

THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF MORRIS

The Council of The Rural Municipality of Morris held a Special Meeting at 10:15 A.M., on Thursday, January 22, 1981, in the Council Chambers at the Town of Morris with Reeve Alvin Rempel presiding. Present were Councillors: Wm. F. Recksiedler, Mrs. Lenore Eidse, George St. Hilaire, Dan Thiessen, and W. Glenn Curdt., and Secretary-Treasurer, Alice Loving.

The meeting was called to deal with the List of Duties, for the Secretary-Treasurer, an appointment with Mr. Albert Driedger, M.L.A., and to discuss Water and Sewer Projects with Agri-Water, and Municipal Departments, as well as completing the previous Agenda.

The Reeve welcomed the ratepayers present, and requested Mrs. Eidse to proceed with the Employee Relations Committee's recommendations. She reviewed the list of the points drawn up by them, for the Secretary-Treasurer.

Mrs. Barbara Shewchuk, Reporter, Scratching River Post, in attendance.

- List of Duties for the Secretary-Treasurer.
- Councillor Recksiedler gave a report concerning the list of duties, objecting to Point 9, saying that talking to ratepayers is part of a Secretary-Treasurers responsibility, and added that Point 10, stating the manner of handling any breach of the foregoing nine duties was "too harsh". He was of the opinion that Council would be able to pick on one point only, and ask for dismissal.
- Councillor St. Hilaire was concerned that the Morris Municipality might be the first, in the Province, to have such a list of duties for its Secretary-Treasurer, and asked if Point 2 implied that she should not ask advice from the Department of Municipal Affairs. He added that many experienced Secretary-Treasurers consult the Department often.
- Councillor Eidse felt that the tenth point offered two chances, and was "fair as it could be", and that a person with so many years of experience should not have the need to obtain advice from the Municipal Department.
- The Secretary-Treasurer was asked for her opinions, and she gave a report regarding the following:
- December of 1980 had been a very busy month to be alone in the Office, with a collection of \$104,499.62 in Taxes, \$10,864.12 in Accounts Receivables, and \$6,816.20 in History Book payments.
 - Four Council Meetings were held in December, three in the day-time, one called for 6 P.M., lasting till 11:15 P.M.
 - If the presented list of duties had been abided by, much of the December work would have remained undone.
 - The Municipal Services Officers are employed by the Government to give assistance to Secretary-Treasurers, and Council, at no charge, and municipal employees are encouraged to use their expertise.
 - She had not received an adverse written report, from the Municipal Affairs, Department, regarding her work, and as they had never compiled a list of duties for Secretary-Treasurers, she questioned the Employee Relations Committee whether they felt more qualified than the Department, in their knowledge of how a Secretary-Treasurer should manage a Municipal Office.

Councillor Thiessen asked the Secretary-Treasurer for a counter-proposal regarding the List of Duties. She stated again that an agreement is for the benefit of both parties, and the list needed a lot of work before signing. For example Point 9. - "The Secretary-Treasurer shall at all times seek to promote a positive image of Council". She thought that Council should uphold her position as well, and stated that she considered the handling of her case, including the reading of notes taken at a private meeting was "very insensitive" of the Employee Relations Committee.

Councillor Eidse pressured Council to finalized the recommended 10 Points. Resolution # 83/8.

Councillor Curdt stated it would be a long time before he signed the document, if he was Secretary-Treasurer.

Councillor St. Hilaire remarked that the Committee was to make a recommendation to Council, but Council was not bound to adopt a given set of guidelines.

Councillor Eidse felt that they were going in circles, and the Reeve closed the debate, saying that Council was "getting nowhere", and, -"We are just wasting our time."

Delegations:

Albert Driedger- M.L.A. Mr. Albert Driedger, M.L.A., whose constituency includes the portion of the Morris Municipality east of the Red River. He stated that he had been meeting with Municipal Councils, in his constituency this month, to discuss local concerns. He advised Council to prepare another Resolution regarding the upgrading of P.R. #246, and to send carbon copies of resolutions to their M.L.A.'s.

The variance in the mill rate of the Red River School Division #17, between Morris and De Salaberry was discussed, as well as drainage. He stated that there was a lot of merit in Drainage Districts, and projects are cost-shared among Federal, Provincial, and Municipal Governments.

Assessments, property taxation and the rebate system were also discussed. Mr. Driedger believed that everyone should pay some taxes, and that the rebates which allow some property owners to be exempt were unfair.

