

RM OF SPRINGFIELD COUNCIL MEETING Tuesday, June 2, 2020 1:00 p.m.

WITHOUT PREJUDICE (E&OE) This is another long agenda of items but note the Committee of the Whole meeting scheduled next week has been cancelled due, according to the CAO Colleen Draper, "Although we have a number of projects on the go right now, we have nothing currently at the stage that is ready to be presented to Council for discussion. We decided based on the lack of agenda items at this time a meeting was not warranted." What I find interesting is that on the June 2nd. Meeting Activity Reports, on May 19th. Councillor Fuhl has listed "CanWhite briefing", Councillor Bredin has "White Sands briefing", Councillor Wilson has CanWhite Processing Plant Presentation, and Councillor Williams has Vivian Sands Briefing to Council but Councillor Ralke, in whose ward the CanWhite Sands Processing Plant is to be built, does not report attending. We don't know if Mayor Fell was in attendance as she has not reported her activities for the month. Why would Council have needed to be briefed before CanWhite's Zoom presentation to the public on May 26th.?

AGENDA - Mayor Fell had one addition IN CAMERA but did not mention general nature of the subject.

MINUTES - Councillor Wilson - Yes uh I am wondering if you could take a look at the uh there's the time of the interim motion and the cycles of the adjournment motion that needs to be taken a look at it. Colleen Draper, CAO - We can amend that. **CARRIED 6-0** **NOTE: If the Minutes are going to be amended to reflect the Time of Adjournment, the resolution should be adjusted to read "approval....as amended". Simply saying they are going to amend it and not rereading the resolution with the change before the vote is not sufficient. However amending minutes, agendas, etc. outside the regular time frames without public notification and "working group meetings" prior to scheduled meetings seems to be a regular occurrence with this Council and Administration. The public does not have the benefit of hearing much of the discussion that informs Council's actions. This is not in keeping with TRANSPARENCY and ACCOUNTABILITY promised during campaigns and two Guiding Principles in the Strategic Plan implemented by the previous Council which cost ratepayers a substantial sum of money. There are stipulations in the Manitoba Municipal Act clearly outlining what can be discussed In Camera or closed meetings. In Camera sessions should be the exception, not the rule, but this Council seems to have a disproportionate amount of them. From a strategic point of view, a Council that decides to allow their constituency to freely speak their minds at public meetings is one that garners more respect and "buy-in" from their electorate than one that conducts their business in secrecy and has a policy of non inclusiveness. The social distancing rules due to COVID 19 are now being relaxed - you can now get your teeth cleaned, get a new tattoo, have your nails done and thankfully your hair cut professionally and while our Administration, Planning and Public Works offices are now open to the public, Council meetings are still effectively closed except in the case of Planning Meeting where one is required to pre-register for a specific item on the agenda.**

