

CITY OF MASVINGO

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE HEALTH, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING, HELD IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, MUNICIPAL OFFICES ON WEDNESDAY, 14 AUGUST 2024 AT 4:31 P.M.

PRESENT: Councillor M. Madhuna (Chairman)
Councillor R. Musekiwa
Councillor A. Time
Councillor T. Masimba
Councillor S. Manyanga

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms E. Ndlovu- Development Studies Student

OFFICIALS: Acting Town Clerk
Finance Director
Acting Director of Engineering Services - W. Madzivadondo
Chief Internal Auditor
Senior Health Officer
Area Superintendent Rujeko
Chief Security Officer
Operations Officer
Assistant Committee Officer

219. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED

THAT the minutes of the meetings held on 1 July 2024 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed.

*Proposed by Councillor A. Time
Seconded by Councillor T. Masimba*

220. MATTERS ARISING

i. Operations of Ward Health Clubs

On minute 185 (C) regarding the operations of Ward health Clubs, the Chief Environmental Health Officer was instructed to submit the Draft Policy document to the next Health Housing and Environmental Services Committee.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

THAT the Chief Environmental Health Officer be instructed to submit the draft policy on the operations of Ward Health Clubs in the next meeting of the Health Housing and Environmental Services Committee.

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ii) Activities of the Municipal Police

Minutes: Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee: 14 and 19.08.24

On item 187(A) on activities of the Municipal Police, the Committee noted with concern the rampant alleged acts of corruption reported in the section. The Chief Security Officer was requested to report on the initiatives being done to mitigate corruption. The Chief Security Officer reported that he was putting in place systems for instance receipting of fines by Municipal Police officers was stopped, with fines being paid directly at the Council revenue halls. He further noted that residents would be notified of this development, through the office of the Public Relations. The Chief Security Officer proposed that the Municipal Police be stationed strategically at the Civic Centre to enable swift responses during their operations. The matter was referred to Management for consideration.

The Committee urged the Chief Security Officer to pursue the ranking of buses at Mucheke Bus terminus. The Committee raised concern on low revenue collection at Garikai Market. The Committee urged the Chief Security Officer to liaise with the Finance Director and Director of Housing and Social Services on collection of revenue from vendors operating outside the designated market stalls. The Committee noted the need for Council to construct more Markets.

The Committee also highlighted the need for equipping of Municipal Police section with adequate personal protective equipment and tools. On item 187 (B), on criminal cases it was noted that the amount of fuel and its monetary value on the reported case of theft of diesel from Vehicle AGM 0115 UD truck was omitted from the report. The Chief Internal Auditor reported that she was unaware of the matter. The Chief Security Officer reported that the amount of diesel was 160 litres confirmed by the Stores Controller, the matter was handled by Internal Auditor, Mr Muchuwa and the case was reported to the Zimbabwe Republic Police. The Committee requested that the Acting Town Clerk be called into the meeting.

The Acting Town Clerk joined the meeting at this point.

The Committee raised concern on the conflicting reports from the Chief Internal Auditor and the Chief Security Officer on the matter regarding diesel stolen from vehicle AGM 0115 UD truck. Committee members highlighted the need for synchronization of duties between departments. The Acting Town Clerk advised that when an incident occur at times, parallel investigations are done and where necessary disciplinary action is instituted. The Acting Town Clerk also advised that the Internal Audit and Municipal Police would look into the matter and provide feedback in the next Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee meeting.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

1. THAT the matter regarding the provision of offices for the Municipal Police at the Civic Centre be referred to Management for consideration. **ATC**
2. THAT the matter regarding theft of diesel from Vehicle AGM 0115 UD truck be referred to the Audit Committee. **ATC**

On illegal operations in the commonage, the Committee highlighted the need for

Minutes: Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee: 14 and 19.08.24

Council to avail designated spaces for firewood stalls, carpentry, gas operators etc.

221. 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 July 2024, covering premises inspections, licensing, health inspection statistics, water and food quality control, meat inspection, meat condemned during abattoir inspections, tuberculosis management, weekly diseases surveillance, inspections at Garikai Market, dog bites and SPCA activities.

