

REPORT 9-2021
CITY OF MARTENSVILLE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
TUESDAY – SEPTEMBER 14, 2021
MINUTES

PRESENT: Mayor Kent Muench, Deputy Mayor Tyson Chillog, Councillors Michael Cox, Darren MacDonald, Jamie Martens, Debbie McGuire, Spencer Nikkel, City Manager Scott Blevins, Director of Corporate Services Leah Bloomquist, Community Economic Development Manager Dillon Shewchuk, Director of Recreation & Community Services Ted Schaeffer, Director of Infrastructure & Planning Matt Gruza

REGRETS:

LOCATION: City Hall – Council Chambers and ZOOM

RECORDING SECRETARY: City Clerk Carla Budnick

CALL TO ORDER: Councillor Spencer Nikkel called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

4. REPORTS

4.2 Director of Corporate Services

4.2.1 Budget Variance Report

Director of Corporate Services presented City Council with the Income Statement and Budget Variance Reports for the period ending July 31, 2021. Details were provided for significant variances from budget. Overall, when taking projections for the year into account, the variances detailed and the cumulative effect of lesser variances not noted, administration is projecting a surplus for 2021 of \$25,890.00. It was noted that administration will continue to review and update projects over the remaining months of 2021.

4.4 Director of Recreation and Community Services

4.4.1 RFD – Lease Rates

In February 2021, Council approved the extension of a 25% lease rate reduction for the period January 1 to August 31, 2021, for childcare groups leasing City facilities. This was in response to decreased capacities related to Covid-19 restrictions. The groups impacted were Busy Fingers Pre-School who use the MacCormack Ranch House; and Puddle Jumpers Pre-School who use space in the Civic Centre. The lease agreements for both organizations expired on August 31, 2021. Both organizations have indicated they are still operating with a significantly lower number of participants due to ongoing Covid-19 restrictions and have expressed concerns with the potential impacts of rising Covid-19 rates and the Delta variant.

To provide continued assistance to these organizations providing service to the community, Administration is recommending that lease rates continue to reflect the 25% reduction and new one-year leases for the period September 1, 2021, to August 31, 2022, be put into place.

City Council was in favour of the recommendation and a motion will be brought forward to the next Regular Council meeting for formal approval.

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4.5 Director of Infrastructure and Planning

4.5.1 RFD -Sump Pumps

At the August 17th, 2021, Regular Council Meeting Director of Infrastructure and Planning Gruza discussed with City Council concerns regarding sump pumps which discharge unusually high volumes of water throughout the year which creates a high number of complaints regarding the discharge on sidewalks and roadways. Administration was tasked with completing some further research on the cost to have these sump pumps discharge to the sanitary system. Based on the complaints received, it is estimated that there are anywhere between 10 and 20 properties which would be recommended to discharge to the sanitary sewer. The additional cost for these properties would be between \$13,250/year, to \$26,500/year.

Administration is recommending an amendment to the Sump Pump Bylaw which would allow residents to discharge their sump pumps to the sanitary sewer through a permitting process. The permit applicant would need to adequately demonstrate that they have exhausted all other reasonable options to deal with their sump discharge. Administration also recommends that the permit be renewed annually with an inspection to ensure that plumbing has been adequately installed. Due to the added costs for wastewater treatment, and to discourage people applying who should be discharging their sump pumps conventionally, administration also recommends a fee be associated with discharging to the sanitary sewer.

Council liked what was proposed and an updated bylaw will come to a future meeting for formal approval.

4.5.2 RFD – Crosswalk Lighting

Administration had budgeted \$32,000 for illuminated crosswalk installation which would include the purchase of the Carmanah Solar Rapid Flashing Beacon (model R920-E) for approximately \$9000.00 and the purchase of a more permanent and larger SC315-G model for approximately \$22,000.00. The model R920-E was provided as a 90-day free trial to the city last winter and after using the model outside of the Sports Centre for almost a year, administration feels model R920-E provides a sufficient service and there is not a need to purchase the higher end model which would also have increased maintenance costs. Administration is recommending the purchase of two more model R920-E which are being proposed to be placed at 3rd Street North near the skatepark and Baycroft Drive near North Hills Park.

Council was in favour of the recommendation brought forward and two more model R920-E will be purchased and placed at the recommended locations.

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4.6 Community Economic Development Manager

4.6.1 CEDM Report

Community Economic Development Manager Shewchuk gave a review of things he has been working on over the past month. The High School has been contacted to possibly assist with creating some public service ‘how to’ video vignettes. Tentative dates have been set for the 2022 Business Expo. Communication survey is being prepared to measure satisfaction levels amongst residents. Website (visual and architecture) are being worked on to update the current website.

6. IN-CAMERA

6.1 Economic Development

6.2 Rec Facility

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 6:13 P.M.

Mayor Kent Muench