REPORTS OF ELECTED OFFICIALS - As of 11:00 p.m. Sunday June 7, 2020 Mayor Fell's report is not included but the motion to accept them was carried. **NOTE: The Mayor (or Reeve as they used to be called in rural municipalities) has even more of a duty to report her activities to her constituents as she has been elected by residents of the entire municipality, not just one ward. Being the head of Council does not preclude having to be accountable to the electorate. The subject of the absence of the Mayor's Activity Reports was brought up some time ago in a Council meeting by a resident and the Mayor responded that she would be presenting them at the next meeting to bring her reports up to date. Adding them later does not include them in the first Council meeting minutes of the month, the place where one would typically look for Elected Official reports, which makes it difficult for those researching actions of Council. Further the Mayor did briefly comply but has not kept up with her reports since then. It appears there are rules for some and not for others in this current political climate. As an example, recently a resident wishing to locate adjacent to a potential aggregate extraction zone had a condition imposed on the approval that "the Municipality will not be responsible for the replacement of any private water supply (i.e. Private Water Wells) as a result of any future or existing aggregate operations". No such condition seems to have been attached to the sale of 12.12 acres to Pineridge Hollow which is immediately adjacent to an active aggregate extraction operation. In a subdivision application at the May 28, 2020 Planning meeting, one of the conditions was "that 10% of the property development is provided to the RM of Springfield in land, or cash, or a combination thereof, to satisfy municipal needs for recreational opportunities, open space and buffer zones". In the same Planning Meeting, the 12.12 acres agreed upon to be sold to Pineridge Hollow was subdivided from the larger piece, and no such condition was attached to it although Ms. Regehr had previously agreed she would be the one responsible for all costs associated with subdivision etc.**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS - Councillor Bredin commented how nice it was to meet the new Police Chief in the last few days. Councillor Wilson - While I highly value the work of all staff, I would particularly like to compliment the SPS on the number of by-law infractions actioned this month. Just like to say that their contribution to maintaining the high quality of life in Springfield is appreciated. Councillor Williams - I was particularly impressed with Mark Klein's report on Water & Waste. Very informative. But I did have a question and I'm not sure if the CAO can answer this or not. It was (strange noises) talking about (pause) this study that uh no I'm sorry I've lost it. Mayor Fell - I'll come back to you, Councillor Williams. Councillor Williams - I'll try to be organized. Councillor Ralke - I just wanted to say I was really happy to see Water and Waste utilities department accomplishing so much with having changed so I just wanted to give credit where credit's due. Mayor Fell - Councillor Williams, do you have your question? Councillor Williams - Yes, it was on the second page, Friesen Drillers Supplementary Groundwater study conditional for the environmental license. Is that the well interference? plan? Colleen Draper - Ummmmm. I can't confirm. I believe it is but I don't want to confirm without speaking to him. I know we have Friesen Drillers working on a number of studies right now um and I think that's to do with the monitoring well that we've suggested putting in to do with that project. Councillor Williams - Ok um sounds like there were a couple of other comments that I had and maybe I'll put them in an email and send them to you and Mark. Councillor Fuhl - Ya I'd just like to speak to the Facilities just with to the ongoing cleaning and all that happening. You know, I notice that there keeping up with

everything so that's good to see. **CARRIED 6-0** **NOTE: As it was an afternoon meeting, I would imagine some of the employees were in attendance which would account for the commentary of Council and the length of this item. Normally there are few if any comments.**

