

THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF MORRIS

The Council of the Rural Municipality of Morris held its regular meeting on Wednesday, June 14th, 2000 at 9:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers of the R. M. of Morris.

Reeve Herm Martens presided.

Council Members present were; Ralph Groening, Sieg Neumann, Barry Fraese, Denis Robert, Leo Kornelsen, Stan Siemens.

Agenda

Moved by Leo Korenlsen, Seconded by Barry Fraese:

#122/00. Resolved that the agenda for the June 14, 2000 regular meeting be now approved as it is now amended or as may be amended.

Carried. For 7
Against 0

Minutes

Moved by Ralph Groening, Seconded by Sieg Neumann:

#123/00. Resolved that the minutes of the May 10, 2000 regular meeting be now adopted as presented by the Municipal Administrator.

Carried. For 7
Against 0

Palliative
Care

Moved by Stan Siemens, Seconded by Sieg Nuemann:

#124/00. Whereas Palliative Care is the active and compassionate care directed toward improving the quality of life for people who are dying and supporting those individuals and their families as then incur their loss; And Whereas Palliative Care has been deemed a core service by Manitoba Health;

And Whereas to date, there is an absence of adequate formal funding and the inequitable distribution for funds allocated for the provision of Palliative Care services in the Central Region;

And whereas there is an absence of 24 hour crisis response services in Palliative Care;

And Whereas there is inadequate human and equipment resources available for someone who choses to die at home;

And Whereas the added costs of dying at home can be prohibitive to the dying individual and his/her family;

Therefore Be It Resolved that the Council of the R. M. of Morris advocates for formal funding for the Central Region Palliative Care Services.

Carried. For 7
Against 0

Civic
Addressing

Moved by Sieg Neumann, Seconded by Stan Siemens:

#125/00. Whereas the current system of describing lands and roads within the Province of Manitoba was put in place in 1871 under the Dominion Survey System;

And Whereas the Principal Meridian was used as the foundation for developing the survey system;

And Whereas the current land description system has be in place for over 130 years and is easily understood by government departments, the general public and other stakeholders;

And Whereas the Manitoba Telephone System initially promoted and supported the alpha numeric system based on the Dominion Survey System;

And Whereas Municipal Corporations have urged the Province of Manitoba to provide direction regarding the civic addressing system and associated 911 system;

And Whereas after many years of provincial inaction, a number of municipalities have take the initiative to develop a system using the alpha numeric system based on the Dominion Survey System;

And Whereas Manitoba Telephone System has now advised municipal corporations that the proposed alpha numerical system will not work;

Resolution Continued
Civic Addressing

And Whereas it has been determined that slight changes to the Manitoba Telephone System Program will accommodate the existing alpha numerical system;

Therefore Be It Resolved that the Rural Municipality of Morris supports the alpha numerical civic addressing system which is based on the Dominion Survey System;

And Further Be It Resolved that the Association of Manitoba Municipalities must support the alpha numerical civic addressing system and lobby Manitoba Telephone System and the Province of Manitoba for their support to this method of civic addressing system.

Carried. For 7
Against 0

Office &
Shop
Concrete
Work

Moved by Denis Robert, Seconded by Barry Fraese:

#126/00. Whereas G-Line Building & Concrete Ltd. have provided cost quotations for sidewalk and concrete work at the Municipal Shop and also at the Municipal Office Building;

And Whereas this work consists of a sidewalk and pad at our Municipal Shop with a cost of \$2,450.00;

Therefore Be It Resolved that the Council of the R. M. of Morris does now accept these quotations from G-Line Building and Concrete.

Carried. For 7
Against 0

Low Farm
Flood
Protection

Moved by Ralph Groening, Seconded by Leo Kornelsen:

#127/00. Whereas the Water Resources Branch has requested further project authorization for the Lowe Farm dyke Project;

Therefore Be It Resolved that the Rural Municipality of Morris on behalf of the Lowe Farm Community, does now authorize the signing and completion of Program Element 2 for this project subject to a breakdown of the costs being provided and meeting Council's approval.

Carried. For 7
Against 0

Delegation

Mr. Ray Muller, Building Inspector, met with Council to discuss issues relating to the general policy regarding farm building and fees for the raising of these buildings. It was felt that our policy would remain at the current status. There were a total of 9 permits for May, 2000. Mr. Muller had sent out letter to hog operators regarding the straw cover required for their lagoon. He indicated that he has checked most of the lagoons and found that they are covered. He informed Council that the R. M. of Roland will be also using his services for permit inspections.

