



Council Committee as a Whole

MINUTES

May 13th, 2021 (via Go to Meetings)

6:30 pm Virtual Meeting

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

Not in attendance: No one

Also in attendance: CAO, Brigitte Doerksen

Delegations: NONE

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

- **Mayor Scott Crick**

Mayor's Report

For Committee as a Whole – May 13, 2021

Events attended or Mayoral activities (paid):

Apr 13-16/21: AMM Spring Conference (9 hrs)
Apr 19/21: Multiplex Committee (1 hr)
Apr 21/21: Ec Dev Meeting (1.25 hrs)
May 5/21: PVRAM Meeting (2 hrs)
May 12/21: Ec Dev Meeting (1.5 hrs)

Events attended or Mayoral activities (unpaid):

Apr 21/21: Child Care Backgrounder for PVRAM (1.5 hrs)
May 11/21: In the Mayor's Chair (0.5 hrs)
May 12/21: MAF Bylaw review (0.5 hrs)
Apr-May/21: Various phone calls and correspondence, meeting prep, interviews (10 hours)

Items of Interest to Report on:

1. With the introduction of Bill 47, the Province of Manitoba has taken steps to "reform" early childhood education in Manitoba. With parent fees being frozen for an additional three years, and no indication of additional Provincial funding, the Province appears to be looking to push forward home-based or employer-sponsored care.

These changes do not appear to reflect an understanding of child care in Rural Manitoba, especially in smaller communities. Our publicly funded centres are what provide stable and consistent child care in our community, and may be the difference between families being able to work, and avoid the cycle of poverty. As a Council, we

have been discussing this issue for over two years, and now is the time we need to loudly advocate for publicly-funded child care. Unfortunately, with Covid continuing, and the reforms the Province has begun in health care and education, this issue has been below the radar, and not received the attention it has deserved.

2. Coun. Hamblin will be reporting on Economic Development – however, we have received and reviewed the RFPs sent in for the marketing of The MIP. Everything appears to moving ahead in a satisfactory manner, and I hope to see our lots start getting sold as soon as they are ready.
3. PVRAM met a few weeks ago, mainly to discuss a number of issues of mutual interest. Subjects discussed were policing, child care, health services, and affordable housing

Noted and discussed

- **Deputy Mayor Chris Hamblin**

VAS- no show this year, however they continue to work on the grounds

- Roofing of the 2-orange building by way of grants (not all, but partially)
- Pier Solutions to perform an inspection of the Grand Stands
 - Grants available if we need to access for the Grand Stands

Council recessed at 6:54 for a Variation Hearing

Council returned to the Committee as a Whole Meeting @ 7:14

- **Deputy Mayor Chris Hamblin Continued**

Economic Development - RFP submissions were reviewed ~the committee will be meeting with them to start the discussion and moving forward towards signing a contract.

AMM webinar- focus was on Ec. Dev. On smaller rural communities – wasn't a whole lot more to learn.

Possible rental space on main street- for a display of garden sheds

- We could with a provision that if we need to sell, we give them 3 months notice.
- Also, that if we are doing the maintenance, we are not liable for any damage.
- Rental includes maintenance – CAO to draft a rental agreement.

Noted and discussed

- **Councillor Margaret Johnston**

RRVPCC Meeting held on May 6th via Zoom

The director's report was given, covering the many programs and activities that have taken place over the winter and spring. Despite the pandemic the center has been able to reach 71 families providing them with online opportunities as well as the many kits, books, games and puzzles through the lend-o-rama. A web site was created and all materials have been barcoded to allow for tracking. With donations and working along with Super Thrifty the child center has 200 games and puzzles available. A student has been hired for the summer and Students Park program. This will again be run at the pool park as well as other outdoor public spaces throughout town.

Noted and discussed

- **Councillor Tim Lewis**

**Public Works Report
April 2021**

Steaming Culverts

- Crews continued steaming into April due to weather conditions

Street Maintenance

- Sweeping has been completed

Street/Pothole assessment continues

- Asphalt patching truck to be rented for early May

Water Plant

- Waiting on grant approvals

Water Bypass Lines (frozen water line prevention)

- Most bypass lines have been turned off
- Critical ones have been left on for the time being

Signage

- New signs have been installed on James St East
- Signs changed to read "60 Minute Parking"

Morris Industrial Park

- No recent construction

Multiplex Parking Lot

- Multiplex LDS (land drain system) installation has begun
- Main parking lot area has been designed based on elevations
- Working alongside Nelson River Construction & MB Infrastructure for the LDS tie-in
- Final quotes are being compiled

Swimming Pool

- Working with Rec to prep the pool for summer
 - Sand filter work completed
 - Pool drained & acid washed
 - Pool filled and pumps operational

Scratching River Park

- All ice shacks have been placed into storage lots or removed from site
- Parking area to be graded and prepped in May

MB Infrastructure projects

- Working closely with Steve Penner for the Hwy 75 South project
 - Will be meeting with Bayview Construction to discuss milled asphalt drop off site
- Working closely with Manjit Chana for the Hwy 23 East project
 - Working with Nelson River Construction for milled asphalt as well as the multiplex parking lot project

Noted and discussed

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- ***Councillor Trevor Thiessen excused himself at 7:58 pm***

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- **Councillor Mel Baxter**

Riverview Golf Committee Report

It was decided at the recent meeting that May-1st would be the official opening day for the Riverview Golf and Country Club, Membership (early bird option), advertising, sponsorships and staff hiring are well under way. The recent snowfall has put moisture on the course and fairway #5 has had the slope reinforced and upgraded.

