

Town Council, April 14, 2026

The Council of the Town of Carberry met in their chambers on Tuesday, April 14 at 5:30 p.m. with Mayor Muirhead in the chair, and all members present. Also present were CAO McConnell and YC Boganes.

The mayor opened the meeting and welcomed Lisa Dobbin-Waters, the successful candidate in the by-election of March 17, to her first meeting of the Town Council.

Finance & Accounts:

Council accepted the Finance Report as presented, and the Financial Statement for March 2026. Accounts, electronic payments and direct withdrawals totaling \$225,005.95 were approved for payment. The GIC purchase approved last meeting was amended to include the accumulated interest plus an administration fee. Several transfers totaling \$48,000 from general operating to specific reserves were approved.

Unfinished Business:

Council approved Policy GG01-2026, the Town of Carberry Social Media Information Policy. It ensures that Town use of social media platforms will be for dissemination of accurate information as approved by council. No interaction with the public will be enabled, no discussion or commentary. Approved methods of communicating with the Town administration are the regular methods such as email, phone, and direct visit.

The budgets for the CPCC and the Hall were accepted as presented.

As discussed at the meeting of Joint Councils, Local Link Consulting Ltd. were hired as On-Call Project Manager for the Town of Carberry and the Municipality of North Cypress-Langford. They are to be engaged on an as-needed basis through individual tasks authorized

Another decision of the Joint Councils was to retain an HR firm to assist in hiring a Director of Joint Services.

General Business:

All members of the office staff were approved to attend the MMA Leadership Summit in Brandon on May 1, 2026. The office will be closed on that day.

A list of the rates to be charged for equipment and for gravel and topsoil has been updated, and was approved.

The list of the Committees of Council was updated to include Councilor Dobbin-Waters and approved by resolution to take effect immediately.

A motion was passed formally requesting a reduction in the posted speed limits along Wellwood Road, citing the increased pedestrian use and the anticipated crosswalk as reasons.

Responding to a request from Carberry Men's Curling Club, council agreed to sponsor the induction of Derek Samagalski into the Manitoba Curling Hall of Fame at a cost of \$800.

Carberry Minor Hockey requested sponsorship for their annual fundraising golf tournament, the Plainsmen Cup. Council agreed to sponsor a hole for \$200.

The Manitoba/NW Ontario Command of the Royal Canadian Legion are issuing their annual Military Service Recognition Book. Council agreed to again purchase a ¼-page black and white ad in it for \$340.

Carberry Collegiate receives an annual \$500 for a scholarship to be given to a graduating student. The allotment for 2023 was not redeemed, so for this year Council agreed to offer two scholarships.

As these requests for support and sponsorship were discussed, Council agreed that it would be helpful to create a policy specifying what things would be supported and to what extent, rather than discussing each application individually.

Reports:

Youth Councilor Boganes reported that there will be a presentation by an indigenous elder on the 15th, and parent/teacher conferences for grades 9-12 on April 22-24. Course selection is on April 27-28. The spring Band Concert will be held on May 27, at which time they will premiere the work commissioned for the concert band.

The ACAO reports that she has nearly completed her course in Municipal Law, the exam will be April 20. She has submitted a request for the speed reduction on Wellwood Road; the motion presented to this meeting is part of the required documentation. Research is ongoing for the crosswalk that has been proposed. The flower baskets have been delivered to Sprucedale Industries in Austin for planting. The deadline for applications for the summer positions has been extended and more resumes have been received.

As EDO she is working on a telephone directory for the area. She has called a meeting of the volunteers for a sub-committee of Habitat for Humanity in the Council Chambers on April 29. U of M's Rural Week will be on May 25-29, and the Town will be hosting 4 medical students for whom she is planning activities.

Public Works have spent the past month working on keeping culverts open to improve drainage during melting. Some more important ones may have to be jetted by Rainkies. They bought DEF in bulk for a considerable saving. They hope to purchase a hand grapple for removing things from sewer manholes and need 5-8 lift rings for manhole covers in the back lanes.

The Buildings Committee have a fair amount of work to do on the library; finish the stucco restoration, rebuild the entrance stairs and ramp, upgrade the air conditioning.

The Waste Management Committee is considering upgrading the Town's dumpsters. Prices are being requested, and details of their deployment have to be settled.

At Evergreen, the impending retirement of a foreman will not require any new hire; reorganization is being planned. They will need some monitoring wells dug. Finances are in good shape.

The flowers for the cemetery have been ordered and planted.

The planner at Cypress Planning is taking courses to get up to speed. The committee is looking at reorganizing the fee structure.

Whitemud Watershed hasn't been calling meetings, but posts useful information on social media.

The report from the White House shows few problems, but the facility was only in use four of the days in the month. Can anything be done to improve the amount of traffic?

Communications:

Carberry Lanes sent an invitation the mayor and council to their 50th anniversary celebration on April 11, 2026.

The U15 and U18 Curling teams sent thanks for the support that allowed them to attend the Winter Games in Thompson.

The Western Manitoba Regional Library Board sent draft minutes from their meeting of March 18, 2026.

The Carberry and Area Community Foundation sent reports from the Rec Reserve, the Cemetery Perpetual Care, and the Museum's Criddle Fund.

CN sent announcement of their Right of Way Vegetation Management program. Council mentioned that some of CN's sidings in town do not seem to get the attention from the vegetation management program that they need.

Cypress Planning sent a copy of their organizational by-law and their budget for 2026.

Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations sent advice of Carberry's municipal operating support.

The Public Utilities Board sent notice of their decision for Manitoba Hydro.

The Forestry and Peatlands Branch of Manitoba Natural Resources and Indigenous Futures sent a brochure describing their care of Forest Resources on Road Allowances.

S.T.A.R.S. sent a report detailing their response to the Carberry tragedy of June 2023.

Around the Table:

Councilor Kalinowich reported that he had been approached by a ratepayer to get some gravel placed on Brettel Avenue where the road has become wet and muddy. He passed it on to Public Works, and suggested the ratepayer make a written request to the town office to ensure compliance. He complimented Public Works on the drainage this spring. He asked if the street sweeper will be brought in this year to pick up all the sand and gravel deposited on the streets through a long winter. He reported that the water at the CPCC has now been softened and is running well.

Councilor Van Damme gave thanks for the attendance and support given to the bowling alley's fiftieth anniversary celebrations. It was a great success.

Councilor Rea asked whether there was to be a Town-wide Yard Sale this year and was assured that it usually coincides with the Fire Department's Texas Breakfast on the Saturday before Father's Day in June. She asked who the present owner of the Kin Hall is. It is slipping into disrepair. She asked what the results of the survey done by the CACF were and was advised that the results had been presented and discussed at a recent meeting. In general, the indications are positive and may be posted to social media.

Councilor Dobbin-Waters asked what help can or should be offered to sports teams that are successful enough to win a place at provincial competitions. How can the Town help them to put Carberry's name in front of a broader provincial market?

Mayor Muirhead agreed that as today's requests and Dobbin-Waters' suggestion proved, it was time to draft a policy for determining what requests for support can be entertained and to what extent. Where there is a posted policy, there is less need to take time at a council meeting.

With that, Council went *in camera* to discuss personnel matters.