



Council Committee as a Whole

MINUTES

March 11, 2021 (via Go to Meetings)

6:30 pm Virtual Meeting

In attendance: Chris Hamblin, Margaret Johnston, Scott Crick, Tim Lewis, Mel Baxter, Ruth Murray (by phone)
Trevor Thiessen

Not in attendance: no one

Also in attendance: Brigitte Doerksen CAO, Brian Wiebe Public Works Foreman

Delegations: Public Works Foreman Brian Wiebe: To discuss the Sewer Line Policy

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

- **Mayor Scott Crick**
 - Discussion was had - nothing of significance to report

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- **Deputy Mayor Chris Hamblin**

VAS – March 11, 2021

The Valley Agricultural Society held their AGM on March 4, 2021 via Zoom. The meeting was quite well attended considering the challenges of virtual meetings.

The financials for 2020 year end were approved.

Reports were presented and approved.

Thanks were given to Cheryl Sarrasin, Denis Robert and Dale Buhler for their service as they are retiring from the board. Andy Krahn and Ryan Holness agreed to let their names stand for re-election. Also nominated were Crystal Legary and Brian Wiebe were also nominated. These were all accepted as directors to the board of the VAS for a 2 year term.

Following the AGM, a board meeting was held and the directors were assigned duties as follows.

President - Norm Gauthier

Vice President and Secretary - Donna Edel

Rodeo – Mike Belisle & Chris Edel

Fair and Gathering of Nations – not confirmed at this time

Operations – Andy Krahn, Ryan Holness & Crystal Legary

Rumble – Brian Wiebe

Marketing – Matt Hoffman

Finance – Chris Hamblin

Town of Morris – Chris Hamblin

RM of Morris – Stan Siemens

We are looking at another individual to chair the Gathering of Nations and having others look after the Fair. Norm Gauthier will oversee the fair responsibilities.

Board meeting – March 4, 2021

Received correspondence requesting to know if we would be hosting our events this year. The decision has been made to not proceed with Rumble and Stampede. VAS plans to hold the Farmers’ Market twice a month if Health rules allow.

Economic Development Committee Report - March 11, 2021

I have made a number of phone calls and emails as follow up to the Morris Industrial Park (MIP). These include businesses that have previously expressed interest in locating in the MIP as well as a number of realtors that have expressed interest in listing these properties and/or working with us to promote the lots for sale.

The Economic Development Committee will be meeting on March 10 to discuss various topics including the MIP and promoting the lots for sale. I will report more verbally at the CAAW meeting.

I have emailed Red Apple to find out more about what they are looking for in Morris. I have not heard back from them as of yet.

Noted and discussed

• **Councillor Margaret Johnston**

-Community Partners Committee met Feb 24th via ZOOM

The Shared Health changes that had occurred in the WHRA are now taking place within Southern Health. With that, there has been many changes. It is more streamlined and focused care, with the direction on the care at each facility. Josh Gruninger is the lead for the non-regional acute health facilities. Matt Norris is the Nursing Manager(not sure of his title) for the Morris Hospital and is in charge of nursing and medical records. Marie Lacey is overseeing RRVL and the Emerson PCH.

Matt says that there is a daily, 10-15 minute call with all of the acute care facilities, regarding bed flow management, which has been a beneficial tool. In regards to staffing, they do occasionally have to access Agency Nurses. At present they have one .6 LPN position vacant. This is the least number of nursing vacancies in recent history. Physician coverage has been good.

During Covid19, some changes to the ER Rooms occurred, to accommodate the required spacing and proper cleaning. 4 Air Scrubbers were donated by Patterson, so that rooms can be safely cleaned between patients. The outbreak at the hospital was much worse due to the poor air circulation. Covid positive patients are not being admitted in Morris.

The whole hospital is serviced by MTS WIFI and tablets have been added for client use.

The hospital is most often at capacity, with 9-12 clients awaiting placement.

There is still talk of The Nurses Desk! There will be new plans drawn up and while construction is being done, part of the facility will be closed off. Looks like this will actually happen.