By-Law 20-11 Taxation By-law (2nd Reading) - Councillor Wilson - Yes, Madame Mayor um now that Council has passed First Reading of the 2020 Financial Plan um By-law, Taxation By-law, it is time to take a closer look at what this plan actually entails. Uh first is the allocation of a significant amount of money in the RM's Accumulated Surplus discovered by staff working to clarify financial practices dating back over 10 years. As I understand it an accumulation of annual errors likely related to misinterpretation of the new Provincial accounting requirements introduced back then means that the RM has in its account about \$3 million dollars that cannot be spent on services for residents. Among those present health and safety needs is a new fire hall. Other ongoing needs for services are expanded dust control, transport?? repairs, flood and drought protection. Instead most of this newly recovered money is being locked up in the Recreation Reserve for a new Rec Centre. The \$2 million dollar fire hall is to be built on borrowed money and the 5 year spending plan for road repair renewal has been cut. I would ask Council to vote No to the budget as proposed to consider paying cash for the new fire hall saving hundreds of thousands of dollars of interest and to restore funding for road renewal or give residents some additional tax relief in this difficult year or identify some combination of road repair and additional tax relief for the balance of the accumulated surplus funds. As well as the issues of use of the Accumulated Surplus money and funding for the new fire hall, I am very concerned about the process being followed respecting the new Rec Centre proposed site beside the RM office. Originally tagged at \$18 million dollars plus with well over a million in additional costs acknowledged for completion of sports fields, parking and landscaping, this WANT not NEED project has not been proceeding as per the agreed upon approach identified in the RMs \$60,000. Recreation Master Plan. While this Plan has been followed to increase tax dollars available to existing facilities for maintenance and upgrading and has been used to justify funds for new facilities, both the funding and the community engagement aspects of the Plan's recommendations for such a centre have not. As these recommendations were presented as a result of cross RM consultations and were firmly based on both the professional's advice and the specific community needs and assessments, one does wonder why not. At any rate, now we as Council and community are faced with a proposal that to be fully realized could triple the existing RM debt resulting in higher taxes or less services to support a debt servicing load of \$1.5 million dollars per year, all without a resolution from the Recreation Commission, the reinstating of which was a primary Recreation Plan recommendation to ensure that this new type of recreation facility was a good fit with all other existing facilities, but it also has no primary community organization or group that either supports it or is fund raising for this centre and most concernedly has a deeply flawed business plan that does not appear to incorporate debt requirement or servicing, major equipment requirements, or realistic revenue projections. For example, they ..they propose that over, well over a thousand walkers will spend \$25. per year to come from all over the RM to walk in the new centre when the present RM stats show 50 plus walkers walk locally at present for free. It has no major client commitments and struggles with realistic use projections. For example, the indoor soccer shows 12 month revenue even every month when existing Winnipeg facilities have trouble filling the 4 months of the summer hours, certainly not with soccer. One actually closes and there is an apparent difficulty in attracting use from one part of Winnipeg to the other let alone to outside the city in winter driving conditions. In short, the cart is well and truly before the horse. I urge Council to hit the Pause Button on this, not to commit tax dollars collected in the past for RM Needs other than Rec, not make decisions before the financials are well and truly established for such a major initiative and while fund raising to at least a 75% level proceeds, work with residents and potential user groups and other entities to come up with meaningful use and business plans that will see this Centre be a self sustaining and central part of the RM that does not use tax dollars to service recreation debt. If there would ever be a time when the presently proposed course of action on this Centre would be considered even marginally appropriate, such an approach in times of highly .. in times of high potential for increased federal and provincial taxes, job losses and the need for fiscal prudence really appears foolhardy at best. I urge Council to vote NO on second reading, then take this component of spending out of the financial future until better supported by the community and by the financials and to not commit the Accumulated Surplus funds collected for other purposes to this Recreation Initiative. Thank you. **Mayor Fell** - Thank you. Is there any other comments from Council? **Councillor Fuhl** - Yes, I'd like to speak to it also and as I've stated in the past, this is unprecedented times. There's going to be more layoffs and more job losses and we need to take reserve to this..we have to become fiscally responsible to the times and now is the time to help us fix this 2020 Financial Plan so that we become fiscally responsible. So I support Councillor Wilson in this. **Mayor Fell** - Is there any other comments from Council? **Councillor Ralke** - Um so I am confused at this Springfield Rec Centre and the amount of the money that's being allotted to it, it's just a borrowing by-law, is it not? Do I understand that all these mills and all these other rates based upon these different drainage projects Dugald Anola Springfield initiatives forgoing stuff, all of that, when we're not really buying or purchasing the Rec Centre right now we're waiting for funding, we're waiting for grants, we're waiting for fund raising I don't understand how we would want to hold up the entire tax assessment and the by-law for the entire RM of Springfield because of one item that is in the budget that is only going to be used at a time in which it necessitates or it is allowed to be used with all the additional funding. So I'll respect that COVID is causing problems, I'll respect that some individuals will be reducing their incomes or may lose their jobs however I do not understand how we would want to stop the rest of the the mill rate and the entire taxation by-law for a project that may or may not be completed. **Mayor Fell** - Thank you. Is there any other comments from Council? **Councillor Wilson** - Ah yes just to I assume that that question is aimed at my statement. **Councillor Ralke** - Not at all. **Councillor Wilson** - But the answer to your question is that while the borrowing by-law is for the Rec Centre is a separate issue that um is not included in the uh Taxation By-law, in fact we are by approving this present by-law earmarking well over \$3 million dollars including a significant amount of the uh Accumulated Surplus funds I spoke of to a Rec Centre and um I believe that we need to take a second look at this as Council in light of the statement that I've previously made. **Mayor Fell** - Thank you. Is there any other comments from Council. I'm going to make a couple of statements just to clarify so the public who end up listening to this are not going to be provided with false information. So this Rec Centre being

