

CITY OF MASVINGO

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, MUNICIPAL OFFICES ON MONDAY, 10 JUNE 2024 AT 4.42 P.M.

PRESENT: Councillor R. Musekiwa (Chairman)
Councillor W. Sitemere
Councillor S. Manyanga
Councillor S. Chikwangwani
Councillor E. Zishiri
Councillor B. Hwata

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr L. Magwati: Ministry of Local Government and Public Works.
Mr K. Zvandaziva- Politics and Public Administration Student

OFFICIALS: Chamber Secretary
Director of Housing and Social services
Chief Environmental Health Officer
Acting Director of Engineering Services
Chief Internal Auditor
Deputy Finance Director
Assistant Committee Officer

156. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Chairman, Councillor R. Musekiwa presided over the elections of the Vice Chairperson of the Committee.

Nominations

Councillor E, Zishiri nominated Councillor W. Sitemere for the post of Vice Chairman of the Committee. The nomination was seconded by Councillor S. Chikwangwani

Councillor B. Hwata nominated himself for election as Vice Chairman of the Public Works and Planning Committee. The nomination was not seconded.

Therefore, there being one valid nomination Councillor W. Sitemere was duly elected Vice Chairman of the Public Works and Planning Committee.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

THAT Councillor W. Sitemere be duly elected Vice Chairman of the Public Works and Planning Committee.

Minutes: Public Works and Planning Committee: 10/06/24**157. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES****RESOLVED**

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 9 May 2024 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed.

Proposed by Councillor E. Zishiri

Seconded by Councillor B. Hwata

158. 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 May 2024.

(i). Water Treatment Chemical Stock Levels

It was reported that Aluminum Sulphate would last for 38 days, hydrated lime was stocked to meet requirements for the next 66 days, Chlorine Gas lasting 33 days, and adequate stocks of Chlorine HTH and Activated Carbon were available for use when needed. The report was noted.

(ii). Intake Tower

It was reported that raw water pumps number 4, 5 and 6 were operational during the period under review. The Electric Motor (stand by) was delivered from repairs but installation was still pending.

(iii). Treatment Works

On treatment works, it was reported that pumps number 1 and 2 were operational during the month of May 2024. It was reported that pump number 1 had a packing challenge due to damaged bush which required replacement. Electric motor for pump number 3 had not yet returned from service from Hawker Sydley. Cable laying (3,3kv) by the ZESA team was completed and the transformer was yet to be tested. However, 60 hours of pumping were lost due to load shedding.

(iv). Chemical Dosing Pumps

It was reported that two chemo feeders were operational during the month of May 2024. It was reported that a request for a new feeder set through the Procurement Management Unit was made.

(v). Water Supply situation

On water levels, it was reported that Lake Mutirikwi was 93.55 % full as at 30 May 2024. The report was noted.

Minutes: Public Works and Planning Committee: 10/06/24

(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 56 pipe bursts, 14 water connections, 55 water meter replacements and 14 sewer connections during the month of May 2024. The report was noted.

(viii) Non-Revenue Water

It was reported that the non-revenue water for May 2024 was 38.5 % which translated to USD 302 510. The report was noted.

B. SEWAGE RETICULATION, TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL.

Consideration was given to the report of the Acting Director of Engineering Services on sewage reticulation, sewage treatment and disposal covering the status of the Raw pump station, Rujeko Pump Station, and Convectional Plant Wastewater Quality Assessment for the month of May 2024.

(i). Sewage Reticulation

It was reported that two hundred and eight six (286) blockages had been recorded and attended to during the month of May 2024, whilst four hundred and sixty-seven (467) wheelbarrows of grit had been removed from the grit channels and two hundred and seventy-two point five (272.5) bins of waste were removed from the grit screens. The report was noted.

The Committee highlighted the need for educating residents to avoid releasing foreign objects into the reticulation to reduce blockages.

(ii). Raw Pump Station

It was reported that one pump was operational during the month of May 2024. It was reported that operations at the the station included screenings removal and disposal and three (3) shifts were operational at the station throughout the month. It was reported that corroded steel steps and rails which guide the workers into the sump needed replacement, door frames and windows frames need to be repaired and glazed and a perimeter fence was required at the station to keep out intruders. Electricians were engaged to install lights to improve lighting in the pump rooms and outside. The report was noted.

(iii). Rujeko Pump Station

It was reported that one pump was operational during the month of May 2024. It was reported that spares for the Grit and screenings removal was done. The need for installation of a gate to the inlet for control of inlet during maintenance was noted. The other pump 's spares had not yet been procured, to enable the station to have a standby pump. Leaks on the pump suction side were attended to. The Committee highlighted the need for the pump station to

Minutes: Public Works and Planning Committee: 10/06/24

have more than one standby pump, which the Acting Director of Engineering Services noted that the focus was on the BNRP and once complete then equipping of the pump station would commence. The Committee referred the matter to Management.

