

CITY OF MASVINGO

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE HEALTH, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING, HELD IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, MUNICIPAL OFFICES ON MONDAY, 1 JULY 2024 AT 4:31 P.M.

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

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor W. Sitemere

APOLOGY: Deputy Mayor Councillor D. Mberikunashe
Councillor S.T. Marombedze

OFFICIALS: Town Clerk
Director of Housing and Social Services
Chief Environmental Health Officer
Acting Deputy Finance Director
Acting Director of Engineering Services
Chief Internal Auditor
Senior Health Officer
Assistant Committee Officer

184. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED

THAT the minutes of the meetings held on 3 June 2024 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed.

Proposed by Councillor A. Time

Seconded by Councillor T. Masimba

185. 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 June 2024, covering premises inspections, health inspection statistics, water and food quality control, meat inspection, meat condemned during abattoir inspections, tuberculosis management and weekly diseases surveillance.

On dog bites in the City, the Committee raised concern regarding dog bites in the commonage by unvaccinated dogs. The Committee saw it fit that Council should conduct a blitz against unvaccinated dogs and owners of unvaccinated dogs fined USD

Minutes: Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee: 1.07.24

20 per each. The idea was accepted but Council officials were advised to engage the residents before carrying out the blitz. It was agreed that the residents be engaged through the Public Relations Officer.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

1. THAT the Chief Environmental Health Officer be instructed to organise a blitz against unvaccinated dogs in the commonage.
2. THAT owners of unvaccinated dogs in the commonage be fined USD20.00 per dog.

B. CURATIVE HEALTH SERVICES

The report of the Chief Environmental Health Officer on Curative Health Services statistics for the month of June 2024 covering Masvingo Urban Demographic data, Mother to Child health services, drug availability, out patients, chronic infections, Covid19 vaccination, transport services, patients' attendance at Council Clinics and Prevention of mother to Child transmission (PMTCT) services was noted.

On Runyararo North West Medical Centre, it was reported that equipment for the maternity ward had been delivered and commissioning of the maternity Ward would be done in due course.

C. CLEANSING, REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Environmental Health Officer for the month of June 2024 covering number of refuse trucks on the road, refuse removal statistics, garden waste, pest control, Health Clubs activities, waste recycling and collection.

On restructuring of Ward Health Clubs, it was reported that Management would formulate a policy on operations of Ward Health Clubs and report to the Committee for consideration. The idea was accepted.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

THAT the Chief Environmental Health Officer be instructed to formulate a policy of Ward Health Clubs. **CEHO**

D. NATIONAL AIDS COUNCIL DAAC PROGRAMME.

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

E. Adoption of Report

Minutes: Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee: 1.07.24**RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

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

186. REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF HOUSING AND SOCIAL SERVICES.**A. APPLICATION BY TANUEL FAMILY TRUST, FOR PERMISSION TO LEASE PIECE OF LAND ADJACENT STAND NUMBER 28115 HILLSIDE EXTENSION, MASVINGO: MUDZVITI T.**

Consideration was given to the report of the Director of Housing and Social Services on the application of by T. Mudzviti of Tanuel Family Trust, for permission to lease a portion of the open space adjacent Stand Number 28115 Hillside Extension, Masvingo. The applicant was operating a Sports Bar on the premises and was proposing to utilise the open space as a recreational park. The park would accommodate other outdoor activities to compliment his business.

It was advised that the Committee had two options to consider. The first option was that the application should be turned down on the basis that no outdoor activities should be permitted on the premises in terms of the trading licence for a Sports Bar. The second option was that Council may lease the portion of the open space to the applicant. This would have to be done in terms of Section 152 of the Urban Councils Act, Chapter 29:15.

Some members were of the view that the application be turned down on the basis of public outcry against outdoor activities already taking place on the premises. Some members were of the view that the application could be granted on special conditions. Debate ensued.

The Town Clerk advised that Management considered the matter and the Committee should focus on the application for lease of the piece of land adjacent the premises. It was proposed that the Committee should adopt option 2, which involved leasing of the portion of land to the applicant to establish a Recreational Park. The proposal was taken by the Committee.

The motion was moved by Councillor S. Manyanga, seconded by Councillor T. Masimba.

Councillor R. Musekiwa registered his dissent on the matter and requested that his dissent be recorded.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

THAT the Director of Housing and Social Services be instructed to process leasing of the portion of the open space adjacent Stand Number 28115 Hillside Extension, to T. Mudzviti of Tanuel Family Trust to operate a Recreational Park.

DHSS

Minutes: Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee: 1.07.24

B. TERMINATION OF KUBATANA PRE SCHOOL LEASE AGREEMENT

Consideration was given to the report of the Director of Housing and Social Services on the termination of the Lease Agreement for Kubatana Pre School. It was reported that the matter was considered by the Committee on 9 April 2024 where it was resolved;

“THAT the matter regarding the termination of Lease Agreement of Kubatana Pre-School for violating the lease agreement be deferred for finalisation in the next meeting”.

It was explained that the lease agreement should be terminated because of clear breach of the provisions of the agreement, where the tenant was subletting the premises. The Committee unanimously agreed that the lease agreement be terminated.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

THAT the Director of Housing and Social Services be instructed to terminate the lease agreement for Kubatana Pre School for subletting the premises against the provisions of the lease agreement. **DHSS**

C. HOUSING ISSUES

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

D. WELFARE SECTION

The report of the Director of Housing and Community Services on the Welfare Section for the month of June 2024 covering revenue raised by the section, pre-schools, libraries, community development and welfare programmes, Alpha Cottages, Mucheke Old People’s Home, repairs and maintenance, and trainings was considered. The report was noted.

