



## Council Committee as a Whole

### Minutes

April 18th, 2024

6:30 pm

**In attendance:** Dave Funk, Chris Hamblin, Tim Lewis, Mel Baxter, Taylor Braun, Scott Crick, and Trevor Thiessen (left at 8:00pm)

**Also in Attendance:** Brigitte Doerksen CAO

**Gallery in attendance:** Shaun Conway, Pat Schmitke, Siobhann Mass

#### Delegations:

- 6:30-Brett Mitchell-The Voice 20 full-time, 22 part-time staff  
Brett made his presentation to Council at 6:30 pm and provided a proposal for advertising.

#### Noted and discussed

---

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

##### Mayor Scott Crick:

- April 16-Curling rink tour with the Minister Glen Simard

---

#### Councillor Chris Hamblin

**Economic Development Committee-** The invest Morris Launch was held on March 12, 2024

- The afternoon session targeted the business community, Chamber of Commerce, etc. but was also open to public if they wanted to attend. Attendance in the afternoon was fairly well attended. Some Good questions and discussion occurred. The evening session targeted the community generally and was not as well attended but we did have a few new participants.  
The committee has continued to meet with the focus shifting to the Development Plan and our Placemaking Strategy. The committee met on March 27 and April 3 with the focus on the Development Plan. This plan will be shared with Council for review and discussion at the April 25 Council meeting with a community engagement planned for later in May. The committee met on April 17 and are reviewing the Placemaking Strategy. This is a document which summarizes the results of the community survey and looks at potential options for community improvements to make the community a more desirable place to live and mingle. We also had some discussions as to how we bring this document to the community for their input and priorities to be heard and included in the plan.
- Manitoba Rural Economic Development Corporation (MRED) held a drop in event at their office in Brandon on April 8, 2024, prior to the start of the AMM Spring conference. I attended this session and received some workbooks, which look useful if council wants to work through various economic development initiatives on their own but most of these are being handled by M Richards and although this may have a higher cost, I believe we will achieve results more efficiently with her company. The MRED also has a website which includes a summary of stats by community for Manitoba communities. This website can be linked to ours so that investors or potential residents can quickly see what our community has to offer. I believe this is something that we should consider linking to the townofmorris.ca site or to the investmorris.ca site.

**Morris Area Foundation (MAF)-**Met on April 9, 2024.

- The meeting began with an educational session from Kevin Parsons, a senior Capacity Advisor with the Winnipeg Foundation. He provided an explanation of how the finances of a foundation work. 3.5 – 5% of the principal are used for granting purposes each year. An additional 1% is provided for the administration costs of the foundation. 1% is allowed for the management of the funds. Typically, the actual amount is

slightly less than the 1% with the past year being at .89%. The balance of the gains are used as passive growth to ensure the long-term sustainability of the fund through difficult years. The balance of the meeting reviewed the financials and approved spending. We also discussed the AGM and the Annual Report. This will be held on June 4 at the Golf Course. Guest speakers are being worked on.

### **Noted and discussed**

---

#### **Councillor Taylor Braun**

##### **Valley Agricultural Society:**

- Seeing big increase in breaks-ins and theft which is resulting in us having to replace and fix buildings, doors, etc.
- Looking to further increase cameras and lighting.
- No muttin' bustin' for 2024.
- Volunteer coordinator to attend the Chamber job and volunteer fair on April 27.
- Continued training with Triple R.

##### **Valley Regional Library:**

- Free tax clinic numbers are down.
- New parental policy in place for checking out books.
- BMO membership closing, Going to Access.

##### **Morris and District Chamber of Commerce:**

- Job and volunteer fair April 27 at the Multiplex.
- Planning of Stampede kick off underway.
- EMO coordinator came on Tuesday and gave a small presentation about how businesses in Morris can plan for different events. Good presentation but they expressed they wished more business owners were there. They also talked about how they can get in contact with all business owners in an emergency. Is there a current, up to date list of emails and will it be given to Dave Atwell?

##### **Morris Fire Department:**

- Talking with Valley Agricultural Society about Stampede Kick off.
- 5 calls in March.
- 2 New furnaces being installed.
- Looking into public education in schools.

### **Noted and discussed**

---

#### **Councillor Tim Lewis**

##### **Committees, Boards, and Activities attended:**

- Transportation and Infrastructure (Chair)

- A meeting was held between Brian Wibe, Brigitte Doerksen, Taylor Braun and Tim Lewis on April 16, 2024.

