



Council Committee as a Whole

Minutes

September 10th, 2026

6:30 pm

In attendance: Mayor Scott Crick, Chris Hamblin, Mel Baxter, Taylor Braun, David Funk

Excused: Tim Lewis, Trevor Thiessen

Delegations: None

Council Discussion: None

Council Round Table (Committee, Board, and Personal Reports):

Mayor Scott Crick

- Verbal Report Given

Noted and Discussed

Councillor Chris Hamblin

Morris Area Foundation (MAF):

- The Morris Area Foundation met yesterday morning (Sept 8th, 2026) in the Town Council Chambers. This was the first meeting after a summer break so there was a lot to discuss.
Points of interest include:
 - CRA requires that funds over \$1 million will grant out 5% of that portion. (Values up to \$1 million are required to grant out 3.5%.) As we have just exceeded this, a discussion took place on our granting target percentage and what we felt was reasonable to achieve CRA requirements but also not put the capital funds into jeopardy if returns fall below the target rate. MAF has been granting at the 4% level and are targeting to increase this slightly this year to 4.15%.
 - Cyber security has been an ongoing concern, and steps are being taken to improve our position. Antivirus software has been installed as well as a password manager. A discussion was also held on our email and phone number. We are looking to add 2 emails that will be owned by MAF (rather than a director on MAF). This will facilitate a smoother transition as directors change. We are also looking at ways to maintain a phone number that is controlled by MAF. This is under discussion. MAF website hosting was also discussed, and some changes will be made here as well.
 - Discussion on our granting criteria. As funds have grown, and granting has increased, it was felt important to be sure the granting criteria reflected the boards priorities and that this can be communicated to the public.
 - The Morris Lodge has requested funds for several projects to improve client care and comfort. The projects were considered under the criteria of the Red River hospital funds that MAF holds for these types of projects.
 - Discussions held on shared staff position. MAF shares a staff position, receiving one day per week. This position is partially funded by Winnipeg Foundation. Current agreement expires in 2027.

The Morris and District Chamber of Commerce:

- Reports from members present including the Town, Multiplex & Recreation, Stampede Kick Off, Museum (highlighting the Pine to Palm Trail).
- The budget was discussed and will be finalized at a follow up meeting with the executive.
- It was reported that the bylaws and incorporation process is well under way and should be completed shortly.
- The Chamber will be co-hosting the Candidates Forum with the date to be set in October.
- There is a desire to better identify the boards positions. This will also be discussed at follow up meeting with the executive.
- The President has resigned effective immediately. Siohban Mass has been elected as the interim President.
- AGM was discussed briefly with the date to be set up at a future meeting.
- Potential of further AI training being offered. Cheryl Crick will follow up to see what the costs will be and if there is any granting available to offset some costs.

Noted and discussed

Councillor Tim Lewis - Excused

Noted and discussed

Councillor Taylor Braun

- Verbal report given

Noted and discussed

Councillor Mel Baxter

- Verbal report given

Noted and discussed

Councillor David Funk

- Verbal report given

Noted and Discussed

Councillor Trevor Thiessen

- PVWC meets tomorrow.
- Valley Weed – No update.
- Manor – ongoing improvements including landscaping. 2 tenants provided with final warning letter as per tenancies branch.

Noted and Discussed

New Business/Discussion:

- Community Board requirements discussed.

Noted and Discussed

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm.