

CITY OF MASVINGO

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE HEALTH, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING, HELD IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, MUNICIPAL OFFICES ON MONDAY, 05 JUNE 2023 AT 4:52 P.M.

PRESENT: Councillor R. Chiteme (Chairman)
Councillor R. Musekiwa
Alderman S. Maridza
Councillor B. Beta

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor S. Manyanga

IN ATTENDANCE: District Development Coordinator: Mr L. Magwati
Local Governance Studies Student: F. Mudzamiri
Local Governance Studies Student: A. Muchakazi

OFFICIALS: Town Clerk
Finance Director
Chief Environmental Officer
Acting Director Housing and Social Services Officer
Acting Director of Engineering Services
Senior Health Officer
Chief Internal Auditor
Sergeant – W. Munyuki
Assistant Committee Officer

Before the Committee considered the items on the agenda, Committee members sought guidance on the presence of Councillor S. Manyanga in the Committee meeting, when he is not a member. Members highlighted the need for seeking guidance from the Chamber Secretary on the matter. Councillor Manyanga noted that his presence was necessitated by the need to follow up on motions on areas of concern which he raised but not actioned. He stated that he submitted 16 motions and one item had been considered. The Chairman advised that the meeting would proceed with Councillor Manyanga in attendance.

265. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 4 May 2023 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record, and signed.

*Proposed by Councillor B. Beta
Seconded by Councillor R. Musekiwa*

266. MATTERS ARISING

On minute 224 (C), members highlighted the need to conduct a blitz on all illegal Car wash operations in the city. It was noted that there was an illegal Car wash operating at the Downtown near Gains Wholesales. The Acting Director of Engineering Services reported that action will be taken against the Car wash operator. Committee members

Minutes: Health, Housing 05/06/2023

highlighted the need for clearing sanitary lanes and shop verandas in the Central Business District.

The Chief Environmental Health Officer advised that Council has a By Law governing littering and the Department will strengthen enforcement of same.

267. REPORT OF THE CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICER**A. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION**

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Environmental Health Officer on the Environmental Health Section activities for the month of May 2023, covering premises inspections, tickets issued, plans received, routine inspections, issued notices, water quality control, food quality monitoring, meat inspection, meat condemned during abattoir inspections, tuberculosis management, TB review clinics, diseases surveillance, dog bites, housing plans and Dog tie up enforcement was considered.

On routine inspections, clarity was sought on the matter regarding unlicenseable shops. The Chief Environmental Health Officer clarified that the culprits were issued with notices as per legislation and the last point of action would be prosecution.

On illegal car wash operations in the city. Concern was raised on the illegal car wash operating at the Craft Center. The Acting Director of Housing and Social Services noted that the issue was actioned, and the owner had been issued a notice on the illegal activity. It was reported that the Car Sale operating along Cary Street adjacent to Telone was operating without a toilet. The Acting Director of Housing and Social Services advised that the Car sale's lease agreement stipulates that they should operate using a portable temporary toilet. The Chief Environmental Health Officer advised that she would liaise with the Acting Director of Housing and Social Services on checking compliance and conducting inspections.

Members noted with concern the sale of uninspected meat in the City. The Chief Environmental Health Officer advised that a notice on the prohibition on sale of uninspected meat will be issued out.

On Industrial activities in residential areas members agreed that the blitz on all illegal activities in the city should be holistic.

With regards to shooting of stray dogs, members requested for a report on the number of dogs shot per residential area. On enforcement of the Dog tie up order, some members felt the need to determine if a dog was truly a stray before shooting, which the Chief Environmental Health Officer clarified that the blitz is usually conducted in the evening, when kept dogs have been locked up.

B. CURATIVE HEALTH SERVICES

The report of the Chief Environmental Health Officer on Curative Health Services for the month of May 2023 covering demographic data, Mother and Child Health Care Services, maternity, patients' attendance at Council Clinics, revenue collected, medicine availability, chronic conditions, maternal and childcare, EPI programme,

Minutes: Health, Housing 05/06/2023

growth monitoring, Opportunistic Infection Attendants, Vaccination Status covid 19 testing services and mental health report was noted.

C. CLEANSING, REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The report of the Chief Environmental Health Officer for the month of May 2023 covering number of refuse trucks on the road, refuse removal statistics, pest control activities, disposal site, waste recycling, and collection and toilet cleaning was noted.

The Chief Environmental Health Officer was urged to monitor illegal refuse dumping in the commonage.

D. NATIONAL AIDS COUNCIL DAAC PROGRAMME.

The report of the Chief Environmental Health Officer for the month of May 2023 on the National Aids Council activities was noted.

E. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING: SAYWHAT

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Environmental Health Officer on the request for signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Masvingo City Council and SAYWHAT. It was reported that the organisation carries out work in mobilising students and young people in participation and improvement of reproductive health and reducing inequalities. The request was granted.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

THAT the request for signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between Masvingo City Council and SAYWHAT organisation be granted.

F. REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO OPERATE IN MASVINGO CITY: EDENGATE FOUNDATION

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Environmental Health Officer on the request for permission to operate in Masvingo City by Edengate Foundation. It was reported that the organisation assists vulnerable groups in areas that include Gender Based Violence, Child marriages, HIV and AIDS and other social and health illnesses. The request was granted.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

THAT the request for permission to operate in Masvingo City by Edengate Foundation in assisting vulnerable groups in areas that include Gender Based Violence, Child marriages, HIV/AIDS and other social and health illnesses be granted.

G. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING: FAMILY AIDS CARING TRUST ZIMBABWE (FACT)

Minutes: Health, Housing 05/06/2023

The report of the Chief Environmental Health Officer on the request for signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Masvingo City Council and Family Aids Caring Trust Zimbabwe (FACT) was considered.

It was reported that FACT supports the government, ministries, churches by provision of technical support for implementation, capacity building and sustainable development initiatives to alleviate the impact of HIV and AIDS. The request was granted.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

THAT the request for signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Masvingo City Council and Family Aids Caring Trust Zimbabwe (FACT) be granted.

H. Adoption of Report**RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

THAT the report of the Chief Environmental Health Officer be approved and adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto.

268. REPORT OF THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF HOUSING AND SOCIAL SERVICES.**A. AUTHORITY TO PURCHASE A SCHOOL VEHICLE: FRANCIS APHIRI PRIMARY SCHOOL.**

The report of the Acting Director of Housing and Social Services on the request for authority to purchase a school vehicle by Francis Aphiri Primary School was noted.

It was reported that the School Development Committee resolved on the issue during a meeting held on 17 May 2023 and this was in line with the recommendations passed by the General meeting held in February 2022. The request was granted subject to the School Development Committee handing over the school vehicle to Council after purchase.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

THAT the request by Francis Aphiri Primary School, for authority to purchase a school vehicle be granted subject to the School Development Committee handing over the school vehicle to Council after purchase.

B. SUPPORT LETTER FOR PVO REGISTRATION RESILIENT YOUTH IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

Consideration was given to the report of the Acting Director of Housing and Social Services on the request for support letter for Private Voluntary Organisation (PVO) registration by Resilient Youth in Sustainable Development. It was reported that Resilient Youth in Sustainable Development was an initiative led by local youths in Masvingo District which focuses on climate change. The request was granted.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

THAT the request for support letter for Private Voluntary Organisation (PVO) registration by Resilient Youth in Sustainable Development be granted.

C. APPLICATION TO OPERATE AS A PRIVATE VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION (PVO) : TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION GROUP OF ZIMBABWE (TAGZIM).

Consideration was given to the report of the Acting Director of Housing and Social Services on the request to operate in Masvingo City as a Private Voluntary Organisation (PVO) by Transport Association of Zimbabwe (TAGZIM). It was reported that the Transport Association Group of Zimbabwe (TAGZIM) was seeking permission to operate in Masvingo City, to defend and further the social interests of transport operators and passengers. The Acting Director of Housing and Social Services recommended that authority may be granted since the office of the Provincial Secretary has cleared them to operate in Masvingo province. The Committee adopted the recommendation.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

THAT the request to operate in Masvingo City as a Private Voluntary Organisation (PVO) by Transport Association of Zimbabwe (TAGZIM) in the business of defending and furthering the social interests of transport owners and their passengers be granted.

D. REQUEST FOR A PIECE OF LAND TO ESTABLISH A MULTI-PURPOSE ART GALLERY.

Consideration was given to the report of the Acting Director of Housing and Social Services on the request by National Arts Council of Zimbabwe for a piece of land to establish a multi-purpose provincial gallery in Masvingo City. It was reported that the request was in line with the request made by stakeholders during the parliamentary portfolio meeting held at Masvingo Library in 2021. The request was granted, and the Acting Director of Engineering Services was instructed to identify a suitable piece of land for same.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

1. THAT the request by the National Arts Council of Zimbabwe for a piece of land to establish a multi-purpose Provincial Gallery in Masvingo City be granted.
2. THAT the Acting Director of Engineering Services be instructed to identify a suitable piece of land to offer to the National Arts Council of Zimbabwe for establishment of a multi-purpose Provincial Gallery.

E. APPLICATION FOR SPACE TO CONSTRUCT TWO SCHOOLS (PRIMARY AND SECONDARY): MASVINGO TEACHERS COLLEGE.

Minutes: Health, Housing 05/06/2023

The report of the Acting Director of Housing and Social Services on the application for space to construct two schools, a Primary and a Secondary school by Masvingo Teachers College was considered.