Delegation

Mr. Ralph van Assen met with Council to discuss our possible purchase of Trelleborg Tires. Mr. Van Assen reviewed a written proposal to Council on these tires. The R. M. of Morris has tested these tires for 6 months and he wants Council to decide whether or not to purchase new tires. The cost for 6 new tires if \$17,995.00 with rims. For 2 sets of tires and rims the cost would be \$17,600.00 per set.

Foreman's
Report

Mr. Don Harder, Public Works Foreman, informed Council that 18 miles of drainage ditching has been done to date. The dust control for yard sites has now been completed. Currently there is ditching being done in Rosenort. On Roger's John Deer grader, there is still a vibration in the machine that has not yet been fixed. Our other John Deere grader needs transmission housing repairs and is now being repaired. The Dunnrite dyke road is now being further repaired with sheep's foot and limestone. We have spent money on the equipment rentals and will bill Dunnrite for all costs relating to this road project. This road is in poor condition and these efforts are to attempt to make it passable. Mr. Harder then discussed the issue of purchasing a new motor grader. The Equipment Committee then presented price comparisons to Council and there was some discussion on the matter. It was felt that further consideration should be given to the matter and that Council would discuss the situation at our special meeting on June 15, 2000.

Council then recessed for lunch at 12:00 noon and reconvened at approximately 1:00 p.m.

Delegation

Mr. Rick Nychuk met with Council to request the gravelling of a road to a trailer unit owned by Mr. Franz Kames on the SW 1/4 of Section 27-6-1 EPM. This trailer unit is being lived in by their employee and the road is not a gravel road. The road distance to be gravelled would be approximately 1/2 mile in length. Council discussed the situation and offered to share in the gravel costs related to this request. The gravel required for the first year would be the responsibility of Mr. Kames and the amounts and placement would be as stipulated by the Municipality. The gravel required above the municipality's normal gravel allocation for the second year would also be the responsibility of Mr. Kames. From that time on the Municipality would gravel the road for the time that the trailer is lived in.

Delegation

Mrs. Rosemarie Palud, spokesperson for a delegation of eight people, presented Council with their objections to the condition and situation of certain properties in Aubigny. She informed Council that Aubigny is an urban area and should be kept in such a manner. There are some very messy yards, also yards that have wild animals and the body shop yard also could be kept better and also the number of vehicles parked in front of that yard. She stated that Mr. Lawrence Wiezbinski has chickens and geese on a property near their residence and she does not feel that such should be allowed in an urban area. Such situations decrease property values and will cause people to leave. Aubigny is building a new community hall and who will be around to use it if properties are not properly maintained and used and people leave the community. The Municipality needs to have by-laws to prevent keeping of farm animals in urban centres, and also for the general maintenance of peoples yards. Mr. Lawrence Wiezbinski, also present for the meeting, informed Council that he has approximately 5 acres of property and has 2 roosters, 14 chickens and 25 geese on the property. He stated that this like a country setting and sees no problem in having a few animals. There is someone else in Aubigny that also has a few chickens. There was general discussion on the situation and the initial delegation still wanted something to be done and questioned why livestock is allowed to be raised in an urban area like Aubigny. Council indicated that they would have to personally look at the various lots and situations prior to further discussions.

Conditional
Use Hearing
JB Pork
5/2000

At 2:00 p.m., Council held a Conditional Use hearing for a hog barn application by J.B. Pork for the NE 1/4 of Section 23-6-2 WPM.

Present were: Jeff Siemens, Blake Friesen, Doug Small of DGH Engineering, Carol Holloway, Bob Holloway, Ivan Holloway, Eric Christoph, Bill Tjaden, Isabel Tjaden, Franz Dewey, Francis Dewey, Robert Dewey, Art Dueck Lynne Rance, Keith Rance, Ken Penner.

Mr. Doug Small spoke representing P.B. Pork. He stated that the proposed barn would be a 6,400 feeder hog barn. This is like a family farm operation as the owners are Jeff Siemens and Blake Friesen. The other barn nearby has a plastic cover on the lagoon which greatly eliminates odours. The Dept. of Conservation licenses lagoons and the applications need to have an engineers stamp for the lagoon design. This area has a high clay content so there is no problem with contaminating ground water. The manure disposal would be done by direct injection which adds to the protection against possible runoff to surface water. He stated that there would be odour at the time of disposing of the manure because the cover must be pulled back and the injection process would cause odour for that period of time. The plastic cover eliminates much of the odour, however, there will still be some odour from the barn itself.

