

RM of Springfield Council Meeting
May 3, 2022

WITHOUT PREJUDICE (E&OE)

LENGTH OF MEETING 26 Minutes and 1 Second

Prior to the meeting starting, there was discussion regarding Councillor Rakke's house flooding but they were able to pump it out.

NOTE: Compared to some recent meetings, this was a very long agenda and yet the meeting was relatively short. While with the exception of the April 5th. Council meeting, Councillor Williams was absent all of April, he is finally present at this meeting. His attendance record has been to say the least intermittent. FURTHER TO BE NOTED, the Minutes of Council meetings are no longer on the RM of Springfield Web Site. Hopefully this situation will soon be rectified. Minutes are public knowledge and should be available to ratepayers at all times.

AGENDA- Added one item: Disaster Financial Assistance

QUESTION PERIOD - Garry Brown - I see you have this Special Projectsin the Minutes about the Planning for the Dugald Expansion. I know it's not really on the Agenda but you've got Special Projects here. Does that fall under there? **Mayor Fell** - Um no. Um if you have a question about funding, I can get the Water and Works Director to get back to you regarding funding. I don't have that information with me. **Garry Brown** - Ok no I just, it was sort of a general, I've been looking on the Internet and I haven't found anything if there's ...there's supposed to be fund raising for this. Haven't seen nobody's name or anything so just wondered. **Howard Bredin** - I think what Mr..... **Mayor Fell** (**interrupting**) - So for clarification so I can direct you to the right person. When you say "Water Projects", are you talking about Springfield Heritage Housing? Lesley Thomson or Bev Zarazun are the two people you should be contacting. Bev Zarazun or Lesley Thomson. I believe you know Lesley Thomson.

REPORTS

6.1 Elected Officials and -6.2 Department Reports - Mayor Fell - So I will run through um the activities for Council for the month of May. So on some of these um Boards or Committees it's not all members of Council but there is at least one member of Council attending so there was um a Weed District Meeting. They also, Council was also, performed interviews and they hired a Supervisor so thank you for that. Uh there's a Community Futures Meeting, um an NRW..D Meeting, an IERHA Update, there's a Chamber of Commerce dinner with Council. **NOTE: The dinner at Pine Ridge Hollow was hosted by the Chamber of Commerce. Also to be noted is that on the Chamber's Calendar of Events for May is a session entitled "Information Session - Thinking of Running for Council". There does not appear to be an appropriate "arms length" relationship between the current Council and the Springfield Chamber of Commerce. It also appears that the Chamber of Commerce will be running the Candidates Forums in October. In my opinion, too much influence is being brought to bear on Springfield's elected officials by this lobby group.** We had a multiple Capital Region meetings, we had a Planning Meeting, Council meetings, Committee of the Whole meetings, there was also um an ARM meeting which was in East St. Paul I believe, West St. Paul and then we had our AMM Spring Convention and there was a number of interesting um seminars we attended, Municipal Board's update for signed legislation, information on the Conflict of Interest, there was a session uh for municipal officials on how to deal with public harassment, um I was in the Regional Updates for Mayors and Reeves, so lots of great information at that Conference and I got, I thought I forgot, also the Good Roads Banquet and we had, we were able to have the winners from previous years during the pandemic were there as well or they were recognized on the plaque and we had a current winner there uh Gloria Solar and her husband attended which was lovely and they won for Best Grounds but then they actually won the Provincial Award which was very unexpected. It was really nice to see so it was a great night as well. Um that covers all the um other than e-mails and phone calls from constituents. The weather's been a little difficult um for the last ??? and we've been dealing with calls with that and trying to assist in any way that we can. Can I have a mover and seconder please for the Department Reports? *Be it resolved that April Department Operating reports be accepted as information.* **CARRIED 5-0 NOTE: This is unacceptable. Constituents have a right to know what activities their representative participated in or conversely did not participate in. As it is, and probably inadvertently, the actual Reports of each Councillor were included on the agenda this time and one could read their individual activities.** **Councillor Rakke** - I want to thank every Department for working so hard this last 2, 3 weeks and just pull out some information under the Asset Management - Special Projects Report. There were 180 requests for Public Works and of those 180 requests due to Spring run-off, 142 are closed. That speaks volumes just for what our staff and employees **NOTE: Is there a difference between "staff" and "employees"?** and administration for our RM and how much work they are putting out, the extra hours, the sacrifices that occasionally they have to their community. Uh all departments for that month had 245 service requests. This is unheard of. It was quite a very, very, very busy month. There's open requests still. There's 14 road maintenance, 17 for drainage, 18 for bridges, and uh 27 for Spring run-offs. We've still got a lot of work coming to..towards us so just to put people's minds at ease, that we have a great team working for us. We're so very proud of them and um I was going to say that there's still work coming so if you're still seeing issues, problems with your area, please don't hesitate to call. I know that they have their on-call service running right through the weekends and nights so by all means please feel free to call and I just want to really thank everybody for doing such a great job. **NOTE: Councillor Rakke forgot to add that these dedicated staff are being paid time and a half or in some cases double time for their sacrifice.** **Mayor Fell** - And that number is posted up on Social Media and when you listen to the end of the message, it tells you to hit 2, I believe, and that's how you get to the 24 hour On-Call Service if it's after hours. Uh so that information is out there. **NOTE: Why should that be on Social Media and not on the RM Web Site. A constituent should be able to access special messaging on the RM's Web Site. The Administration should not be using Social Media to make it's announcements. It is not hard to tell that the members of Council are gearing up for the upcoming election.** **Councillor Williams** - I have a question for the Water & Waste Department. Are we supplying samples for our lagoons to Manitoba Health for their COVID Testing? **Phil Pawluk** - Uh no there's been no formal request by any Provincial entity in that regards. **NOTE: In the Water & Waste report, there is not much new information regarding the new municipal wells on Poplar Road insofar as whether they are functioning properly yet. The reference to that project is basically a rehash of old information.** **Mayor Fell** - All those in favour. **CARRIED 5-0 NOTE: There is no reference to the "firearms discharge incident" that was reported in the Winnipeg Free Press on**

April 29th. and Steinbach on Line on May 2nd., 2022 that involved a member of the Springfield Police Service on their premises. This incident occurred on February 14th, 2021 but only just recently was brought to the public's attention and is now being investigated by the Independent Investigation Unit (IIU). At least one Councillor receives my notes and this was reported in my previous notes yet no mention of it is being made or explained either in these reports or to the Clipper, our local newspaper. The Clipper reported the incident in the May 5th. issue but there is no commentary from Council included. Further the Police Board is not on the agenda of this meeting making a formal report of the incident to Council.

7 BY-LAWS

7.1 By-law 22-01 Fire Department Regulations and Enabling (2nd Reading) - *Be it resolved that Second Reading be given to By-law 22-01 being a by-law of the RM of Springfield to provide for the regulations establishing and enabling the RM of Springfield Fire & Rescue Service and directing it to provide fire prevention, fire suppression, rescue services, emergency services, regulation of fires and other hazards and the confirmation of the adoption of the Manitoba Fire Code to be known as the Springfield Fire & Rescue Service Enabling By-law.* **CARRIED 5-0**

NOTE: The recently appointed Fire Chief, Kevin Denby, suddenly announced his retirement effective April 29, 2022. There was no mention of this by Council or words of appreciation for his service and wishing him well in his future endeavours. This raises questions as to why the sudden departure when he had a 2 year contract and what arrangements were made regarding the premature termination of the contract.

