

## **Hamlet of South Bay – Turtle Lake**

**Annual Meeting – Sunday May 18, 2025 at 10:00am**

### **At Livelong Seniors Hall**

**Attendance:** Clinton Smith, Linda Balon-Smith, Bill Scheck, Bob Taylor, Rick Haugen, James Anderson, Ted Morin, Barry Nordell, Derek Chudy, Veronica Laye, Linda Laye, Donna Ritco, Brian Ritco, Darryl Laye, Grant Bossaer, Jack Seewalt, Reg Beardsworth, Louise Dahl, Vince Voss, Cindy Roy, Nancy Range, Jim Range (RM Councilor), Ken Hergott (RM Councilor), Wayne Keber

### **Agenda:**

#### **1. Call the meeting to order**

- a) Introductions: Bill Scheck, Clinton Smith, Bob Taylor
  - Time: 10:07am
  - Introductions of board

#### **2. Approval of the Agenda**

- a) Amendments - none
  - Motion to approve Agenda: Approved by Ted Morin, 2<sup>nd</sup> Reg Beardsworth, Carried

#### **3. Minutes of the 2024 meeting**

- a) Mailed out in an info package
  - Amendments - none
  - Motion to Approve 2023 AGM Minutes: Moved by Ted Morin 2<sup>nd</sup>, Donna Ritco, Carried

#### **4. 2024 Financial report & 2025 Budget (supplied by RM via mail)**

- a) **Amendments** – Copy supplied is incorrect – see new handout.
  - 2024 Budget - some items lower cost than budgeted with others not required resulting in a surplus, \$24,084 unspent transfers into the reserve. With that starting Jan 2025, South Bay reserve is approximately \$104,517 in the reserve. 2025 budget is \$81,200 with a targeted year end reserve steady at \$104,517.

- 2024 Financial & 2025 Budget Report, Moved to accept by Brian Ritco, Seconded: Reg Beardsworth, Carried

## 5. Business arising from the minutes

- Policies** supplied to the Residents at 2024 AGM and submitted to the RM. 2025 Changes – Board Members 4 yr term changed to 3 yrs impacting the:
  - Hamlet Board Member Policy
  - Election Policy
    - Moved to accept changes by Ted Morin, Seconded by Darryl Laye, Carried
- Board Meetings** – July 20, Oct 18, Jan 13 and Feb 20<sup>th</sup> minutes submitted to RM. Available on RM website or available on request. Please notify the board in advance if you wish to be on a meeting agenda.
- Summer Student** – numerous maintenance activities completed in 2024 – Summer Student's time split with Sunset View in 2024. Summer Student not required for 2025. Acknowledgment to Barry Nordell/Maintenance for work done to assist on these projects (i.e. gates).
- Green Space poles** - If you need to pull any posts for whatever reason, it is up to you to replace the posts exactly as they were. Failure to do so resulting in Maintenance replacing the post will result in a \$ charge.

## 6. New business

- RM of Mervin Interaction** - Annual Meetings, Community Plan & Zoning Bylaws, Percentage Allocation of Tax Revenues. There have been some differing opinions between the Hamlet board and the RM councilors over the past few years regarding various items. The communication between the two has improved significantly and there are two councilors present today.

- Within South Bay, we are responsible for the work cost. The RM of Mervin is responsible for the area surrounding South Bay. The organized hamlets identified a committee to review the tax allocation percentage with the RM (how much each group gets from the property taxes, not including the school tax, raised from within the various Organized Hamlets). Currently the residential property tax percentage allocation, set by the RM, is 60/40%. Meaning 60% of the Municipal Tax total goes to the RM, and 40% to the Organized Hamlet it is raised in. Approximately 18 months of meetings has resulted in a change in the allocation of funds for 2025, moving % of tax allocation for Organized Hamlets such as South Bay will receive, from 40% to 50%. For South Bay the increase of 10% represents an increase of \$15,680 annually. These funds will be used to improve infrastructure and quality of life for South Bay residents.

b) **Fire Pump** –depending on the use of the fire pump it may become a liability. Any fires are the responsibility of the RM and fire department. It is presently being stored in the shed by the phone booth. The spray range is 40-50 feet but it is very old and hard to prime. We have been informed by the Fire Department that training is required to use the fire pump and fight fires within the RM. If we use the pump on a building or adjacent building and it causes further damage, we can be liable. We CAN use the pump as a preventative measure to hose down the grass or trees for fire control. The fire department does not want us to try and put out a building fire, only to prevent the fire from spreading through the vegetation. The current heating cost is around \$156 per quarter. The Board recommends that everyone maintain their property and have fire extinguishers on their property. The fire department will send their rapid response unit when called, followed by the larger units. The best thing you can do is call the fire department and have someone

available to direct traffic and provide directions as to where the fire is located.

- c) **Community Civic Signs** – Three community civic signs (with only address numbers) will be installed once frames are built.
- d) **Grant Applications** – We will be engaging an individual to help the Board apply for grants. If there is anyone who can help with grant writing, please contact one of the board members. There are numerous grants available to the hamlet, but an individual is needed to assess and apply. This process is assessed on a return on investment (ROI) basis.
- e) **Capital**
  - **Poplar Drive & Willow Street** – The trimming of the roadway in Beardsworth area is complete. There is some possible work needed near the end of Willow Street, as there is a low spot therefore extra gravel is needed. Most of the area should be in a mowable state. Low section on Willow Street to be addressed. The RM will be asked to bring a grader in to level the road. Long term the road needs to be widened to allow more than one vehicle to pass through.
  - **Grading, gravel and Dust Control** – is book to occur in May/June.
  - **Maintenance Shed** – shed is needed
  - **Tools** - There is a need for basic tools and local storage. Basic tools are needed for the day-to-day maintenance and work occurring within South Bay. Barry Nordell and Clint Smith have been using their own tools. We could look at getting a tool shed and having a working supply, so the volunteers and maintenance persons are not using their own tools.
  - **New Dock** – new boat launch dock has been priced and order will be placed shortly.

