

CITY OF MASVINGO

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE 1052nd ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, MUNICIPAL OFFICES, ON MONDAY 25
MARCH 2024 AT 4.55 P.M.**

PRESENT: His Worship the Mayor Councillor A. Tabe
Deputy Mayor Councillor D. Mberikunashe
Councillor S. Chikwangwani
Councillor M. Madhuna
Councillor W. Sitemere
Councillor T. Masimba
Councillor R. Musekiwa
Councillor B. Muchokwa
Councillor S. Manyanga
Councillor A. Time
Councillor E. Zishiri
Councillor S.T. Marombedze

OFFICIALS: Town Clerk
Finance Director
Director of Housing and Social Services
Senior Health Officer
Acting Human Resources Officer
Committee Officer
Assistant Committee Officer

078. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.

Before moving for the confirmation of the minutes, the minutes of the meeting held on 11 March 2024 were corrected by indicating that Councillor S.T. Marombedze had given an apology, which had not been recorded in the minutes.

RESOLVED

THAT the minutes of the meetings held on 26 February 2024 and 11 March 2024 be taken as read, confirmed as correct records and signed.

Proposed by Councillor S. Manyanga [26.02.24]
Seconded by Councillor A. Time

Proposed by Councillor S. Chikwangwani [11.03.24]
Seconded by Councillor M. Madhuna

079. MATTERS ARISING.

(i). Minute 50(4): Dumping of refuse in Victoria Ranch

Progress was sought regarding the engagement of Masvingo Rural District Council (MRDC) on the matter. The Town Clerk reported that it was still work in progress. The Department

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of Health Services would engage Masvingo Rural District Council with a view to provide the service at a fee.

(ii). Minute 049: Flooding areas in Runyararo West.

Progress was sought regarding clearing of waterways to ensure smooth flow of runoff water, the Town Clerk reported that hire of an excavator was in progress, works would commence as soon as the excavator was delivered.

(iii). Minute 064(A): Appointment of members to Committees

Councillor S.T. Marombedze reported that she had registered interest in being a member of the Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee but the minutes missed the report. The matter was referred to Council in Committee for consideration.

080. COMMUNICATIONS

The Town Clerk reported that he had received correspondence from the Ministry of Local Government and Public Works to the effect that the Council 2024 Budget had been approved. However, Council was being advised to adhere to laid down timelines stated in the budget, and also to draw up a programme of engagement with the residents.

081. HEALTH, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

IT WAS MOVED BY Councillor M. Madhuna seconded by Councillor S. Manyanga

“THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee held on 4 March 2024 be adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto”.

On minute 60(D), regarding Charles Austin Theatre operations, the Director of Housing and Social Services explained that governance structures for the Theatre were already in place. The resolution which reads,

“THAT the Director of Housing and Social Services be instructed to put in place governance structures at Charles Austin Theatre” was withdrawn. It was agreed that the recommendation be withdrawn.

WHEREUPON the original motion was put as the substantive motion, and it was

RESOLVED

- 1 THAT the minutes of the meetings held on 5 February 2024 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record, and signed.
- 2 THAT the Town Clerk be instructed to communicate to the Department of Veterinary Services dangers of breeding of Pit-bull Dogs with a view to lobby for legislation regulating the activity.

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- 3 THAT the Town Clerk be instructed to reconstitute Ward Health Clubs for wards 3, 7 and 8 in light of changes of Ward boundaries arising from the 2023 ward delimitation exercise.
- 4 THAT the report of the Chief Environmental Health Officer be approved and adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto.
- 5 THAT the application by Simbarashe Mangundu, for a Liquor Development Permit to operate a Bar on Stand Number 30165, Runyararo Southwest Business Centre, Masvingo be granted.
- 6 THAT applications for liquor development permits by Rashai Takunda Chakabuda to operate a liquor wholesale, Bar and Night Club on Stand Numbers 1705 and 1706, Chesvingo Business Centre, Masvingo be put in abeyance pending further assessment by the Chief Environmental Health Officer.
- 7 THAT the report of the Director of Housing and Social Services be approved and adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto.
- 8 THAT the report of the Town Clerk be approved and adopted.

082. PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

IT WAS MOVED BY Councillor R. Musekiwa seconded by Councillor S. Manyanga

“THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 7 March 2024 be adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto”

The issue of Non-Revenue Water which rose to 45% for the month of March 2024 was queried. The Acting Director of Engineering Services explained the factors that causes non-revenue water to increase, and efforts being made by Council to reduce same. The need to resolve the issue of nonfunctional water meters was highlighted as one of the steps towards reducing non-revenue water.

The Town Clerk also explained that Non-Revenue Water included physical and commercial losses and billing errors and it was not possible to reduce it to zero percent. He stated that the best practice around the globe was 25%.

It was suggested that Council should review the policy on ownership of water meters, with a view that Council would own the meters for easy of replacement of stuck meters.

WHEREUPON the original motion was put as the substantive motion and it was

RESOLVED

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 7 March 2024 be adopted subject to the resolutions passed as follows:

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1. THAT the report of the Acting Director of Engineering Services be approved and adopted.

083. FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

IT WAS MOVED BY Councillor B. Muchokwa seconded by Councillor S. Manyanga

“THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 20 March 2024 be adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto”.

