

REPORT 5-2023
CITY OF MARTENSVILLE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
TUESDAY – MAY 9, 2023
MINUTES

PRESENT: Mayor Kent Muench, Councillors Tyson Chillog Michael Cox, Darren MacDonald, 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 and Planning Matt Gruza, Fire Chief Kurtis Dyck

REGRETS: Deputy Mayor Jamie Martens,

LOCATION: City Hall – Council Chambers and ZOOM

RECORDING SECRETARY: City Clerk Carla Budnick

CALL TO ORDER: Councillor Darren MacDonald called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Mayor Muench requested Personnel be added to the In-Camera portion of the meeting. All of Council was in favour.

3. DELEGATIONS

A) RCMP

Sergeant Little was in attendance to speak to stats from Feb/Mar/Apr 2022 to Feb/Mar/Apr 2023. It was noted that collisions were high in 2022 compared to 2023. Mayor Muench asked if there were specific areas of concern and Sergeant Little needs to investigate that and get back to council with an answer. With the warmer weather comes an increase in traffic at the North Ridge Centennial Community Centre and the Martensville Pits, the detachment is working on a plan to increase presence around those areas and continue to educate the public about the importance of video surveillance, pictures and witness statements.

Councillor MacDonald thanked Sergeant Little for his time.

B) Chamber of Commerce – Debbie Brown

Debbie Brown with Prairie Sky Chamber was in attendance to speak to council about what is currently happening with the chamber. The highlights of her report included new business openings within the community various Chamber of Commerce activities happening and Chamber business issues she is helping members with.

Councillor MacDonald thanked Debbie for her time.

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4. REPORTS

4.2 Director of Corporate Services

4.2.1 Development Incentive Program – 2023 Abatement Application

A Development Incentive Program Policy was adopted in 2019 with revision added in 2020. North Prairie Developments has applied for General Land Development Tax Abatements within their new commercial subdivision on Rutten Place. The total abatement for this year is \$80,623.54 for Year One qualifying abatements. Of these abatements, \$45,274.87 is Municipal taxes and \$35,348.67 is Education taxes.

City Council had no questions or concerns so a motion will come to the next Regular Council meeting for formal approval.

4.4 Director of Recreation & Community Services

4.4.1 RFD – Rental Rates & Admission Rates

Director of Recreation & Community Services Ted Schaeffer reviewed with the City Council the proposed rental and admission rates for a five-year period including the years 2024-2028. Rental rates for North Ridge Centennial Community Centre will be set for the years 2025-2029. The proposed rate schedule included an annual increase of approximately 2% to rental fees to all facilities, adjusted birthday party rate to reflect access to one gym and the multi-purpose room for 2 hours, moving the Heritage Centre and Arena Mezzanine from the meeting room to programming room category, introduction of a post-secondary student rate, incremental increases to admission rates starting in 2024, 3 month and 6 month MAP memberships being available on a promotional basis and 10 and 20 pack admission were adjusted to reflect a standard discount per visit from the daily rate.

A motion for the proposed rates will come to the next Regular Council meeting for formal approval.

4.4.2 RFD – Civic Centre – Furnace Replacement

The Civic Centre heating system currently operates using five furnaces that heat various zones within the building. One of the zones is serviced by a system that consists of two residential style furnaces. One of the furnaces has failed and the second is close to failure and beyond economical repair. Heating contractors have recommended replacing the two residential furnaces with one commercial unit for a cost of \$5,875.00 plus taxes. It was also noted that currently the Civic Centre building operates without air conditioning, which creates uncomfortable conditions for workers, tenants and the public in the building during the summer months. There is an opportunity to add an air conditioning unit at the same time as the furnace replacement for an additional cost of \$4,900.00 plus taxes.

