

CITY OF STEINBACH
Regular Council Meeting
July 16, 2024

MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of City of Steinbach Council held on Tuesday, July 16, 2024 at City of Steinbach Council Chambers.

2. Mayor Earl Funk called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., with the following members of Council present: Councillors Jake Hiebert, Susan Penner, Michael Zwaagstra, Bill Hiebert, & Jac Siemens. Also present: City Manager, Troy Warkentin, Manager, Corporate Services, Adam Thiessen, and City Clerk, Amanda Dubois.

3. Councillor J. Siemens opened the meeting.

R24-141 4. Councillor S. Penner, Councillor B. Hiebert RESOLVED that the agenda be adopted.

-Un. Carried-

R24-142 5. Councillor M. Zwaagstra, Councillor J. Hiebert RESOLVED that the minutes of the July 2, 2024, Regular Council Meeting be approved.

-Un. Carried-

R24-143 6. Councillor S. Penner, Councillor J. Siemens RESOLVED that Councillor Damian Penner be excused from the meeting.

-Un. Carried-

7. Troy Warkentin, City Manager presented findings from a report resulting from a standing water/drainage letter submitted by George & Peg Penner, 214 Chrysler Gate on May 10th, 2024, which was reviewed at the May 21, 2024 regular council meeting. Council referred the matter to administration for investigation and request for report.

7.1 Additionally, another standing water/drainage letter was submitted shortly after from Larry and Janice Readman of 191 Harmony Lane and was investigated at the same time. Administration has included findings for both properties in the report.

7.2 Excessive rainfall and cool temperatures this spring have created a number of abnormal standing water and drainage concerns, including Chrysler Gate and Harmony Lane. Administration has reviewed and the Engineering Department has inspected the area and has confirmed that the area's drainage swales within the City's parkland abutting the private lots were designed and constructed according to the approved plans and the verified elevations were within the City's tolerances.

7.3 No remedial measures to the drainage swales were examined however, the City Engineer suggested that the owner of the private property identified as 171 Harmony Lane could make some minor surface modifications to help improve the surface water drainage on that lot.

8. Council accepted the report as presented and received it as information.

R24-144 9. Councillor J. Hiebert, Councillor J. Siemens RESOLVED that the following accounts be approved for payment:

Accounts Payable (July 10, 2024)	\$	813,746.43
Bi-weekly Pay Period No. 14 (July 3, 2024)	\$	339,994.46
Monthly Pay Period No. 07 (July 5, 2024)	\$	71,173.79

-Un. Carried-

R24-145 10. Councillor B. Hiebert, Councillor J. Siemens RESOLVED that the Financial Statements ending June 30, 2024, be accepted.

-Un. Carried-

- R24-146 11. Councillor S. Penner, Councillor M. Zwaagstra RESOLVED that the City of Steinbach accept the following approved excavator's licence as issued by the Operations Department.

Lic. No. 24-12 - Driftwood Communications - Evan Billings - Utilities

-Un. Carried-

- R24-147 12. Councillor B. Hiebert, Councillor J. Hiebert RESOLVED that the City of Steinbach accept the following business licences. (list attached)

-Un. Carried-

- R24-148 13. Councillor M. Zwaagstra, Councillor J. Hiebert RESOLVED that building permits as issued during the month of June 2024 be accepted. (list attached)

-Un. Carried-

14. Michelle Bezdity, chair of the Mayor's Physician Recruitment & Retention Task Force attended the meeting as a delegation and provided the following:

- Concerns identified today are the same concerns that were identified in 2009, reflecting a significant family physician shortage and access to primary care for residents.

- The board consists of members Councillor Susan Penner, Councillor Jac Siemens, Dr. Christo Minnaar, Dr. Dennis Paige, Dr. Karen Toews, Dr. Curtis Krahn and Michelle Bezdity, director of Economic Development Steinbach Economic Development Corporation.

- Based on the needs of Steinbach, and the population growth rate, 10 full time physicians would be required to address the current needs of residents. This would include 3 new full-time positions in addition to filling seven vacancies.

