

## Joint Councils May 25,2026

The Joint Councils of the Town of Carberry and the Municipality of North Cypress-Langford met in NCL's council chambers at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, May 25, 2026 with Mayor Muirhead in the chair. Councilors Rea and Kalinowich were present for the Town, and Reeve Drayson, Councilors Davidson, Jardine and Olmstead attended for the R.M. Also present were CAOs McConnell and Unrau.

The financial statements had been so recently completed that the meeting agreed to table them for the moment.

### **Delegations:**

First to speak to the meeting was Kelly Marnoch of Guild Insurance, who had prepared a proposal for the insurance of the Carberry Plains Community Centre. It is presently covered by a blanket policy developed by AMM and Western Financial Group. Marnoch was able to offer substantially similar coverage from Markel Canada and had presented a detailed comparison of the two coverages.

Marnoch was asked whether volunteers would be covered under his proposed policy. He replied that volunteers working with the Town or RM would be covered, but that volunteers of user groups renting the rink would not. User groups are expected and required to take out their own insurance and provide the Joint Councils with a certificate that they are co-insured.

Marnoch was asked whether the premium would rise if there were claims made on the policy. He explained that in commercial insurance of this kind, premiums are determined by the frequency and severity of claims over the whole range of insureds. An individual entity's claims do not directly affect their premium. To a great extent, coverage and premium are at the discretion of the individual underwriter. The policy offered is for the Rec Centre only. Tenants' legal liability is not a concern in this usage, but there is coverage for equipment breakdown, and considering the ammonia in the ice plant, a hazardous substance coverage.

Marnoch was thanked for his proposal and the well-prepared comparisons of a very complicated coverage. He assured the meeting that a change of insurer was not time critical; the change can be pro-rated to the day it takes effect.

The next delegation was from the CNCL Fire Department, represented by Chief McCallum, supported by his officers Denton, Witherspoon, Carritt and Sudak. They were there to explain and defend their recommendation of the Pierce BX pumper in stock at Commercial Emergency Equipment Ltd.

over the offers of Fort Garry Fire Trucks and Acres Industries. CEE's offer has several advantages — it is the only one in stock, the others would have to be custom built over about two years; the price at just under \$801,000 before tax is the best and would not be affected by tariff issues resulting from the original equipment having to be imported from the States. To bring it to CNCLFD's specifications, only a few modifications would be required, amounting to an additional cost of \$43 thousand and a few weeks delay. If the other bidders' offers were taken, the extra two years would lower the resale value of the pumper it replaces, and for the two years they would not be meeting the NFPA standards. The five-man capacity of the cab is a great improvement over the present unit's two, that requires a second unit to arrive before there are enough firefighters to properly handle the emergency to which they have been called. The unit can be driven by anyone with a class 4 license with an air endorsement and more than half of the department's crew have that qualification. The price on the quote was good until May 24, but an extension to May 31 has been secured. The Joint Councils passed a resolution approving the purchase, but each municipality must also pass a resolution before that date, which will require special meetings of both. Chief McCallum was asked how best to prepare for the cost of the next mandated replacement of the primary apparatus, and he suggested that each municipality set aside \$25,000 each year, along with the \$25,000 that comes annually from the casino for fire coverage. In ten years, that will put \$750,000 into the reserve along with whatever will be in it after this unit is bought and the old unit has fetched the anticipated \$300,000 for which it will be listed.

McCallum and his officers were thanked for their work and their study of these proposals.

#### **Unfinished Business:**

A resolution was presented approving upgrading the Fire Department's wage structure in accordance with that of the Office of the Fire Commissioner and allowing a two-hour compensation for attending meetings of the department. It was agreed that the change would be discussed *in camera* and the motion was tabled until then.

The bid of Philip Balabanski to supply a 2010 GMC Sierra for \$13,000 plus PST and safety was accepted. Half the cost will be split between the two municipalities 50/50, and the Carberry Plains Cemetery will cover the other half.

At the recommendation of the Manager of Arts and Recreation, Councils agreed to hire Zaine McConnell as the Term Joint Utility Labourer. CAO McConnell recused herself from the decision.

