

## **Merrill Hills Hamlet – General Meeting**

Meeting Minutes  
September 25, 2019

### **Opening**

The regular meeting of the Merrill Hills Hamlet – General Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on September 25 in Merrill Hills Community Centre by the Merrill Hills Hamlet Board Chair.

### **Present**

Bernadette Moser - Merrill Hills Hamlet Board Chair  
Dan Streisel – Merrill Hills Hamlet Board Vice Chair  
Joanne Ubell – Merrill Hills Hamlet Board Secretary (sitting in for Mike Ubell)  
Ron Barsi  
Diane Barsi  
Brent Aasen  
Betty Aasen  
Gerhard Blumrich  
Leslie Robertson  
Kim King  
Wade King  
Kelvin Mykytyzyn

### **Guests**

Lorna Stonehouse – representative for Merrill Church siding project

### **Regrets**

Adam Tittlemore – R.M. Corman Park Administrator  
Judy Harwood – R.M. Corman Park Councilor

### **Approval of Agenda**

Ron B. requested to add an update on the SaskTel fibre project to the agenda. A query was made as to whether tent caterpillars should also be added but all agreed that they were not an issue this past spring and summer, so a further discussion or update was not required. Ron B. made a motion to accept the agenda with the addition of an update on the SaskTel fibre project. Dan S. seconded the motion. Carried.

## **Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Dan S. to accept the minutes of the meeting from November 12, 2018 as presented. This was seconded by Ron B. Carried

## **Budget**

Dan S. and Joanne U. went over the current budget expenses for 2018 and what had been expensed so far for 2019. Dan S. added that the road costs will not be entered until December and will show up on the finalized financial statement that we will receive in January. Joanne U. mentioned that we do still have one invoice outstanding for grass cutting. Joanne and Mike will follow up with the Guests and will ensure that it is entered before year end. The amount of that invoice will be similar to the amount of the first grass cutting invoice.

One question was raised about the RM mowing and the signage costs showing on the report. Dan S. had already asked and was told that a request had been made for the RM to mow a patch of leafy spurge. It was a 10-minute job and none of the board members had requested so the origin of the request was unknown. The signage cost was the replacement of an old sign and a new sign.

Dan S. mentioned that he and Bernadette M. has made some inquiries just to see if it would be cost effective to have one contracted service for septic pumping and that it could be eventually covered through the Merrill Hills Hamlet budget. Quotes were received but it was decided to wait until the road construction loan was repaid and then discuss at a later date. We can still get together and coordinate septic pumping as we have done in the past.

Ron B. made a motion to accept the financial report. Seconded by Kelvin M. Carried.

## **Old Business**

**Roads.** Bernadette M. indicated that Joe had some concerns that they should be putting tar on the road as there are some bad patches. Gerhard B. mentioned that he noticed that the RM sometimes misses the spray painted patches that need repair. Wade K. added that when there is patch work completed, it is sometimes raised. Bernadette M. reminded everyone to contact one of the board members if you see anything regarding the roads while out walking. She will call Adam to follow up about the concerns that have been raised to date.

Dan S. further reminded everyone that he had sent out correspondence earlier about overweight trucks getting permits. Owners of overweight trucks that do not get a permit

may be charged and so can the homeowner if the roads are damaged. Make sure if a company is conducting business at your residence and could exceed the weight restrictions for the road that the company obtained a permit. To report an overweight vehicle, please call the Corman Park police right away.

**Water Report.** Dan S. stated that he had emailed out the latest water report to everyone. We were reminded that we are responsible to have our own water tested and wells shocked for our own safety. Dan S. asked if it would be okay to continue to send out the water reports by email in the future. All agreed.

**Weed Control.** Dan S. had sent out Melissa's report earlier. She is done with the RM at the end of September. The beetles were trialed at 3 locations. Bernadette and Joe Moser's acreage was one of those locations.

Many residents, including Wally Hamm, did spray their property this past year to get the leafy spurge under control. Spraying has been proven to work. The majority in attendance felt that we should start spraying the ditches within our boundaries if and where necessary.

**Grass Cutting.** Joanne U. reported that Deb Sutherland and Jerry Guest's son cut the grass in the hamlet this past summer since the previous contractor could no longer cut for us and no one else indicated an interest. He cut twice this summer upon Mike U.'s request and we are still awaiting one bill. Everyone in attendance agreed that they would like to have him continue cutting next summer, if he is interested. Mike and Joanne U. will be following up Deb S. about this invoice and whether Rowan wishes to continue cutting next summer.

*Addendum: Mike followed up and Rowan is interested in continuing to provide grass cutting services for the hamlet.*

**High Speed Internet – Update on Redbird Communications Tower.** Dan S. stated that at the All Hamlets Meetings, Redbird Communications and SaskTel were recommended for high speed internet. He contacted both but only Redbird Communications responded. Redbird has the pole installed in the area by the mailbox but are waiting for power. Everyone using Redbird Communications have been satisfied with their service.

**Civic Addresses – Update.** Bernadette M. had spoken earlier with Adam about the civic addresses. They were 30% complete and had started in the west areas of the RM. The signs are being made. We hope to see our area completed with signs posted by early Spring at the latest. It will work for couriers to start but Canada Post is 2 years behind

with inputting the civic addresses into their system. Whatever is on our hamlet map will be your new civic address once it is completed.

## **New Business**

**High Speed Internet.** Ron B. and Dan S. said that fibre optics have been run to Cedar Villa and could come to our area. The understanding is that residents would have to pay the cost of the fibre being run. There is no other update at this time.

**St. Stephen's Church Siding Project.** Lorna Stonehouse provided information to the group about the siding project for the St. Stephen's Church. The paint is starting to peel, and the current siding will no longer allow paint to bond. They have received several quotes to have new siding placed on the church so that this historic church within our community can be maintained. They are now in the process of fund raising so that they can complete the project. In addition to seeking donations for the project from congregation members, community members and organizations and families with loved ones resting in the cemetery, they have organized a few events. The first event was the dedication of the gates in memory of Mr. Robertson. There will also be a Fall Craft and Bake Sale at the Merrill Hills Community Center on October 19<sup>th</sup> and then a Steak Night at Mulberry's Café in Saskatoon on November 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. Tickets for the steak supper are available from Betty A. or Lorna S.

*Addendum: Communications about the events have been sent out through the Moon Lake Crimewatch distribution list.*

## **Board Nomination**

Dan S.'s term as Vice Chair has ended. Bernadette M. thanked Dan for all that he has done for our community while involved on the Merrill Hills Hamlet Board. She called for nominations to replace Dan. There were no nominations from those in attendance. Most had already previously served on the board.

*Addendum: This position is still vacant and is needed to be filled as soon as possible. If you are interested, please contact Bernadette M. or Mike U.*

## **Other**

**Bulletin Board** – Dan S. asked whether the group agreed that our bulletin board required updating and moved to the location of the new mailboxes. All agreed.

*Addendum: In September, Mike U. and Dan S. installed a newer, refreshed bulletin board and located it next to the new mailboxes.*

## **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 8 p.m. The date and time of the next general meeting is yet to be determined. Further information will be provided at a later date.

Minutes submitted by: Mike Ubell, Secretary for the Merrill Hills Hamlet Board

Approved by: Bernadette Moser, Chair of the Merrill Hills Hamlet Board