- Current measures in place for family physician recruitment and retention include resident family physician education, hosting educational events for physician residents. The Home for the Summer program provides students with healthcare experience in rural areas. The Steinbach family medical teaching program hosts third- and fourth-year medical students providing them with direct patient interaction and assists in recruiting and retaining medical professionals in the community

14.1. Ms. Bezdity provided council with the following recommendations:

- The task force and City Council may have to consider advocacy for an increased intake of medical students from Steinbach and area. It has been identified that a high percentage of local residents who study, then practice medicine, will stay in the local community after completing their studies and residencies.

- Utilizing a third-party recruiter, Waterford Global Inc., an executive search and talent advisory firm who specialize in recruiting mid-to-senior professional and executive level talent. They have an inventory of practice ready family physicians who have selected rural Manitoba and would have the individual practicing within 3-6 months.

- Currently, 12 family physician residents have chosen to complete their residency in Steinbach. The task force intends to coordinate and host a reception for residents and their families, gifting them a personalized gift basket tailored to their interests. The taskforce is looking for 12 likeminded host families to support residents.

- The long-term goal is for the task force to provide ongoing support for physician recruitment and retention, as well as future project development and incorporating objectives to meet the needs of health care professionals in the form of a community liaison service.

14.2 Ms. Bezdity proposed the following budget:

- Advocacy - \$0

- Waterford Global Inc. fee for service \$90,000.00 per physician for a 4-year return of service agreement

- Welcome Reception, including baskets, \$4,500.00 - \$5,100.00

- Community Liaison Position, 5 hours per week \$15,000.00 annually

14.3 Council discussions and questions followed.

15. Mayor Funk thanked Ms. Bezdity for the presentation and information provided.

16. Adam Thiessen, Manager, Corporate Services presented an Event Centre Update.

16.1 Mr. Thiessen highlighted the east parking lot expansion was underway. The addition will be roughly the size of the Walmart parking lot. The concrete floor and structure of the community hall and gym are being installed and constructed.

16.2 The second floor washrooms and A/V room are being framed, with the food canteen area next to start.

16.3 The arena floor work is progressing and should be complete by the next quarter. The atrium beams and structure have been installed.

16.4 Exterior weather proofing and sheeting is ongoing and expected to be completed in the next couple of months, with siding to follow. Exterior glass is being installed.

16.5 Progress report reviewed, with 63% of total project cost to date.

17. Mr. Thiessen was prepared to answer questions of council.

R24-149 18. Councillor S. Penner, Councillor J. Hiebert RESOLVED that the City of Steinbach accept the Minor Subdivision applications as issued by the Planning and Zoning Department from December 14, 2023 - June 30, 2024. (list attached)

-Un. Carried-

R24-150 19. Councillor M. Zwaagstra, Councillor B. Hiebert RESOLVED that the City of Steinbach accept the Minor Variance applications as issued by the Planning and Zoning Department from December 14, 2023 - June 30, 2024. (list attached)

-Un. Carried-

R24-151 20. Councillor M. Zwaagstra, Councillor J. Hiebert RESOLVED that the City of Steinbach approve application for Subdivision 4451-2024-8986, affecting 243 & 247 Main Street, as applied for by Travis Friesen of Hillside Construction Inc. on behalf of Vic Penner Realty Ltd., Klassyck Holdings Inc. and Menno Rempel Investments Inc. subject to the execution of a development agreement.

-Un. Carried-

R24-152 21. Councillor M. Zwaagstra, Councillor S. Penner RESOLVED that the City of Steinbach give first reading to street widening By-Law 2198.

-Un. Carried-

R24-153 22. Councillor B. Hiebert, Councillor S. Penner RESOLVED that the City of Steinbach give second reading to street widening By-Law 2198.

-Un. Carried-

23. Councillor J. Hiebert, Councillor J. Siemens RESOLVED that the meeting be adjourned.

-Un. Carried-

Time of adjournment: 8:29 p.m.

*ad

Mayor

City Manager