RESOLVED

THAT the procurement of additional standby pumps for Rujeko Pump Station be referred to Management for consideration. **ADES**

(iv). Primary Settling Tanks (PST)

It was reported that all the three Primary Settling Tanks have been operational during the month under review. It was reported that PST number 1 was under repairs, where dewatering of the tank was being carried out for removal of the desludging valve which was not opening due to swindle. The submersible dewatering pump also developed an earth fault in the process of dewatering the PST and a smaller pump was being utilized in the interim. It was reported that no jetting was done due to broken down effluent pump. The report was noted.

(v). Digesters

It was reported that offloading of digesters number 1 was in progress and excavation of sludge pond was completed. It was reported that sludge from the PSTs was being disposed in the sludge ponds outside the plant.

(vi). Effluent Pump Station

It was reported that Effluent Pump was not operational due to broken down pumps and efforts were being made to repair the pumps. New bearings were fitted but failed due to excessive heat. The report was noted.

(vii). Trickling filters

It was reported that all three trickling filters needed repair to avoid ponding due to non-functioning arms. Clearing of grass and bushes around the filters was reported complete. The report was noted.

(viii). Biological Nutrient Removal Plant (BNRP)**Anaerobic Zone**

It was reported that all stirrers in the anaerobic zone were not operational. Stirrer number 2 was repaired and yet to be installed. The report was noted.

Anoxic Zone

It was reported that one Anoxic Stirrer was operational throughout the month. Stirrer No. 3 developed a mechanical problem to the coupling bearings and the electric motor was removed

Minutes: Public Works and Planning Committee: 10/06/24

to access the bearing which required replacement. The report was noted.

Aeration Zone

It was reported that 9 out of 15 aerators were operational during the month of May 2024. Efforts were being made to repair aerators number 10 and 11. It was reported that settleability in the clarifiers indicated the aeration basin was operating effectively. The report was noted.

RAS Pumps

It was reported that one RAS pump was operational during the period under review. Pump No.1 developed a fault in the electric motor and the motor required servicing. RAS pump number 2 was repaired and in use. The report was noted.

(f). Clarifiers

It was reported that both the clarifiers required attention to repair the rotating bridges. However, the clarifiers were receiving effluent and the clear effluent was being transferred to Cascade. The report was noted.

(g). Cascade

It was reported that the Cascade was operating to dispose of clear effluent into the river course and scrubbing of cascade floors was completed.

C. TOWN PLANNING, SURVEY AND TRANSPORT**(i). APPLICATION FOR CHANGE OF USE – FROM RESIDENTIAL TO SCHOOL STAND 6552 MUSAIGWA STREET, MUCHEKE D. F. CHIGUMO.**

Consideration was given to the report of the Acting Director of Engineering Services, on the application by D. F. Chigumo, for change of use of Stand Number 6552, Musaigwa Street, Muccheke D, Masvingo, from residential to School. It was reported that the stand measures 665.43m². It was recommended that the application be turned down as the stand size was too small to accommodate a School. The request was turned down.

The Committee deliberated on the possibility that the applicant may have been illegally operating the school and the need to monitor and inspect all informal schools through conducting a joint operation with officials from Council departments, Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education and Zimbabwe Republic Police, throughout the City. The matter was referred to the Health Housing and Environmental Services Committee. The Committee highlighted the need for Council to identify land for the creation of stands which can accommodate private school institutions to cater for the rising demand.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

1. THAT the application by F. Chigumo, for change of use of Stand Number 6552, Musaigwa Street, Muccheke D, Masvingo, from residential to school be turned down on the basis that the stand, measuring 665.43m² could not accommodate a School.

Minutes: Public Works and Planning Committee: 10/06/24

2. THAT the monitoring of illegal informal Schools operating in the city be referred to the Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee. **ADES**

(ii). **APPLICATION FOR CHANGE OF USE FROM RESIDENTIAL TO CLUSTER HOUSES STAND 27074 ZIMRE PARK: DR. SHEUNESU AND MRS. MAVICE HOVE.**

Consideration was given to the report of the Acting Director of Engineering Services, on the application by Dr Sheunesu and Mrs Mavice Hove, for change of use of Stand Number 27074, ZIMRE Park, Masvingo, from residential to cluster homes. It was reported that the stand measured 3984.44m².

It was agreed that the applicant be given the opportunity to advertise in the press to the property neighbors and the general public in terms of the Regional, Town and Planning Country, Act Chapter 29:12 Section 26(3), inviting public opinion.

It was highlighted that members were not fully knowledgeable of the concept of Cluster Housing, and a proposal was made for members to visit the City of Mutare or Kwekwe to familiarize with the Cluster housing concept. The Acting Director of Engineering Services clarified that Council through a Technical Committee, made visits to other local authorities, and made recommendations to Council, which subsequently led to the formulation of the Cluster Housing Policy which was in existence.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

1. THAT Dr Sheunesu and Mrs Mavice Hove be authorized to advertise in the press, their application for change of use of Stand Number 27074, ZIMRE Park, Masvingo, from residential to Cluster homes, in terms of Section 26 of the Regional, Town and Country Planning Act, Chapter 29:12. **ADES**
2. THAT the Chamber Secretary be instructed to organize a learning tour of either City of Kwekwe or Mutare to appreciate the Cluster Housing concept. **CS**

(iii). **PROGRESS REPORT ON THE REVIEW OF MASVINGO CITY MASTER PLAN**

It was reported that the first draft Report of Study (ROS) was completed and shared with Council Management. A Stakeholders ROS Validation Workshop was convened on the 9th of May 2024 and comments from both Council Management and the Stakeholders ROS Validation Workshop were attended to by the Lead Planner and Team. The Report of the Study was shared with the Department of Spatial Planning and Department through the Lead Planner upon request by the Ministry. A meeting to initiate reflections on the Written Statement was done with Council Management and the drafting of the Written Statement was underway.