WHEREUPON the original motion was put as the substantive motion and it was

RESOLVED

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 20 March 2024 be adopted subject to the resolutions passed as follows:

- 1 THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 19 February 2024 be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record and signed.
- 2 THAT the Finance Director be instructed to seek borrowing powers from the Ministry of Local Government and Public Works for the loan facility of US 200 000 from Steward Bank.
- 3 THAT subject to approval of borrowing powers by the Ministry of Local Government and Public Works, the Finance Director be instructed to apply for a loan amounting to US\$200 000 from Steward Bank for the procurement of Landfill maintenance equipment, at an interest rate of 15% and establishment fee of 2%, payable over a period of one year.
- 4 THAT Council authorises the utilisation of the 2024 Traditional Beer Levy funds for partial funding of Rujeko Secondary School and construction of Runyararo Swimming Pool whilst awaiting for Devolution Funds disbursement.
- 5 THAT the report of the Finance Director be approved and adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto.
- 6 THAT Council authorises the free use of Mucheke Stadium by Masvingo United Football Club to host its home league games during the 2024 Soccer Season.
- 7 THAT the report of the Director of Housing and Social Services be approved and adopted subject to the resolution passed in relation thereto.

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- 8 THAT the building plan approval fee for Institutional stands be pegged at USD \$1/ m² on the ground floor and \$ 0 .50 per square metre for additional floors.
- 9 THAT the report of the Director of Engineering Services be approved and adopted subject to the resolution passed in relation thereto.
- 10 THAT fourteen (14) Council policies as listed below, be adopted
- i. City of Masvingo Infectious Disease Control Policy 2024
 - ii. City of Masvingo Non-Current Assets Management Policy 2024
 - iii. Corporate Social Responsibility Policy 2024
 - iv. Credit Control Policy 2024
 - v. Cyber Security Policy 2024
 - vi. Disaster Management Policy 2024
 - vii. Records Management Policy 2024
 - viii. Due Diligence Policy City of Masvingo 2024
 - ix. Education Policy 2024
 - x. Outdoor Advertising Policy Doc 2024
 - xi. Security Policy 2024
 - xii. Social Services Policy 2024
 - xiii. Whistle Blowing Policy 2024
 - xiv. Recruitment Policy (Reviewed) 2024
 - xv. Vehicle Policy (Reviewed) 2024
 - xvi. Medical Aid Constitution (Reviewed) 2024
- 11 THAT the matter regarding the pricing of commercial stands along Oliver Street and off Charumbira Road along Beitbridge Road be referred to Management for further research and a report on the matter be submitted to a Special Council meeting for consideration.
- 12 THAT the report of the Chamber Secretary be approved and adopted subject to the resolution passed in relation thereto.
- 13 THAT the application by Innocent Mutande (BNRP Operator Grade 8) Comp. No. 130342, for an educational loan amounting to US\$120, paid in RTGS at the prevailing interbank rate, to pursue a National Diploma in Water and Wastewater Management with the Institute of Water and Sanitation Development be granted subject to availability of funds in the educational loan revolving fund.
- 14 THAT the application by Mrs B. Chadomunhu (Revenue Clerk Grade 10) Comp. No. 120255 requesting for an educational loan amounting to US\$305 payable at the prevailing interbank rate to undertake a Master of Commerce degree in Professional Accounting and Corporate Governance with Great Zimbabwe University be granted subject to availability of funds in the educational loan revolving fund.

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- 15 THAT the application by Mrs P. R. Chipato (Water Works Plant Attendant Grade 4) Comp. No. 130448 for an educational loan amounting to US\$500 payable at the prevailing interbank rate, to undertake a Post Graduate Diploma in Water Supply and Sanitation with the Institute of Water and Sanitation Development be granted subject to availability of funds in the educational loan revolving fund.
- 16 THAT the application by Ms Suzanne H. Madamombe (Chief Environmental Health Officer Grade 16) Comp. No. 120212 for an educational loan amounting to US\$ 675 payable at the prevailing interbank rate, to undertake a Master of Science Degree in International Relations at the Zimbabwe National Defence University be granted subject to availability of funds in the educational loan revolving fund.
- 17 THAT the application by Mr Mugove Hove (Audit Clerk Grade 11) Comp. No. 120183 requesting for an educational loan amounting to US\$2665.00 payable at the prevailing interbank rate, to pursue an Advanced Diploma in Professional Accounting with the Zimbabwe Chartered Institute of Accountants, be granted subject to availability of funds in the educational loan revolving fund.
- 18 THAT the report of the Town Clerk be approved and adopted subject to the resolution passed in relation thereto.

084. MOTION FOR COUNCIL TO TURN INTO COMMITTEE

IT WAS MOVED BY Councillor R. Musekiwa seconded by Deputy Mayor Councillor D. Mberikunashe

“THAT Council turns itself into Committee for purposes of confirming the Minutes of the 1051st Ordinary Council In Committee meeting held on 26 February 2024, and adopting the minutes of the Human Resources and Gender Committee meeting held on 11 March 2024, and the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held on 19 February 2024”.

WHEREUPON the original motion was taken as the substantive motion and it was

RESOLVED

THAT Council turns itself into Committee for purposes of confirming the Minutes of the 1051st Ordinary Council in Committee meeting held on 26 February 2024 and adopting the minutes of the Human Resources and Gender Committee meeting held on 11 March 2024, and the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held on 19 February 2024.

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The meeting ended at 7.01 p.m.

CONFIRMED THIS

DAY OF

2024

MAYOR

TOWN CLERK