

Meeting of the Joint Councils of the
Town of Carberry and the Municipality of North Cypress-Langford,
January 27, 2020

The Joint Councils of Carberry and North Cypress-Langford met at 7:00 p.m. in the council chambers of the Municipal Office on Monday, January 27, 2020, with all members present and Reeve Adriaansen in the chair. Also present were CAOs Stephenson of Carberry and Fraser of NCL.

As the meeting opened Andrew Cheasley, the newly hired manager of parks, facilities and sanitation, appeared before council to introduce himself, and be introduced to the council. Cheasley explained that he has a long history of building and facility maintenance, and has training in engineering and power engineering, and was born and raised in Brandon. He is excited and looking forward to his new duties, and is setting up his office in the Community Centre.

Council welcomed him, and wished him well.

Planning Matters:

Though the Cypress Planning District's Planning Document has been delayed by the recent change of minister in the Municipal Affairs portfolio, the hope is it will be returned soon, and when it does, there will be a need to update the zoning by-laws of all the members of the planning district. Glenboro, South Cypress, North Cypress, Langford, and Carberry all have zoning by-laws which will need to be reframed and harmonized. Carberry's and North Cypress's date from 1983, and Langford's from 2009. Development Officer McEntee is emphatic that the work for all the members should be done by a single consultant to ensure consistency. It may be that the District will issue a Request for Proposal, or there may be a local expert whom they would put forward as their choice. Either way, the costs will have to be covered, and an application has gone to the province for funding to assist with the costs.

General Business:

The presentation of 1Life Safety for a program to give shape and substance to the municipalities' safety programs has impressed the health and safety committee with its thoroughness and effectiveness. The Safety Committee have asked that the municipalities accept 1Life's quote of \$9 thousand for the first (set-up) year and \$7.8 thousand for the second. The town has accepted the quote, but NCL has asked for further time to assess whether the cost can be justified or in any way reduced by other means. With fines for Health & Safety violations reaching serious heights, and inspectors making more and more visits, the work of the employee tasked with the job of Safety Officer is coming to take a lot of time from his regular duties. Larger workplaces are forced to hire staff solely as safety personnel. Whether the software will save enough employee time to justify its cost is the issue.

Councils passed a resolution to increase the wages paid to joint employees by the annual average Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) that is released in January of each year by Statistics Canada, unless otherwise stated in contracts. It is significant that the choice of COLA from Statistics Canada be specified, as various other agencies publish different figures.

Councils then made motions to hire several joint employees: Twila Gingras was confirmed as a Parks and Recreation labourer effective December 27, 2020; Andrew Istace was confirmed as Leisure Services Manager effective December 30, 2019; Andrew Cheasley became Manager of Parks, Facilities and Sanitation effective January 20, 2020; and Nelli Sippel will join the Office Administration on February 3, 2020.

The Hall Board's difficulties in finding successors to the two recent retirements were recognized. In view of the nature of the Board's concerns, it was thought that they could be absorbed into those of the Buildings Committee. A motion was drawn up dissolving the Hall Board with thanks for their service, and adding their duties to those of the Buildings Committee. Booking the hall will be one of the Leisure Services Manager's duties.

It has been the practise recently to have the Fire Chief and his Deputy (or Deputies) chosen by the Joint Councils, to avoid the possibility of internal conflicts within the department. The present arrangement of a chief and two deputies has been found effective, and council tasked CAO Fraser with taking applications for the posts, and with what consultation she thought necessary bringing a recommendation to the Councils for the next meeting. Closing date for the applications will be February 20.

The Museum Board is undertaking to place a monument to the west of their building to commemorate the Commonwealth Air Training Plan base at Carberry and the support airfields at Oberon and Petrel. A register of all the pilots trained here will be maintained inside the Museum. There has been interest and support from many sources. The monument planned is roughly estimated at a cost of \$25 thousand, to which the Museum has already subscribed \$3 thousand, and is actively seeking support. Because the hope was to unveil the monument on the 75th anniversary of VE [Victory in Europe] Day, May 8, therefore time is of the essence. As a 'Plan B,' they could use VJ Day, [August 15] but since most of the trainees fought in the European theatre, May would be preferable. Councilor M. Tolton, who represents councils on the Museum Board, was instructed to draft a resolution of support, with a funding figure, for the next meeting of Joint Councils.

Proposals for reorganization of the Municipal Office staff have been passing between the Town and the Municipality. At issue are the duties and the costing of joint employees and the costs of the office itself. The Town of Carberry is waiting for a reply to their latest proposal from NCL on the matter. Secondary to that was a Joint Service Agreement to be struck between both Councils to define and articulate in writing the responsibilities of each party to their joint committees, facilities, and employees. Councils and staff will work through the year on such.

The Employee Policy that was drafted with the aid of a Human Resources consultancy firm will require some minor amendments. The administration put councils on notice that these amendments are forthcoming for review.

The two new Andrews — Istace and Cheasley, were authorized to attend the Rec Connections Conference in Winnipeg, March 11-13, 2020. Costs, which include a registration fee of \$451.50 each, plus accommodation, mileage and meals, will be split 50/50 between Carberry and NCL.

