

CITY OF MASVINGO

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE 1053RD ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, MUNICIPAL OFFICES, ON MONDAY 29 APRIL
2024 AT 4.55 P.M.**

PRESENT: His Worship the Mayor Councillor A. Tabe
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
Councillor B. Hwata

APOLOGY Councillor S. Sitemere

OFFICIALS: Town Clerk
Chamber Secretary
Finance Director
Director of Housing and Social Services
Chief Internal Auditor
Senior Health Officer
Acting Human Resources Officer
Committee Officer
Assistant Committee Officer

111. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.

RESOLVED

THAT the minutes of the meetings held on 25 March 2024 and 28 March 2024 be taken as read, confirmed as correct records, and signed.

Proposed by Councillor S. Manyanga [25.03.24]
Seconded by Councillor A. Time

Proposed by Councillor A. Time [28.03.24]
Seconded by Councillor R. Musekiwa

112. COMMUNICATIONS

i. APOLOGIES

The Town Clerk reported that Councillor W. Sitemere had advised that he attended a funeral and could not attend the meeting.

ii. **CIVIC PARTICIPATION GOLD AWARD AT THE 2024 ZIMBABWE INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR (ZITF) EXHIBITION**

The Town Clerk also reported that Council exhibited at the Zimbabwe International Trade Fair (ZITF) under the Civic Participation Category and was conferred with a Gold Medal for scooping the first-place position. His Worship the Mayor expressed gratitude and commended the team for the job well done.

113. **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 9 April 2024 be adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto”.

On minute 097 (F), regarding the Lease Agreement Renewal for Kubatana Pre-School, an amendment was made to the recommendation to read,

“THAT the matter regarding the termination of lease agreement of Kubatana Preschool for violating lease agreement be deferred for finalisation at the next Health Housing and Environmental Services Committee meeting.”

It was raised that there was an outcry in the commonage on the matter regarding public indecency, operation of brothels, Bottle Stores operating as Night Clubs and rampant under age prostitution at Mucheke Business Centre which was a cause for concern. Members highlighted the need for Council to conduct a joint blitz to investigate the issues of violation of operating licenses and alleged, rampant acts of immoral and illegal activities taking place at Mucheke Business Centre. The matter was referred to the Health Housing and Environmental Services Committee for investigation.

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

RESOLVED

1. THAT the matter regarding the cases of public indecency, operation of brothels, Bottle Stores violating their operating licences, and alleged, rampant acts of immoral and illegal activities taking place at Mucheke Business Centre be referred to the Health Housing and Environmental Services Committee for investigation.
2. THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 4 March 2024 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record, and signed.
3. THAT the Chief Environmental Health Officer be instructed to compile a report to the next meeting of the Health Housing and Environmental Services Committee on the cumulative total number of unlicensed premises in the city.

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4. THAT the Chief Environmental Health Officer be instructed to conduct a blitz to stop sale of cooked food by vendors and put in place strategies to discourage such activities.
5. THAT the Chief Environmental Health Officer be instructed to seek guidance from the District Development Coordinator on the school feeding program in light of anticipated nutritional challenges in schools resulting from the 2024 drought.
6. THAT the signing of Memorandum of Understanding between City of Masvingo and Zimbabwe Association of Church Related Hospitals to cooperate on combating gender-based violence be granted.
7. THAT the signing of Memorandum of Understanding between City of Masvingo and Zvandiri Organisation be granted.
8. THAT the report of the Chief Environmental Health Officer be approved and adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto.
9. THAT the application by Enessern Changwereza for a Bottle Store Liquor Development permit on Stand number 7426, Rujeko B, Masvingo, be granted.
10. THAT the application by Tinovimba Mundondo for a Wholesale Liquor Development permit on Stand number 2820 Tsungai Complex, Mucheke Business Centre Masvingo be granted.
11. THAT the application by Takunda Rashai Chakabuda for a Wholesale Liquor Development Permit on Stand Number 1706 Chesvingo Business Centre, Masvingo be granted.
12. THAT the application by Takunda Rashai Chakabuda for a Liquor Development Permit to operate a bar on Stand Number 1705 Chesvingo Business Centre, Masvingo be granted.
13. THAT the matter regarding the termination of lease agreement of Kubatana Preschool for violating lease agreement be deferred for finalization in the next Health Housing and Environmental Services Committee meeting.
14. THAT the Director of Housing and Social Services be instructed to submit the Lease Agreement for Kubatana Preschool to the next Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee.
15. THAT the application by Masvingo Teachers College to lease Chesvingo PreShool be granted.

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

114. 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 8 April 2024 be adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto”

On item 093 (E) on the report on the Review of the Master Plan, concern was raised that some Councillors were not fully aware of the Masterplan Review Process. The Town Clerk gave a background regarding the Master Plan Review Process and noted that the President through the Blueprint, Call to Action on Service Delivery, directed local authorities to review their Masterplan by 30 June 2024. Council then began the tender process, and a Lead Planner was engaged as per newly reviewed Procurement regulation, an inception meeting was done where the consultant explained the process. After the inception, the first draft report was submitted to Council and the second draft would also be shared to Management and the final report will be shared with Council and submitted to the Ministry of Local Government and Public Works. He further explained that the process was still within the expected timelines, with the only challenge being finances. It was anticipated that the process would be funded by Devolution funds, which disbursement for 2024 had not been received but Council had authorized to utilize its own funding whilst waiting for disbursements.