It was reported that according to the Lead Planner's report, City of Masvingo had good growth prospects, inactivated potential in financial services, provincial capital status (tertiary service), tourism and economic opportunities including re-industrialization and undeveloped land within the city boundary was not adequate for current growth and future growth. The report was noted.

(iv). **BUILDING INSPECTORATE**

Minutes: Public Works and Planning Committee: 10/06/24

It was reported that 34 building plans were approved in the City of Masvingo for the month of May 2024, and a total of USD9 015.00 was raised from plan fees. Clarity was sought on the collection of plan fees from Victoria Range, which the Acting Director of Engineering Services reported that collection of inspections of building plans were stopped due to the expiration of the Memorandum of Agreement between City of Masvingo and Masvingo Rural District Council and also due to some irregularities where some of the developments had no approved General Plans.

D. ROAD MAINTENANCE

The activities of the Road Maintenance Section for the month of May 2024 on ZINARA ERRP2, covering gravel patching, equipment hire and repair, premix pothole patching and drain lining signage installation, road grading was noted. Requests were made by Committee members for installation of speed humps near Mucheke Bus Terminus

E. FIRE SECTION

It was reported that the Section recorded and attended to four road traffic accidents in the month of May 2024.

On Building Fires, the section recorded and attended to one incident. On veld fires the Section attended and recorded fourteen incidents. On Very Important Persons (VVIP), the Section provided cover Happy Valley Farm. On special services, water was provided to Council projects mainly Rujeko Secondary services and other critical facilities.

It was reported that one Firefighter, W Masunda attended the Chlorine Safety Training in Bulawayo.

F. PROJECTS BEING UNDERTAKEN BY COUNCIL

CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES IN COUNCIL SCHOOLS

(i). Dikwindi Primary School

It was reported that Guardroom construction and construction of the ring beam to wall plate had been completed.

(ii). Rujeko Primary School

It was reported that electrification and plastering were in progress

(iii). Rujeko Secondary School

It was reported that the construction of the 8th Block superstructure had been completed whilst backfilling of the 9th block was at 40% completion and substructure of Science Laboratory was at 30% progress.

(iv). Vurombo Primary School

Minutes: Public Works and Planning Committee: 10/06/24

It was reported that the construction of perimeter was at 90% progress.

(v). Francis Aphiri Primary School

It was reported that the ring beam to wall plate brickwork for the ablution block had been completed.

(vi). Oliver Street Commercial Stands Servicing

It was reported that Water and sewer reticulation was completed and the overall project completion status was 70%.

(vii). Commercial Stands

It was reported that installation of sewer reticulation had been completed whilst roads construction was at 10% completion.

(viii). Mucheke Light Industry

It was reported that procurement of materials for the project was in progress. Culvert pipes and part of Bitumen had been delivered, road setting out and opening had been completed. It was highlighted that Great Zimbabwe University sewer diversion was still outstanding. The overall project status was at 10%.

(ix). Hokonya Street Sewer line Rehabilitation

It was highlighted that site assessment was done, redesigning and Bill of Quantities was done, requests for the materials and manpower were done, required project documents have been produced. It was also highlighted that materials for the project were delivered. The overall project status was at 10%. The report was noted.

(x). WORKSHOP

The report of the Acting Director of Engineering Services on the state of the Council fleet for the month of May 2024 was not considered. The Committee highlighted that they had agreed in the previous meeting to conduct an oversight tour of the Municipal Workshop and therefore the meeting was adjourned.

[The meeting was adjourned at 6.08 p.m]

The Committee resumed the meeting by a tour of the Municipal Workshop on Thursday 13, June 2024 at 3.30 p. m to appreciate the state of Council vehicle fleet in the workshop. During the tour, the Committee noted that some of the vehicles required minimal resources to get them back on the road. The Acting Director of Engineering Services was tasked to submit a report to the Finance and General Purposes Committee on the financial requirements to resuscitate selected plant and equipment in the Municipal Workshop.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

Minutes: Public Works and Planning Committee: 10/06/24

THAT the Acting Director of Engineering Services be tasked to submit a report to the Finance and General Purposes Committee on the estimated costs and schedule for repairing broken-down plant and equipment and operational vehicles parked in the Municipal Workshop. **ADES**

G. 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 4.21 p.m.

CONFIRMED THIS

DAY OF

2024

CHAIRMAN

TOWN CLERK