

## Joint Councils' Committee May 27, 2024

The Joint Councils' Committee met on Monday, May 27, 2024, in the council chambers of the Town of Carberry office, with Mayor Muirhead in the chair with Councilors Kalinowich and Rea, and Reeve Drayson with Councilors Olmstead and van Kommer. Also present were CAOs Stephenson and Parker.

### **Delegation:**

First item of business was a delegation led by Wayne Morrissey, with Wayne Finlayson, and Alan Baron. They presented a petition with 30 names asking the councils to work to ban the use of engine retarder "Jake" brakes along PTH 5 by the town, and to get a reduction of the speed limit around town to 80 kph.

Explaining their rationale, Morrissey pointed out that the traffic is heavy enough that from 8 in the morning until 7 p.m. there is regular disruption. Conversation has to stop while the semi passes, and there is never long enough between events to take a nap, which for many in the area is a health requirement. The worst offenders compound the problem by running with open exhaust pipes, which make the brakes deafening, and the subsequent acceleration noisy.

The delegation did not want to put a burden on the trucking industry; they appreciate the need to do business, but the noise pollution is optional.

Councils agreed that the problem needs to be addressed. Kalinowich has been lobbying for a ban on the braking system and a lowering of the speed limit for some time, but the highway is outside the town limits, and out of the control of the RM. The provincial Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport owns and maintains the roadway. It is in the planning stages of a renovation of the road, and both municipalities have been assured of a seat at the table when the new alignment is being planned. They will be pressing for a ban on engine braking and a reduction in the speed limit around the town. In the meantime, a letter will be sent from both administrations to the new minister, to get the changes as soon as possible. The delegation were thanked for their active concern.

### **Unfinished Business:**

Carberry Minor Ball had sent a letter to both councils, with a list of renovations/upgrades they felt were necessary before the running of the provincial 13U baseball championships on July 12-14, 2024. They appended representative costs and sources of the materials required. Staff were able to source many of the materials at a better rate, and assured the meeting that almost all the items would be in place in time for the event. This includes the necessary shale for the infield (with transportation donated by King Spud

Transport), water pumped from a well in the middle of the diamonds and distributed to the diamonds and the canteen/bathrooms, upgrades to the canteen space and equipment, paint on the floor of the building, and addressing the gopher problem that spoils some of the outfield. Councils went on to discuss what could be done to improve the roads in the park; grading, packing and gravel.

Staff appreciation day is coming up on June 14, and the RSVP deadline is now passed. There is to be complimentary golf at 11:00, and a burger buffet at 1:30 or so.

### **General Business:**

A delegation from Dauphin who have been spearheading the design of a memorial to the casualties of the crash last summer were in town to coordinate the dedication of the Dauphin memorial on June 15, and to settle a location for the Carberry version of the memorial. Dauphin's will memorialize the lives lost; Carberry's will honour the first responders who attended the accident. To Carberry's will be added a set of benches dedicated to the agencies that responded to the crash. The site selected is at the Daylily Garden in the north end of the town. After some discussion it was decided that the opening could be scheduled for the afternoon of Sunday August 11. The decision can be announced at the Dauphin ceremony. Those who were at the crash will all be attending the formal event in Dauphin, leaving Carberry at 11:00 a.m. the day of the Firefighters' Breakfast. Volunteers will close the breakfast by noon and do the cleanup.

The Joint Councils approved the refunds of Blue Cross premiums for joint employees and hired a new Joint Utility Employee and four Green Team students.

### **Committee Reports:**

The Manager of Leisure Services reports that the pool is being cleaned and should be open by June 10. The rink bathrooms have been repeatedly vandalized; signs have been posted asking for respect. To combat the pigeons at the pool, a net will be installed with a boom truck rented from a local business. A volleyball net is set up in the outdoor rink, with supports to keep it taut. The rink's boards need re-staining when it can be afforded. Smart's have been given a deadline of May 31 to get the generator at the Hall installed. The Sportsmen's Gala on April 5 brought in \$32,000. Parks and Rec staff have been active in the renovations at the ball diamonds. A well is to be drilled at the Transfer Station, and a permit for a holding tank is applied for. The air conditioners for the Drop-In have been shipped and will be installed shortly after arrival. The truck used for watering flowers has to be retired.

The Arts Council held a Children's Business Fair at the Hall on May 11, which featured the work of 17 children, ages 6-16, in 11 entries. Lots of enterprise and creativity. A Mother's Day craft was added to the day's activities. The event was successful, will be repeated next year. The after-school arts program wound up on May 7, and will run again next year. Still to come this year are a Father's Day craft on June 15, a student piano recital on June 22, and looking forward to an all-ages talent show on November 24 at the Carberry Hall.

Evergreen Environmental has asked for tenders and is looking at a cost around \$900,000 for the preparation of a new cell. They were worried that getting an engineer's audit for the retirement of the original cell might have run to over \$100,000 but have been assured that with research into similar closures, the work can be kept in house.

The Fire Department has had several calls, including simultaneous structure fire and grass fire, their greatest concerns have been the upcoming Breakfast, which coincides with the anniversary of the June 15 tragedy, and the celebration event on Friday, August 23 to mark the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the department. Plans include a street party on Main Street, with music by "Men in Cheap Suits" and promise to be lots of fun.

At the library, the water bottle filler is now on line. A citizen representative to the WMRL board is still being sought. A brochure at the library describes the duties and opportunities of the position.

The handivan committee have found that the funding they have been granted is on a "pay first and be reimbursed" basis.

The cemetery committee will meet with Gabler Welding to discuss the cost of repairs to the windmill. They will also go over the tenders for the finishing mower.

### **Around the Table:**

Councilor van Kommer reported on his discussions with Curl Manitoba about rescheduling a major event here to make up for the opportunity lost when COVID struck. What is suggested is a two-week event in February of 2026 that would include CM's Juniors and Masters, and the McCain Classic. In consideration of holding an event for Curl Manitoba, we would have a shot at the Viterra in '28. It will be helpful to have council representatives at the table as all this is scheduled and organized.

Councilor Kalinowich asked if there was any way that the remainder of the CPCC parking lot could be paved. It was the butt of several jokes at the Gala, and there have been many calls for it. The problem is that it is costly

to do, and hard to budget for. Quotes will be sought; it will be in the neighborhood of \$80,000 - \$100,000.

CAO Stephenson asked if there were plans to reintroduce the Canada Day Barbecue which this year would be on a Monday. The usual agenda is a free swim at the pool, with the barbecue from around 11:00 to 1:00 p.m.

CAO Parker wanted to give kudos to the Parks & Rec mowers, who have been doing an excellent job, and directing the clippings away from walkways and the like.

With that, the meeting moved *in camera* to discuss personnel and preliminary matters, and adjourned at 9:30 pm.