

REPORT 12-2014
CITY OF MARTENSVILLE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
TUESDAY – DECEMBER 9, 2014
MINUTES

PRESENT: Mayor Kent Muench, Deputy Mayor Tyson Chillog Councillors Bob Blackwell, Darren MacDonald, Travis Wiebe (6:10 pm), Jamie Martens, City Manager Scott Blevins, Director of Infrastructure & Planning Joe Doxey, Director of Recreation & Community Services Dave Bosch, Community Economic Development Manager Dillon Shewchuk; Finance Director Lorraine Postma

REGRETS: Councillor Terry Kostyna

LOCATION: Council Chambers, City Hall

RECORDING SECRETARY: City Clerk Carla Budnick

CALL TO ORDER: Councillor Jamie Martens called the meeting to order at 5:02 P.M.

DELEGATIONS

5. REPORTS

5.1 City Manager

5.2 City Clerk

5.3 Director of Finance

5.3.1 Budget Variance

At this time there were no concerns to report. City Manager Blevins noted that administration is projecting a surplus for 2014 but will not know final numbers until the end of January.

5.4 Director of Recreation and Community Services

5.4.1 Cemetery Rates

Director of Recreation and Community Services, Dave Bosch discussed with Council a letter that was received outlining concerns regarding the high cemetery rates compared to surrounding areas. It was noted that several factors were considered when the rates were developed, these included: cost of construction and maintenance as well as perpetual care which is legislated to collect a minimum of 15%. It was decided that 30% would be set aside for perpetual care which will help fund future projects for the cemetery: additional columbarium, expansion, roadways, operational costs, etc. Bosch also mentioned that the City of Warman is currently in the process of reviewing their cemetery rates and although our rates are higher than Warman, are rates are also lower than the City of Saskatoon. City Manager, Blevins did note that for future consideration of rates the city would try and discuss thoughts with surrounding areas prior to setting new fees. At this time Council is fine with the rates and would like to see things remain as is.

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5.5 Director of Infrastructure & Planning

5.6 Economic Development Manager

5.6.1 RFD – Razertip Tax Incentive

Razertip Industries, which is located at 301 – 9th Street North is looking to expand their overall business space to offer additional services such as manufacturing and retail of carving and art supplies as well as commercial printing and photocopying services. It was noted that based on the overall cost of the expansion a tax exemption for the expansion portion only would be for 4 years as well a condition would be added to their permit indicating they would be required to pave their space once 9th Street North has been paved. Some concerns were raised regarding the condition never being met and it was noted that if that happened it would be breaking an agreement and legal action may be required. As well if the proposed intended use changes during the 4 year tax exemption the tax exemption would be revoked.

Council had no further questions.

A motion will be brought forth for formal approval at the next Council Meeting.

5.6.2 RFD – Crystal Clear Developments

Crystal Clear Developments, is the owner of the building at 117 Centennial Drive North that currently has Loft 67, Lakeview Insurance and Dahlia Salon. They are proposing to add an additional bay to the south end of the building but currently do not have a tenant in place. It was noted that CEDM Shewchuk is still trying to finalize costs to determine the length of the tax incentive.

Council had no further questions.

A motion will be brought forth for formal approval at the next Council Meeting.

7. COUNCIL MEMBERS ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS:

7.1 Martensville Athletic Pavilion

Council had a general discussion about different things going on in and around the MAP, one area of concern was supervision. Director Bosch did note that hours have been adjusted to accommodate for supervision as well as altering youth, toddler time and family time hours. The Programmers have also been encouraged to be out and interact with the participants more frequently. It was also noted that our staff will have more visible clothing so they are easy to identify. Admission rates for high school aged students was discussed. Mayor Muench would like to see that all high school aged students that live in Martensville be given the \$35 dollar membership during the school year. Council was in agreement and it was noted by City Manager, Blevins that this year the Martensville High School is operating on an altered school year and the last day of classes is June 4th, 2014 therefore; the \$35 membership will only be valid until that date. Council was in favor and Director Bosch will notify his staff.

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7.2 Snow Removal

Mayor Muench wanted to touch base on what worked and what didn't work during snow removal after the recent snow fall. Director of Infrastructure and Planning, Joe Doxey gave a review of some of the situations that occurred which in turn delayed snow removal. It was noted that all three graders had some operational challenges as well two of the city tandems broke down and in turn delayed snow removal due to repairs. Once these repairs were completed, things seemed to be up and running smoothly again. Some other challenges the roadways crew are facing is people not complying to notices once they are posted, as well snow removal in school zone areas poses some challenges as the schools are typically being used from 7:00 am – 10:00 pm at night. Director Doxey did indicate the department has been in discussion on ways to improve as well as communicate better when these hiccups occur. Council did request that when these rare circumstances occur they would like to be notified as it assists with discussions they face with residents. City Manager, Blevins did agree that communication with the Mayor and Council can improve in those situations. Mayor Muench did thank Doxey and his staff for the work they do.

Councillor Wiebe joined council at 6:10 PM. and Coucillor MacDonald left council at 6:15 PM.

7.3 Crosswalk Proposal

City Clerk, Carla Budnick informed Council that the proposal was received via email and that the citizen was invited to attend council. City Manager, Blevins and Director of Infrastructure and Planning, Doxey did indicate that future plans have been discussed and one suggestion is a pedestrian walk light for the corner of 3rd Street North and Centennial Drive N. It was also noted that the pathways along Centennial Drive need to be completed, but with Centennial Drive North Commercial Development not yet finished the pathways will be damaged as development continues. City Council would like to see the pathways included in the 2015 Budget and asked City Clerk, Budnick to provide the resident with a letter outlining the cities future plans.

Council went in camera at 6:45 PM

8. IN-CAMERA ITEMS

8.1 Sponsorship

8.2 2015 Budget

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 7:18 PM.

Mayor Kent Muench