On minute 094(A)(viii), members raised concern on non-revenue water which had a cumulative total of USD384 135.60. It was clarified that the major cause for non-revenue water was metering inaccuracies. The Acting Director of Engineering Services advised that a training on non-revenue water would be conducted to sensitize stakeholders in all the Wards. The Acting Director of Engineering Services was tasked to put in place strategies to reduce non-revenue water. A proposal was made for Council to retain ownership of water meters to enable control of the meters and therefore ensure faster replacement in the event of malfunctioning.

Members also requested for improvement in water supply, which the Acting Director of Engineering Services reported that water supply was being affected by power outages. A proposal was made for Council to engage and meet ZESA Officials on improvement of electricity supply, whilst others felt that the meeting was unnecessary, the matter was referred to the Public Works and Planning Committee for deliberation.

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

RESOLVED

1. THAT the matter regarding, Council engaging ZESA Officials on electricity supply to the Bushmead Water Works be referred to the Public Works and Planning Committee for deliberation.

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2. THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 7 March 2024 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed.
3. THAT the Acting Director of Engineering Services be instructed to arrange a tour of the Sewage Treatment Works to enable members of the Committee to appreciate the plant operations and challenges faced.
4. THAT the application of Nyasha C. Banhire to revert back the use of Plot 5 Crescent Drive Morningside to agro-residential in the form of residential clusters be granted.
5. THAT Nyasha C. Banhire be granted permission to advertise in the press as a way of public consultation in terms of section 26 (3) of the Regional, Town and Country Planning Act the intention to revert the use of Plot 5 Crescent Drive Morningside to agro-residential in the form of residential clusters.
6. THAT Allen Sibanda be granted permission to advertise in the press his intention as a way of public consultation in terms of section 26(3) of the Regional, Town and Country Planning Act for change of use of stand number 27400 Zimre Park, Masvingo from single family low density to residential clusters.
7. THAT Chikati N. Makamure be granted permission to advertise in the press his intention as a way of public consultation in terms of section 26(3) of the Regional, Town and Country Planning Act for change of use of stand number 27286 Zimre Park, Masvingo from single family low density to residential clusters.
8. THAT Claudious Mafunu be granted permission to advertise in the press his intention as a way of public consultation in terms of section 26(3) of the Regional, Town and Country Planning Act for change of use of stand number 27213 Zimre Park, Masvingo from single family low density to residential clusters.
9. THAT Mrs. Shelter Huchu be granted permission to advertise in the press her intention as a way of public consultation in terms of section 26(3) of the Regional, Town and Country Planning Act for change of use of stand 4958 Shakashe Drive, Eastvale number, Masvingo from single family residential to Pre-School.
10. THAT the application of S. Mashamba for subdivision of plot number 23 Flesk Morningside, Masvingo into two subdivisions measuring 1.1 Hectares and 0.8 hectares plus the remainder, respectively be approved.
11. THAT Great Zimbabwe Realtors be granted permission to advertise in the press their intention as a way of public consultation in terms of section 26(3) of the Regional, Town and Country Planning Act for consolidation of Plot 2,3,6,7 and 8 Flesk, Morningside, Masvingo into one stand and

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proposal to subdivide the resultant stand into smaller stands of $\pm 4000m^2$ for low density residential purposes.

12. THAT the City of Masvingo Master Plan Inception Report be approved and adopted.
13. THAT the report of the Acting Director of Engineering Services be approved and adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto.

115. 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 17 April 2024 be adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto”.

Concern was raised on the high-water bills which were causing an outcry in the city and clarity was sought on whether the property tax was advertised for public knowledge. The Town Clerk reported that stakeholder engagement meetings with residents and ratepayers will be conducted to enlighten residents on the Council approved budget, components on the Council bills, Council projects and also urge residents to pay their bills.

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

RESOLVED

1. THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 20 March 2024 be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record and signed.
2. THAT Prepaid Parking fees be utilised to construct surfaced parking bays in the Central Business District.
3. THAT the report of the Finance Director be approved and adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto.
4. THAT the application by Tendai Mufamba (Plant Attendant) Comp. No. 130321, for an educational loan amounting to US\$600, with US\$420 paid in US dollars and the remaining US\$180 be paid in RTGS at the prevailing interbank rate, to pursue a National Diploma in Water and Wastewater Management in Institute of Water and Sanitation Development be granted subject to availability of funds in the educational loan revolving fund and conditions governing study loans.
5. THAT subject to Cabinet approval, the Chief Environmental Health Officer Ms. S.H Madamombe be authorized to attend the Regional Conference on Strategies of tackling commercial and determinants of health for urban wellbeing for East and Southern Africa to be held in Nairobi Kenya, for the period 23-24 May 2024, at a cost of

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USD 5394 for Air Travel including Meals, Accommodation, travel and subsistence allowances.

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

116. MOTION FOR COUNCIL TO TURN INTO COMMITTEE

IT WAS MOVED BY Councillor A. Time seconded by Councillor B. Muchokwa

“THAT Council turns itself into Committee for purposes of confirming the Minutes of the 1052nd Ordinary Council In Committee meeting held on 25 March 2024, and adopting the minutes of the Human Resources and Gender Committee meeting held on 16 April 2024, and the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held on 19 April 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 1052nd Ordinary Council in Committee meeting held on 25 March 2024 and adopting the minutes of the Human Resources and Gender Committee meeting held on 16 April 2024, and the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held on 19 April 2024.

The meeting ended at 6.02 p.m.

CONFIRMED THIS DAY OF 2024

MAYOR

TOWN CLERK