on the budget is contingent on a lot of things, getting the grant is number one. If we don't get grants this year, even if we did get grants this year, we then have to talk about how big it would be based on the grant, if we would still built it based on the grant, we would have to go out for a debenture, we'd have to go back out to the public so there's a lot of things would still have to happen and this being on the budget just has allowed for conversations to happen. If by some chance the grant money being taken back, number one, number two um when we talk about fiscal responsibility there..when we had budget talks of Council, I was a very big advocate about holding the line for budget and now this Councillor is talking that I need to be fiscally responsible. When we had these budget talks, he wanted to raise the mill rate so I actually find that an interesting position to take when we're now talking about the by-law reading. Um this Council is going to try to keep the mill ..we're lowering it by 3.3%, we've tried to be as fiscally responsible as we can be and we do take into account the times that we're under all unprecedented times with the COVID. We do take...we also um started if people have the interest on taxes this year is being waived...**Colleen Draper** - Um until February of 2021..we're not applying penalties. **Mayor Fell** - We're not applying penalties for 2020 until 2021 or after February 2021 because we take into account the difficult situation a lot of residents are in. So it's not without ...we've taken this into consideration when we've gone through our budget deliberations this whole year especially since COVID came around so I just wanted to clarify when it comes to the Rec Centre that there's a lot of steps that still have to happen, it's just being reflected on the budget so we're allowed to have those conversations if for some reason there is funding that does come through. Is there any other comments from Council? **NOTE - At this juncture I have a few comments I would like to make as we no longer have benefit of a QUESTION PERIOD or ability to comment on items at a Committee of the Whole meeting. The Mayor is correct that at least at the evening Financial Plan Hearing that I attended at the Oakbank Fire Hall, Councillor Wilson did not comment on the concerns he is now expressing in his dissertation. However had he done so, it would not have been a matter of public record in all likelihood due to the echo on the audio file which makes it practically incomprehensible and to the fact that the recording was stopped after I spoke so the commentary of Darryl Speer, Dorain Wachniak, Kevin Kalinski and Edwin Giesbrecht are not recorded. Also when speaking of fiscal responsibility, the Mayor suggests she advocated for "holding the line" and being fiscally responsible but when in Council meetings, she advocates for granting staff whatever they request and state they must have without questioning the expenditures, often sole sourced, she did not mention that total 22% increase granted to Council in a 2 year period, she did not mention the fact that neither when purchasing the former Oakbank Credit Union building, it was allowed to proceed without an independent appraisal of its value, nor when selling the 12.12 acres of land to Pineridge Hollow no assessment of the actual value was conducted by a professional evaluator and no proper consideration was given to the value of the aggregate contained on that land. Further establishing PRIORITIES is a factor in fiscal responsibility and in my opinion, expansion of the municipal lagoon which has been tabled for the last at least 10 years and road reshaping would be priorities ahead of a Recreation Centre that Mayor Fell has been on camera promoting. It is not prudent to propose borrowing for a Fire Hall, a necessity, while exhausting reserves and also borrowing for a Recreation Centre which while perhaps desirable, no group has materialized to support by raising community funding prior to the implementation of the project. One can find recreation everywhere, not just in a fancy building or a Splash Pad. Baseball does not require a building, walking can be done in any building without the need for a track, kids can play in water with a garden hose and a wading pool, and if you enjoy what you are doing, productive pastimes like gardening can also be deemed as recreation and exercise. However having enough capacity to dispose of human waste at reasonable rates and properly constructed and maintained roads to traverse during the course of one's life are vital to the health, safety, and quality of everyone's life. To me, the most important factor in connection to the proposed Recreation Centre is that there has been no effort expended on the part of those in favour of its construction to raise funds, to hold community events to accumulate funding for the project, NO COMMUNITY BUY IN! Further to ignore the Recreation Master Plan is to say that the \$60,000. spent seeking professional advice and community opinion is to say that money was completely wasted. Why hire a consultant if your intent is to completely ignore recommendations in their final report?** **Councillor Wilson** - Yes, thank you, Madame Mayor, just to further clarify I was never in favour of uh raising the mill rate particularly considering the uh the increase in assessment that we had this year. I support the uh the existing decrease and I believe my statement was clear that I wanted to increase the decrease based on or take a look at it based on the uh amount of the Accumulated Surplus that was collected. People pay their taxes in good faith over the years. And uh my main concern is um that we are allocating funds to a project that is a weak...it does not fly in a weak financial wise and does not follow the um the Rec Plan um recommendations as far as uh process and uh is a significant amount of money that uh basically when we say uh six months ago that or 4 months ago it was going to be \$18 million and now we say oh now we're going to need to borrow or ...right now we're only going to do part of it without changing the uh financial plan, the business plan for it, um it just ..it does not, it is not transparent and does not make sense and uh financially and I do not believe we should be moving forward at uh this point with it for those reasons. **NOTE: While Councillor Wilson states he was never in favour of raising the mill rate, he has expressed to me more than once, and is seemingly supported in this by Mayor Fell, and Councillor Fuhl who were on the previous Council, that properties should be assessed on an equal basis regardless of the location of the property. In other words, if one lives in close vicinity to the City of Winnipeg or Birds Hill Park, the property assessment should be equal to that of properties that are another 10 or more miles removed from these desirable sites. For comparisons sake, that is to say that if you have an 1800 square foot home in Tuxedo or River Heights, your property should be assessed the same as an 1800 sq. ft. home on Jarvis Avenue or Salter Street. Unfortunately as the Minister to whom they made the appeal more than once stated, thus far property assessment is the fairest way of determining taxes. It is a known fact that homes located in rural areas, particularly those far removed from Manitoba's major city, Winnipeg, are valued less than those either in Winnipeg or closer to Winnipeg. The exact same home in Pinawa would cost much less than a home in East St. Paul or Winnipeg. Location has a great deal to do with valuation of properties.** **Mayor Fell** - Any other comments from Council? **Colleen Draper** - I just have one amendment to note on the By-law - No. 16 I indicate the taxes are due and payable on the 31st day of October 2020, they are due on the last working day of October which falls on the 30th this year so we will be amending that to the 30th

