

**CITY OF MASVINGO**

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, MUNICIPAL OFFICES ON MONDAY, 8 MAY 2023 AT 4.42 P.M.**

**PRESENT:** Councillor S. Manyanga (Chairman)  
Councillor R. Kamuzonda  
Alderman S. Maridza

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mudzamiri F: Local Governance Studies Student : GZU

**OFFICIALS:** Chamber Secretary  
Acting Director of Housing and Social Services  
Acting Chief Health Officer  
Chief Internal Auditor  
Water and Waste Water Engineer  
Town Planner  
Assistant Committee Officer

**NB. Before the meeting in the Committee Room, the members conducted a tour of the new Landfill under construction at 2:30 p.m.**

**227. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**RESOLVED**

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 13 April 2023 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed.

*Moved by Alderman R. Kamuzonda  
Seconded by Alderman S. Maridza*

**288. REPORT OF THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES**

**A. WATER SUPPLY**

Consideration was given to the report of the Acting Director of Engineering Services on water supply covering water treatment chemicals stock levels, status of the intake tower, treatment works, pumping mains, water supply situation, cost of water treatment chemicals procured, water quality and activities of the Water Fitting Section for the month of April 2023.

**(i). Water Treatment Chemical Stock levels**

It was reported that hydrated lime was stocked to meet requirements for about 40 days and Chlorine Gas lasting for 25 days. It was reported that Chlorine HTH and Activated Carbon would be applied as and when the need arise. The report was noted.

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**(ii). Intake Tower**

It was reported that raw water pumps number 4 and 6 were operational. Efforts were being made to repair pump number 5.

**(iii). Treatment Works**

It was reported that pump number 1 and 3 were operational during the month of April 2023. It was highlighted that 143 hours of pumping were lost due to power outages.

**(iv). Chemical Dosing Pumps**

It was highlighted that two chemo feeders were operational. The procurement of a new Chemo feeder set was underway.

**(v). Water Supply situation**

On water levels, it was reported that Lake Mutirikwi was 98,97 % full as at 1 April 2023. The report was noted.

**(vi). Water Quality**

It was reported that the treated water met the World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines and the Standards Association of Zimbabwe (SAZ) standards.

**(vii). Water Fitting**

The Section recorded 50 pipe bursts, 8 water connections, 47 water meter replacements and 10 sewer connections during the month of April 2023. The report was noted.

**(ix) Non-revenue Water**

It was reported that the non-revenue water for April 2023 was 37.7 % which translated to ZWL 264 082 066.00. On water losses due to pipe bursts, the Committee suggested and agreed that a toll free line should be introduced and the residents be advised of same to enable them to report for water and sewer bursts.

**RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

THAT the Town Clerk be instructed to procure a toll free line for use by the public in reporting water and sewer pipe bursts in the City. **TC**

**B. SEWAGE RETICULATION, TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL.**

Consideration was given to the report of the Acting Director of Engineering Services on sewage reticulation, treatment and disposal covering the status of the raw pump station, Conventional Treatment Plant, Rujeko Pump Station, Effluent Pump Station, and Biological-Nutrient Removal Plant for the month of April 2023.

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**(i). Sewage Reticulation**

It was reported that a total of three hundred and two (302) blockages had been recorded and attended to during the month of April 2023, whilst two hundred and ninety (290) wheelbarrows of grit had been removed from the grit channels. Two hundred and forty six (246) bins of waste were removed from the grit screens.

In view of the increasing amount of grit being discharged into the grit channels, it was suggested and agreed that the Public Relations Office should conduct awareness programme on the dangers of using grit at household level.

**RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

THAT the Town Clerk be instructed to conduct an awareness programme on the dangers of discharging grit into the sewer system. **PRO**

**(ii). Raw Pump Station**

It was reported that one pump was operational at the station. Metal structures at the station required attention. The report was noted.

**(iii). Rujeko Pump Station**

It was reported that one pump was operational at the station, whilst the second pump was awaiting spare parts. It was highlighted that a new pump was required to minimize breakdowns. Desilting was in progress.

**(iv). Primary Settling Tanks (PST)**

The Acting Director of Engineering Services reported that three (3) Primary Settling Tanks were operational. The need to have all Primary Settling Tanks repaired was highlighted.

**(v). Digesters**

It was reported that both digesters have been receiving some sludge from the Primary Settling Tanks awaiting deblocking by the contract workers. The contract to deblock the digesters ended on the 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2023. A request was done to have the contract extended by another three months, though the period was too short to complete the deblocking exercise for the two Digesters. It was highlighted that works at the Digesters to be co-ordinated well with the Roads Section for the provision of gravel and trenching. The report was noted.

**(vi). Effluent Pump Station**

It was reported that one pump was operational during the period under review. The report was noted.

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**(vii) Trickling filters**

It was reported that removal of debris on distribution arms was done and it continuously needed to be done for ease movement of settled waste water. All filters needed some attention on their centre pivots and distribution arms. The report was noted.

**(viii) Biological Nutrient Removal Plant (BNRP)**

**Anaerobic Zone**

It was reported that Council should repair all the stirrers in the anaerobic zone to keep the inflow agitated for uniformity of the contents. Traces of oils have been detected in this zone showing that there were some oils released with the industrial effluent into our reticulation.

The need for inspections to be conducted in the industries to ensure compliance set standards was highlighted.