On water quality control it was reported that the number of water tests conducted during the period under review were low due to non-availability of reagents in the local market. The Committee highlighted the need to maintain adequate stock levels of reagents.

On meat inspections, the Committee highlighted the need to monitor destroying of condemned meats. On inspections at Garikai fruit and vegetable Market, a proposal was made for Council to construct an additional ablution facility.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

THAT the matter regarding the construction of an additional ablution facility at Garikai Fruit and Vegetable Market be referred to the Public Works and Planning Committee for consideration.

It was reported that the blitz on unvaccinated dogs will be conducted in the month of August 2024. The programme would commence with vaccination of dogs, followed by shooting of stray dogs. The committee emphasised the need for educating residents on dog vaccination and thereafter residents with unvaccinated dogs would be fined. It was noted that an advertisement on the dog vaccination programme would be flighted in the local press.

The Committee raised concern on illegal drug trading occurring at a squatter settlement near Mucheke footbridge (Mudhefudhefu). It was alleged that the owner was selling drugs and the settlement also housed a pack of dogs. The Chief Security Officer was urged to investigate the matter and report to the Zimbabwe Republic Police.

B. CURATIVE HEALTH SERVICES

The report of the Chief Environmental Health Officer on Curative Health Services statistics for the month of July 2024 covering Masvingo Urban Demographic data, Mother to Child health services, drug availability, out patients, chronic conditions, maternal and child care services, EPI programme, patients' attendance at Council Clinics, STI management, and partnership projects was noted.

The Committee urged for continuous distribution of condoms at public places and public toilets to curb the spread of sexually transmitted illnesses.

Minutes: Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee: 14 and 19.08.24

C. CLEANSING, REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Environmental Health Officer for the month of July 2024 covering number of refuse trucks on the road, refuse removal statistics, pest control, waste management and collection, community engagement, waste separation monitoring, and clean up campaigns.

Committee members proposed for the procurement of a refuse compactor to augment the Council fleet. The Finance Director advised that Council could include the procurement of the refuse compactor in the 2025 budget or effect a supplementary budget in the current year to finance the procurement.

D. NATIONAL AIDS COUNCIL DAAC PROGRAMME.

The report of the Chief Environmental Health Officer for the month of July 2024 on the National Aids Council activities was considered. The report was noted.

E. 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.

222. REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF HOUSING AND SOCIAL SERVICES.

A. REQUEST FOR RENEWAL OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) BETWEEN CARE ZIMBABWE AND MASVINGO CITY COUNCIL

Consideration was given to the report of the Director of Housing and Social Services on the request for renewal of Memorandum of Understanding between Council and Care Zimbabwe. It was reported that Care Zimbabwe implemented various projects in the City providing Humanitarian Emergency, WASH, Climate and Livelihoods Resilience and Social Support Needs. The request was granted.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

THAT the request for renewal of Memorandum of Understanding between City of Masvingo and Care Zimbabwe be granted.

B. APPLICATION FOR LIQUOR DEVELOPMENT PERMIT ON STAND 1700 CHESVINGO BUSINESS CENTRE, MASVINGO ; JESTINOS MUMBURE

Consideration was given to the report of the Director of Housing and Community Services on the application by Jestinos Mumbure, for a Liquor Development permit to operate a Sports Bar/ Club on Stand Number 1700, Chesvingo Business Centre, Masvingo. The application was granted.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

Minutes: Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee: 14 and 19.08.24

THAT the application by Jestinos Mumbure, for a Liquor Development permit to operate a Sports Bar/ Club on Stand Number 1700, Chesvingo Business Centre, Masvingo be granted. **DHSS**

C. ASSESSMENT OF SQUATTERS AT MUCHEKE BUS TERMINUS, MASVINGO

The report of the Director of Housing and Social Services on the assessment of squatters at Mucheke Bus Terminus was considered. It was reported that the squatters at Mucheke Clock room occupied the place after facing discrimination in their rural homes due to disabilities and relied on begging for sustenance. They often received disability grants from the department of Social Development currently the fund is no longer available. Currently the squatter settlement houses 75 inhabitants comprised of babies, school going age, youths, adults and the elderly. The residents are able bodied and some have disabilities ranging from visual impairment, hearing impairment and physical disability. An assessment was done on 10 July 2024, and interviews were held with 11 respondents aged between 25 and 67, 8 females and 3 males including 4 with disabilities.

