

Town Council, August 11, 2026

The Council of the Town of Carberry met on Tuesday, August 11, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. in their council chambers with Mayor Muirhead in the chair and all members present plus CAO McConnell.

Delegation:

Once the meeting was opened, the first item was a delegation from Tyson Boychuk of the Chamber of Commerce Christmas Kickoff Committee. Boychuk has been an enthusiastic promoter of the Christmas Kickoff and has extensive plans and hopes for increased participation. He reported with regret that he has found no way around the regulations that prohibit a firework display over the ball diamonds where this year's event will be centred.

His biggest reason for appearing before Council was to ask for help with the wagon rides he is planning. He has contacted Spirit Sands Wagon Outfitters who were eager to participate and have offered a generous reduction in their usual price to provide rides and to take part in the Parade of Lights — \$1,500. His hope was that the Town and the RM would jointly finance this feature. In return, he would be mentioning them as sponsors and including their logos in his social media posts and on the advertising materials he will be circulating.

Other concerns he has are the provision of power and water at the diamonds. Council did not think there would be any difficulty supplying power to the concession stand, but water was more of a problem. If Boychuk could haul in the water he needed to mix cocoa and run the cook shack, the only difficulty would be with providing washroom facilities, and Council suggested that they could bring out the JobJon two-place washroom that is used by the Cemetery in the summer months.

The parade route this year will start at the ball diamonds, meet up with any walkers and extra members at East End, and follow the usual route past the Care Home and on up Main Street, then return to the ball diamonds. Any candy being offered to the children would be in a "goody bag" presented to the kids by Santa himself.

Other possibilities for the event include (perhaps indoor) carnival games, and a gingerbread competition. To brighten the site, Boychuk is hoping to source some heavy-duty construction lighting equipment. He is relying on donations from businesses and individuals for the costs; his hope is that the public will have no cost to participate. It is to be a community-building event in which the public will all share.

Boychuk was thanked and congratulated for his dedicated efforts.

Finance and Accounts:

Council accepted the Finance Report as presented and received the Financial Statements for July 2026. Accounts, electronic payments, and direct withdrawals totaling \$1,159,680.68 were approved for payment.

By-laws:

By-law 03-2026, the Town of Carberry Traffic By-law, was given its second reading. It updates the existing Traffic By-law to put stop signs on both sides of Wellwood Road at Wheatland Drive to serve the new campground. Discussion of the by-law left some questions about the effectiveness of the penalties established for violations of the law. Council agreed to study this and postponed the third reading until a decision was reached.

Unfinished Business:

The Commissionaires had been asked to provide a report on their activities and an explanation of their intermittent and ineffective service. A report was promised in time for this meeting but was not provided. The CAO has investigated the contract under which they run, and it can indeed be canceled for poor performance, but the problem is that there are few if any alternatives to their service for by-law enforcement. The officer assigned to the Town has a superior, and this manager will be contacted with the Town's dissatisfaction. The contract will be allowed to remain in effect for another month.

Several resolutions were brought forward from the recent meeting of Joint Councils. A resolution accepting the quote of Guild Insurance to insure the Carberry Plains Community Centre for the balance of the present term and for the following year was passed. Another resolution was passed accepting the quote of Jacobson Commercial to construct the Campground Washroom/Mechanical Facility up to a maximum of \$200,000 plus taxes. Brent Bromley of Jacobson Commercial expects to hire local craftsmen as subcontractors on the project and will be starting shortly. For the resolution to hire the CPCC pool and day camp staff, Mayor Muirhead stepped aside, as he has a relative among the hires. The resolution was called by Deputy Mayor Kalinowich. Muirhead then returned to the chair to pass the revised Pool Policy.

General Business:

A tender was issued for the provision of a watermain connection for potable water between the CPCC and the new campground. At the recommendation of Project Manager Lynch, the bid of Swift Underground

Ltd. was accepted for a maximum of \$110,000, to be shared 50/50 with North Cypress-Langford.

Council affirmed by resolution that they have reviewed the conflict-of-interest information provided to them.

Council passed a resolution making changes in the 2026 assessment roll. \$48,433.52 was added in taxes; \$33,355.06 was deleted; for a net addition of \$15,078.46.

Having received the Seton Centre's Financial Statements, Council approved the award of \$750.00 to the Centre to help offset operating costs.

Council accepted the Offer to Purchase from the R.M. of Victoria Beach for the CNCLFD's 2016 Acres Pumper. The offer is for \$300,000 plus applicable taxes. The apparatus will be delivered as soon as CNCLFD receives their replacement pumper — expected by the end of August 2026, and no later than September 30, 2026. Profits from the sale will be shared 50/50 with the Municipality of North Cypress-Langford.

As a result of the failure of the heat exchanger at the pool, which caused a leak of CO and natural gas and forced clearing the building for two days, a search for a replacement was initiated. Sandhills Electric found and suggests a pair of 400,000 BTU high-efficiency heaters with titanium heat exchangers. Apparently, the high concentrations of chlorine in the intake air were the cause of the original exchanger material's failure. Titanium will not be so affected. The price quoted for the units, \$30,372.00, is only good for 30 days, so there is an argument for ordering them at once for more leisurely fall/winter installation and forgoing the assistance of grant money. With only a few weeks before shutdown, there is no point in a hurried single-unit installation to return the pool to its preferred temperature. Council decided to order the pair of new units, and resolved to do so, with the costs to be split 50/50 with NCL.