Committee Reports:

The **Financial Officer** is happy to report that both 2018 audits are complete, and that most of the work of winding up 2019's books is done. The 2019 audits should be able to start next month. The complete payrolls are with the Municipal Employees' Benefit Plan for review and adjustment. On their return, T-4s can be sent out. Matching and balancing the two ledgers is taking some time but should be done in time for budget discussions.

The **Archives** report that they have received all the files of the Carberry News-Express, an asset that is going to require some careful restoration of some of the older volumes. The archivist has been asked to continue with her occasional historical articles for presentation on Cable TV now that they can't run in the local paper.

The **Arts Council** has several programs on the go, and is taking registrations for its popular summer programs already. The youth drama will be borrowing resources from *Exit Stage Left* for their upcoming production. The Quiz Night fundraiser will take place on January 31, and the proceeds will go towards youth and children's programming.

The **CDC** has been working on the By-Election, which will take place on March 4 at the Brookdale Drop In Centre, with advanced polls on February 27 at the Municipal Office in Carberry. She has done up a grant application for work on the Old Bank, and laments the loss of the News-Express as a source of material for the community sign by the Collegiate. Work continues on the Manitoba 150 celebrations, and community and council input would be a great help with all the festivities planned.

The **Fire Department** has had various calls in the past two months, including several small fires. They also had a call to rescue a cross-country skier. They continue to service and upgrade their varied equipment, and have ordered radios for the new PSCS system from last year's funds, and will need to add some from this year's budget. Members continue to keep their certification and training up to date. Repairs to the pumper took place after it's annual inspection as well.

The **Library Board** reports that the Western Manitoba Regional Library Board has elected new officers and is working on the year's budget. Locally they have used some of the Criddle funds for interior improvements, and are looking to set a "wisdom bench" outside the front of the library with help from a Manitoba 150 grant. They are still in need of a town citizen representative for both local and regional boards. Linda Baron and Peggy Knox have been working to sort and catalogue the boxes of books donated to the library. A shelf of newly entered books is on display. Thanks are due to Baron and Knox for their time and hard work.

Though the **Museum** is closed, the work of planning and direction goes on. The CATP Monument project mentioned at the meeting is ongoing, and a fundraiser concert of *Prairie Joe* will be put on in the Community Hall on March 28. Tickets at \$20 are available from all board members.

The **Planning District** is waiting for the Development Plan to return from Municipal Affairs, and preparing for the work of revision of all zoning by-laws.

Service for Seniors has lots of winter activities planned for their folks. They now have WiFi at the Drop In. The coordinator is working with Daughter on Call's Gail Freeman to survey and determine how to get more use by Carberry and area

residents of the Journey Villas Elder Home. The two handivans are in steady use, and being kept roadworthy, but there is no word of the restoration of any subsidy for replacement.

Communications:

The Carberry Plainsmen will be hosting the Manitoba Atom B Provincials, and ask councils for support in this venture that will bring teams from all over the province. Councils agreed to advertise in the tournament program, taking a full page ad for \$100, split 50/50 between Carberry and North Cypress-Langford.

The Elks and Royal Purple Fund sent thanks for the donation they received in memory of Councilor Drayson's father.

Neepawa Middle School sent an invitation for councilors and administration to attend the ribbon cutting ceremony on January 29, which will be followed by tours of the new school.

CN sent a notice of their Public Inquiry Line [1-888-888-5909], and lines to the CN Police.

Around the Table:

Mayor Olmstead reported that the Gala Sportsmen's Dinner 2020 will be held on Thursday April 9 in the Community Centre. The event generated \$26 thousand last year, and this year will be adding more tables. Tables of 8 are selling for \$600. The headliners this year will be Chris Walby and comedian Rob Pue.

Discussion of the Gala brought up the need for more round tables. There are quite a few events in planning for which the tables would be necessary, and you can quickly make up the purchase price with rentals. The Building Committee was reminded to consider it.

Councilor Blair noted that the Building Committee receives a grant of \$15 thousand, and that given the needs of the committee, he would like to see the grant raised to \$20 thousand. He was assured that there was money left over from 2019, which remained in reserve to be used.

Councilor M. Tolton asked his fellow councilors to help him with fundraising ideas, and possible sponsors or funding sources they might know of. He is pressed for time to get funding in place to have the monument built for May 8.

Councilor Anderson reported that he had had difficulties signing up for an AMM seminar that had been rescheduled from last year. The site said it was rescheduled, but wouldn't reveal to where or when. CAO Stephenson will follow up.

Reeve Adriaansen warned that he was shortly going to be away for an 11-day holiday, and didn't expect to spend much time with his phone for the duration.

Councilor Muirhead reported that he had been asked if the room that the Health Committee retains at the Lyons Estates for health care workers was leased indefinitely or whether it had ever come up for tender to other developers in the area. He was told that the agreement was over a year old, and had been settled with the input of the Health Centre's housekeeping staff who had spoken in favour of the present arrangement. Muirhead was told that staff would look up the agreement and see when it would be up for renegotiation.

Mayor Olmstead announced that the Municipal Officials' Seminars will be held in Brandon this year on April 15-16. The Mayors' and Reeves' meeting will be held on the 14th.

CAO Fraser pointed out that the April Joint Councils' meeting is scheduled for the 27th, which would conflict with the Manitoba Municipal Administrators' Association Conference. With councilors' approval she rescheduled the meeting to May 4.

With that, the meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.