It was reported that the inhabitants faced challenges relating to inadequate shelter and sanitation facilities, limited access to clean water and healthcare, insecurity and vulnerability to crime, social stigma and discrimination, harsh weather conditions, malnutrition and limited employment opportunities. It was recommended that the inhabitants required affordable housing options with access to basic services, vocational training and employment opportunities, healthcare, sanitation, and clean water, collaborate with local organizations to provide support services and Council provide accommodation if available.

It was reported that the assessment highlighted the need for a comprehensive approach to address the challenges faced by squatters at Mucheke Bus Terminus. By providing affordable housing, employment opportunities, and access to basic services, Council could improve the lives of the individuals and promote a more inclusive and equitable community.

The Committee agreed to the removal and rehabilitation of the squatters at Mucheke Bus terminus by Council in liaison with the Department of Social Welfare. The Committee also highlighted the need for the upgrading of Mucheke Bus terminus as a solution to the problem of squatters to deter the squatters from returning back.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

THAT the Director of Housing and Social Services be instructed to liaise with the Department of Social Welfare on the removal and rehabilitation of squatters at Mucheke bus terminus.

The Committee agreed to adjourned the meeting and continue at a later date.

The meeting was adjourned at 8.00 p.m

Minutes: Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee: 14 and 19.08.24

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE HEALTH, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING, HELD IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, MUNICIPAL OFFICES ON MONDAY, 19 AUGUST 2024 AT 3:23 P.M.

PRESENT: Councillor M. Madhuna (Chairman)
 Councillor R. Musekiwa
 Councillor A. Time
 Councillor T. Masimba
 Councillor S. Manyanga

IN ATTENDANCE: District Development Coordinator's office- Mr L. Magwati
 Ms E. Ndlovu- Development Studies Student

OFFICIALS: Finance Director
 Acting Director of Engineering Services - W. Madzivadondo
 Acting Director of Housing and Social Services – Mr S. Dhleleyeni
 Senior Health Officer
 Area Superintendent Rujeko
 Chief Security Officer
 Operations Officer
 Assistant Committee Officer

D. HOUSING ISSUES

Consideration was given to the report of the Director of Housing and Community Services for the month of July 2024, covering housing waiting lists, and housing routine business for Mucheke, Chesvingo and Rujeko Administration Offices.

Clarity was sought on the progress for Chesvingo Business Centre light industrial stands and Rujeko D stands. Members proposed for convening a Special Council meeting to consider such projects. A request was made for the Director of Housing and Social Services to submit a report on the visit made by the Committee to Harare to appreciate the housing developments made by FBC in Harare.

On development of stands, the Committee highlighted the need for availing more stands for indigenous churches. It was noted that indigenous Church leaders should be engaged, and educated on the importance of Church constitutions which enable them to be registered as an institution and therefore can be allocated a stand.

A proposal was made for Council to provide a longer payment period for cost of land for church stands. It was proposed and agreed that the Director of Housing and Social Services be tasked to prepare a report on all Churches in Masvingo and the number of stands they were allocated by Council, and submit in the next Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee.

Minutes: Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee: 14 and 19.08.24**RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

1. THAT the Director of Housing and Social Services be instructed to submit a report on the visit made by the Committee to Harare to appreciate the housing developments implemented by FBC Bank in Harare, in the next Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee.
2. THAT the Director of Housing and Social Services be instructed to submit a report on all Churches in Masvingo and the number of stands they were allocated by Council, and submit in the next Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee. **DHSS**

On development projects, the members emphasised that Council should strive to complete projects as agreed in the Strategic Plan as per set target. The Senior Health Officer advised that the Monitoring and Evaluation Officer would assist on monitoring of Council projects and the set targets would be reviewed at the upcoming Strategic Planning review workshop. The official from the District Development Coordinators' office, Mr Magwati advised that Council may also put targets for projects and review timelines for instance monthly, quarterly or bi annual instead of waiting for the annual review of the Strategic Plan.

