

Spring Bay Hamlet - AGM - Minutes 2021

MS Teams virtual call 19:00-20:00 - June 28, 2021

Attendees

- Karen Kramer - Chair
- David Price - Secretary
- Calvin Fisher - MAL
- Arlynn and Lillian Kurtz
- Andy and Angela Kuderewko
- Wade Hoffman
- Sheldon Kainz
- Carla McCrie
- Devin Krohn
- Farrell Ager
- Kerri and Ron Weir

1. Call to order, and General housekeeping 7:03

- Dave opened the meeting and went over housekeeping items related to agenda how to pose questions in MS Teams

2. Previous Minutes

- Due to Covid19 the 2020 AGM was not held. The board shared a Hamlet Summary/Board Report of events at the time. There were no questions submitted or raised.
- The Last formal AGM was 2019.
- Dave asked for a motion to accept the 2019 Minutes:
 - Motion to accept: Andy Kuderewko
 - 2nd: Angela Kuderewko
 - **CARRIED**

3. Hamlet updates - Calvin

- Karen Kramer was re-elected to the board in January by acclamation
- Speed bumps onsite, signs coming .. 4 sets. RM will install them in the coming weeks when the signage arrives. These speed bumps are in response to the continue feedback of vehicles travelling too fast in the Hamlet.
- The AED machine is back in the summer location beside the Bulletin Board. If anyone would like a refresher of the unit and how to use, pls notify a board member.
- SaskPower was in the hamlet recently fixing the street lights

- Dust Control was applied by FASTGRASS this year.
- Thanks to Kevin Macleod and George Moser for fixing the dock.

4. Financials - Karen

- Karen provided an overview of the Boards efforts since January to understand RM budget, the shared expenses & to become familiar with municipal legislation in an attempt to encourage controlled spending & equitable taxation
 - Consulted with another Hamlet in the province that has successfully established their own mill rate (Taylor Beach - RM 187) for many years. They have a RM council that works with the Organized Hamlets on transparent fiscal responsibility.
 - Prepared our hamlet budget that covers operating expenses for the Hamlet & results in a lower mill rate with minimal funds added to our reserve account.
 - RM Council declined to accept our 2021 budget, the reasons given were unclear. The Board and RM held a meeting to discuss the budget and come to an agreement on allocation of shared expenses for Spring Bay. The meeting went from a collaborative, open discussion to one where some councilors became quite hostile.
 - We suspect RM is concerned that if they agree to our own mill rate other Hamlets will follow suit and this may result in a revenue shortfall. However this process may have the advantage of compelling Council to control spending.
 - Our concern is that current & future Councils, like their predecessors, will simply continue to raise the overall mill rate on recreational property to cover costs for which we derive little or no benefit
 - We have sought legal advice about our options under existing provincial legislation
 - It is noteworthy that the Council has many members who are hamlet residences yet don't appear concerned about how to control taxation of recreational property so we are competitive with other jurisdictions.

2. Welcome to our new residents. Reminder Hamlet updates are posted on our FACEBOOK page and via email at our hamlet address: SpringBayHamlet@gmail.com.
 - a. Welcome Steve and Ellie Leonard
 - b. Welcome Arlynn and Lillian Kurtz

3. Questions

- a. Carla - what is the path forward and next steps with the RM?
 - With the residents support we are working on fiscal accountability, more transparency & ultimately being able to control the taxation in our community
 - We are also reviewing opportunities related to Village Status to provide us with better control over the use of our tax dollars

- next steps .
 - We will not approve the RM's current version of our budget included in your handout materials
 - We are continuing to review our legal options related to the legislation
 - We are hoping to find an amicable resolution with the RM
- b. Farrell - By the actions of the RM, are they trying to force the Hamlets to get more organized?
 - We don't think they are looking for the OH's to get more organized, but perhaps this is something we will pursue with the other OH Boards to collectively work as a larger group.
- c. Wade - If we did move to an Organized Village - what happens to our current reserve account ?
 - legislation indicates that reserve account will transfer with us to Village status.
- d. Sheldon - Can the Board open up access at the north end for ATV/Golf carts/ snow machines access into Green Acres resort, which can be used to access to Fox's Point, instead of going around on the RM Roads.
 - The board will look into possibility
 1. Understanding of the ATV/Golf Cart provincial bylaws and their use. (Foot traffic vs vehicle traffic)
 2. Discuss with Green Acres on what land is on the other side of the gate (reserve/private)
 3. Understand the history of why the gate was erected.
 4. Widening the gate also permits vehicle traffic coming in
- e. Grass Cutting
 - Karen - We have approved in our Budget a set amount for reserve grass cutting and have also requested from the Travis/RM that we get invoiced on a per cut basis. This allows us to monitor the costs and not get surprised at the end of year, to not cut when in dry periods and to understand how much time is being spent cutting reserve grass.
 - Their has been complaints issued about vehicles parked in the road allowances when the grass cutting crew comes thru. Reminder to park vehicles on your property.
 - No Parking signs will be posted in these areas.

Motion to close the AGM meeting

- Motion : Sheldon
- 2nd - Carrie Weir

Meeting adjourned 7:40pm