



Council Committee as a Whole

Minutes

November 18th, 2021

5:30 pm

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

Also in attendance: Brigitte Doerksen CAO

Delegations: None

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

- **Mayor Scott Crick**

Reached out to the health authority

Noted and discussed

- **Deputy Mayor Chris Hamblin**

Touched based with Century 21 regarding the Industrial Park

VAS planning the AGM Dec. 2nd, 2021

- Preparing a by-law to include more board members

Assisted Living – agreement is now signed

- Next item would be to put forth a committee to spearhead the project

Noted and discussed

- **Councillor Margaret Johnston**

2021 Disaster Management Conference

The first session, Dr Roussin and Lynette Siragusa took us through some of the highlights and tragedies of the pandemic. Beginning in Dec of 2019, the news of the pandemic was released. By March 2020 we had our first case. Incident Management was implemented with Public Health and the government. Procurement of PPE, reagents for testing, daily media briefings, press releases, communications, Public Health Orders became a reality of everyday discussions. As the pandemic worsened, the team had many challenges to adjust to. A calm consistent approach throughout Waves 1 through 4, provided for an organized response to Covid-19.

Breakout Session- Emergency Response: Covid-19- Managing the Traumatic Aftermath. Presented by Patrick Rivard. A prolonged traumatic event such as a pandemic intensifies an often, invisible dynamic in our communities, that include increases in domestic violence, addictions, sexual exploitations and suicides. Quarantining has created anxieties of

different levels for our communities. Being aware of and accepting that not everyone responds in the same way, will open the door to assisting those in need.

Keynote Session- Insurrection at the US Capital- Presented by Commander Robert Glover and Dustin Sternbeck of the Metro Police Department, Washington, DC- On Jan 6, 2021, a violent mob stormed the grounds of the US Capitol, in attempt to interrupt the country's counting of the electoral votes. The MPD representatives discussed the complexities of the law enforcement landscape in the nation's capitol.

Breakout Session-Developing a Comprehensive Emergency Plan for your Community. Presented by Shelley Napier and Patricia Martel. Emergency Programming starts with having an emergency plan that reflects the needs of your community, business, or institution. It should be designed to be utilized and contain information that is easy to find and easy to use.

Keynote Speaker- Dr Sherri Fink- A Pulitzer Prize winning author and reporter. She shared three real world case studies that demonstrate the value of situational awareness, the complexities of prioritizing limited resources, and the importance of ensuring systems can effectively support operational decisions. (Hurricane Katrina, Tropical Storm Harvey, and the Covid19 Pandemic) Takeaways from this session are the importance of preparing, as well as being flexible, the need to lead, as well as share the burden of decision making and ideas about how disaster triage can be made more just and inclusive.

Breakout Session-Manitoba's Response to the Australian Bush fires. The Manitoba Wildfire Service is Manitoba's lead wildfire management agency and second to none within Canada. In the 2019/2020 Australian bush fires, the team, MWS, was called to assist. Geoff Smith and Travis Smelski provided a recap of their experience from down under.

Keynote Session- Playing the Covid Long Game. Presented by Jay Shaw and Lisa Gilmour. This session discussed the lessons learned from the elongated EOC activations. The Winnipeg EOC has been active, for almost 2 years now. The Office of Emergency Management has been engaged in surveillance, awareness, planning and the response for the global pandemic. The impact of mental health related to the long haul of this emergency has been difficult. Burnout became a reality and many changes because of it, caused retirements, resignations, changing positions, and new hires. The way forward with emergency preparedness is needing to be reassessed as hazards and disasters continue to become more frequent and deadlier.

Keynote Session- Powers under Emergency Management Legislation Presented by Johanu Botha. Emergency management has become professionalized as an area of specialized knowledge, while gaining more prominence as a policy area within provincial governments. The pandemic experience has emphasized this development through practitioners, officials and the public. Changes to the legislation especially during the pandemic appear to focus more on provincial preparedness and provincial response capacity. With the importance of supporting and overseeing local authorities remaining

Noted and discussed

- **Councillor Tim Lewis**

Transportation and Infrastructure (Chair)

Items of Interest to Report on:

A meeting was held on November 10 between Brigitte Doerksen, Brian Wiebe and Tim Lewis.

The Multiplex parking lot project is 100% complete and came in slightly above the budgeted amount. There are a couple of dips in the surface that will be assessed and repaired in the spring of 2022.

Both the highway 75 and 23 projects are complete and re-opened fully to the public but there is some finishing work to do on Highway 75 next year.

The Town of Morris has been averaging a 5-10% water consumption reduction from last year even though the state of emergency has been lifted. PW is now participating in monthly conference calls with PVWC and other communities.

PW is waiting on Manitoba Hydro to disconnect the power to the decorative light poles on the corners of Main Street in the downtown area and then they will be removed to the shop.

The Christmas lights will go up in mid-November.

The outdoor rink will be going up once again on Valley Ag Society grounds as will the toboggan hill. They are looking at the possibility of having a skating trail on the river.

PW is once again suggesting that a location be found to build a permanent outdoor rink. They are suggesting an asphalt pad about 50'x90' with permanent boards and lighting. An approximate cost for this project would be in the \$60000-\$70000 range.

Noted and discussed

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- **Councillor Mel Baxter**

MORRIS AREA FDN REPORT

The granting committee of the MAF has been working on requests for this years eligible awards. The group will be releasing their grant recipients shortly. The Endow Man. Giving Challenge is set for the week of Nov.15 to 21. Access Credit Union and Rempel Insurance have joined in with matching contributions to a maximum of \$2,000.00. An information table will be set up at Morris Bigway again this year. Plans are being made to prepare presentations for assistance from the Town and RM in building the MAF Administration support fund.

VALLEY REGIONAL LIBRARY REPORT

Valley Reg. Library was pleased with the Provincial govt. announcement of additional funding for rural libraries. Valley library will receive an added \$7,052.76 to assist in operating expenses. Outdoor lighting has been improved by new larger globes & bulbs as well as sanding and repainting the light standards. Hopefully the second half of the interior lighting upgrade will be done soon. Circulation figures for Sept/21 were down a little however this is an annual norm as kids return to school.

RIVERVIEW GOLF COMMITTEE REPORT

The purchase of 5 used 2017 golf carts was completed this Oct. A service maintenance was performed and all are working well. A review of membership fees, staff requirements, sponsorships and a request for proposal for restaurant services for 2022 were developed. Budget proposals were considered. A tournament contract policy was made to allow for better use of the facilities for groups and members. Riverview golf course will attempt to sell gift cards for Christmas this year to see if there is a market.

Noted and discussed

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- **Councillor Ruth Murray**

No Report

Noted and discussed

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- **Councillor Trevor Thiessen**

Manor- AGM Dec 10 via zoom

Noted and discussed

Project Board Reports:

Assisted Living Project – Chris Hamblin

- reported above

New Business:

Meeting adjourned at 6:26 pm.