



Council Committee as a Whole

Minutes

March 14th, 2024

6:30 pm

In attendance: Tim Lewis, Mel Baxter, Taylor Braun, David Funk, Chris Hamblin, and Scott Crick

Virtual Attendance: Trevor Thiessen

Delegations:

6:30 – RCMP quarterly report – Sgt. Stacy Wiens & Arron Dobson

- Sgt. Stacy Wiens and Cpl Arron Dobson presented their quarterly report to council.

7:00 – Lorne Hamblin – Multiplex Naming Rights

- Lorne Hamblin made his presentation to council regarding naming rights.

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

Mayor Scott Crick:

- Attended the official launch of the New Invest Morris Portal.

Noted and discussed

Councillor Chris Hamblin:

Morris Area Foundation (MAF)-MAF report to the committee as a whole for March 14, 2024 submitted by Chris Hamblin.

- The Morris Area Foundation met for their monthly board meeting on February 8th and again on March 12, 2024. Grant recipients have been notified and several have already submitted invoicing with several more providing progress report. Finances were presented and approved. Financial documents have been sent to the auditor in preparation for the year end financial reports for board approval and presentation at the AGM. The AGM is planned for June 4, 2024.
- Continue to work on the establishment of other community foundations within the Morris and Area Foundation.
- 6 Board members are planning to attend the Endow Manitoba conference in April. The registrations for these are partially offset by an Endow Manitoba grant.

Economic Development Committee Report-Report to Committee as a whole for March 14, 2024 submitted by Chris Hamblin.

- The Economic Development Committee has had two meetings since my last report. Both have been with Michele Richards and Co preparing for the launch of the Invest Morris website. The Invest Morris launch took place on March 12, with an afternoon and evening presentation to introduce the new website and the interactive content. I also did an interview with The Voice to provide some background on the meeting.
- I have taken pictures of potential sites for signage promoting the Morris Industrial Park. Cushman/Wakefield is to review and follow up with work on firming up the location and arranging for a sign to be created.
- The Economic Development Committee has also been reviewing progress on the Development Plan to go along with any changes to our zoning bylaws.

Noted and discussed

Councillor Taylor Braun

Valley Regional Library Board:

- New furnace and AC unit being installed.
- Board roles stay the same.
- Diane Dekezel is now Board Chair.

Morris and District Chamber of Commerce:

- Planning a job/volunteer fair.
- Planning awards night/AGM.
- Kick off planning is underway.
- Dave Atwell coming to do a short presentation to the Chamber regarding Town of Morris emergency plan.
- Successfully started a new welcome wagon program called "Howdy Neighbour".

VAS:

- More board governance training at Triple R.
- Never alone Cancer Foundation selected as charity of choice for 2024.
- Projects are starting to get organized for when weather allows us to start them.

Noted and discussed**Councillor Tim Lewis****Committees, Boards, and Activities Attended:**

- Transportation and Infrastructure (Chair)

Tim has provided his report for the Triple R Community Futures.

A meeting was held between Brian Wibe, Brigitte Doerksen, Taylor Braun and Tim Lewis on March 13, 2024.

Items of interest:**Main Street:**

- Sidewalks will be swept and washed once the snow has all melted. The reader board top sign has been ordered and is being made. Dual stream (garbage/recycling) replacement for 38 units is being done through CBCRA. With no cost to the Town of Morris. They should be here by July 1, 2024.

Water Plant:

- The project is now 65% complete. The main header has been pressure tested and passed. The coring for the new pumps is complete and the 3 new pumps are being installed next week. Manitoba Hydro is planning the power transfer on March 20 and the new pumps will be tested starting on March 20. The BWA will start on March 20 and if all goes well should be completed by March 22.

Current Projects:

- Public Works has been steaming and ditching as required. Grants are being applied for, for the lowering of Van Horne and Charles Street sewer lines.

Training:

- Brian and Anna attended the MWWA conference February 25-28.
- We got results of our COR audit and achieved a 91% which was up from 86% we got in 2023.

2024 Budget:

- As a savings was realized through CBCRA partnership, Public Works would like to replace benches.
- The third stage of the Christmas lights have been received with 50% early purchase discount.

The east wall of the PW shop is sliding, and a contractor will be inspecting it within a month. Grants are being sought for a new Public Works shop.

Recommendations:**Noted and discussed****Councillor Mel Baxter****District Handi Van Report:**

- Financials and BDO audit statements were approved at the February 20th meeting.
- A new driver has started, as well as finding possibly 2 new board members.
- All vehicles have been safety checked.
- The bookkeeping contract has been renewed Cheryl Thiessen.
- The AGM has been set up for April 8th at 7:30pm at the Davidson Ctr.

Riverview Golf Comm. Report- At the March 11th Committee meeting

- The board approved 1 member resignation and 2 new member appointees.
- Financial struggles persist but membership renewals and sponsorship revenues will allow the season to begin.
- A motion was passed to have Jablonski Electric order and install a much needed new irrigation pump.
- The board approved the use of the club for the Legion's June Decoration Day service.
- Interest has been shown on a lease arrangement for the restaurant and applications for club manager positions have been received.
- The yearly AGM has been set for May 16th, 2024

Noted and discussed

Councillor David Funk

Morris Early Learning Centre:

- A new director has been hired. Kaleigh Schwark (out of Niverville) brings over 15 years of experience to the position. She is only an ECE 2, which means she will need to enroll in courses to become an ECE 3. We are still in dire need of additional ECE trained staff, so further conversations and creative solutions are being explored to fill those positions, including working with the province on recruitment.
- Planning is already taking place for occupancy of the new centre. However, there are issues with the placement of school age children. Currently, the existing centre has 17 school age children, but the new centre is only licensed for 15. Keleigh, Jenn Collette (Board Chair) and I met with the province on February 23 to discuss the occupancy of the new centre. Some Potential solutions include renovating the Main Street location, providing a provisional license to offer more school age spaces at the new site, exploring other spaces within the community to host school age children (school), or even adding an addition on the new centre. On that last point, the province mentioned that funding for this could be available for up to 60% of an addition. As a follow up, we will continue to have conversations with the province on a long term solution, but we are going to have to get creative in the interim to find space for our school age children, one that does not include refusing care.

Morris Curling Club:

- The Curling Club board and the DEKALB Super Spiel Committee met on Friday 20th to discuss the future of the DEKALB Super Spiel. As the chairs of the DEKALB board have resigned, the Curling Club has taken over the responsibility of finding replacement chairs and other various positions on the DEKALB Committee. The Curling Club is now beginning the planning process of its AGM, which will be hosted in April. The ice will also be coming out in April so some well needed maintenance can take place on the ice plant.

Noted and discussed

Councillor Trevor Thiessen

- Morris Manor
- MultiPlex
- PVWC

Noted and discussed

Assisted Living Project: Chris Hamblin

Noted and discussed

New Business:

- Regional Connections Immigrant Services (Immigration pilot proposal)
- CAO to get Regional Connections in for a presentation

Noted and discussed

VAS Lease Agreement

- Let them know, and how much they can advertise (fair equivalent)

Moved by Councillor Chris Hamblin

Seconded by Councillor Tim Lewis

Be it resolved that council go in Camera to discuss a property issue

Carried

Moved by Councillor David Funk

Seconded by Councillor Talor Braun

Be it resolved that Council resume its committee as a whole meeting.

Carried

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 pm.