day of October. **Mayor Fell** - Alright thank you for the clarification. All those in favour? Opposed? **CARRIED 4-2** The Mayor then proceeded to **THIRD AND FINAL READING**. **Councillor Wilson** - Yes, thank you, Madame Mayor. I believe that this uh by-law should be defeated and redone by Council to be more fiscally responsible. **CARRIED 4-2**

By-law 19-18 Municipal By-Law Enforcement By-Law (Second Reading) - *Be it resolved that Second Reading be given to By-law 19-18 as amended being a by-law of the RM of Springfield to provide for an Administrative Penalty Scheme for by-laws to be enforced within the By-law Enforcement Act of Manitoba.* **CARRIED 6-0 (Third Reading) - CARRIED 6-0** **NOTE: In By-law 18-03 Animal Control By-Law which this Council passed, the fine for Noise such as barking, howling etc. is \$25. and the Maximum is \$75. The reason for that is the Committee that worked on the by-law did not want it to be punitive and thus not in the best interests of both animals and people according to my recollection. This Municipal By-law Enforcement By-law establishes a first offense for "animal" (as the type is not defined) noise that is likely to annoy, inconvenience, or disturb persons, cause the loss of enjoyment, or interfere with the normal conduct of business is a fine of \$100., the second \$500., and third and each subsequent offense is \$1,000. THAT IS PRETTY PUNITIVE IN A RURAL MUNICIPALITY WHERE DOGS (WHICH I PRESUME IS THE MAIN FOCUS OF THIS SECTION), CATS, AND FARM ANIMALS OCCUR ON MOST PROPERTIES, OFTEN ACREAGES AND FARMS, WHERE WILDLIFE SUCH AS COYOTES ARE OFTEN HEARD "SINGING" AT NIGHT TO WHICH SOME DOGS RESPOND, AND IN MY OPINION WOULD ACT AS A DETERRENT TO MANY TO EVEN HAVE A DOG AND ALSO SERVE AS AN ENCOURAGEMENT TO DISPOSE OF ANY ANIMAL THAT WOULD INCUR SUCH LARGE PENALTIES. AS ONE LOCAL VETERINARIAN ONCE COMMENTED IN AN ARTICLE IN THE CLIPPER, BARKING IS A WAY OF DOGS COMMUNICATING AND THERE ARE ONLY TWO KINDS THAT DO NOT BARK. I AM SURPRISED MAYOR FELL AND COUNCILLOR WILSON THAT BOTH SAT ON THE COMMITTEE THAT PRODUCED THE ANIMAL CONTROL BY-LAW WOULD NOT HAVE COMMENTED ON THE MAGNITUDE OF THIS PARTICULAR FINE. FURTHER I SEE NO REFERENCE TO NOISE CAUSED BY HUMANS. AS AN EXAMPLE, AT 1:30 a.m. on Sunday morning, May 31st., I returned home from an event and heard loud music and party noises coming from south of my property. I did not be a bad neighbour and report the infraction to Police as it does not happen all the time and once I was inside, I could no longer hear the noise as my house is insulated. Why would this not incur a fine when an animal making a persistent noise would? JUST A QUESTION FOR YOU TO PONDER. Further there is no time frame for an animal making a noise that is likely to annoy, etc. It could be 1 a.m. or 4 p.m. when the kids are returning from school and the dog is out in the yard acknowledging their presence.**

