

Highlights, May 21, 2025 - Council Meeting

(Full minutes will be approved at the June 18th, 2025, Council Meeting)

Administration

- Welcome back to Jessica who is back in the office. Also, welcome to Jamie Coulson who is our part-time Administrative Assistant.
- Continued work on the audit target for approval at the June Council meeting.
- Currently we have just under 50% of residents who do not subscribe to email bills. Council agreed that the village no longer prints and mails paper copies of receipts, paper copies will only be provided to residents who request to receive them in person, and electronic copies will only be provided to resident who subscribe to email billing or make this request via email.
- Administration requires new equipment specifically a new chair and laptop that is not working properly.
- Council agreed to approve the CAO vacation time on June 23, 24, 25 2025.

Maintenance/Operations

- Council agreed to send a letter to the Prairie Spirit School Division regarding the bus driver route and the damage that is being caused to Village infrastructure.
- Council agreed that operations will install two 20km/hr. speed limit signs on the alley behind Procter drive North, one on each end of alley, that include 'Local traffic only' signs.
- Council approved to remove the partial fire ban that was in place.

Budget

- Council adopted the proposed 2025 operating budget for the Resort Village of Shields as presented, including revenue projections of \$1,064,130.67 and proposed expenditures of \$1,064,144.90 as detailed in the budget document leaving a deficit of \$14.23. The mill rate will once again remain the same for 2025 with a slight increase to the base rate of \$50.
- Council passed a bylaw to Provide for the Use of Tax Tools and a bylaw that will establish property tax incentives and penalties.
- Council acknowledged the Provincial School Mill Rate of residential – 4.27 and Commercial – 6.37 for collection.
- Council approved abatement 50% of the base tax on boat house lots owned by those with residential property in Shields.

Financial

- Council agreed to distribute a public notice with an intent to borrow up to 1.5 million dollars of long-term debt to be paid back over the term of 10 years for the Low-pressure sewer system project.
- Council agreed that due to an error in the system that utility interest for the Resort Village of Shields will not be charged for the months of February, March April and May of 2025 and will resume regular schedule as of May 31, 2025.
- Council approved the list of account payments for \$125,059.83 which includes payroll.

Development Permit Application

- Council agreed to a Building Permit Extension for the development on Municipal reserve land located in front of 11 Procter drive, that was previously approved in 2023.

Nuisance

- Council agreed that Administration is authorized to issue an order to property owners whose property is a nuisance and adversely affects the surrounding properties for the following reasons: Overgrown vegetation, Untidy & Unsightly condition

Council Reports:

Project Report

- On May 2nd the project team along and Associated Engineering toured several low-pressure sewer installs in Thode. Fred showed the team the difference between an install that would work well compared to one that is installed in a way that may give users problems down the way.
- On May 13th there was a tender meeting at the Maintenance Shop. We had nine different companies attend to ask questions in regard to the tender. On May 15th the project team met to further clarify some of the discussions at the tender meeting.
- The tender for Phase 1 of the project will be closing on Thursday.
- Administration/Council is working on the process/agreements etc. for the installation of the system past the curb stop onto the homeowner's land and into the septic.
- Resident Information meeting regarding the sewer project is planned for June 16, 2025.

Social Programming Report

- June 7 – Green Space & Parks Clean Up Day - Carrie Hart is organizing Clean Up Day again this year for June 7th and the Social Committee will be providing free hotdogs for the volunteers at 1pm in Aiden's Park
- July 1 – working with the Town of Dundurn on a Community Wide celebration.
- August 16 - Fall Family Festival in the Park
- November - TBD – Ladies Christmas Craft and Purple Martin Project
- December 13th – Children's Christmas Party
- February/March 2026 – Fish Derby (discuss in more depth around September)
- Council agreed that the documents and old street signs will be handed to the Social Programming Committee to be auctioned off during a fundraising event.
- Pickle ball instructions will be held on Sundays at 9:30 starting on May 25th.

Golf Committee Report

- the temporary storage building that has been erected. It will house golf course equipment like mowers, preventing them from being exposed to sun and weather damage. The building provides a centralized storage solution, keeping equipment protected and organized. Fred mentioned potentially adding shelving to improve storage efficiency and noted the building's current zipper door might be upgraded in the future for better functionality.
- The committee discussed with operations a strategic planning, focusing on continuous development of a comprehensive plan over the 2025 season and into the 2026 winter.
- Council welcomes Nelson Crowder who will now sit on the Golf Committee.

Next meeting of Council June 18, 2025