The joint councils had issued a tender for the rehabilitation of the library's front entrance and ramp and have determined that the bid of HMB Enterprises best meets their requirements. The tender was therefore awarded to them, for up to \$33,650.00 plus applicable taxes.

Reports:

The CAO reported on her research into the need for handicap parking as suggested by correspondence last month. Neither Main Street location feels the need for a dedicated spot in front of their buildings, they make provision for handicapped clients in other ways. Council could consider a handicap spot on Second Avenue if necessary. If a new 'blue curb' spot were to be provided, the present revision of the Traffic By-law would be the place and

time to do it. She also reported on her research into the Commissionaires' contract. It is possible to cancel it, but no alternative services suggest themselves. She has been doing an inventory of the Town's dumpsters in connection with the change in arrangements at the Transfer Station. She discusses several of the motions to be passed this meeting and examines the possible sources of funding for the purchase of new pool heating equipment. She has met with MTI a couple of times; once about paving Main between third and fourth, and once about the staging of construction of the overpass at Hwys 1 & 5. With the Public Works foreman, she is looking into repairs/improvements at the White House. She is preparing for the Strategic Plan discussions on the 24th and has contacted Zenith Paving about soon starting on the walking path along Stickle Avenue.

The ACAO attended the Cemetery Board meeting, and reports that they are working with the Archivist on interpretation material and have updated their brochure with up-to-date costs. She is updating the Town website to cover the new campground and has listed the campground on campers' sites. With the election coming up, she is accepting applications to run for mayor or councilor and is looking for any changes to the voters' list. The recent release of CO and natural gas at the rink suggested modifications to the Emergency Response Plan, and some training efforts for staff.

Public Works have kept the summer students busy with mowing and trimming. They have problems with the John Deere tractor whose repairs are mounting up in cost. The John Deere zero-turn is also showing signs of being unsuited to intensive work. The irrigation from the lagoon has occasionally been impeded by the fields' lessees. They ask if the amount of work trimming private trees along the lanes should be billed to the owners. The sweeper that was hired collected about 30 yards of sand and gravel.

The Buildings Committee has tendered the work on the library entrance and ramp. At 122 Main Street, renovations are being done to the boardroom, and some new windows are necessary.

The Waste Management Committee has had the compost pile at the Transfer Station moved. The new location will be down the hill near the burn pile (but not close enough to catch fire). Signage informing users of the new location is on order.

Evergreen is looking for grants to help with the acquisition of the new shredder and compactor and a building to house them. They had a profitable year and things are running smoothly.

The small handivan has required repairs to its lift.

At the Health Action Committee, a meeting with CEO Slate was asked for to discuss the disposition of two unutilized rooms between the Care Home and the acute care area. Also, there is a protocol that requires an assistant if a resident uses the new courtyard. The lack of assistants means that residents are denied access to the courtyard. A solution is sought to get better utilization of the new amenity.

The Daycare Committee's severance and title transfer are almost complete, which will advance the application for their grant.

Communications:

The Director of the Brandon Public-Safety Communication Centre sent advice that in order to complete the mandated changeover to the Next Generation 9-1-1, all municipalities and other primary Public Safety Access Points must execute the NG9-1-1 Service Agreement with Bell Canada.

AMM sent their News Bulletin which among other things announced the change of date for the spring convention to April 13-15, 2027.

Around the Table:

Councilor Dobbin-Waters reminded that the Prairie Harvest Festival will be taking place soon on August 22, 2026, and that the PHF continues to present a Farmers' Market at the CP Park on Tuesdays until the end of August.

Councilor Kalinowich wished to express his gratitude to CAO McConnell for her excellent work, and to Project Manager Lynch for the help in carrying on some very complicated and worthwhile projects.

Mayor Muirhead wished to congratulate CAO McConnell on the birth of a grandson. He also expressed disappointment with the turnout of NCL councilors at the meetings of the Joint Committee. There are some very important and costly projects under way, and it would be best to have all the input possible to these decisions. He reached out to City of Dauphin's CAO Sharla Griffiths to discuss the disposition of the memorial crosses presently at the intersection of Hwys. 1 & 5. They are being maintained for the moment, but with MTI planning the redesign of the intersection, they are at risk of being in the way of the heavy equipment that will reshape the area soon enough. He suggested and she agreed that a better outcome would be to relocate the crosses at the memorial park, which has been ably maintained by Sheryl Nault. He showed Griffith pictures of the site. As to the request of the evening's delegation, he suggested that the proper thing to do was to bring it up at the next Joint Councils' Committee meeting and make their decision together. He suggested that a presentation be made to departing Youth Councilor Boganes in recognition of his input to Council's

deliberations. There was agreement, and the CAO was asked to suggest something appropriate.

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