On the next course of action on the upgrading of Mucheke Stadium, it was explained that after the visit to Harare to appreciate renovations carried out on Rufaro Stadium, Council would engage a Civil Engineer to come up with designs. Council would also identify the works that would be done using Council funds in a phased approach and those works that would need funding from the corporate world or development partners. It was highlighted that some works would commence in the next three months. The report was noted.

On the activities of Charles Austin Theatre, clarification was sought on the tenure of office for the interim Management Committee, it being noted that there was need for a substantive Management Committee to run the affairs of the facility. It was advised that the interim Management Committee was elected in September 2023 with a two-year mandate to resuscitate the activities at the Charles Austin Theatre. The Director of

Minutes: Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee: 1.07.24

Housing and Social Services was instructed to prepare a progress report to the Committee on the current operations of Charles Austin Theatre.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

THAT the Director of Housing and Social Services be instructed to prepare a progress report on the current operations at Charles Austin Theatre and submit to the Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee. **DHSS**

E. PARKS SECTION

The report of the Director of Housing and Social Services on the Parks Section for the month of June 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 the date for the official opening of Masvingo-Kernen Park, the matter was referred to Management for consideration.

On Nurseries the Committee highlighted that the price of nursery products were too high hence the residents were not able to buy the plants for greening the city. The need to review the price of seedlings at the Municipal Nursery was highlighted.

On Cemeteries, it was reported that the residents were no yet interested in burying their bereaved dear ones at Cambria Cemetery. The Committee was of the view that residents should be advised on the availability of burial space at Cambria Cemetery as a way of reducing pressure at Mangwandi and the Lawn Cemeteries. The need to reserve space at the current Cemeteries for special requests that may be made by senior citizens in future was highlighted. The Director of Housing and Social Services was instructed to make a report on the status of Cemeteries and submit to the Committee for consideration.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

1. THAT the Director of Housing and Social Services be instructed to refer the official opening of Kernen Park to Management for consideration. **DHSS**
2. THAT the Director of Housing and Social Services be instructed to prepare a report on the status of Council Cemeteries and submit to the Committee for consideration. **DHSS**

F. ESTATES AND VALUATION SECTION

Consideration was given to the report of the Director of Housing and Social Services on the activities of the Estate and Valuation section. It was explained that the Section was established in May 2024 after having filled the post of Estates and Valuation Officer. The section was now functional with one person in post. The proposed

Minutes: Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee: 1.07.24

establishment for the section was five. The other vacant posts namely City Valuer and Estates Manager, Valuation Technician, Estates Officer and Estates Clerk would be filled gradually. The report was noted.

G. 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.

187. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK**A. ACTIVITIES OF THE MUNICIPAL POLICE (JUNE 2024)**

Consideration was given to the report of the Town Clerk on the activities of the Municipal Police for the month of June 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 purification 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

Minutes: Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee: 1.07.24**Joint operations**

It was reported that the Section conducted Joint operations with other stakeholders such as Z.R.P, Housing, Health and Debt Collection Unit in conducting Shop licensing blitz, traffic enforcement, push carts, blocking pavement, illegal on street service garages in town, and illegal vending activities and removal of illegal structures in and around the Central Business District (CBD).

The table below summarizes By-law offences committed, number of arrests made as well as revenue realized during the period under review.

OFFENCES /ACTIVITY	ARRESTS	AMOUNT US\$	AMOUNT RTGS
Traffic			
Failure to purchase parking disc	3	60	
Continuous parking after expiry of disc	136	1360	
Storage fee	3	90	
Pick and drop at undesignated points	17	680	
Impound fee	38	760	
Other traffic offences	42	1260	
Wash and repair on the street	7	280	
Clamping fees	2	60	
Obstruction	1	50	
TOTAL	249	4600	
LICENCING			
Shop licence	137	2740	
Push carts	27	270	
Illegal selling of gas	18	360	
TOTAL	182	3370	
VENDING			
Perishables	26	390	
Non-perishables (bales)	97	1500	
Groceries	9	180	
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 awaiting disposal through public auction.			
TOTAL	132	2070	
BOOMGATE COLLECTIONS			
Croco Motors	517	5170	
WID	405	4045	
L.Takawira	254	2535	
TOTAL	1176	11 750	

Minutes: Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee: 1.07.24

Grand Total	1739	21 790	
Disciplinary cases	1	NIL	
Criminal cases	Theft of diesel from Vehicle AGM 0115 UD truck	NIL	NIL

C. CASH IN TRANSIT (CIT).

It was reported that the section collected and banked cash from Croco Motors pick up and drop off point, Welby Avenue pick up and drop off point, Garikai Market, Civic Centre, Chiwororo Beerhall, Chidavaenzi Bottle store, Rujeko Beer Hall, Runyararo West Clinic, Runyararo Clinic, Mucheke Clinic, Rujeko Clinic and City of Masvingo Nursery.

D. GARIKAI MARKET

It was reported that the Section provided security to Housing Revenue collector at Garikai Market and escorted him for banking.

E. Adoption of Report**RESOLVED**

THAT the report of the Town Clerk be adopted.

The meeting ended at 7:21 p.m.

CONFIRMED THIS

DAY OF

2024

CHAIRMAN

TOWN CLERK