E. WELFARE SECTION

The report of the Director of Housing and Community Services on the Welfare Section for the month of July 2024 covering revenue raised by the section, leased properties payment status, preschools, Council scholarship programme, libraries, revenue collected, workshops and trainings, economic empowerment programmes, Mucheke Old People's Home, Charles Austin Theatre, recreation activities, facilities maintenance was considered. The report was noted.

The Committee highlighted the need for upgrading and renovating Mucheke Hall. A proposal was made for ringfencing funds generated from hire of the hall, to renovate and equip the facility with gaming, gym and other equipment. The Finance Director advised that there was need for costing of the intended works and equipment required for the hall to enable ringfencing of funds with a specific target. The matter was referred to Management for consideration.

The Committee deliberated on the matter regarding termination of lease agreement for Kubatana Preschool. It was reported that the lease agreement with the tenant was terminated and the tenant had been given up to 15 November 2024 to vacate the premise. The general feeling was to reconsider the termination of the lease agreement, since the property was being leased to a women's community club (Women's League) as a way of empowering women and therefore outright withdrawal of the premise would disadvantage a number of beneficiaries. A proposal was made to rescind the standing Council resolution and engage the Women's League to discuss the matter and find other alternative options. The Committee agreed that the matter be referred to Management for consideration.

Minutes: Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee: 14 and 19.08.24

On Council libraries, a proposal was made for Council to modernise libraries and install internet access at all Council libraries and avail it to local university students at a fee as a revenue generation initiative.

On Mucheke Old People's Home, the Committee highlighted the need for Council to install burglar bars at the home as a safety measure. The matter was referred to the Public Works and Planning Committee for consideration

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

1. THAT the proposal to ringfence revenue generated from hire of Mucheke Hall to renovate and equip the facility be referred to Management for consideration. **DHSS**
2. THAT the matter regarding the termination of lease agreement for Kubatana Pre-School be referred to Management, with a view to engage the tenant for alternative options before the actual repossession of premises, and the feasibility of rescinding the standing Council resolution. **DHSS**
3. THAT the matter regarding installation of security screen (Burglar bars) at Mucheke People's Home be referred to the Public Works and Planning Committee for consideration. **DHSS**

F. PARKS SECTION

The report of the Director of Housing and Social Services on the Parks Section for the month of July 2024 covering staff welfare, state of tractors and other equipment, islands, gardens and open spaces, trees and plantations, Parks, nursery, cemeteries and revenue collected from grave payments was considered.

On Cemeteries, the need to reserve space at the current Cemeteries for respectable members of the community was highlighted. It was agreed that the Director of Housing and Social Services should organise a tour of the new Cumbria Cemetery to enable Committee members to appreciate the new site. It was highlighted that the Council cemeteries required fencing, Guard Rooms and a shed. A proposal was made for Council to consider starting a tombstone manufacturing project as a way of standardising tombstones for uniformity.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

THAT the Director of Housing and Social Services be instructed to organise an appreciation tour of Cumbria Cemetery for members of the Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee. **DHSS**

G. ESTATES AND VALUATION SECTION

The report of the Director of Housing and Social Services on the activities of the Estate and Valuation section covering planned scheme valuations was noted.

Minutes: Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee: 14 and 19.08.24**H. 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. **DHSS**

223. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK**A. ACTIVITIES OF THE MUNICIPAL POLICE (JULY 2024)**

Consideration was given to the report of the Town Clerk on the activities of the Municipal Police for the month of July 2024 covering guarding duties, joint operations, boom gate collections, Cash In Transit and Garikai Market.

(i). SECURITY OF COUNCIL ESTABLISHMENTS.