7.2 By-law 22-01 Fire Department Regulations and Enabling (3rd and Final Reading) - *Be it resolved that Third and Final Reading be given to By-law 22-01 being a by-law of the RM of Springfield to provide for the regulations establishing and enabling the RM of Springfield Fire & Rescue Service also to be known as the Springfield Fire & Rescue Service Enabling By-law.* **CARRIED 5-0**

9 NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Accessible Employment Policy - *Be it resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield approve the Accessible Employment Policy as presented.* **CARRIED 5-0**

9.2 Request for Letter of Concurrence - Rogers Communication Inc. (SW 17-11-4 EPM) - 201 Gunn Rd - *Whereas Evolve Surface Strategies Inc. on behalf of Rogers Communication Inc. proposes to erect a wireless telecommunication tower and accessory structure on private land located at 201 Gunn Road, therefore be it resolved that the Development Officer be authorized to provide the required correspondence relating to the letter of concurrence for the construction of the new wireless communications installation at 201 Gunn Road.* **CARRIED 5-0**

9.3 Speed Reductions - *Be it resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield do a **gradual** speed reduction limit on Prairie Grove Road east and west of the Prairie Grove Park boundary limits from 90 kms. to 60 kms. and be it further resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield do a speed reduction on Dawson Road between DeMeyer Road and Prairie Grove Road from 90 kms./hour to 60 kms./hour.* **NOTE: What is meant by a gradual speed reduction? Does that mean one week they go to 80 kms./hour, next 70, and finally 60 kms./hour? That would not really make much sense. It should be reduced and SIGNAGE POSTED pointing out the reduction. There is no mention of signage.** **CARRIED 5-0**

9.4 Hillside Waste Transfer Station - Trading Post - *Be it resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield award the work for the construction of the Hillside Waste Transfer Station Trading Post building in the amount of \$30,651. plus applicable taxes, and be it further resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield permit the Water & Waste Department to spend additional funds of up to \$16,000. as required for the additional work as related to the soft costs of construction, i.e. soils testing, surveying, permits, granular material, signage and site works.* **Councillor Fuhl** - Ya, I agree ..I think this is a really good project because now allow us to trade and keep stuff out of the landfills and it lets everybody go through what can be reused and I really do believe this is a good project. Thank you. **NOTE: Quite true but it is totally dependent on users of the landfill being conscientious enough to separate their waste and ensure it is deposited in the appropriate areas of the landfill, i.e. electronics and appliances, glass, and actual waste. Everything he says is unnecessary and therefore sounds like he is campaigning for the upcoming October election.** **Mayor Fell** - Um just to add too that this is one of the submissions we made to Sustainable Communities and we were able to uh acquire some grant funding for this project for the community. Um so this is just going to be again like Councillor Fuhl said a great way to reuse, reduce....use? ...recycle ...the order it goes in? um and it will save on tipping fees if that...articles can be reused in the community. Um we used to do before the pandemic a "give away" day um across Springfield and this is just a good addition to have all year long um to make sure we're recycling whatever we can. Is there any other comments from Council? All those in favour? **NOTE: Not to be outdone, the Mayor puts in her superfluous rhetoric.** **CARRIED 5-0**

9.5 Springfield Centre Concrete Sidewalks - *Be it resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield award the construction of the Springfield Centre concrete sidewalks to Maple Leaf Construction for \$63,300. plus applicable taxes.* **CARRIED 5-0**

9.6 List of Accounts - *Whereas disbursements have been reviewed for the period of March 10th to April 20th, 2022, be it resolved that all accounts listed on the attached printout from Cheque 154493 to 154706 totalling \$1,039,425.56 and the following EFT payments be approved: Western Financial \$13,239.13, Amelia \$235.22, RBC Visa \$66,214.41, CMHC \$35,814.04 and be it further resolved that March payroll in the amount of \$264,750.89 be approved.* **CARRIED 5-0**

