

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2026 AT 7:00 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CIVIC ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, BRANDON, MANITOBA

PRESENT: Mayor Jeff Fawcett In The Chair, Councillor Shaun Cameron, Councillor Barry Cullen, Councillor Kris Desjarlais, Councillor Greg Hildebrand, Councillor Heather Karrouze, Councillor Bruce Luebke, Councillor Glen Parker, Councillor Jason Splett, Councillor Tyson Tame

ABSENT: Councillor Shawn Berry

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

1807 Splett-Tame
That the Agenda for the regular meeting of City Council to be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 be adopted as presented. CARRIED.

RECOGNITIONS:

(A) WESTERN HOCKEY LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

Councillor Luebke recognized the Western Hockey League champions, the Everett Silvertips. He extended congratulations to Silvertip players Nolan Chastko, Reid Nicol, and Mike Fraser who are all originally from Brandon, and wished them good luck in the Memorial Cup in Kelowna, BC on May 22, 2026.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

1808 Cameron-None
That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of City Council held Monday, May 4, 2026 be taken as read and so adopted, all statutory requirements having been fulfilled. CARRIED.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS & FEEDBACK:

(A) ROSS ROBINSON - AMM JUNE DISTRICT RESOLUTIONS

Ross Robinson, Executive Director of the John Howard Society of Brandon, highlighted the importance of the Bail Navigator Program and spoke in support of the resolution being considered for adoption and submission to the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM). Robinson also introduced his successor taking over in the coming weeks, Michelle Lamoine.

HEARING OF PRESENTATIONS:

(A) ARBOR DAY CELEBRATIONS

Shane Freeman, Total Landscape Solutions, appeared before City Council on behalf of Brandon Arbor Day Celebrations Organizing Committee with respect to the upcoming event. Freeman spoke to the importance of Urban Forestry and leveraging professional arborists, adding the opportunity for networking with residents and interested parties. This year's event was announced to take place on May 30, 2026, 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the Keystone Centre Grounds. He encouraged Council's continued support and participation.

Councillor Desjarlais reiterated the new tree planting programs for residents, which will be launched as part of the Arbor Day itinerary.

1809 Tame-Splett
That the presentation by Shane Freeman on behalf of Brandon Arbor Day Celebrations Organizing Committee, with respect to the Arbor Day celebrations be received. CARRIED.

HEARING OF DELEGATIONS:

Nil

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Nil

COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS:

Nil

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

(A) KEYSTONE CENTRE BOARD OF DIRECTORS VERBAL MAY 19, 2026

On behalf of the Keystone Centre Board of Directors, Councillor Luebke provided a verbal report on their May 12, 2026 meeting. He advised the public that a collapsed drainage pipe had caused the entrance from 18th Street and Queens to be blocked. Additionally, he announced their projected construction completion schedule for various parts of the building, and that the Arabian Horse Show would be held August 6th to August 15, 2026.

(B) BRANDON GENERAL MUSEUM AND ARCHIVE INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS VERBAL MAY 19, 2026

On behalf of the Brandon General Museum & Archive (BGMA) Inc. Board of Directors, Councillor Splett provided a verbal report from the recent meeting held on May 5, 2026. He noted they discussed reports which included staffing, finance, collections, exhibits, archives, fundraising, and revenue generation. He highlighted tour and attendance information for the month of April and noted that the Speaker Series would be on hold until fall, with other events to be announced in lieu. Councillor Splett noted the next meeting would be held on June 2, 2026 at the Brandon General Museum & Archives.

Splett-Luebke

1810 That the verbal reports on behalf of the Keystone Centre Board of Directors and Brandon General Museum and Archives be received. CARRIED.

ENQUIRIES:

(325) PACIFIC AVENUE IMPROVEMENTS

Councillor Desjarlais enquired about the Pacific Avenue conceptual plan and improvements.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that development was occurring along Pacific Avenue, including a future Pickle-ball Facility at 1201 Pacific, and residential development at 1200 Pacific. Sidewalks would be constructed adjacent to these developments concurrently with the project. The City Manager further advised that the Administration had identified the resulting missing sidewalk links and would evaluate the sidewalk program following completion of development sites. Larger scale improvements, including active transportation connection, would be deferred for evaluation with the upgrade of underground water and sewer infrastructure along Pacific Avenue in the 5-10 year Capital Plan.

(326) VEHICLE CLASSIFICATION FOR MICROMOBILITY DEVICES

Councillor Luebke enquired about the classification of E-Bikes and E-Scooters for clarity on proper transit law.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that once the Highway Traffic Act is revised to incorporate and govern micromobility devices, Administration will undertake an assessment of any potential need for complimentary by-law provisions to enhance public safety.

(327) ROADWORK PLAN

Councillor Cameron enquired if the plan for road work would be made public.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that Administration was working on a public communication system to be released in the coming weeks.

(328) HOSPITAL ACCESSIBLE PARKING

Councillor Desjarlais enquired about the parking and drop off changes at Brandon Regional Health Center.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that, at this time, Access Transit have been provided designated parking spaces and unable to use the parking area directly in front of the doors. Administration contacted Brandon Regional Health Center requesting situational exceptions but were denied due to safety concerns. All operators have been notified and dispatch will be advising any clients that book rides to and from the hospital.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Nil

GENERAL BUSINESS:

(A) APPOINTMENT - SECRETARY TO 2026 BOARD OF REVISION

City Council considered a report from the Legislative Services Department dated April 28, 2026 with respect to the above.