##### **Items of interest to report on:**

###### **Main Street:**

- Sidewalk sweeping has begun and will continue after the rain. The reader board top sign has been ordered and is being made and the lighting will be looked at. The dual stream (garbage/recycling) bins should be received early June.

###### **Water Plant:**

- The three new pumps have been installed and the hydro upgrade completed. The pumps are scheduled to be tested starting on April 22. A Boil Water Advisory (BWA) begin that day.

###### **Current Projects:**

- Grants for the lowering of Van Horne and Charles Street sewer lines will be submitted this week.

###### **2024 Budget:**

- The budget has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

###### **Public Works Shop:**

- A discussion was requested in regard to potentially locating a new public works shop in the new industrial park. A contractor has been asked to submit a quote for a general idea on the cost and grants are being sought.

**Noted and discussed**

---

**Councillor Mel Baxter**

**Morris Wellness Centre Report:**

- Work continues on the Wellness Centre's push press automated entry and member registration set up. This will enhance data collection as well.
- A motion to lease 4 new Startrack treadmill units was passed to replace the current defective ones.
- Finances continue to show positive numbers.
- The committee agreed to a small sponsorship for the Strongest Man and Woman event at Rumble in the Valley.
- The AGM has been set for May 13, 2024, in the Wellness Centre with an open house planned.

**Morris District and Handi Van Report:**

- The AGM was held April 8 where the BDO audit report was reviewed and passed.
- A new driver and two new board members were introduced.
- A review of the driver's handbook has been undertaken as well as the rules for booking trips procedure.
- All vehicles have undergone safety checks and tire changes are scheduled to be done.

**Riverview Golf Committee Report:**

- At the recent Golf Committee meeting, staff was hired for the 2024 season. Stephane Berard is the club manager with Laura Carruthers as assistant manager. Interviews are being conducted with cooks for the restaurant portion.
- Finances are stretched but initial funds are there to commence operations. Start up dates are April 22 for the driving range and April 26 for the full course—Weather permitting.
- A new member rate was set at a 50% discount for first timers or those non-members in the last three years. Youths under 10 years of age are free if accompanied by a paying adult.
- President Tim Lewis and long time executive Shane Serediuk will be resigning from the committee at the May 16 AGM.

**Noted and discussed**

---

**Councillor David Funk**

**Morris Early Learning Centre:**

- Our new Director, Kaleigh Schwark is working out well so far. Staffing continues to be an issue, but our Program Supervisor is partnering with the Multiplex to host a Child Care Assistant (CCA) training course. While this is not an ECE course, it is an integral step in ensuring that staff are properly trained. However, we are in talks with Assiniboine Community College for hosting an ECE course here in Morris. We had a preliminary meeting about the budget on April 9, and hope to finalize and pass the budget this week.
- Regarding the new centre, we are hoping for a September occupancy. This will allow us to expand our care if we can adequately staff it. We are also eligible for a furnishing grant from the Province. We are continuing to work with the Province regarding spaces for school aged children and further staffing recruitment.

**Curling Club:**

- Planning for AGM underway, date set for May 25, 2024. We are offering it as more of an evening event, rather than one meeting. The evening will consist of a fish fry, cornhole tournament, and live music. Tickets for members are \$20.00, and non-members \$25.00. This will serve as a bit of a fundraiser for the club as well.
- On April 5 & 6, the club hosted the 126<sup>th</sup> Anniversary bonspiel. The event sold out, and the bar on Saturday brought in as much as a Dekalb night, almost a record for one day. We are hoping to use this as momentum to build the membership.
- Operationally, we are finalizing the ice contract for 2024 and 2025.

**Museum:**

- The Museum AGM was held on March 25 and was well attended. A preliminary budget was passed and are now working towards opening the museum and having summer staffing in place.

**Noted and discussed**

**Noted**

---

**Assisted Living Project: Chris Hamblin-Red River Supportive Housing-Logement Supervise de la Riviere Rouge (RRSH)**

- The Committee met virtually with ft3 on April 12, 2024, to discuss the next steps towards our build of the Assisted Living Project. Introductions were made and a brief discussion took place on the requirements for the centre all within the expectations of being conscious if the budget. The plan is to meet every 2 weeks beginning with an in-person meeting on April 23 to hear all comments on needs and wants for the facility. A site tour will occur prior to this meeting.

**Noted and discussed**

---

**New Business:**

- Main Street property discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 8.25 pm.