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4.4.3 RFD – Great Plains College Flooring

Great Plains College (GPC) has approached administration regarding partnering to replace the flooring in the Civic Centre rooms that it is currently leasing to operate its programs. GPC applied and were approved for a provincial grant for the renovation and are proposing a three-way cost share of the project similar to the upgrades to the shared washrooms completed in 2020 and the common area flooring replacement completed in 2022. The proposed classroom flooring would match the 2022 flooring that was installed.

The cost of the project is \$28,350.00 plus applicable taxes. The city's portion would be \$9,450.00 plus applicable taxes.

City Council had no questions or concerns so a motion will come to the next Regular Council meeting for formal approval.

4.5 Director of Infrastructure & Planning

4.5.1 RFD – Traffic Bylaw Amendment

Recently it was noticed that there were contradictory clauses in the traffic bylaw. A full review of the bylaw was completed by Bylaw and Infrastructure and Planning staff, and some other minor corrections were noted. Additional clauses were added to assist in the enforcement of the bylaw, specifically relating to parking near fire hydrants and chalk marking of vehicle tires.

The Bylaw will be brought to the next Regular Council Meeting for formal approval.

4.5.2 RFD – Valve Maintenance Machine

On March 29, 2023, a tender was posted for the purchase of a new valve maintenance machine for the Water & Sewer Department. The tender closed on April 12, 2023, with only one bid received. The one bid received was from the only company in Canada known who manufactures a machine like this. The bid received was over budget by \$27,551.47. The tender for Annual Water & Sewer repairs was posted on April 21, 2023, and closed on April 28, 2023. The winning big price plus a 15% contingency, engineering fees, and PST was under budget by \$46,157.00. Administration is proposing using the savings from the Water & Sewer repairs to cover the extra costs for the Valve Maintenance Machine.

City Council had no questions or concerns so a motion will come to the next Regular Council meeting for formal approval.

4.6. Community Economic Development Manager

4.6.1 CEDM Report

CEDM Shewchuk gave a review of different things he has been working on over the past month. Some highlights include working on a sod-turning event for the new Martensville Community Recreation Centre on May 24, 2023, continued work on the Community Profile and Business Start-up Guide, various business and land inquires and assisting the Martensville Food Pantry.

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4.6.2 RFD – Food Pantry

The City of Martensville has been assisting the Martensville Food Pantry to establish and organize since its reconfiguration and return to the Civic Centre. There is a goal to help the Food Pantry grow and become a self-sufficient community-based organization. The City’s assistance has been through providing space at the Civic Centre, administrative support and coaching. Currently the Community Economic Development Manager and Councillor Mike Cox have been working with the Food Pantry. With the growth of the Food Pantry and the commitment of volunteers, the group has now incorporated and has a goal toward gaining charitable status. Council is being asked to affirm what sort of role or representation they want to have with the Food Pantry.

After discussion City Council agreed that for the time being they would like to be a voting member as a member of the board with Councillor Cox remaining on the board as the city’s representative

4.7 Fire Chief

4.7.1 RFD – Nuisance Bylaw

The current Nuisance Bylaw is lacking the ability to enforce contraventions through ticketing. Administration is proposing adding penalties to the bylaw which will assist with achieving compliance. Other items being added to the bylaw include graffiti, unlicensed vehicles, vehicles parked on hard surfaces and duty to maintain properties.

The Bylaw will be brought to the next Regular Council Meeting for formal approval.

4.7.2 RFD – Trap Neuter Return (TNR)

SCAT Street Cat Rescue attended City Council back in September 2022 to propose the city make changes to their Animal Control Bylaw to allow SCAT to perform TNR within Martensville city limits to reduce feline over population. The program has been proven to reduce the number of cats in a community over time if the program is continued and maintained. If the city’s goal is to reduce the number of cats that are running at large in the community, the TNR program may be a viable option. The City’s commitment would be making bylaw changes to allow for the TNR program, funding for spay or neutering, micro-chipping, vaccinations and education for the public.

City Council was in favour of trying the TNR program and bylaw changes will come to the next Regular Council meeting for formal approval.

6. IN-CAMERA

- A) Economic Development**
- B) Personnel**

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.

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