Parker-Karrouze

1811 That Lane Quigley be appointed as Secretary to the Board of Revision of the City of Brandon. CARRIED.

(B) INTERIM CITIZEN APPOINTMENT TO THE BRANDON POLICE BOARD

City Council considered a report from the Legislative Services Department dated April 28, 2026 with respect to the above.

Splett-Tame

1812 That Council accept the citizen application for the interim term on the Brandon Police Board, and Bill Hogan be appointed to the Brandon Police Board with a term of office effective immediately and ending October 28, 2026, with the eligibility to continue until a successor is appointed by the incoming 2026-2030 City Council. CARRIED.

(C) AMM JUNE DISTRICT MEETING RESOLUTIONS

City Council considered a report from the Legislative Services Department dated May 7, 2026 with respect to the above.

Luebke-Cullen

1813

That City Council approve and submit the following resolution for consideration by the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) at the 2026 Annual Convention in November:

WHEREAS The former board known as Assiniboine River Basin Initiative (ARBI) was instrumental in working collaboratively and addressing major flooding issues with Saskatchewan and North Dakota on shared waterways, primarily the Assiniboine, Souris and Qu'Appelle rivers; and

WHEREAS The board known as ARBI was established where stakeholders work together to achieve basin wide comprehensive integrated watershed actions that will benefit current and future generations; and

WHEREAS ARBI mission was to create a resilient Assiniboine River Basin where all residents can adapt to change and achieve environmental, social and economic sustainability for all residents through collaborative actions across the basin; and

WHEREAS Post historic floods of 2011 and 2014 this board was created with a 51 member board that advised on 162,000 sq miles and a population of over 1.5 million covering flood forecasting, water storage, drainage practices, and upgrading mitigation infrastructure; and

WHEREAS Funding (\$50,000) from Manitoba was cancelled and this lead to the demise of the board, despite several positives, and progressive steps; and

WHEREAS: The land scape has changed and smaller tributaries are now flowing faster creating artificial and natural flooding where as the new norm in unpredictable; and

WHEREAS The Board can focus on replanting of trees and natural habitats, the need for water retention for human consumption, agricultural and industrial needs, aquatic life, recreation and sustainability;

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Provincial government to reestablish ARBI for the 2027 year, with unpredictable storms, excessive drainage (illegal and legal) and before mentioned areas of concern, the need for those closest to the effective areas need to be engaged and have a voice. CARRIED.

Luebke-Tame

1814

That City Council approve and submit the following resolution for consideration by the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) at the 2026 Annual Convention in November:

WHEREAS individuals on bail often require structured support to comply with release conditions, attend court, and address underlying factors such as mental health, addictions, poverty, and housing instability; and

WHEREAS Bail Navigator Programs and Bail Verification and Supervision Programs (BVSPs) provide proven, cost-effective, community-based supports including regular check-ins, court reminders, condition reviews, and referrals to essential social services; and

WHEREAS existing programs delivered by the John Howard Society operate with limited funding and capacity, resulting in restricted access for those who would benefit most; and

WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba initiated a pilot bail management program in Winnipeg in May 2023 with limited intake that has not significantly expanded in the years since implementation; and

WHEREAS research conducted in partnership with the John Howard Society – Brandon and the University of Manitoba has identified a significant service gap in Brandon and Western Manitoba for individuals requiring bail supervision and support; and

WHEREAS evidence demonstrates that such programs improve compliance with bail conditions, reduce failure to appear rates, alleviate pressures on courts and corrections, enhance community safety, and address root causes of crime; and

WHEREAS the expansion of Bail Navigator and BVSP programming to regional hubs such as Brandon would improve equitable access to justice and community supports across Manitoba;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to provide sustainable funding to expand Bail Navigator Programs and/or establish Bail Verification and Supervision Programs (BVSPs) beyond Winnipeg to regional centres, including Brandon as a Western Manitoba hub; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Province of Manitoba work in partnership with community-based organizations, including the John Howard Society – Brandon and Indigenous service providers, to design and deliver these programs in a manner that is flexible, culturally appropriate, and responsive to participant needs and these programs include integrated supports such as access to stable housing, mental health services, and addiction supports to maximize success and reduce recidivism; and

FURTHER that City Council advocate to the Province of Manitoba to expand and fund the existing Bail Navigator Program to the John Howard Society Brandon. CARRIED.

BY-LAWS:

NO. 7456 PLAN OF PUBLIC ROAD TO BE OPENED BEING PART LOT 4 PLAN 1731 - 34TH ST
ROUNDAABOUT
1ST READING

That By-Law No. 7456, to open a portion of public road across part of Parcel 4 Plan 1731, located on the east side of the intersection of Manitou Drive and 34th Street, be read a first time.

Parker-Splett

1815 That By-Law No. 7456, to open a portion of public road across part of Parcel 4 Plan 1731, located on the east side of the intersection of Manitou Drive and 34th Street, be read a first time. CARRIED.

GIVING OF NOTICE:

Nil

ADJOURN:

Parker-Luebke

That the meeting do now adjourn. (7:40 p.m.) CARRIED.

MAYOR

CITY CLERK