It was reported that the section was providing security services to the following Council premises;

- Chesvingo Administration Office
- Runyararo North West Clinic
- Target Kopje water reservoir
- Mayor's residence
- Building Brigade
- Workshop
- Municipal Stores
- Civic Centre
- Bushmead water treatment works
- Town Clerk's residence
- Mazorodze Clinic
- Rujeko Isolation Centre
- Mucheke Stadium.
- Runyararo Borehole
- Runyararo Clinic
- Sewage Works
- Landfill
- Runyararo West Borehole
- Eastvale Mobile Clinic
- City of Masvingo Nursery
- Kernen Park
- Chesvingo Safe Market

B. OPERATIONS**Joint operations**

Minutes: Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee: 14 and 19.08.24

It was reported that the Section conducted Joint operations with other stakeholders such as the Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP) in the enforcement of traffic by laws, illegal vending, on street services garages and blocking of pavements. The Section conducted blitz on health and environmental issues with personnel from the Health Department and the Housing Department on illegal structures and vendors. Shop licensing enforcements were also carried with the Debt Collection Section. Six operations were done with ZRP Chikato and Rujeko whilst 20 joint operations were done with the Housing Department, and Audit.

The table below summarises the statistics of arrests made as well as revenue realized.

OFFENCES /ACTIVITY	ARRES TS	AMOUN T US\$	AMOUNT ZIG
Traffic			
Failure to purchase parking disc	13	260	
Continuous parking after expiry of disc	266	2660	
Storage fee	2	60	
Pick and drop at undesignated points	20	800	
Impound fee	25	500	
Obstruction	1	50	
Improper parking	5	150	
Parking at undesignated place	21	630	
TOTAL	353	5110	
LICENCING			
Shop licence	246	4920	
Push carts	15	150	
Illegal Selling of gas	11	220	
Illegal selling of sadza	1	20	
Illegal carwash	5	100	
TOTAL	278	5 410	
VENDING			
Perishables (potatoes, vegetables and fruits)	35	510	
Non-perishables (bales)	79	1150	
Blocking pavements	5	120	
NB. Several perishable items such as cabbages, bananas, vegetables, tomatoes, onions and avocados were recovered from vendors and destroyed at the instance of Health Officers' recommendations whereas non-perishable goods were kept as exhibits and are awaiting disposal through public auction.			
TOTAL	119	1 780	
COMMONAGE			
Extraction of gravel	1	50	
Impounded vehicles	2	40	
Extraction of river sand	1	50	
Illegal drilling of borehole	1	100	
NB: 5 Commonage patrols			

Minutes: Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee: 14 and 19.08.24

3 motorized patrols were done in the commonage area as follows: (1) Standard B farm was visited but it's on lease and manned by private security guards who confirmed that there are no firewood poachers. (2) Two raids were carried down to arrest sand poachers on different days in Townlands farms, Steelmakers and Mangwandi area.			
TOTAL	5	240	
BOOMGATES			
Croco Motors	450	4 500	
WID	444	4 430	
L.Takawira	246	2 420	
TOTAL	1140	11 350	
Grand Total	1 895	23 890	
DISCIPLINARY CASES			
CRIMINAL CASES			
Theft of cash by Enock Chingorivo a Council employee. Attempted theft of amoured cable at Muccheke Stadium.			

Cash In Transit-(CIT).

It was reported that the section collected and banked cash from Croco Motors terminus, WID Terminus, Garikai Market, Civic Centre, Chiwororo Beerhall, Chidavaenzi Bottle Store, Rujeko Beerhall, Runyararo West Clinic, Runyararo Clinic, Muccheke Clinic, Rujeko Clinic and City of Masvingo Nursery. These duties were carried out incident-free.

Garikai Market

It was reported that the section provided security to Revenue collection and banking of revenue collections done at Garikai Market.

E. Adoption of Report**RESOLVED**

THAT the report of the Town Clerk be adopted.

The meeting ended at 5:02 p.m.

CONFIRMED THIS

DAY OF

2024

CHAIRMAN

TOWN CLERK