**Anoxic Zone**

It was reported that three stirrers were operational and efforts were being made to have the fourth stirrer operational. Sludge agitation was now continuous and the intimacy of micro-organisms and particles was being maintained.

**RAS Pump station**

It was reported that one pump had been operational following the correction of the electrical fault that had occurred on Pump Number 1. There was need to buy new “V” belts.

**Aerators**

It was reported that Six (6) aerators were continuously operational and the seventh aerator was being started to operate intermittently since it was producing some noise in the gear box. This was aerator Number 1 which was at the outlet of the anoxic zone.

**Mixed Liquor Pumps**

It was reported that all mixed liquor pumps were not operational. Pump Number 1 recently developed an electrical fault which caused frequent tripping. The requested belts for the other pumps were not supplied.

**Clarifiers**

It was reported that both clarifiers received activated sludge for clarification. Desludging was carried out to reduce bulking of the clarifiers due to excess solids. Dark weed removal was carried out successfully with the help of contract workers.

**Minutes: Public Works and Planning Committee: 08.05.23****C. TOWN PLANNING, SURVEY AND TRANSPORT****i. PROPOSED ADDENDUM TO THE CLUSTER HOUSING POLICY**

Consideration was given to the report of the Acting Director of Engineering Services on the proposed addendum to the Cluster Housing Policy. Following a look and learn tour of Kwekwe City on Cluster Housing developments, it was found out that there were problems associated with the scheme among them being use of different building materials on the buildings in the same cluster, shortage of parking space and inadequate water supply infrastructure.

It was advised that in view of the problems associated with Cluster Housing Developments, the minimum size of stands to qualify for Cluster developments be changed from 3000m<sup>2</sup> to 5000m<sup>2</sup>. The proposal was accepted by the Committee.

**RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

THAT the minimum size of stands to qualify for Cluster Housing Development in the city be increased from the current 3000m<sup>2</sup> to 5000m<sup>2</sup>. **ADES**

**D. BUILDING INSPECTORATE**

It was reported that 30 building plans were approved in Victoria Ranch during the month of April 2023 and a total of USD7 738.16 was raised in plan fees. For the rest of town a total of 17 building plans were approved and total amount of USD10 334.00 was raised from plan fees. The report was noted.

**E. WORKSHOP**

The report of the Acting Director of Engineering Services on the state of the Council fleet by Department for the month of April 2023 was noted. The report was noted.

**F. VEHICLE TRACKING SYSTEM**

The report of the Acting Director of Engineering Services on vehicle tracking system for the month of April 2023 was considered. It was reported that 4 668 driving violations had been recorded during the month. The high number of driving violations was noted. It was advised that drivers should be educated to reduce harsh turning, harsh breaking and idling.

**G. ROAD MAINTENANCE**

The activities of the Road Maintenance Section for the month of April 2023 covering tar and gravel patching, drainage maintenance and roads repaired was considered.

**H. BUILDING MAINTENANCE**

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On routine buildings maintenance, the Maintenance Section attended to bricklaying, electrical, plumbing, carpentry and painting works on Council properties during the month of April 2023. The report was noted.

**I. FIRE SECTION**

It was reported that the Section attended to one road traffic accident, four building fires one special services during the month of April 2023. The section also provided VVIP and Special services to special visitors in the District and also covered Independence Day Celebrations on 18 April 2023.

Clarification was sought on the Council position regarding the request made by Nyaradzo Funeral Assurance Company, where they proposed to acquire the current Municipal Fire Station premises, in exchange they would construct a new morden Fire Staion for Council. The Chamber Secretary explained that the deal was abandoned due to local currency instability. The Acting Director of Engineering Services was instructed to engage Nyaradzo Funeral Assurance Company on the feasibility of resuscitating the deal.

**RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

THAT the Acting Director of Engineering Services be instructed to engage Nyaradzo Funeral Assurance Company, on the possibility of resuscitating the discussions on their earlier request to build a morden Fire Staion for Council, in exchange for the current Municipal Fire Station stand. **ADES**

**J. PROJECTS BEING UNDERTAKEN BY COUNCIL**

**i. Rujeko Secondary School**

It was reported that block 5 was at window level while block 6 was at compaction stage.

**ii. New Landfill Construction**

It was reported that drainage expansion excavations had been completed, drainage pipes laying and backfilling at 70%, covering tent procured and was now on site. It was also reported that Leachate pond construction had been completed and that the preparation for second leachate pond reconstruction was underway. Minor landfill road maintenance works at critical sections had been done and procurement of landfill offices materials was in progress. The overall percentage completion was at 98.5%. The report was noted.

**iii. Safe Market**

It was reported that the construction of the toilet and the Police base had been complete, and painting was in progress. The overall percentage completion for the project was 50%. The report was noted.

**Ward Development Fund Projects**

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**iv. Chesvingo Market Shed**

It was reported that slabbing had been completed, and the overall percentage completion was 100%.

**v. Hillside Market Shed**

It was reported that back filling was in progress, and the overall percentage completion was 70%.

**vi. Gomba Market Shed**

It was reported that the overall percentage completion was 70%.

**vii. Rujeko Market Toilet**

It was reported that the overall percentage completion level was at 20%.

**K. Adoption of Report**

**RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

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

The meeting ended at 5.23 p.m.

**CONFIRMED THIS DAY OF 2023**

**CHAIRMAN**

**TOWN CLERK**