- **5/10 year plan (Ideas)** - Looking to survey the residents for possible capital improvements. As part of the increase in annual taxes a capital plan is needed. Options include:
  - i. *Buried Power Lines*: There are certain areas within South Bay where the overhead lines are buried, however, the main areas have overhead lines. (Beach Ave and Pines Crescent up to the store, etc.) A quote from SASKPOWER is \$750,000 to bury the remaining lines. There is an additional cost from SASKTEL of 40% of the cost. Costs appear very high. Residents asked if grants were available. Cost consideration and grant availability must be understood.
  - ii. *Potable Water*: A potable water system must stand by itself and be able to cover its own costs. This is a provincial requirement.
  - iii. *Sewage*: This is an important item. Regulation changes may force the issue.
  - iv. Road improvements
  - v. *Security*
  - vi. *Beach Access between Beach Ave and Poplar Drive*
  - vii. *Walking Path*
  - viii. *Fire Hydrants*
  - *The board will investigate grants that may provide funding for some of these capital plans. Water, sewage and power will be priorities.*
  - *The board will check into a walking path for Willow Street residents are not crossing on private property.*
  - *If anyone has suggestions for a capital plan, please send the information to the board.*
- **Canada Day** - Have reached out to previous organizers to understand if they are available for 2025. There is a budget, and the Coop has been great in donating food items. Wayne K can provide a large BBQ for the event if needed. The board will

try to reach out to the previous organizer to inquire if they can help organize an event.

- **Dogs** - please clean up after your pets. If Residents have concerns, please call the RM Office and report to the By law officer.
- **AED** - The AED needs to be replaced as it is old (10 years). It is located in the storage shed (at rear of the toilets) by the beach volleyball courts. Ted M has been monitoring the equipment and coordinating the batteries and pads. (Thank-you Ted!) For everyone's information the Coop has a second AED available DURING OPERATING HOURS. If required a new AED will be ordered.

f) **Water Shed** - Councilors handed out the Turtle Lake Lakeshore and Watershed Management Study Project Overview information. This project will cost a quarter of a million dollars. Testing will occur at Golden Sands due to location and prevailing winds. The timeline is to be completed by the spring of 2026.

There are concerns about lake health and return of the blue green algae. This is determined by climate and the nutrient levels in the lake. It is indicated some of the nutrients originate from leaking septic tanks and fertilizers. Septic tanks have an approximate life of 40 years but many leak after 15 years. Discussions have occurred at the Provincial Department of Health regarding the possibility of mandatory inspections.

**Lake water levels** - People are saying the lake is low, however, historically it is not. Water is still flowing under the bridge.

**Lake access** - This is a problem for the cabins who don't have lake front access. It is an issue for no frontage owners and visitors. Everyone should have access to the lake. There are 2100 cabins around the lake at present.

**Buoys** - The Watershed supports the board for putting out the buoys and is grateful to those who comply.

**Turtle Lake Drainage area** - the majority of the feed water enters the lake from the north. Historically water also entered the lake from the east when Turtle Lake and “The Bay” (the water located south of Razorback Road) were connected. With the building of the municipal road (Razorback) the eastern water flow no longer flows into Turtle Lake.

There is concern about the logging north and east of Turtle Lake and the impact on the watershed flows. What is the action from the watershed to make sure the drainage is not being impeded? There needs to be an effort from the province as much of the forest lies within provincial municipality jurisdiction. The watershed will continue to investigate this.

- g) **Councilor representation** - it was indicated that 60% of the taxpayers for the RM of Mervin are lake owners, yet they are represented by only one RM councilor. Discussion was held on how representation may be improved. RM has considered possible changes. This issue needs further discussion.
  - h) **Garbage** - Please take your recycling to the recycling station in Livelong and at the Waste Transfer sight. The cost of removing our garbage has increased significantly.
  - i) **Cleaning Beach** - If cabin owners clean their beach – please take materials to the Transfer site. Volunteers who are able clean the Public Beach accesses please take the materials to the roadway and notify a Board Member for removal.
7. **Elections** – None this year.
8. Next Meeting Date Sunday May 17, 2026 @ 10am.
9. Motion to adjourn: Rick Haugen @ 11:43am

## **Announcements:**

- a) Thank you to Louise C. who has secured a grant of \$250 from Sask Lotteries for the multi court!
- b) Canada Day Celebrations – Alexa and Team - would like some additional help. Volunteers?
- c) Trunk & Tailgate Market Third Saturday in July. So July 19th 9am – 1pm.
- d) Turtleford & District Coop Development (anything new?)
- e) Website is running – updates? [info@southbayturtlelake.ca](mailto:info@southbayturtlelake.ca)
- f) Swim Lessons – two sets:
  - Jessilyn Morrison & Issac Turk July 14 – July 18th. Jessilyn 1-639-844-7779 & Issac 306-932-7746
  - Bodi Laviolette July 28 – Aug 1st 306-845-6310
- g) Snow Markers (for snow plow) installed - any more needed – let Board know?
- h) Gravel & Dust Control scheduled
- i) Individual civic signs ordered for locations missed previously.
- j) Sask Power Tree Trimming & cutting continues.