For the campground, Local Link Consulting had prepared an unofficial budget for the work and acquisitions required to get the place ready in a timely manner. Using “numbers from the sky” she allotted \$150,000 for water hook up; \$120,000 for a Washroom/Shower/Mech. Facility; \$10,000 for a cook shack; \$2,600 for a maintenance compound tent and the gravel under it. Then there are trees at \$490 each, grass seeding and irrigation in cooperation with the Town, and a figure of 8% for engineering and consulting. Somewhere near \$400,000 plus the 8%.

For the campground, Councils accepted the quote of Reilly’s Home Hardware for the supplies needed to install irrigation pipe to the campground and approved hiring Sandhills Electric to accomplish the installation.

They also approved the purchase of a container to house equipment at the site from Strongbox Containers of Neepawa.

For use as an office at the site, Councils approved the purchase of a 10’ x 24’ cabin from Premier Buildings in Glenboro.

To carry through the period until the washroom facility on site will be completed, Councils approved the rental of a two-stall portable washroom trailer from King’s Services of Winnipeg.

#### **Delegation (virtual):**

Appearing from Winnipeg by Microsoft Teams, Western Financial’s Kristin Keating and Charmaine Virtuccio spoke about the insurance presently covering the CPCC. Keating noted that unlike almost all other insurers, AMM’s plan with Western does not require co-insurance on the property. Expenses on the property, such as loss of use and compensation of staff displaced, are available to a limit of \$1M, rather than the competing \$200K. AMM’s liability limit is \$50M, rather than the competitor’s \$10M. A unique feature of the AMM plan is that there is an annual return of premiums when claims have been less than the maximum figure. For the CPCC this has amounted to about \$56K over the past five years. Keating and Virtuccio were thanked for their presentation, and CAO McConnell added that the customer service she has received from them and Western has been exemplary. The meeting agreed to call Marnoch to see if they can make a comparison “apples to apples.”

#### **General Business:**

A pigeon control proposal from Prairie Fresh Roof of Gladstone was examined and considered too costly for the value offered. Someone from nearby would be preferable.

At the Transfer Station, the burn pile and the concrete pile are getting too large and will need to be pushed with a “cat.” A local contractor

estimated that the work would take about 16 hours, at \$315/hr. Another local contractor would do the work for \$300/hr. but charges an additional \$300 for mobilization. He further offers to crush the concrete for \$600/hr. Councils discussed how concrete is charged when it arrives at the TS, and whether the concrete could be crushed on a cost recovery basis. The piles will have to be pushed soon or they will run out of space, but a procedure for handling concrete including crushing and extracting the rebar should be developed to save space and money. The quote of Back Road Transport was accepted to move the piles at once.

### **Committee Reports:**

The Joint Foreman reports that the CPCC is busy with indoor sports; the pool is being drained and cleaned; new baseboard heaters have been installed at 122 Main Street; the water was turned on at the Museum but the Gingerbread House's pump needs a part before restarting. Baseball has started at the diamonds; they are being mowed and cleaned up. At the Transfer Station there is a new staff member, and the 'dozer work will be done soon.

The Manager of Arts and Recreation has done a survey to suggest improvements to the Tots' Time when it reopens in fall. The Ag Museum's "trunk of treasures" project was very well received at the Drop-In. Registration for the summer camp is well advanced with some weeks fully booked. At the pool, there will be swimming classes, and various events for fun or wellness. Irene Wong-Montgomery, who has been giving the Arts Council's piano lessons, will be leaving after the spring sessions, with a farewell concert at the United Church on June 6. Craft program participants have been canvassed for their preferences for further programs. There will be a paint night on May 29. The Youth Business Fair ran on May 23, with sponsorship from McCain's and Manitoba Starch, and some volunteer help. For Canada Day, there will be free swimming and a Barbecue at the pool, and in Wellwood she is contributing a craft and some yard games. On June 11 she is promoting a tour of the Wooden Gate Cidery in Pilot Mound. For the summer, she has created some "Explorer Backpacks" to introduce kids to bugs and birds, and has promoted a sunflower growing competition, providing seeds and soil and judging the results by photographs of the results in September. After some interviews, she has recommended Zaine McConnell for the Term Joint Utility Labourer position. She is hoping to get some more volunteers to help host the Canada Day Barbecue at the pool.