Santa Lucia is onboard for food service on selected dates and plan on reintroducing the Sat. & Sun. breakfast, Covid-19 restrictions pending.

Riverview will institute scan able gift cards this year and they can be programmed in various denominations.

Morris Area Fdn Committee

The MAF has seen the entire \$70,000 funding from the govt, Emergency Community Support Program distributed to all successful recipients in our MAF area. The new annual granting program for 2021 has started with requests currently coming in.

The MAF Endowment fund stands at \$381,606.30 with bequest to the Health & Wellness fund at \$54,010.31 as of April-10/2021

Valley Regional Library Report

Grants to fund a gazebo, patio, shed development are still pending. The provincial assistance grant to hire a Summer student has been approved. Circulation and e-library numbers were up in March even though the library had reduced hours. Curbside service has been working well for those that just like to request articles and then pick them up. Manitoba libraries through AMM continue to lobby the provincial govt. to exempt libraries from paying local school levies and taxes as well as increasing the maximum \$8.50 per capita operating fund. This has not changed since 2004. The library will follow the new covid-19 restrictions in May.

Morris District Handi Van Report

The Handi Van service held their AGM virtually on May-4th. The audited financials were moved and passed. The committee saw the resignation of long time board members Hugh Buchanan and Barry Fraese and welcomed Stan Siemens as the RM representative and appointed Allen Recksiedler as Chairman. The one time grant of \$10,000 to cover transfers to covid-19 vaccination sites was received.

Morris Area Fdn Report

The MAF has set June 9th as the date for the AGM. By-law provisions are being updated and hopefully will be ready for that meeting with a new proposed schedule for board terms. A cheque to MAF of approximately \$340.00 was received from Waste Management as the charity chosen by the town for the 5 cent per cart annual donation. The Southern Health Fund stands at \$224,287.00

Noted and discussed

- **Councillor Ruth Murray**

April 8- Weed meeting in Letellier. We have a very efficient weed inspector who is up to date on all programs & gives us a weekly report of his activities. Has concerns on drought, noxious weeds, grasshoppers, & safety.

April 14-16- listened to all except the last one on the 16h dealing with climate change. I enjoyed Reputation Management as well as Leaders Don't Arrive .Some people know exactly how to deliver a presentation.

April 17- I did take the Food Handler Training Certificate. You never know when we will have to help hand out hot dogs.

April -20-The Age -Friendly Collaboration Builds Strong Communities. This all promotes healthy living in community development.

Here are my reports for meeting May 13, 2021 MASS-The cook for congregate meals accepted a job @ housekeeping at the hospital . May Baehlig from Emerson has agreed to be a temporary cook starting Monday. She will have the option to apply for position when it is posted. She ran the Emerson canteen in Emerson Park in summer.

Weed District-Luke Hemphill continues to work & send in weekly reports. He is repairing machinery, checking on leafy spurge, and documenting noxious weeds along C.N. Property.

I did write up an article on Celebrating Community Collaboration on the work done on the Morris Manor.

I was also asked to write a letter of recommendation on Larry McCrady for Volunteer in Manitoba. This was sent to Lou Erickson & Leslie Poulin at the Am hoping to start the planting of flowers in the beds and planters.

Noted and discussed

- **Councillor Trevor Thiessen**

CAO Brigitte Doerksen read Councillor Thiessen's report

- Manor- 1 suite left to rent
- Received a \$25,000 Grant from the Fairview Place Past Board

Noted and discussed

Project Board Reports:

- **Assisted Living Project – Chris Hamblin**

Here is a brief report on my meeting with Red River Group. We have invited them to come to CAAW in June. They are suggesting we hire their firm to do some ground work for us in terms of how many suites we should build, what organizational structure might work best, what the facility might look like etc. They estimated that this initial consultation would cost about \$10,000. His initial visit in June is at no cost.

- **Assisted Living**

On April 12, 2021 I had a call with Red River Group to discuss our interest in developing an assisted living housing in Morris. Red River Group is involved in various aspects of property valuations including residential, multi-family, industrial, commercial, agricultural and others. They also offer services in consulting and advisory on property management, custom studies and analysis, developments, and various other services. RRG has been involved in the Niverville seniors' living project and is currently consulting on the senior's housing in Dugald. RRG has a broad level of experience in both senior's housing developments as well as municipal government having served as Mayor of the town of Niverville. (He is no longer mayor.)

They are interested in discussing with Council what services his company could bring to our desire to get this project up and running. They have experience with various types of buildings, types of organizational models, working within municipal committees and working with independent investors. They understand the opportunities and challenges of both community driven ownership as well as ownership that has at its core the Municipality.

RRG has offered to come to talk to council, pro bona, to start discussions and to outline further what his company can bring to this project and at what cost estimate.

I have invited them to attend our June CAAW meeting (June 10, 2021) to have this initial discussion with council.

Noted and discussed

New Business:

- Winter Games- Curling portion -Niverville is the host community
 - CAO to send corresponding letter
- RCMP Report

Noted and discussed

- Communities in Bloom

Noted and discussed

IN-CAMERA

Moved by Councillor Ruth Murray

Seconded by Councillor Chris Hamblin

Be it resolved that Council go in Camera to discuss personnel matter.

Moved by Councillor Chris Hamblin

Seconded by Councillor Mel Baxter

Be it resolved that Council resume it Committee as a Whole Meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 pm.

