

Carberry Town Council, July 15, 2026

The Council of the Town of Carberry met on Wednesday July 15, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. with Mayor Muirhead in the chair and all members present. Also present was CAO McConnell; Youth Councilor Boganes has reached the end of his term of office.

Finance and Accounts:

Council accepted the Finance Report as circulated and received the Financial Statement for June 2026. Accounts, Electronic Payments, and Direct Withdrawals totaling \$525,347.21 were approved for payment.

By-laws:

By-law 03/2026, which revises the Town of Carberry Traffic By-law by adding stop signs to both sides of Wheatland and Wellwood Road, was given its first reading.

General Business:

At the request of CN and Operation Lifesaver, the week of September 21 to 27 was declared to be Rail Safety Week.

Council approved a \$2 per capita grant to STARS Air Ambulance, who have been a lifesaving service to many members of our community.

Council learned with approval that the U of M Aggies' Bedpush will be coming through Town on Friday, September 25 at around 3:20 p.m. They will go from Market Street to Main on Fourth Avenue, up Main to First Avenue, and east on First Avenue to Market Street. The proceeds will once again be given to STARS and to the Manitoba Farmer Wellness Program.

Council approved the assignment of '600 Wheatland Drive' as the civic address of the new campground location.

Uses of the money that was once called the "Gas Tax" but is now the "Canada Community Building Fund" [CCBF] must be reported to the CCBF. Council accepted the 2025 Annual Expenditure Report as prepared by the Exchange Group.

Council approved the purchase of four varieties of established trees for the campground from Koinonia Nursery for the quoted price of \$9,800.00 plus taxes. The costs are to be shared 50/50 with North Cypress-Langford.

Tenders were requested for the construction of an asphalt walking path along Stickle Avenue from Dufferin Street to Main Street. The bid of Zenith Paving was accepted, with the proviso that it be completed before September 1, 2026.

Amanda Dane was hired as Financial Clerk effective June 30, 2026.

Council agreed to forward the final payment of \$717,011.27 to Commercial Emergency Equipment for the Pierce BPX Pumper fire truck. The costs for this will be shared 50/50 with NCL. The machine isn't yet in the Fire Hall; it has been delivered to the shop where it will receive its modifications.

Councilor Dobbin-Waters excused herself as Council agreed to approve sponsoring the Prairie Harvest Festival in the amount of \$500.

Reports:

The CAO's report detailed the work done to repair some of the amenities of the White House. She also reports that the owner of the old Kinsmen Hall has contracted the demolition of the building to a contractor who will complete the work only in October 2026. The property will be boarded up and the grass kept cut until then. On another matter, CEE demanded the full cost of the fire truck when the machine was delivered to their Winnipeg location where the extras are to be added. Our impression that the payment would be upon delivery to us was not their plan apparently. We can expect another invoice.

The ACAO reports that the guestbook and its protective case are in place at the cemetery. Because of the weather, most of the plants had to be replaced. She sourced them from several greenhouses and wants to thank them for their help and generous deals for the replacements. The replanting involved the staff and a lot of volunteers without whom it couldn't have been possible, and to whom gratitude is due.

As EDO she reports that Dr. Hanan Almanama and her family were welcomed to town with a meal and a tour of the amenities, including registration of her children at the schools. A local realtor will help find a home here, and the children enjoyed a tour of the Fire Hall. The ACAO is also working on publicizing and promoting the new campground.

As SEO with an impending election, she is accepting applications for candidate registrations for Mayor and for Councilor. No one may incur any election expenses until they are registered. She is also the one to whom changes in the Voters List are to be forwarded.

At the library, work on the stucco continues very slowly. At present they are awaiting repairs to the eavestroughing above the work.

At the Transfer Station, an extended family of skunks is making difficulties for staff and users. To catch and dispose of all twenty is beyond most extermination services. If the new Town garbage bins are to be placed to the south of the entrance facing the older TAC/NCL ones, the compost pile

must be shifted, and the ground built up with A-base and gravel to shed water better. The bulldozer contractor can be called back.

Evergreen Environmental is seeking funding to assist in the purchase of the shredder and packer they expect to use to get more efficient use of their cells.

The recent rush to replant the cemetery flowers brought out many volunteers, to whom a vote of thanks is due. Some of the monuments are showing signs of tilting as the ground softens beneath them. For shorter ones, the equipment to lift them while work is done on their footings is simple, but for some of the older, taller ones the problem is more difficult and more critical.

