



Council Committee as a Whole

MINUTES

August 25, 2022

5:30 pm

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

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

Mayor Scott Crick

Events attended or Mayoral activities (paid):

Aug 11/22: Meeting with Emerson-Franklin to discuss shared Economic Development (2 hours)

Events attended or Mayoral activities (unpaid):

Jul 12/22: In the Mayor's Chair (0.5 hrs)

Jul 22-23: Various Stampede Activities (10.5 hrs)

Aug 9/22: In the Mayor's Chair (0.5 hrs)

Jun-Aug/22: Various phone calls and correspondence, meeting prep, interviews (20 hours)

Items of Interest to Report on:

1. Although I discussed this in person last meeting, I wanted to formally reiterate how great it was to be back at Stampede this year. The large crowds and obvious enthusiasm of the patrons were wonderful after a two-year absence. A very large thank you to the Board and Volunteers of the Valley Ag Society.
2. On July 28, we received a negative response from the Province to our request for DFA for Morris businesses. I spoke at length regarding this in my "Mayor's Chair" interview on Aug 10th, and have had one follow-up inquiry from Winnipeg media. The fact that we had asked to discuss it further (it was not a hard ask) was relatively disappointing. Even a phone call to discuss our unique challenges a bit further and discussing if there was a way to make it work would have been appreciated.
3. I was fortunate to spend time with Reeve Dave Carlson from the RM of Emerson-Franklin at Stampede, as were able to discuss their newly announced industrial park, and how they were marketing it. From this discussion, the Economic Development committee had a very productive meeting Dave, and a business consultant they have contracted from Richard Wintrup.

Based on this conversation, we are going to look at ways to work together to do joint marketing, and potentially find different ways to market the MIP that are different than those currently being used. We also see some great forward-looking opportunities, especially in talking to other Municipalities to help develop a PTH75 South business corridor.

From this meeting, we have also asked Richard Wintrup for a quotation for services, and will bring this to Council once received. We see a dual purpose here, as they can provide “virtual” EDO services on top of specific marketing services for the MIP.

4. With the competition ramping up for the Progressive Conservative nomination in the Midland constituency, it is a good reminder for Council that we try to avoid getting mired in partisan politics. Although individual members of Council are welcome to personally support and speak in favour of candidates, the impression should not be given that Council or the Town itself are in favour of any specific candidate.

As a non-partisan political body, it is important to remember that we may need to work with any of the nominees based on their success in their election, or any of the Provincial and Federal Political parties. In short, being viewed as a partisan supporter of a political party, or a partisan supporter of a nomination candidate may create difficulty in advocating for our citizens should this candidate or party not be representing our Community.

5. Speaking of elections, I have formally announced my candidacy to serve for another term. This has been such a positively different experience from my previous term on Council, despite all of the challenges of the last four years.

As a Council, we should be proud of what we have accomplished during our term. My hope is that another four-year mandate will allow us to finish off a number of the challenging projects we have had, including increasing occupancy in the MIP, taking further steps on Assisted Living, making the Town even more financially competitive, and kick-starting our next housing development.

Regardless, it has been my pleasure to serve with all of you.

Noted and discussed

Deputy Mayor Chris Hamblin

Valley Agricultural Society

The Board meeting was held on August 23, 2022. Financials are still be worked on with a few outstanding receivables and payables. The Stampede and Rumble both have had a good year so the bottom line will be good.

The Board will be reviewing the 2022 show and identifying ways to improve or become more efficient in handling the crowds and tickets. The various committee chairs will also be identifying improvements needed in their respective areas. The Board has received quotes on fixing the floor of the orange building as the concrete has shifted in places and it will serve the VAS better for shows and storage if it is fixed. Each committee is also identifying areas for improvement with a priority rating of “must do” up to and including a “wish list”. The board is continuing to look for grants to help with the infrastructure improvements.

Crowds were very good this year and exhibitors were pleased. Many of the contracts for the Fair and the Gathering of Nations are already looking to renew for next year.

VAS has agreed to Partner with Phoenix Security and Manitoba Lions Clubs to host an event to raise funds for Ukraine refugees. We will be providing the use of our beer gardens and some of the grounds. They may also be looking for some volunteers. This will run on September 23, 2022.

VAS is also partnering with the community to again host the Halloween “Haunted Barn” are looking to possibly adding some other activities

Due to the short time to the scheduled September meeting, the next meeting will be October 6, 2022.

Noted and discussed

Councillor Margaret Johnston

Recreation:

The Following Community Groups attended Fall Registration night Aug 22

- Morris minor Hockey
- Curling Club
- Morris Rec
- Morris School of Art & Dance
- YFC
- Morris & District Skate Club
- Wellness Centre (Information Only)
- Cadet (Information Brochures)

Fall Programming:

- Babysitter Course - 08/25
- Rec Hockey - Oct
- Rec Soccer - Sept
- Fall into Christmas Craft Oct 29
- Teen Wellness - September
- Yoga - September

Community Partners meeting coming up on September 27th at 10:30 at Morris Hospital

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 August 22 between Mel Baxter, Brian Wiebe, Brigitte Doerksen and Tim Lewis.

