

Vision Statement

A future with growing, sustainable communities and a diverse economic base resulting in more people, more jobs and more housing.



Spring 2023 Newsletter

CAO Report

We are slowly coming out of the Winter Season, although nature seems to be slower than we would probably like! Before we know it, we will be cleaning up our yards and doing spring yard work. We are hoping that we will not have to deal with any flooding activities this year, as we are still recovering from the 2022 event. Our Engineers estimated in 2022 that our total damage from the 2022 event would be in excess of \$20 million. To date we have spent in excess of \$13 million. We have been diligent in submitting claims to Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) and have received just over \$10 million to date. Unfortunately, the Government of Canada does not re-imburse the Government of Manitoba for any interest charges, so in turn the DFA program does not re-imburse the local municipality for said interest costs. Therefore, we as a municipality are responsible for any interest charges that we incur on the difference. Based on the preceding numbers and current interest rates this is costing the Rural Municipality of Morris approximately \$25,000 per month. This is an expense that we will need to budget for in the creation of our 2023 Financial Plan.

Speaking about the 2023 Financial Plan, we have scheduled a Public Hearing on April 19th, 2023 at 10:30 AM in order to present the 2023 Financial Plan. Ratepayers are welcome to attend in-person, or if they contact the Administration Office, we will do our best to ensure that there is a virtual link to the hearing.

Also, speaking earlier about Spring, this is also a time of year when we receive numerous inquiries about building new homes, or renovating buildings. Over the past number of years, it became evident, that at the rate of new housing unit being constructed, that we would run out of serviced lots for people to construct new homes on. Therefore, over the past couple of years we attempted to encourage private developers to develop lots in both Lowe Farm and Rosenort so that new house construction would not be slowed. Council of the day decided to proceed forward with two different developments as follows:

- Lowe Farm – “Heppner Estates” – Contact Realtor Patrick Siemens at 204-712-5436
- Rosenort – “Prairie Hearth Development” – Contact Realtor Candice Bakx-Friesen at 204-392-6406

Both of these sub-divisions have been designed in order for all development costs to be covered by the sale of the lots. To date the uptake of the Prairie Hearth Development has been good. Phase 1 is approximately 1/3 sold.

In closing, from my desk I would like to thank you for your patience with our 2022 Flood Recovery efforts! We still have a way to go in order to reach completion.

Building Inspector / Fire Chief Report

Happy Spring everyone!

The seasons are turning again and the warmer weather will be here soon. I'm sure residents will be thinking of two things as the season changes. Those are barbequing and summer building projects! Before cooking your first meal on the barbeque, please remember to clean it thoroughly and ensure it is a safe distance from the wall of your house. Don't leave your lit barbeque unattended and keep kids and pets away from it.

Please remember that any building or structure larger than 120 square feet requires a building permit. This includes decks, gazebos and additions to existing houses. Questions regarding building permits may be directed to me at (204) 746-7300 or trevor@rmofmorris.ca. If you are planning on visiting me at the municipal office, kindly call first to make an appointment as this is shaping up to be a busy year and I expect to be out of the office regularly.

I hope you all have a safe, happy and prosperous spring!

Trevor Dackow
Building Inspector / Fire Chief

Public Works Report

With winter weather still holding on, the flood forecast is changing. Welcome to Spring! We started opening ditches in the urban areas and are hoping to get in the rural area right after.

The RM has purchased a (new to us) used trash compactor. It will be shared between the Rosenort landfill and Lowe Farm landfill. Over the winter months, we hired two new public works employees and a utility operator.

On the utility side of public works, we will be doing water meter repairs over the next several months to make sure everyone has the appropriate water meter readings.

The annual spring clean-up will be held on the following dates:

- Rosenort, Riverside & Aubigny – May 23rd & 24th
- Lowe Farm – May 25th
- Sperling – May 26th

Reminder that mattresses, box springs and old paint will not be picked up. The landfills will also have free dump days that week.

Paul Robert
Public Works Foreman

Recycling & Garbage Collection

■ Garbage

■ Recycling Zone 1

■ Recycling Zone 2

Apr-23

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/30	24	25	26	27	28	29

May-23

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Jun-23

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Council Contact Information

- **Reeve Scott Siemens** scott.siemens@rmofmorris.ca
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- **Rick Giesbrecht** rick.giesbrecht@rmofmorris.ca
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- **Larry Skoglund** larry.skoglund@rmofmorris.ca
- **Cory Friesen** cory.friesen@rmofmorris.ca
- **CAO Larry Driedger** cao@rmofmorris.ca

Council and CAO can be reached at 204-746-7300

Upcoming Council Meeting

- April 12th, 2023
- May 10th, 2023
- June 14th, 2023
- July 12th, 2023

Water Works Emergency Line:

204-746-7300

Landfill Hours and Price List

DAYS	Rosenort	Lowe Farm
	204-746-0417	204-746-4337
Monday	9am - 4:30pm	CLOSED
Tuesday	9am - 4:30pm	1pm - 5pm
Wednesday	9am - 4:30pm	CLOSED
Thursday	9am - 4:30pm	10am - 8pm
Friday	9am - 4:30pm	CLOSED
Saturday	9am - 4:30pm	9am - 3pm
Sundays & Holidays	CLOSED	CLOSED
FEES		
Item	Resident	Non-Resident x3
1-5 bags	\$ 16.00	\$ 48.00
1/2 ton truck	\$ 32.00	\$ 96.00
1 ton truck	\$ 80.00	\$ 240.00
Mattress	\$ 15.00	\$ 45.00
New rates effective January 1st, 2023		

Payment Options

- 1) **Online Banking** – You may process your payments online if your bank is set up for such.
- 2) **Dropbox** – Located beside our front office doors.
- 3) **In Office** – We accept cash, cheque and debit.
- 4) **Credit Card** – Check it out here <https://payment.optionpay.ca/rural-municipality-of-morris/index.php>

More information can be found here <https://rmofmorris.ca/government/payment-options/>