8. DELEGATION

8.1 - Cpl. Matt Hadalar - RCMP Quarterly Report (January to March 2022) - **NOTE: Why is the Acting Staff Sergeant not presenting this Report to Council and answering any questions on it that Council may have or if not him, someone that has served in this community for a significant length of time?** They are just numbers so I think the reports in front of everyone, for those that looked at the report that was sent out on April..or in April, there was a number of errors on the robbery line. It has to do with how the stats are compiled um and when the report

was being put together, the total of 9 was taken. This includes 2 other offences. Um otherwise when you look at the numbers, a couple of things to keep in mind is that uh I believe it was May of 2021 when the Springfield Police Service started using our Records Management System um but those numbers should only be impacted on...you'd see them maybe in traffic stats, not really anywhere else. They're using our Dispatch System so it would have been in fact the calls for service. I think unless there's further questions...**Councillor Bredin** - Yes I was just curious when I look at the stats you've got 2021 and then 2022 so does that mean that's the full 12 months of 2021 and then 2022 is just the, what are we, into the fifth month of the year. Is that how that.... **Cpl. Matt Hadalar** - It should be, the way I understand it, it's the first quarter from 2021 in comparison to the first quarter of 2022. **Councillor Bredin** - Ok thank you, I just didn't quite get that then so ..all I see now if I look at that very title page, it's made more clear. I should read better. Thank you. **Councillor Ralke** - First, thank you and welcome. I think you're here for a short term or maybe a longer..... **Cpl. Matt Hadalar** - **(interrupting)** I'm here hopefully for a long term but **maybe you know something I don't**. **Councillor Ralke** - No I don't. Thank you. Welcome and it's so good to have you here. Thank you so much for coming in for the report. Um I was noticing some trends that are a little bit worrisome. Some are really high and wondering how you're feeling about, I don't know how long exactly you've been here. Are you noticing that anything is more of a problem for Springfield or you're finding that there's a big influx of anything in particular for our community? **NOTE: Councillor Ralke mentions some trends but does not specify which those are and then expects the Corporal to know what she is talking about. She ends up asking him if he is noticing any particular problems.** **Cpl. Matt Hadalar** - Personally, myself, I haven't...like all I have is the numbers in front of me because I started towards the end of March. I think like coming from the Brokenhead, Lac du Bonnet area, I know ..impacts from COVID um were lesser this quarter of 2022 than they were the first quarter of 2021 so there's been a lot more movement, a lot of people around, um ...this has been a tougher winter for travelling so we have the number of calls related essentially to the weather itself. There's uh..so it could be a couple of things, it could be the weather itself, that could be a function of just life normalizing maybe. If there's a specific stat that you had a question about, then **Councillor Ralke** - Well I guess I see where there's problems with speeding so is it because we have more resources available to catch the speeders ????? that is not necessarily a horrible trend because we went up 40 or so, or is it just because that the resources are here to catch them so we're here to do that or are you noticing that we're just not quite getting it, do we need to do a little bit more awareness to the public. Could be put some of that advertising out that "hey guys we really need to watch out for this" or you know, that kind of idea. Could we focus on something? **NOTE: Correct me if I am wrong but did the Corporal not explain that there is more activity on the roads this quarter than last due to the COVID lockdown in 2021? Maybe i was just listening TOO WELL. Further I don't know what Councillor Ralke watches on TV but all I ever see is graphic advertisements by MPI about the consequences of speeding...a crash with a body laying on the ground. Unfortunately no amount of advertising is going to end speeding. However a couple of hefty fines could make someone think twice.** **Cpl. Matt Hadalar** - Um I think uh I think part of it is the function of there being more people on the road travelling...Uh we do have Springfield Police reporting their speeding stats in this quarter so I did break them down just to be clear and of those 235 this year, 9 of those were Springfield Police Service stats. Um it is a bit cumbersome to break down because they're using our system but the stats can be broken down individually. I just did it for that one cause um like there was a spike and I wanted to make sure that we were capturing, like that we weren't taking the credit for what they're ...so I did break those down. **Councillor Ralke** - Thank you for that. Welcome and good luck. **NOTE: Good luck?? I hope there is more than luck involved in policing.** **Councillor Williams** - I have a question about the speeding violations. **Cpl. Matt Hadalar** - Ya so that was a um um yes that was uh my processing this morning just to make sure that uh um depending on how the officers linked themselves, there could be some that were missed and some that were included. **NOTE: Councillor Williams keeps asking questions while his system is muted so the questions cannot be heard on the recording.** So they from what I understand in 2021, the first quarter of 2021, ...their stats wouldn't be captured on our records management system, they would have however they were keeping their stats before. **Councillor Fuhr** - Ya, I'd just like to say welcome and I'm glad to hear that you are staying more longer term than shorter term so ...welcome and hopefully you are here longer term. **Councillor Bredin** - Ya same thing. Welcome and your last name actually fits into this community because the name Hadalar has been part of this Springfield municipality for a while so either you are related to these families or you're brand new to the area. **Cpl. Matt Hadalar** - Only the good ones. I went...I did go to school here. I grew up here. **NOTE: The Corporal is spelling his name differently than the local family that spell it Hadaller.** **Councillor Bredin** - Ok cool, then welcome home I guess. Perfect. **Mayor Fell** - Thank you. Is there any other questions from Council? Thank you for coming in. **NOTE: This entire presentation calls into question the necessity of having the Springfield Police Service if only 9 of 235 speeding citations were attributable to the Municipal police service as opposed to the R.C.M.P. which is the official Police Service of the Province of Manitoba. The question needs to be asked, especially when the Corporal states "you'd see them maybe in traffic stats, not really anywhere else", implying that the Springfield Police Service do not deal with other crimes such as robberies, assault, murder, etc. Their only other function is enforcing the by-laws of the Municipality and realistically, that would occupy very little time. Considering that the Springfield Police Service is costing ratepayers approximately half a million dollars a year, including the expense of the Police Board, perhaps it is time to re-examine the necessity of having our own police service.**

