Clinic Project – Tim Lewis**
 - Nothing new to report

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

New Business:

- **Organizational By-Law-proposed amendments**
 - CAO to bring to regular council meeting for 1st reading

Old Business:

- **Council Committees and Boards**
 - Board appointments- Mel will be appointed to the Golf Course Board (need a resolution approving such)

Meeting adjourned at 6:33 pm.