Mr. Bob Holloway then spoke in opposition to the proposed barn. He read a written presentation. There is already a barn approximately 1/2 mile away from this proposed site and he questioned the scale and size of the operation. These two barns together would likely produce 45,000 to 50,000 hogs per year. The sewage from such operations is similar to that of a large town. Municipal guidelines require written permission from persons with 1 mile of the proposed site. Flood factors may cause contamination as well. He questioned what land base is being used for the disposal of the manure. The Provincial guidelines for a barn this size requires and large land base for the manure disposal.

He presented a petition with 68 names from people in Sperling in opposition to this barn. The greatest concern and issue is smell from the barn sites. The existing barn causes considerable smell and this application would add another barn and greatly increase the smell inconvenience. He questioned the future compliance of conditions regarding any approval. A barn business will perform based on the bottom line of the operation. If the prices are low then the first costs to be eliminated are those that do not affect the hogs. He read a letter sent previously to Mr. Blake Friesen concerning their other barn and has not received a reply. This operation is not a family operation, the owners live many miles away from the proposed barn site. These barns lessen property values and discriminates against residential usage near any barn. These barn have few employees, provide no services, and have no overall benefit to the Municipality. They are also a negative effect in any community. The cover for the lagoon may lessen the odour aspect but it is a new concept and has no history of benefits. He requested that Council reject this proposed operation. Mr. Franz Dewey stated that he did not object to the barn proposal. There may be opportunities to improve aspects of the proposal, like having a cover on the lagoon, but he had no objections to the proposal.

Mr. Keith Rance questioned if there is a body enforcing these conditions set when a barn is approved. The response to his was that there was no such body. Mr. Doug Small stated that the Dept. of Environment will respond to pollution situations. Situations of odour problems can go the Farm Practices Protection Act.

Councillor Groening asked whether the first barn has met the criteria set by Council. The first barn on the NW 1/4 was very slow in providing and meeting the conditions of approval. Council was not pleased with the response and efforts of the operation of the first barn.

Mr. Doug Small stated that straw cover was not put on at all times, because they had such poor success with the product. They are now meeting and exceeding the conditions with the covers that are on the lagoon. Trees were planted in June, 1998 and some trees have died but have been replaced.

Councillor Neumann asked what amount of land base is needed for manure disposal.

Mr. Blake Friesen stated that they owned another 600 acres located 3 miles to the East and they have had many farmers in the area wanting the manure.

Mr. Doug Small indicated that the Province requires to know where the manure is to be spread.

Councillor Fraese asked Mr. Holloway if his barn was still being operated and Mr. Holloway responded that the barn had been empty for 10 years. His property is for sale and the barn is still in good shape.

Councillor Groening stated that he feels that Council has a responsibility to the people and well as the viability of the municipality in the future. What direction for a municipality to take is always an issue. The benefit of a hog barn to the municipality is sometimes minimal.

Mr. Small responded that there is a benefit locally in the hiring of contractors and materials for a \$1.4M barn and that there would be 2 people working.

Mr. Ivan Holloway questioned if the land was above the flood plain.

Mr. Blake Friesen stated that the land is high flood waters would have to be many feet higher to be near this property.

Mr. Bob Holloway indicated that for manure disposal (according to the Provincial Guidelines) would need approximately 880 acres for each barn.

Mr. Robert Dewey requested that the barn have roof ventilation where the stacks are pointing up.

Mr. Blake Friesen indicated that having roof ventilation has a minimal effect on people further away as the smell from the barn would be the same a certain distance from the barn.

Mrs. Carol Holloway objected to the barn and stated that the barn was being proposed and possibly built very fast and the impact of two large barns is unknown and should be studied further.

Councillor Groening noted that there is a large push by the Provincial Government to expand the hog industry. In many cases, he feels that such issues are inevitable.

Mr. Bob Holloway told council that further barns should be held up until a better control structure is in place.

Mr. Bill Tjaden stated that he is opposed to the application. It took 3 years to get the lagoon covered and why is council considering this new application when the previous one was so long in meeting the previous conditions.

The hearing was ended at this time.

Conditional
Use Hearing
Ptarmigan
6/2000

At approximately 3:00 p.m., Council held a public hearing for a conditional use application by Ptarmigan Investments for an extension to their hog barn on the SW of Section 9-4-1 WPM.

Present were: Garry Plohman and Ken Rempel of Elite Swine, Landmark and Gordon Wiebe.