9.7 Seine Rat Roseau Watershed District Municipal Levy - *Be it resolved that funding for the 2022/23 Seine Rat Roseau Watershed District levy in the amount of \$2,000. be approved and further that payment be made in two equal payments.* **CARRIED 5-0**

9.8 Red River North Trail Association Membership - *Be it resolved that the 2022 Red River North Trail Association Membership in the amount of \$320. be approved.* **CARRIED 5-0**

9.9 Manitoba Planning Conference - *Be it resolved that all of Council be delegated to attend the Manitoba Virtual Planning Conference being held on May 31st. to June 2nd. at their discretion.* **Councillor Williams** - Are we going to be providing our...the options on the streams we're taking to a central person at the municipality? **Mayor Fell** - I think when it's digital you don't have to do that. **Colleen Draper, CAO** - We'll let you know more when we drill into registration but if we need to, we'll print off the streams and you can just circle what you want. **CARRIED 5-0**

9.10 Disaster Financial Assistance - *Whereas multiple heavy precipitation events including April 8th, 13th, 14th, 22nd, 23rd, 24th have caused wide-spread damage to private and municipal property and infrastructure within the RM of Springfield and whereas these events create a burden exceeding the financial capacity of those impacted, therefore be it resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield request the Government of Manitoba declare these events eligible for Disaster Financial Assistance for the public and private sectors to provide compensation for expenditures related to preemptive and restoration of damages.* **Councillor Williams** - Are we going to be putting out a

notice that private organizations or individuals can apply and will we be helping them with the process? **Colleen Draper, CAO** - Ya, we did get a link from the Manitoba Municipal Administrators Association so I'm just uh putting some information together that I'll have Hailey put a page together on the Web Site and we can do a social media post and it's a very detailed step by step process.

CARRIED 5-0

10 CLOSED MEETING - There was none.

ADJOURNMENT