NEW BUSINESS

Stormwater Retention Pond Review - *Be it resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield accept a proposal from Scatliffe and Miller and Murray in the amount of \$21,500. plus applicable taxes to provide advisory services to assist the RM of Springfield with existing stormwater retention basins.* **Councillor Williams** - I'm a bit concerned about this contract because we don't have any set deliberables. It's an at cost kind of project and it concerns me that we don't have, I don't think we have any kind of um input into the statements that are met or ...it's a consultative thing with the public and then providing recommendations. **Mayor Fell** - And then Council adopts ...we have to choose which one we want to implement and doing the phased in implementation. **Councillor Williams** - Ya my point is here that if we give a price are they going to use up that funding or are they going to go so far as they may and need to so it just concerns me that it's open ended. **Colleen Draper, CAO** - Well the work plan proposed that the amount of money they requested was to complete those steps um following this resolution if it's passed we will be meeting with them to come up with the fine lines associated with the work plan um and just to assure the scope of work we're wanting done. **Councillor Williams** - Ok so how detailed is that work plan to identify the number of people that they're going to be interviewing? **Colleen Draper, CAO** - Uh well we'll be providing them with the contact information for just the property owners that actually back on to the ponds um and they will be the only stakeholders involved so uh they're aware of the amount. **Councillor Williams** - So we will approve um the next stage of the details of the work that they're going to undertake? **Colleen Draper, CAO** - There's not a lot of additional costs because a lot of it will be done electronically with COVID so we'll be you know phoning and that type of thing and contacting them that way. **Councillor Williams** - Ok. **Mayor Fell** - Does that alleviate any concerns that you have? **Councillor Williams** - If we're having another discussion with them or meetings for another discussion. **Mayor Fell** - Ok. Is there any other comments or questions from Council? All those in favour. **CARRIED 6-0** **NOTE: Last year Council contracted Native Plant Solutions to recommend an alternative for dealing with the problems that plague retention ponds. It would be interesting to know why their proposal was never implemented.**

Infectious Disease Response Policy - *Be it resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield adopt the Infectious Disease Response Policy as presented.* **CARRIED 6-0**

Expense Reimbursement Policy - *Be it resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield adopt the Expense Reimbursement Policy as amended.* **Mayor Fell** - Thank you. I just want to bring up something. Is there any further discussion from Council. **Councillor Wilson** - Thank you, Madame Mayor, I'm in favour of the uh for the most part of this policy uh however I am not in favour of spouses attending events being paid for by the taxpayer nor am I in favour of tips on meals being paid by the taxpayer and I would ask Council to uh take this policy back and have those changes made. **Mayor Fell** - Any other comments from Council? **Councillor Williams** - Can I ask Joy if uh gratuities are included with other municipal organizations in their expenses. **Joy Janz** - I believe they are although I'm not sure what are other practices. **Colleen Draper** - I think some of the discussion we had was that um some restaurants tack it on your bill automatically so there's no way to waive that fee as well in some cases. **Mayor Fell** - Ok I would like to read out this comment that we had um via e-mail so **Page 2 - General Reimbursement of Expenses #6) When a member of Council attends a banquet in their official capacity representing the RM of Springfield, the cost for the members and**

the member's partner (apostrophe missing on policy) at the banquet will be eligible for reimbursement by the RM of Springfield. I do not approve of ratepayers being responsible for costs incurred by the member's partner as they are not at the banquet representing the RM of Springfield in an official capacity. #7) If an employee or member of Council confirms attendance at an event and the RM of Springfield purchases a ticket, the employee or member of Council must reimburse the RM of Springfield for the costs of the event for them and their partner if either do not attend the event, except in exceptional circumstances as approved by the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO). This is far too broad and open. This could include a golf tournament or fund raiser for a political party or other organization. Further again I disapprove of ratepayers having to pay for expenses incurred for the partner of the employee or member of Council. In my opinion it should be specified here what type of event is eligible and what type is not. Acknowledgement and Agreement - I, (Print Employee name), Should read Employee/Council member Name acknowledge that I have read and understand the Expense Reimbursement Policy of RM of Springfield. Further, I agree to adhere to this policy and will ensure that employees working under my direction adhere to this policy. I understand that if I violate the rules/procedures outlined in this policy, I may face disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment Should include /forfeiture of position on Council. **IN THE INTERESTS OF FAIRNESS AND ACCOUNTABILITY, TWO OF YOUR PILLARS IN THE STRATEGIC PLAN, THE CONSEQUENCES SHOULD BE APPLICABLE TO ALL.** Heather Erickson. Mayor Fell - Is there any other comments from Council? Would Council like to remove this clause or change it or just put it to the vote? All those in favour? Opposed. **CARRIED 5-1 NOTE: What happened to "fiscal responsibility" mentioned in the discussion about the Taxation By-law? Do you think it is appropriate for the taxpayers to have to pay if the members of Council choose to take their spouses to banquet and events? Do you think it is appropriate for the taxpayers to have to pay "golfing and banquet fees" if a member of Council chooses to attend a Golf Tournament Fundraiser. I know Councillor Fuhl is in the habit of attending those and in times past the former CAO insisted that the expense should be borne by the Councillor and we have paid ourselves. I myself have attended the banquet portion of more than one and paid for my own dinner as it was a fundraiser and I felt that was only the right thing to do. It is a way of networking with other municipal officials and members of other Councils on a social level and fostering business relationships but not really an official event.**