At the Museum, more old equipment is arriving to populate the display of early potato agriculture in the area. The board expects to have a formal opening of the display during the Prairie Harvest Festival on August 22.

The Health Action Committee welcomed the doctor who will take up duties here in September. At the Care Home, the courtyard is receiving some furniture and flowers and is awaiting the delivery and installation of a railing to assist the patients.

The Daycare's title to their land is still almost registered. It is thought that the final 'i' will be dotted and 't' crossed in three weeks.

The White House is in need of some repairs and/or cosmetic improvements. Skirting and insulation should be applied to the cement block foundation; there is a dryer vent with no cover to protect it from insects and varmints; the eaves and downspouts need to be repaired or replaced. A full parging may not be necessary. The mayor suggested that the cost would be small for the improvement it would offer. If the Town is to be a landowner, it should lead by example in keeping its buildings spruce.

Communications:

S.T.A.R.S. sent their spring newsletter and year in review, along with their request for support from the community.

The Assessment Branch sent a timeline for supplemental taxes, and set the Board of Revision date for October 13, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

The WMRL Board sent their draft minutes of the June meeting.

CN Rail sent a request to declare a Rail Safety Week on September 21-27, 2026.

S. Lammers sent a request for more and better placed handicap parking spots along Main Street.

Oak's Tree of Love requests that October 15, 2026 be declared Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Day, and that October be declared Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month.

Frank Sippel sent a gracious note of thanks to the Town for awarding him a scholarship that will help him complete his apprenticeship as a plumber.

The Manitoba and Northwest Ontario Command of the Royal Canadian Legion sent a certificate of appreciation for the Town's support of the 2026 of the Military Service Recognition Book.

Multi-Material Stewardship Manitoba sent their annual report detailing their impact over the 15 years they have been in operation.

Stride Credit Union sent an invitation to the Grand Opening of their building at 10 Main Street. There will be a community barbecue across the street at the CP Park from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm, with all proceeds going to the Prairie Harvest Festival; a ribbon cutting ceremony at 12:40 pm; and tours of the new building and its services, with cake and refreshments until 5:00 pm.

Around the Table:

Councilor Dobbin-Waters asked why the Carberry pool had not opened as early as the pool in Neepawa and was advised that it usually opens in early to mid-June, but that parts for the pump system hadn't arrived on time, and then the weather closed it for a while. She went on to announce that the Prairie Harvest Festival Committee's Farmers' Market is picking up speed after a slow start in June. There are new vendors, barbecues, and musicians, and McCain is supplying free cake. She expressed disappointment that the Town was not a greater presence at the Fair and the Fair parade, and at the Canada Day free barbecue at the pool. She asked when the new campground would be open and was assured that very little remains to be done. It will be open very soon.

Councilor Kalinowich reminded that there has been a wave of thefts from cars and stressed that people should be careful to lock their vehicles. He reported that the campground would be opening in a couple of weeks. He suggested that if you want to dedicate a tree in memory of a loved one, the batch that will be planted at the cemetery are available to reserve, and a receipt can be issued from the Town Office.

Mayor Muirhead attended the welcome given for Dr. Almanama, who will be an excellent addition to the hospital and clinic staff. Dr. Maharajh is very close to receiving his approval from the College of Physicians and Surgeons and is impatient to get started. He may open for consultations in advance of

the equipment's approval. Muirhead asked the CAO to research what will be involved in terminating the contract of the Commissionaires, who have had almost no effect on the Town's by-law offenders. There are still just as many unsightly and derelict properties, the Traffic By-law is unenforced, the noise and speed violations of the mini-bikes, quads and hot rods are still aggravating. "What have we paid \$5,000 for?" he asked. The CAO will investigate the termination of the Commissionaires' contract.

As a last encouragement, he reminded Council that there are a number of vital and costly decisions to be considered before the end of their term. He stressed that it will be important to have the input of all council members in these decisions. Meetings of the Council and its committees are not optional as these matters are brought to the table. They bear on the future of the community.

Reporter McNeily reminded all that the July Newsletter is in preparation. Get the details the community should know before them in this widely read publication. The next one is in mid-September; all summer and early fall events and promotions are needed.

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