



Council Committee as a Whole

Minutes

December 12th, 2024

6:30 pm

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

Not in Attendance: Trevor Thiessen

Councillor Dave Funk Chaired the meeting

Delegation: None

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

Mayor Scott Crick:

- PR work mostly

Noted and Discussed

Councillor Chris Hamblin

- Community Partners report to Committee as a Whole for December 12, 2024

- **Community Partners**

- Mat provided an update on activities in the region and the Morris Hospital. Hospital beds are full for the most part. Morris Hospital is pretty well staffed. They are short only one LPN but are covering internally with occasional agency use. Health Care Aides, agency nurses are used more frequently.
- Sante Sud is continuing to look for additional clinic space in Morris. Nurses desk is complete and planning for a ribbon cutting ceremony in the new year.
- Morris Hospital is looking at installing a system for patient TV access. Preliminary discussions underway. Cost is about \$90,000 so they will look to raise funds to have this happen.
- Emerson has higher vacancy rates.

- **Economic Development**

- **The zoning by-law**
- **Morris Area Foundation**

Noted and discussed

Councillor Taylor Braun

- **Morris & District Chamber of Commerce**

- We held our AGM on December 5th, 2024. The event included our short meeting where two new board members came on, a potluck supper, ugly Christmas sweater contest and a puzzle contest. The event was well attended and everyone enjoyed themselves. There were a few bylaws changed that included the time and day of month the meeting is to be held on, in hopes to have more members attend the monthly meetings.

- **Morris Fire Department**

- No meeting this month.

- **Valley Agricultural Society**

- VAS held their AGM on December 4th, 2024. The evening consisted of our meeting which brought in a new board member. We also saw the executive change a bit which resulted in VAS getting a new President and Vice President. Each director had a report and good questions were asked. Planning continues for 2025, and the entire board is looking forward to it.

- **Valley Regional Library**
 - Budget is complete. Numbers continue to look good. Security cameras have been installed inside and out thanks to a generous donation. Received a grant to purchase another computer to do tax free clinics.

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.

-Meeting was held between Brian Wiebe, Taylor Braun and Tim Lewis on December 5th, 2024.

- **Public Works**
 - **Main Street**

The benches have been removed for winter and the Christmas lights have been hung.
 - **Water Plant**

The generator has finally been delivered and training on it is supposed to happen in December. SCASDA system training (the control system for the entire water plant) will be happening in the December/January time frame.
 - **Current Projects**

Recycle everywhere signage is going up around town as part of the new garbage/recycling container sponsorship. Snow removal has started for the season with little activity so far. The outdoor rink and toboggan hill be built depending on weather.
 - **Upcoming Projects**

Water meter replacement and repairs is on-going and the town is now well over 50% completed. Brian is currently looking into some bylaw reviews.
 - **Training**

Brian will be attending the MWWA conference in January and Jason will be attending Water Distribution Call 1 training in March. Pat attended the Urban Forestry conference
 - **Budget**

Brian is reviewing YTD spending and working on the 2025 budget.
 - **Recommendations**

None

Noted and discussed

Councillor Mel Baxter

- **Morris Handivan Report**
 - Vehicles have all been serviced and winter tires attached.
 - The budget for 2025 was approved with slight increases in expenses offset by anticipated revenue due to a modest fee change and new clients.
 - Financials for October and November were passed.
 - Motion to approve the use of the handivan to provide free rides to the Community Christmas Diner on December 21st was passed.
- **Morris Wellness Board Report**
 - The final quarterly rental payment to the Multiplex is to be completed by December 2024 year end and next year's terms are proposed to be the same as the current contract.
 - The 2025 budget has been presented to the directors for review and discussion.
 - A motion to purchase a leg extension machine was passed.
 - A wish list for future equipment was discussed as finances now allow for some possible upgrades.
- **MASS**

Noted and discussed

Councillor David Funk

- **Moris Early Learning Centre**

- We are now operating out of the RTM and the Baptist Church (school age children only). Main street sits completely empty. We are hoping to begin renovations on the Main Street location within the next few weeks but are awaiting approval from the Provincial Coordinator on the plans. Once they approve the plans, we are going to send all the paperwork into the permit office to get the permit going. Staffing remains an issue, with the goal of training more ECE's with existing centre employees.
- **Museum**
 - A 50/50 raffle was held with moderate success. The Museum raised \$600.00, and the winner was from Cranberry Portage. That money will be used towards the 40th anniversary bench project.
- **Curl Morris**
 - DEKALB was held recently. Our next board meeting will be on December 17th, at which time I will get more information that can be reported.

Noted and Discussed

Councillor Trevor Thiessen

- Not in attendance

Red River Supportive Housing Project: Chris Hamblin

Multiplex report from Arien

- **Staff/Personnel/Training Report - Staff Changes and recruitment**
 - Declan Wall has been hired to train and take over Dan's position as Facilities Foreman. Dan will continue training Declan into the New Year, with position take over aiming to be Mid-end of January.
 - Dan will return on a contract basis to guide Declan in ice removal and plant shut down, as well as pool start up.
- **Refrigeration Operator Course**
 - Declan will enroll in the refrigeration course once available, there still has been no updates on the proposed changes to the course for Arena Operators.
- **Arena – Ice Bookings:**
 - Ice bookings remain steady with hockey groups with rentals filling the open spots on the evenings and weekends.
 - The Morris School is scheduling ice time for January as part of the Phys-ed curriculum.
 - LiveBarn has been installed in the Multiplex. LiveBarn provides on demand broadcasts of hockey practices and games, so you can watch any game or practice from the app. We control when broadcasting is "live". This installation was at no cost to the Multiplex, and a new subscribers sign up with our code "morr-plex" they receive a 10% discount, and the Multiplex receives a 30% kick back every quarter.
- **Multiplex-Recent projects and maintenance**
 - We did not get approved for the "From the Ground Up" grant that was applied for to assist with the divider wall replacement.
 - Canteen updates are almost complete with the new triple sink being installed before the new year.
- **Rentals And Advertising**
 - Christmas bookings and meetings are going great: for the past month we have hosted at least two events a week.
 - We have filled 7 new advertising spots in the Arena, due in part of an agreement with the Twisters and Bigway, where if they buy a spot on the Bigway wall they receive spot on our wall, and we bill the Twisters for the spot.
- **Safety and procedures**
 - We are continuing to update our safe at work procedures, policies and training.

Noted and Discussed

New Business:

- None

Meeting adjourned at 7:19 pm.