Mr. Garry Plohman informed Council that the existing barn is a 600 sow farrow to weanling and the proposed operation is to be 1500 sow farrow to isowean. This would change their operation from 198 a.u. to 375 a.u.. The addition required to the barn is 126 feet by 142 feet and the manure storage would have to be doubled in size. For this operation, 354 acres are needed for manure injection. The lagoon would be made larger and would have a capacity to hold 400 day storage. The manure would be disposed of by injection. He noted that the operation would be doing a complete cleanout of rooms and this would help to reduce the barn odour. The dead pigs are held in a cooler.

Mr. Gordon Wiebe told Council that he is opposed to the barn application. He is trying to sell his property and it is very difficult to sell because of the number of barns in the area.

Reeve Martens then read a letter of objection from Ms. Irma Recksiedler. The hearing was then ended.

Conditional
Use Hearing
7/2000
J. Friesen

At approximately 4:00 p.m., Council held a public hearing for a conditional use application by Jake Friesen for the operation of a 3,600 hog operation on Lots 1, 2 & 3, Plan 17337.

Present were: Jake Friesen, Peter Friesen, Dennis Friesen, Barry Klassen, Eileen Klassen, Howard Friesen, George Bartel, Chester Bartel, Art Dueck, Lonnie Friesen, Art Friesen, William Friesen, Blake Friesen, Jeff Siemens. Mr. Jake Friesen told Council that he plans to convert three existing barns on the property into hog barns holding 1,200 feeder pigs in each barn. The barns will have straw in them and the straw manure will be cleaned regularly and stockpiled behind the barns. There would be a continuous flow hog operation and they would need approximately 1,100 round straw bales. The dead animals would be kept in a cool room.

Reeve Martens questions the cleanout operation and wanted further explanations on this.

Mr. Jake Friesen said that the pigs are penned into one area while the other area is cleaned and the cleanout operation would be done every week.

Councillor Robert asked what the difference in animals units would be for 15000 broilers or 12000 layer chickens in comparison to the hogs.

Councillor Groening wanted to know how big the pile of straw would be for this operation. If it is spread only twice per year then how big would the straw pile be at that time.

Mr. Jake Friesen stated that the existing chicken operation has a pile of 40 feet by 40 feet by 10 feet and the hog barn pile would be 40 feet by 80 feet by 10 feet.

Councillor Kornelsen asked if he had caveats for the manure disposal and would the manure be hauled along municipal roads.

Mr. Jake Friesen said that he will be using the property to the immediate east of the barns and also property of Kerry Eidse's that is across the road.

Councillor Groening enquired as to when the manure is spread, how is it spread and how long would it take to spread the manure.

Mr. Jake Friesen noted that this would be done by manure spreaders and the spreading would take approximately 1 week and will be incorporated. This would be done in the fall, after harvest, and in the spring, before seeding. He needs about 320 acres to spread the manure.

Mrs. Eileen Klassen asked how often the barn would be cleaned out, how it would be cleaned out and how the manure would be pushed into the pile. The smell would be on a weekly basis, when the manure is pushed out. The chicken operation is not as offensive as a hog barn odour would be. This is a heavily populated area and the barn should not be allowed.

Mr. Dennis Friesen expressed a concern of smell from the operation and the rats the manure may attract and he is opposed to the application.

Mr. Lonnie Friesen asked how long it would take for a crust to form on the manure pile.

Mr. Peter Friesen said that in the summer time, it should crust in one day and in the winter time, it would freeze.

Mr. Barry Klassen noted that with the hog barn there would be more traffic, the smell and it would be just a regular problem.

Mr. Howard Friesen questioned what would happen if they have to change their manure spread area.

Mr. Lonnie Friesen asked how the incorporation of the manure is done. If it is done with a cultivator, then the manure would not be totally incorporated.

Councillor Groening noted the concerns of how the operation will take place and more time is needed to address the questions raised and information should be provided to answer these questions.

Mr. Barry Klassen asked if the manure pile is frozen, how do they expect to spread it in the spring when the pile is frozen.

Mr. Dennis Friesen question the ventilation of the barns.

Mr. Jake Friesen answered that increased ventilation would have to be done and more fans installed.

If the application is approved the applicants do plan to purchase the barns. The chickens are to be out in August to October, 2000 and the hogs would be put in as the chickens are phased out.

Reeve Martens then read a letter of objection from Mr. Gil Cornelsen. The hearing was then ended.

Moved by Councillor Stan Siemens:

That the meeting be now adjourned at 5:00 p.m. and Council agreed to meet again on Thursday, June 15, 2000 at 9:00 a.m.

Reeve



Municipal Administrator.