Public Works has been working with Brigitte on costs relating to a DFA claim in regards to the spring flood. The picnic shelter at Scratching River Park has been demolished and estimates for re-building are being sought. Repairs to the electrical system have been completed and clean-up of Scratching River Park is about 95% complete. Clean-up at the cemetery is about 95% complete as well the north sign clean-up is done and just waiting on electrical work.

Patching of streets was done August 8th – 19th. Charles Street is being put off until next year due to a lack of man power. The south end of Main Street is now complete with new sod in place. We are still waiting on Manitoba Hydro availability to remove the decorative lamp posts. Public works is looking into the cost of new hanging basket brackets for next year's budget.

The new water plant drawings are now complete. Public Works is working with Associated Engineering to finalize items before going to tender and waiting on the borrowing to be complete.

Public Works will work with Dan and Darren for shut down of the pool and splash park in September.

The temporary speed hump is installed on Southwood by Bigway. The two permanent speed bumps for Boyne and Charles near the pool were not installed as they were an add-on to the Charles Street re-do.

Street sweeping will be done in October. Fall cleanup is also scheduled for October. PW is checking on pricing of a sea can to house mattresses and box springs and an account is being processed with Mother Earth recycling for disposal of the mattresses and box springs.

A seasonal employee was hired until the end of November.

Recommendations:

The public works committee is recommending that we advertise that residents call public works for pick-up of mattresses and box springs so they can be loaded dry into a sea can for disposal at Mother Earth.

Noted and discussed

Councillor Mel Baxter**Riverview Golf Committee**

The golf course situation for 2022 has not been a good one with another year of high water playing havoc. Work continues on the course to ready for 2023. Members can currently access holes 1, 8th green, and no. 9 to test their golf prowess. The driving range has been open and a good effort was put in place to try out the restaurant. With good staff, cost controls and attention to detail it still struggled. The final food service ends this weekend. Lessons have been learnt for next year.

Some monies have been received from our insurance and DFA claims. Currently, the golf committee is planning to rent out 10 golf carts to the Lorrette golf course for 6 weeks which will help to raise some revenue. Fee structures, sponsorships and discussions on monies raised for this year have been deferred till the next meeting.

Noted and discussed

Councillor Ruth Murray

Weed Meeting in Letellier

They had extra problems in Letellier as the quad as well as trailer were stolen as now both have to be rented & now they have to wait for replacement from MIT, flood replacement, etc. Some progress with CNN. They are able to do right of way but the balance has to be done by CNN. Larvicide has been done twice in Morris. Still having problems with cat-tails. That should be done in early June or July. In the large rural areas, waiting for some ditches to be cleaned. We went over the budget & we are well within. We'll have to start some over-time to get caught up. It has been a strange summer with rains & winds.

*****The next meeting is on Wednesday, September 14, @ 9:00 a.m. in Letellier in the municipal office. I am unable to attend as I have an appointment in Wpg. We do need a rep there as it is just Montcalm & Morris so to make any motions we need a rep there. They meetings a short & interesting. Please let Bridgette know if you can make it.

Aug 11-Museum Meeting-Making plans for unveiling of stained-glass windows on Sept 16.

Aug 12-I stopped by @ the Museum & saw a fantastic display of vintage vehicles along with campers. It was The Coasters of Canada that had booked overnight camp sites for 28 units. Some of the participants also stayed at the hotel. This group travels from coast to coast across Canada once every 3-5 years enjoying the scenery of the country, the excitement, & making new friends. They started on June 30, from St. John's, New Brunswick & hope to reach Duncan, B.C. on Sept 12. While at the camp ground they were able to tour the Museum thanks to Lou Erickson who was working there. I was able to help in the tour so we stayed open till 9.

Aug 16-Chamber meeting@8, Mass mtg to interview potential cook. Applicant cancelled so no interview but meeting to re-advertise. Very frustrating. Thanks, Margaret, for reposting the position.

Noted and discussed

Councillor Trevor Thiessen

- Morris Manor
- PVWC
- Protective Services

Noted and discussed

Assisted Living Project – Chris Hamblin

Assisted Living Report

The committee has agreed to move forward with establishing an organization with the 3 or 4 municipalities as members. The members will appoint 2-3 people to sit on the board of this organization to continue work towards establishing an assisted living / accessible housing facility in the region. We have created a document of by laws for the organization and are seeking approval from the member municipalities by way of resolution to support moving forward with the creation of this organization. We hope to have these approvals in place so that we can announce to the communities of our intent to move forward. By-laws will be circulated to Council for their review.

Noted and discussed

New Business: NONE

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.