

Hamlet Board Meeting Minutes

Powm Beach, Turtle Lake

November 19, 2025

2.00pm (SK)

1. Attendance: via Zoom: Brandy Schwenk, Scott Sonder, Ken Williams 2.04pm
2. Approval of Agenda: both Scott & Ken approve
3. Review hamlets/RM meeting - Ken:
 - a. Review of meetings/procedures/documents the hamlets must follow
 - b. Creating subcommittees for capital projects
 - c. RM now has a small plow if needed for snow removal
 - d. WYRA having financial issues - RM helped them out
 - e. Now 3 CSO's - more enforcement of bylaws, no more warnings
 - f. Abandoned properties - call CSO to deal with, more enforcement
 - g. New fire ban signs for hamlets in spring
 - h. Next meeting April 22, 2026
4. Expense Report YTD - Brandy:
 - a. Overall, sitting well under budget on most items, looking good for surplus at end of year
 - b. Garbage costs - significant increase: due to price increase and overweight tilts, and extra tilts - \$4000 over budget as of mid November,
 - c. Tree removal costs
 - i. Total cost for dangerous dead trees \$7515.40
 - ii. The board will continue to use the most cost & time effective options going forward
5. Fencing instead of ropes in greenspace - this project was approved at last AGM, waiting for quotes to proceed - Ken suggests a simple fence made of pressure treated, instead of live edge as it is more sturdy in case kids/people are playing on it. Scott & Brandy agree. Approx cost would be \$4000. Approved.
6. Maintenance & Snow Clearing contracts - offer contracts to the following if they agree to the work again: John Smith, snow clearing. Maintenance team: Ken Williams, Jay Elder, Jan Bodnar. Brandy will send out updated forms before the end of the year.
7. General discussion:
 - a. Fenced/locked garbage area - Ken - constant vandalism to locks and garbage bins, unknown people dumping in our garbage bins, increasing costs due, etc
 - i. Brandy & Scott agree this may be worthwhile, Ken to look into quotes.
 - b. Servicing mower - Ken will bring to North Battleford dealership in the spring for a full service (past due)
 - c. Servicing trash pumps - Gary Ollen has offered to service them throughout the winter

- d. Fire extinguishers for side by side & mower - Ken suggest - Scott & Brandy agree we should get proper ones mounted
- e. Additional speed bumps - Ken noticed Mitchell's had some laying around, they agree we could buy them used, to be installed near corners on Spruce and Graeme.
- f. Signs no dogs allowed on beach - Ken has noticed an increase in dog feces all over the beach this past summer/fall, This is extremely unsanitary. Scott & Ken agree to get signs made up for the beach only. Greenspaces will still be allowed. Also, more reminders for owners to clean up after their dogs. Brandy mentioned this is a public beach, so some of this may not be from owners, might be outside visitors. Which makes the signs more relevant (also see 7.g)
- g. Dog waste stations - Ken mentioned we should offer dog waste stations around Powm Beach. Scott and Brandy agree. Ken will look into cost for 3-4 to start with.
- h. Water line blowouts - when the hamlet pumps are to be shut down for the winter, the hamlet is responsible for blowing out those lines only, not pumps/lines on personal property. However, there are two hamlet pumps on personal property that should be maintained - Sonder & Nohnychuk.
- i. Sask Lotteries Grant - Ken wondered if this is annual. Brandy explained it is, and that we have to apply for it each January. Also this past year, they made us report how it was used (our \$250 was used to create a skating surface on the ice for the community).

8. Gates into Powm Beach - brought up by one of our residents, multiple times:

- a. Brandy contacted the RM to ask about this before any discussion was had, see below for the response regarding a gated community
- b. From the RM: All roads within the RM are public roads and must be available to all people at any time. Nobody, not even the RM, has the authority to block roads or designate who has access to roads. Saskatchewan only has a few gated communities, and the only way to do it is to form a condo association. Laurel Green Estates at Emma Lake is a good example. This means that the condo association owns the road infrastructure and are fully responsible for maintaining and replacing it. To accomplish this, every single ratepayer of Powm Beach would need to agree to propose a Condominium Plan, a plan would have to be prepared by a licensed Saskatchewan Land Surveyor, and Council would have to vote. Our Zoning Bylaw does not currently speak to this type of ownership and would therefore lead to amendments, etc etc. As you can imagine, I would not recommend approving this. It would also require buy in from all Powm ratepayers which I do not suspect would happen.

9. Capital Plan Discussion - this is a new document from the RM to help organized hamlets use their money wisely, and not letting it build up without reason. Ken has been working on this.

Some items we've come up with are:

- a. Maintenance shop addition
- b. Chain link storage area (behind the shop)
- c. Purchase new riding mower (in 3-5 years)
- d. Purchase wood chipper (in 3-5 years)
- e. Additional playground equipment

- f. Upgrading fire equipment - our current water truck is too cumbersome and difficult to use. Brandy, Ken & Scott had a discussion that Flamon has units that are easy to use and sit on a truck bed. We all agreed this should be an immediate plan to work on. Ken to get quotes and discuss at next meeting
 - g. This is a living document, not a current budget - it will change with needs and as they are met
10. Tree planting to replace the dead trees we've been losing over the last few years
- a. Need to find a committee to take this on
 - b. Board will approve a budget for this once some quotes have been received
 - c. Update: Scott spoke with a few people after this meeting and they have agreed to take this on, and start planning now before spring.
11. Next meeting: in December sometime - depending when the RM needs the 2026 budget (will wait for their email).
12. Adjournment: 3.45pm