

# **Hamlet of Good Spirit Acres *draft***

## **Spring information meeting**

**May 15, 2021**

Location: Spilchen Meadows at 2:00 pm

This was an outdoor event. Best practise of social distancing in accordance with SHA Covid practises was observed, hand sanitization, and masks were available for presenters and attendees.

There were 27 attendees (including presenters)

Materials available were; the AGM minutes of 2020 (for review), Hamlet financial statements, Agenda, and Hamlet 2021 budget.

Don Thompson called the meeting to order at 2:07 pm

He welcomed attendees and introduced presenters. Dave Popowich was acknowledged for his 50 year tenure as Reeve of the RM of GoodLake. James Morton was introduced as our RM representative. Barb Coleridge, was introduced as the Community Association chair. She was acknowledged for the organization of volunteers for the Spilchen Meadows Park clean up earlier in the day and thanked. Barb thanked her volunteer crew and shared with attendees that 10\$ memberships were available and that funds could be dropped off in Gilda Walls mailbox. Membership provides access to pickle ball paddles and other recreation equipment for use at the park. Joan Thompson, Good Spirit market, and Ron Farrell, Hamlet treasurer and Deb Schmidt, Hamlet secretary were introduced.

Motion to adopt the Agenda as presented

**05/15/#07**

**Barry Bradshaw/ Merv Shabtowski**

**Carried**

Reports:

1. Ron Farrell presented the Financial statement and budget for 2021.

Motion to accept the financial statement and budget

**05/15/#08**

**Denise Morton/ Donald Beggs**

**Carried**

2. Don Thompson presented an overview of the Transfer and maintenance site. He acknowledged the work of Barry Bradshaw and Wayne Duchnitski. Don and Barry worked on a mechanism for the dumpsters that kept empty containers locked until open dumpsters were full. This resulted in better use of the containers and money savings in spite of the rate increase. The road ban is lifted so cardboard container management is back to normal use. Thanks to the Hamlet residents for their care in sorting and using the appropriate containers. We continue to request residents to haul large items to the RM transferr site. (appliances, beds, windows)
3. Ron Farrell addressed roads and waterways. Barry and Dale C were contracted to complete most of the channel clearing. Good news story- is the project came in under the budgeted amount. More good news, Shaun Wilson will be oiling the Hamlet pavement. Traffic to the properties will be restricted for 4 hours. Hamlet residents will be notified in advance. There will be no charge for this road treatment. Ron is investigating quotes for crack repair on the roads and pricing out quotes for the major repairs required for Capalano and Bayhill in 2021-2022 projects. There will be some gravel to be removed on Augusta prior to oiling.
4. Deb Schmidt addressed the lagoon and lights and website. All lights in the Hamlets supervision are in good working order. We ask residents if they notice a light out to please contact Deb and a remedy can be effected. Each pole has a number four feet up from the base. Please report that number and Deb can contact SaskPower to effect a remedy. The road to the lagoon has been gravelled and graded. The capacity of the lagoon is audited annually by the RM of Goodlake. There is no capacity issue at this time. Bob Deacon is our new webmaster. Thank you for your encouragement on the new website.
5. James Morton addressed the group in his capacity as RM Councillor. He acknowledged it has been a difficult year with Covid- teaching us all a new way to effectively and safely conduct meetings. The RM is currently monitoring all roads. They are hard to maintain with it being so dry. The RM moved to their new facility in Canora. They are pleased with the accessibility and functionality of the building. RM has purchased some new equipment to replace older equipment. More lots have been sold in RM increasing the revenue and tax base. A business decision was made specific to a paving debt owed and not paid. In court action the legal costs were rising and were more than the recovery amount so it was decided to recognise the loss as a bad debt and discontinue legal action. In his position he continues to enjoy a good working relationship with the Hamlet.

During budget deliberations with the RM, an account error was found in designating an item to capital costs which resulted in a beneficial correction to the Hamlet reserves of 50k.

Questions from the floor;

- There were questions from the floor specific to the paving bad debt.

James explained; that a developer had entered into an agreement with the RM to pave roads servicing their development. The first payment due was paid, however, they refused to pay the balance of \$10,000. The RM started court action to acquire the final \$10,000 balance. However, legal costs were exceeding the second payment and after much discussion and review the RM decided to cease their legal action. It made little sense to spend a dollar to collect a dime. He empathized with the frustrated attendee, and explained that fighting “the principle” of collecting a debt through the courts was sometimes an onerous and expensive undertaking.

- New camp site development – Will this development have access to the GSA lagoon and transfer site?

Dave Popowich -No – they will be required to construct facilities to accommodate their tenants.

6. Dave Popowich – Thanked everyone for attending. He has actually participated for 54 years and has a great feeling of accomplishment in his tenure. Big project this year are work on the roads( highway construction). He reminded attendees of the fire ban currently in place and shared last year’s fire impacted the RM finances by \$208,000. No money was received by the RM from the Park nor insurance. Please observe the fire bans when in place – safety first. Mill rate for the RM is static with no increase posted. Two new RM staff have been added to service the community. He shared there will be a reduction in gravelling this year. He wished us all a good year in the community and was thankful to have been of service.
7. Joan Thompson- Good Spirit Market. Joan thanked everyone for their support. They appreciate everyone’s observance of the Covid mandates implemented in the business. There is ‘ready bake’ bread products available at the store and chicken and fries available for take-out. Please call ahead and pre order. The hours in July will be 7:00 am to 9:00 pm. They look forward to serving the community.
8. No representation from the Good Spirit Golf Course

## Election

There will be one position vacancy for a four year term. The election will take place at the **AGM September 25, 2021**. The location will be announced at a later date. We encourage you to join the Hamlet board in this position.

**05/15/#09**

**Deb Schmidt/ Carol Olsen**

**That the returning officers for the election be recognised as  
Denise Morton and Carla Lindsay  
Carried**

Nomination forms are available from the 2 returning officers for the Hamlet Denise Morton and Carla Lindsay. Interested parties are asked to fill out the candidate forms, **endorse and return to one of the returning officers by September 4, 2021.**

Hamlet chair, Don Thompson, thanked everyone for attending. He polled the attendees for questions.

- A question was asked about community input into large financial decisions. In the past, a large tax concession was provided to the Golf course. They elaborated that the process to provide that benefit perhaps could have utilised a public forum to discuss the decision more thoroughly. Would the community be engaged in future decisions of this nature?

Don Thompson – every effort is made to make decisions that are inclusive of the community and that serve the best interest of the community. The tax relief item was dealt with many years ago and the point was very valid. The governance model on decision making has changed since then and agreed, any future large decisions would follow that principle.

- Questions were received regarding potential changes to Golf course trails and Hamlet pathways.

Don Thompson- at this point in time we have no official notification of changes. Until then it is a “wait and see’ dynamic as we have no impact to measure currently.

- Would the north south trail on Pebble beach be opened?

Don Thompson -The path was restricted to walking traffic two years ago, for community safety measures due to high cart traffic on a bisecting trail. The restriction was based on near miss accidents and safety concerns for community members and visitors. The best answer for the day, is to wait and see if there are changes made to the existing trails. If there are, rest assured the Hamlet board will monitor any impact the changes may make. At this point in time, there are no changes. Safety remains the highest factor in consideration.

Don Thompson thanked everyone for attending and wished them a good summer.

**05/15/#10**

**Perry Wishlow**

**Motion to adjourn**

**Carried**