



Council Committee as a Whole

Minutes

December 9th, 2021

6:30 pm

In attendance: Scott, Mel, Trevor, Ruth, Margaret, Tim, Chris.

Also in attendance: Arien Peterson

Delegations: None

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

Mayor Scott Crick

Verbal Report – Attended AMM DeKalb, Breakfast W/Santa

Noted and discussed

Deputy Mayor Chris Hamblin

Valley Agricultural Society

The Valley Agricultural Society held its Annual General Meeting on December 2, 2021. The meeting was held in person at the Coral Room in the Morris Curling Club. Members were also provided the opportunity to join via zoom with options provided for voting. Most were able to attend but a few did use the virtual option.

Reports were provided to by email for those attending virtually with hard copies at the meeting. Reports were reviewed and approved. It was a quiet year as COVID prevented the Rumble and Stampede from taking place. Crowds were moderate and appreciative of the Manitoba rodeo and the Grit and Grace Barrel Racing. It was nice to have action on the grounds.

Capital Improvements have taken place to the Orange Buildings with new rooves installed. More work is planned going forward. Major work is needed on the Grandstand, and this is planned for spring of 2022. Grants are being applied for to assist in this project.

Thanks to careful attention to expenses, government assistance programs and small revenues from the few events held, the VAS is sitting in a positive cash position to see the start of the new fiscal year and to get started on some of the capital improvements. The financial statements prepared by Scarrow & Donald were approved. Scarrow & Donald were also appointed as auditors for the coming year.

A by-law change was proposed and accepted to increase the board size from a maximum size of 12 to a maximum size of 14 with quorum of 8 needed. The board felt the extra events taking place required more directors to spread out the workload on directors. This change will see 7 directors elected (or re-elected) each year.

Election of Directors: Re-elected were Norm Gauthier, Donna Edel, Matt Hoffman, Chris Edel and Mike Bellisle. New directors to the board are Tim Lewis and Heather Ross. Continuing existing terms are Brian Wiebe, Andy Krahn,

Crystal Legary, Ryan Holness, Chris Hamblin representing the Town of Morris and Stan Siemens representing the RM of Morris.

New President is Brian Wiebe; Vice President is Mike Bellisle, and the Past President is Norm Gauthier.

Noted and discussed

Councillor Margaret Johnston

Red River Parent Child Center

Just an update on the Red River Valley Parent Child Center. We had a very busy summer with many programs happening in the park by the pool. Families loved that they could go to the park and would find activities for them to do as a family. We had a staff member at the park every weekday during the summer doing an activity and craft with the kids for one hour each day. The fall was extremely busy for the parent child center. We had our stay & play in the park from August till the end of October. We had over 14 families attending this program and many were new mom's to the community or just new moms! We were able to bring in a guest speaker at the park. Red River Valley School Division Speech Pathologist came to speak about the new initiative the school division is doing for families with children needing this service. As the weather gets colder, Southern Health is still in code orange and our center is still not allowing for groups to use the space we have moved our programs online. We have been giving out learning activity kits to the families...Halloween we supplied 27 kits to the community and could have given out 31 more if we had them. We are doing our online Stay & Play(storytime) program. Families register to attend a weekly zoom class. We provide them with the activities and crafts that go with that week's program. Parents pick up the kits and do the zoom class online with the facilitator. We will also be giving out Christmas learning activity kits later this month.

Noted and discussed

Councillor Tim Lewis

Committees, Boards, and Activities Attended:

Transportation and Infrastructure (Chair)

Items of Interest to Report on:

A meeting was held on December 8 between Mel Baxter, Brian Wiebe and Tim Lewis.

Brian has been reviewing the final numbers of the 2021 budget and should have his numbers ready for the 2022 budget by about December 15.

Major capital expenses for the upcoming year include the water distribution plant restoration, one block of Charles Street west and possibly the expansion and asphaltting of the walking trails.

The outdoor arena will be setup in the next couple of weeks and two toboggan hills are planned for this year.

Removal of the decorative light poles has proven to be more work than originally thought as the wiring is also connected to the main street lights but this project is underway.

The new Christmas lights are up and look good.

Recommendations:

Noted and discussed

Councillor Mel Baxter

Morris District HandiVan Report

At the latest HandiVan Committee meeting the budget for 2022 was set. It is reflective of the 2021 budget with slight increases in revenue and expenses as volume picks up. All vehicles have regular safety checks upcoming and have had winter tires installed. Client charges remain the same for trips. The additional garage extension at the Public Works yard is just about complete with some electrical work to be finished. Even with Covid concerns this year, the HandiVan Service was able to show a significant net income.

Noted & Discussed

Councillor Ruth Murray

MASS

I am sending this email to keep everyone in the loop regarding what is happening with the congregate meal program and the Davidson Centre over the next month.

Our temporary cook, May Boehlig, had eye surgery on Friday, November 26. Her doctor has informed her that she will be off work until, at least, December 13th. How she heals will determine when she returns.

Pat has secured the help of Lorraine Loewen to fill in as cook in May's absence. There will be a few days when Lorraine will be unable to come in. On those days, Pat will prepare the meal and will keep it simple so there is not as much strain on her body to make it. Friday is one of my days off, and I will assist in the kitchen should Lorraine not be available.

Noted and discussed

Councillor Trevor Thiessen

Report on Morris Manor

AGM held November 30, 2021. Items of note are:

- Extensive renovations have happened on most suites. They are all in very nice, liveable condition. Renovations include new flooring, doors, counter tops, appliances, lighting, plumbing and electrical, fixtures, etc..
- The beginning of 2021 there were 5 suites rented, there are now 19 (full capacity) with a wait list of 8.
- We were the recipient of some very generous grants, namely: Fairview Place - \$25,000; Morris Area Foundation - \$3,300; Morris Bigway - \$1,000; Morris United Church - \$500.
- We are very thankful for the Town of Morris Grant in Lieu for \$12,300 for property taxes. That will continue to be applied for, as we are still completing renovations that eat any rent income.
- Our income/loss for 2019 was \$38,943. That was with 5 suites rented, and expenses not being controlled. We have no numbers for 2020 as nothing was provided to the auditor. Projections for 2021 are: Revenues of \$70,000, Expenses of \$76,000 for a net loss of \$6,000. This is expected to improve as renovations become less intense and rentals are stable.
- There is a total of \$38,000 in chequing/saving accounts (this number is approximate)
- We have openings for 2 board members, no churches without representation that are in the bylaws are interested, so we will entertain 2 community at large members. We currently have 3 people who have expressed interest.

The Manor Board hosted a Christmas supper for the residents and Board November 27. It was well attended, with some residents opting to have supper delivered to their rooms. Carols were sung (by most) and a good time was had.

It is the intent of the Board to now explore our rent. We are, in our opinion, under charging, particularly when you consider that we have rent subsidy that will be provided by the Province. This will be a process, but will pay dividends to the Manor without adversely affecting residents.

Noted and discussed

Project Board Reports:

Assisted Living Project – Chris Hamblin (holding)

Pool

New Business:

- PVWC Pond Project discussion
- Increased Truck Decelerator brakes/noise Highway 75

Meeting adjourned at 7:46 pm.