The Archivist reminds us that a plaque commemorating the WWI ace and pioneering bush pilot Wop May will be dedicated on Sunday June 7, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. at his childhood home on Simcoe Street.

On June 17, the "Red Carpet" will be put out for the new doctor assigned to Carberry, who will be visiting with husband and family for a tour and dinner.

The Fire Department's level 1 and level 2 trainees will be given their practical tests on June 13 and 14. On June 20, they will host their annual Firefighters' Texas Breakfast fundraiser at the Fire Hall.

The library sends its thanks for the restoration of the outdoor water tap to irrigate their flower beds. They have rearranged the furniture indoors to provide a gathering space for book clubs and summer projects. They have received a large number of paperbacks, which they will be selling until after the Town-wide Yard Sale.

The museum has completed its outdoor display building and is working to stock it with memorabilia from the early years of potato growing in Carberry. They intend to formally open the display during the Prairie Harvest Festival on August 22. They have invited Kolby Clunas, a folk singer, to perform on the Gingerbread House porch on June 4, with a donation jar they will share with him. The Museum and Gingerbread House will open on June 20.

The planner is taking a Building Code course to work towards Part 9 certification and is setting up a mentorship program to lead to Part 3 certification. Permit numbers are up and coming in quickly.

Service for Seniors has set up a number of day trips throughout the summer and is working on grant applications. The handivans are running smoothly.

The Daycare's subdivision has at last been approved. Public Works has visited the site to determine how the water and sewer will be connected to the building.

At the Library, the stucco work has restarted, and the air conditioning has been upgraded.

### **Communications:**

Western Manitoba Regional Library sent the draft minutes of their May board meeting.

Reece Anderson sent a letter requesting that the Town and RM address the issue of litter escaping from the Transfer Station and blowing onto his adjacent land. After the recent windstorm, the problem became particularly severe. Relying on the little time that the TS employees have free for such cleanup is not enough. Indeed, it is only recently that there has been more than one employee on duty. Anderson hopes to graze cattle on the land and is afraid for their health if something isn't done. The Joint Foreman has

offered to pull a crew of his staff from their regular duties to handle the problem in the shortest time. The TS crew will keep their own area as clear as possible and would be helped if the dumpsters had lids or at least were tarped.

Carberry Collegiate's Youth in Philanthropy class are looking at presenting new benches for the ball diamonds, starting with the SE diamond. They ask the Town and Carberry Minor Ball what approvals are required for such equipment, and how they would properly present the money being raised? Is there an approved distributor for such equipment? Would the Town support the proper installation of the benches? Would the Town lend advertising support on its website of a 50/50 raffle to fund these gifts? She invites a representative of the Town to speak to the YIP class at their convenience.

### **Around the Table:**

Councilor Olmstead is organizing a Golf Day in appreciation of the Joint employees, and asked if there were any day more appropriate than the Friday on which it has been usually held. No other day was considered any better; the event will take place on a Friday.

Councilor Rea congratulated Public Works on the appearance of the entry into the Daylily Park. She reported that the Lacrosse Club is very pleased with the field they can now play on.

Councilors Kalinowich and Jardine concurred with praising the improvements in the appearance of the entry into Town via Wellwood Road.

Mayor Muirhead apologised for the damage taken by the tractor and tiller loaned to the campground by Councilor Jardine. Muirhead assured Jardine that the damage will be compensated.

Muirhead's second concern was with the increasing number of children seen on electric scooters without helmets. The devices can go quite quickly and have tiny wheels which can lose integrity and cause loss of control. There have been fatalities connected with them. Helmets are mandatory on them, and a sensible precaution anyhow. Parents should insist; it's the law, and it is protection against serious, even fatal injury. The RCMP will be issuing tickets. Muirhead asked for ideas about publicizing the danger. The Town pixelboard was suggested, and mention on the website and Facebook page.

With that, Councils went *in camera* to discuss preliminary matters.