It was reported that the Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science, and Technology Development in its quest to operationalise the Education 5.0 philosophy has directed Masvingo Teacher's College to establish model practicing schools for its programmes (Primary and Secondary science teacher education) and the Ministry will fund the entire process. The request was granted.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

THAT the application by Masvingo Teachers College for space to construct two schools, a primary and a secondary school and establish model practicing schools for its programmes (Primary and Secondary science teacher education), be granted.

F. REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO EXTEND COUNCIL BUILDING ON STAND NUMBER 1074 HAY ROBERTSON STREET, MASVINGO: MASVINGO TEACHERS' COLLEGE.

Consideration was given to the report of Acting Director of Housing and Social Services on the request by Masvingo Teachers' College to extend the Council building on Stand Number 1047, Hay Robertson Street, Masvingo, which they are leasing as a Pre-School. It was reported that Masvingo Teachers' College wanted to construct more classrooms and other essential facilities due to the overwhelming demand for places from Masvingo City residents. The college has of late turned away many prospective learners because of limited facilities.

The Masvingo Teachers' College proposed for a Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) arrangement with a long-term lease to allow them to recoup their cost of capital expenditure. The request was granted on condition that they handover the structure to Council upon completion.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

1. THAT the request by Masvingo Teachers College to extend the Council building on Stand Number 1047, Hay Robertson Street, Masvingo which they are leasing as a Pre-School be granted.
2. THAT Council enters a Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) agreement with Masvingo Teachers College on the proposed developments on Stand Number 1074 which they are leasing as a Pre School.

G. HOUSING ISSUES

The report of the Acting Director of Housing and Community Services for the month of May 2023, covering housing waiting lists, cessions and sundry income, maintenance

Minutes: Health, Housing 05/06/2023

work and housing routine business for Mucheke, Chesvingo and Rujeko Administration Offices was noted.

H. SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELFARE SECTION

Consideration was given to the report of the Acting Director of Housing and Community Services on the Welfare Section for the month of May 2023 covering staffing, revenue raised by the section, leased property payment status, pre-schools, libraries, community development and Welfare trainings, workshops and meetings Alpha Cottages, Mucheke Old People's Home, Charles Austin Theatre, sports and recreation welfare programmes, and recreational facilities repairs, and maintenance. The report was noted.

I. PARKS AND AMENITIES SECTION

The report of the Acting Director of Housing and Social Services on the Parks and amenities Section for the month of May 2023 covering staffing, state of tractors, push mowers, grass cutters and other equipment, islands, gardens and open spaces, trees and plantations, Parks, sales of nursery, cemeteries, and revenue collected from grave fees was noted.

A proposal was made for Council to develop its own Wedding venue at the Rhodene Park which will be affordable to residents. The Committee tasked Management to further research on the matter

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

THAT the matter regarding establishment of a Wedding and events garden at the Rhodene Play Centre be referred to Management for further investigation.

J. Adoption of Report**RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

THAT the report of the Director of Housing and Social Services be approved and adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto.

269. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK**A. ACTIVITIES OF THE MUNICIPAL POLICE: MAY 2023.**

Consideration was given to the report of the Town Clerk on the activities of the Municipal Police for the month of May 2023, covering Human and Material Resources, operational activities, Traffic Offences, commonage patrols, vending, boom gate activities and status of ranking of buses at Mucheke Bus Terminus. It was reported that the Section attended to 1625 violations in the commonage and raised a total of USD18950 during the month under review.

(i) Human and Material Resources

Minutes: Health, Housing 05/06/2023

It was reported that the section comprised of Chief Security Officer, Operations Officer, 5 Sergeants, 4 Corporals, 53 Constables, 14 trained Guards and 21 Contract Guards against its establishment of one hundred and ten (110) Police Officers. The section was still awaiting procurement of Police dogs, uniforms for Dog Handlers and transport for operations. It was reported that the Contract Guards were trained and the passout parade was held on 8 May 2023 and both the 5 newly recruited Municipal Constables and 22 Contract Guards received their certificates. The report was noted.

The Town Clerk reported that the transport challenges encountered in the section would be addressed. With regards to transport issues, Committee members highlighted the need for Council to procure a Tow Truck. The Town Clerk noted that such provisions had not been made in the 2023 budget in anticipation of the partnership with City Parking. Management was tasked to investigate the matter.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

THAT the proposal for Council to procure a Tow Truck be referred to Management for further research.

(ii). Joint Operations

The Section conducted operations with other stakeholders like Environmental Health Agency, Zimbabwe Republic Police and Vehicle Inspection Department, Housing, Health and Debt Collection Unit in decongesting the City and other illegal operations.

(iii). Ranking at Mucheke Bus Terminus

It was reported that buses were ranking at Mucheke Bus Terminus in the evening.

B. Adoption of Report**RESOLVED**

THAT the report of the Town Clerk be approved and adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto.

The meeting ended at 5:45 p.m.

CONFIRMED THIS

DAY OF

2023

CHAIRMAN

TOWN CLERK