Springfield Library Flooring Project - Be it resolved that Council approve a payment in the amount of \$27,179.33 plus applicable taxes to JC Carpet and Flooring Installations to complete Phase 2 of the flooring project at the Springfield Public Library and be it further resolved that the remaining funds up to the Capital Budget total of \$30,000. for this project be approved for associated costs. **CARRIED 6-0**

Denis Desautels - Phone Delegation - History of the issue of the Hydro costs for golf course and what it would be if they installed Natural Gas which would save them \$32,000 annually. I gather at present there is no gas lines available to the Golf Course and it would be cost prohibitive for them to have a line brought in. Therefore he has been in discussion with Manitoba Hydro about how cost effective it would be for the RM to work with Hydro and encourage natural gas expansion into the area around the golf course. Manitoba Hydro recognizes there is a need for gas service in that area. He is just requesting that Council work with Hydro to investigate the possibility of bringing natural gas into the Pineridge area. Initial cost is \$400,000. with a combination of 2 and 4 inch pipe and Denis wants the 4" right up to the golf course. Approval means he (Denis) has to demonstrate a 4 year payback on such an initiative. They are prepared to invest \$100,000 into the project on a 3 year payback basis. Gas line ends at GT Trucking on 207. Apparently the Golf Course currently uses propane and conversion to natural gas would have a large cost. Mayor Fell - Said Council would discuss it and get back to him with a letter of support. **NOTE: I do hope such an initiative would be assessed on a User Pay basis and not require funding of General Tax dollars for the project.**

Utility Rate Review - Be it resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield accept a proposal from Way to Go Consulting in the amount of \$12,500. for a utility rate study in compliance with Public Utilities Board Order 35/17. Mayor Fell - Thank you. I have part of an e-mail comment to read out. While I'm bringing that out, is there any other comments from Council? One second. This is from Heather Erickson. **Report No. Admin 2020-5 Utility Rate Review - I am certain the PUB gave RMs more than a month to review their policy in this regard. Now the deadline is being used as justification for not sending this for RFP and arbitrarily assigning the task to one particular company. Our Water and Waste Engineer resigned in January and the Manager of Finance should have immediately asked Council to approve sending the job out for RFP, anticipating the need in the absence of the appropriate staff member for the job. Council meetings have continued during the COVID 19 pandemic. These are my opinions and I wish them read aloud at the Council Meeting. Thank you in advance.** Councillor Williams - I believe we had similar concerns in determining of consulting and ya the two proposals?? we got were apples and oranges. Mayor Fell - Thank you. Is there any other comments from Council? Councillor Fuhl - Ya I would agree that we've done our work and this is technical. **CARRIED 6-0**

Springfield Emergency Plan - Change made to make Council the ultimate authority which they can delegate. For clarity this is Version 2020.1 which has an Emergency Response Control group as per Manitoba EMOs requirements which they feel should be department heads. Originally Council wanted their members on it. The group will report back to Council from time to time on implementation of the plan. According to the Act, a Program will then be produced in accordance with the plan. He will start that process as early as tomorrow when he meets with the CAO and Department Heads and then there will be training subsequently and more planning. Will return to Council in October to discuss Work Plan. **CARRIED 6-0 NOTE: On what are they voting as there is no resolution?**

COUNCIL THEN WENT IN CAMERA, CAME OUT OF IN CAMERA AND ADJOURNED.