The Terms of Reference for Community Partners will need some changes related to the change in leadership.

Listened to the Spring Conditions Webinar. Looks like no flood even with substantial precipitation. And now we will be preparing for a likely drought!

Attending 2 days of the Recreation Convention this week.

Noted and discussed

- **Councillor Tim Lewis**

**Public Works Report
February 2021**

Toboggan Hill & Outdoor Rink

- Both areas have been removed due to weather change

Shop/Yard Maintenance

- New LED lighting installed on PW yard
 - No news on break in information from RCMP
- New access door locks installed

Water Plant

- Capitol grant application submitted to MWSB (Manitoba Water Stewardship Board)
 - Engineering grant application to be submitted prior to April 1st

Water Bypass Lines (frozen water line prevention)

- Reduced number of bypass lines running due to warmer winter

Signage

- New signs have been installed on Mary Street at Ottawa East
 - Stop signs on Ottawa East to be removed March 15th

Morris Industrial Park

- Construction has begun
- Working closely with engineers & Friesen Hauling

MWWA Conference

- Brian & Jimmy attended the MWWA virtual conference Feb 22-24
 - Very useful information, including a half day training on the SCADA (supervisory control and data acquisition) systems, that will be implemented to the 2022 water plant project

Noted and discussed

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- **Councillor Mel Baxter**

VALLEY REGIONAL LIBRARY REPORT

The library committee has voted to modify the Overdue Policy and suspend overdue charges; instead "If materials are not returned within 30 days of the overdue date the library will contact the borrower informing them of the late date and attempt to resolve the issue" In lieu of overdue charges, donations will be gratefully accepted

The online segment "Reading with Martine" has been well received according to comments from kids and parents.

The library is seeking grants from the province's Building Sustainable Communities program to improve the interior lighting and build an outside patio/storage area.

RIVERVIEW GOLF CLUB REPORT

The initial meeting of the golf course board of directors was held Mar 9/2021. Startup procedures such as sponsorship, advertising, course and clubhouse staffing were discussed with plans developed to proceed. Food service events with Santa Lucia will be followed up on. Once again this year weather and covid-19 will dictate the rules for on and off course behavior. No start date has been determined yet.

Attended Morris and Area Foundation Meeting

Noted and discussed

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- **Councillor Ruth Murray**

Not that much to report. We, Leslie P.(chair of MASS) and I went over all the by-laws & amendments with Caitlin Gagnon from Southern Health on Zoom today .Then Leslie & I signed the documents and these were forwarded to Caitlin . It was a good meeting.

Noted and discussed

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- **Councillor Trevor Thiessen**

Just a couple of items to report on:

Morris Manor - The building manager and cleaner have both been released. The Board will be managing the finances and cleaning of the manor for an undetermined amount of time. We also advised the maintenance position that we will be going to a fee for service after May, as paying a retainer plus hours doesn't make financial sense. There will be 16 total suites rented before the end of the month, with another possibly rented as well. That will leave us with 2 suites available, both of which need some more extensive work. That means that in the past in the past 10 months or so, the new Board, including some volunteers from before, have rented 10 suites. This should have a positive affect on cash flow. The next hurdle will be to get rents up to a place where we are more in line with other similar buildings.

Pembina Valley Water Coop - AGM was held on the 28th of February. The main discussions were around upgrades to infrastructure. The Coop is running well, and is able to service its debt. There is drought planning happening, as it is felt we are not where we would like to be in that regard.

Noted and discussed

Project Board Reports:

- **Assisted Living Project – Chris Hamblin**

Assisted Living Report to CAAW – March 11, 2021

I have had a couple of meetings to discuss potential builds. It remains a challenge to build something that is affordable but meets the needs of the community.

I am currently getting an estimate for the cost to build a 27 unit assisted living building. This is for the purpose of understanding the costs to begin further discussions with the community or investors.

Noted and discussed

New Business:

- *Review of Emergency Plan – to be adopted at next regular council meeting.*

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.