Councillor Curdt was not present for the afternoon session, as he attended the meeting in Carman, regarding the establishment of further hospital facilities.

Water and Sewer Projects. Morris Hay, and Ken Douglas, from the Department of Municipal Affairs, Jerry Cousin, P. Eng., and Michael B. Tokarz, from the Agri-Water Branch, and Lorne Gemmell, P.F.R.A., Morden were in attendance regarding the water and sewer projects in Lowe Farm, Riverside, and Rosenort. Eleven Ratepayers were also in attendance.

Morris Hay stressed the importance of public meetings to obtain the feelings of the ratepayers regarding these projects.

The Secretary-Treasurer is to write to Agri-Water requesting them to prepare a submission to the Federal Government for the possible additional 50% rebate that could apply to: -

Lowe Farm: Project to consist of a Weir, Dug-Out, Pipe Line, concrete cistern, and Pumping Equipment.

Riverside: Project to consist of a Dug-Out, Cistern, Pumping Equipment and approximately five miles of Pipe.

Rosenort: Project to consist of a Dug-Out, Pipe Line, Concrete Cistern, and Pumping Equipment.

Sperling: Project to consist of a Dug-Out, Cistern, Piping, and Pumping Equipment.

Boundaries for the various projects must be set, and advice was received to obtain a Solicitor who is knowledgeable with water and sewer projects.

By Law No. 1148/81 authorizing the 1980 Grants read three times. Moved by George St. Hilaire, Seconded by Lenore Eidse: #23/81. Resolved that By Law No. 1148/81, being a By Law of the Rural Municipality of Morris, for the purpose of authorizing the payment of the 1980 Grants, be introduced and read a first and second time; And Further Be It Resolved that it is deemed expedient and in the best interests of the Corporation to read the By Law the third time, the requirements of Section 183 (2) be and is hereby suspended; And That By Law No. 1148/81, be read a third time, signed by the Reeve, and Secretary-Treasurer, sealed with the corporate seal, and finally passed. Carried.

By Law No. 1149/81 providing the remuneration of Council read three times. Moved by Dan Thiessen, Seconded by Wm. F. Recksiedler: #24/81. Resolved that By Law No. 1149/81, being a By Law of the Rural Municipality of Morris for the purpose of providing the remuneration of members of Council, to take effect January 1/81, be introduced and read a first and second time; And Further Be It Resolved that it is deemed expedient and in the best interests of the Corporation to read the By Law the third time, the requirements of Section 183 (2) be and is hereby suspended; And That By Law No. 1149/81 be read a third time, signed by the Reeve, and Secretary-Treasurer, sealed with the corporate seal, and finally passed. Carried.

Moved by Lenore J. Eidse, Seconded by Dan Thiessen:

By Law
No. 1150/81,
Authorizing
the
cancellation
of taxes
read
three
times.

#25/81. Resolved that By Law No. 1150/81, being a By Law of the Rural Municipality of Morris, for the purpose of cancelling certain Taxes and Other Debts owing the Municipality, be introduced and read a first and second time;
And Further Be It Resolved that it is deemed expedient and the best interests of the Corporation to read the By Law the third time, the requirements of Section 183 (2) be and is hereby suspended;
And That By Law No. 1150/81, be read a third time, signed by the Reeve and Secretary-Treasurer, sealed with the corporate seal, and finally passed.

Carried.

Moved by Lenore Eidse, Seconded by Dan Thiessen:

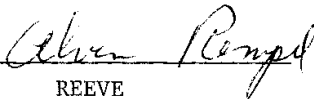
Invitation
to Dept.
Highways
and rate-
payers
ro the
raising
of road
south of
Rosenort.

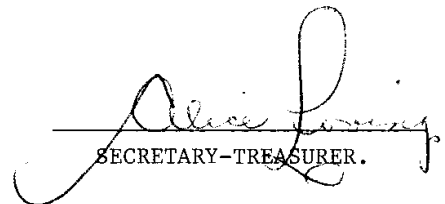
#26/81. Whereas ratepayers in Ward 2 and 3, are requesting that the road south of Rosenort, which will hereafter be called Riverside Drive Project, be raised to a level above 1979 flood conditions to provide an access route to the Provincial Road #205;
Therefore Be It Resolved that Council contact the parties concerned, -ratepayers and the Department of Highways to be present at the February Council Meeting, for discussion and negotiation of same.

Carried.

Adjourn-
ment.

The meeting adjourned. The next regular meeting to be held on THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1981, at 10 A.M.


REEVE


SECRETARY-TREASURER.