

CITY OF MASVINGO

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE 1061ST ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING,
HELD IN THE TOWNHALL, MUNICIPAL OFFICES ON MONDAY 27 JANUARY 2025
AT 5.57 P.M.**

PRESENT:

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

APOLOGY:

Councillor S. Manyanga

IN ATTENDANCE:

Madziva K. Ministry of Local Government and Public Works
Muteshe P: Local Governance Studies Student: MSU
Ndlovu E: Development Studies Student: GZU
Nyamapfeka C: Development Studies Student: GZU
Baricholo T: Governance and Public Management: UZ
Madzowere T: Development Planning and Management: MSU

OFFICIALS:

Town Clerk
Chief Environmental Health Officer
Director of Housing and Social Services
Acting Finance Director
Acting Director of Engineering Services
Chief Internal Auditor
Senior Health Officer
Estates and Valuations Officer
Human Resources Officer
Committee Officer
Assistant Committee Officers (2)

018. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.

RESOLVED

THAT the minutes of the meetings held on 25 November 2024 and 13 December 2024 be taken as read, confirmed as correct records and signed.

Proposed by Councillor A. Time (25.11.24)
Seconded by Councillor E. Zishiri

Proposed by Councillor E. Zishiri (13.12.24)
Seconded by Councillor A. Time

019. MATTERS ARISING**(i). Minute 329(8): Tour of non-formal schools in the City**

On the update regarding the matter, it was reported that the tour was still pending.

(ii). Minute 329(2): Shooting of stray dogs in the City

Progress was sought on the proposal to engage the Parks and Wildlife Management Authority in shooting stray dogs in the Commonage. It was reported that Council was still to engage ZIMPARKS on the matter. Meanwhile the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) had embarked on a programme to capture stray dogs in the City.

(iii). Memorandum of Understanding with the Heart Group of Companies in the upgrading of Mucheke Stadium.

Clarification was sought on the way forward after Council conducted a learning visit to the Heart Stadium in Harare. It was explained that a report on the learning visit would be prepared for Council consideration.

(iv). Minute 342(D)(i): Rujeko Secondary School Construction of 2 x Classroom Blocks

Clarification was sought on the reason for the delays in the completion of the 2 classroom blocks. The Acting Director of Engineering Services reported that delays were due to procurement which took long to be completed. However it was reported that materials were being delivered.

020. COMMUNICATIONS**(i). Apologies.**

The Town Clerk reported that Councillor S. Manyanga was attending some other business out of town and was not able to attend the meeting.

The Town Clerk also reported that the Chamber Secretary had travelled to Chinhoyi to attend the burial service for the late former Chamber Secretary for Municipality of Chinhoyi.

021. HEALTH, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

IT WAS MOVED BY Councillor M. Madhuna Seconded by Councillor A. Time

“THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee held on 6 January 2025 be adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto”.

On minute 002(i) regarding the application for a Liquor Development Permit by Jeremiah Moyana, to operate a Bottle Store on Stand Number 28116 Hillside Extension, Masvingo, wherein the application was turned down by the Committee, clarification was sought on why the proposed tour of the premises by the Committee was not conducted before a decision was made. It was explained that the Committee agreed in the previous meeting, after obtaining adequate technical advice from Management, the application was turned down and members agreed that there was no need for a tour of the premises.

On Minute 002(ii) regarding the application by Francis Aphiri Primary School, for permission to construct a 3 storey classroom block, the Town Clerk reported that Management considered the matter and the application was approved. The School Management were allowed to submit building plans to Council for approval so that construction works would commence.

On minute 003 (C)(i) regarding establishment of a pick up and drop off point at Corner Bradburn Street and Industria Road, some of the members argued that the idea would block the road to the industrial area. It was further argued that all long distance buses should rank at Mucheke Bus Terminus.

Debate ensued. It was eventually noted that properly designed pick up and drop off point was necessary to ensure order and sanity in the city.

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

RESOLVED

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee held on 6 January 2025 be adopted subject to the resolutions passed as follows:

- 1 THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 4 November 2024 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed.
- 2 THAT the application for a Liquor Development permit by Jeremiah Moyana to operate a Bottle Store on Stand Number 28116 Hillside Extension, Masvingo be turned down on the basis that the 40% threshold for Bottle Stores allowable at a Business Centre had been reached.
- 3 THAT the application by Francis Aphiri Primary School, to construct a three-storey classroom block at their current school be granted, and the school be authorised to submit building plans to Council for approval.
- 4 THAT the request for procurement of two new refuse trucks be put in abeyance pending the Town Clerk engaging the Acting Director of Engineering Services and the Workshop staff on the maintenance and repair of the existing fleet and prepare a report to the Committee for consideration.
- 5 THAT the report of the Chief Environmental Health Officer be approved and adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto.

- 6 THAT the application by I. Mazambani, for a Liquor Development Permit to operate a Restaurant Special on Stand Number 7702, Bauhinia Street, Northleigh, Masvingo be granted.
- 7 THAT the application by Albertina Muzembi, for or a Wholesale Liquor Development Permit to operate a Liquor wholesale Trading at Plot No. 54 Charumbira Street Mucheke A Business Centre, Masvingo be referred to Management for further assessment.
- 8 THAT application by Paidamoyo Majaya, for a Liquor Development Permit to operate a Restaurant Special, on Stand Number 18120 Unity Road, Westview Industrial Area, Masvingo be granted.
- 9 THAT the application by R. Gundura, for a Liquor Development Permit to operate a Restaurant Special on Stand Number 14209 Mucheke Business Centre, Masvingo be granted.
- 10 THAT the application by Rujeko Primary School, for permission to purchase a School bus be granted subject to the school handing over the Bus to Council and its registration in the name of City of Masvingo.
- 11 THAT Shakashe Primary School be awarded a merit prize of one hundred (100) text books of their choice for being the highest in the 2024 Grade seven results.
- 12 THAT Runyararo Primary School be awarded a merit prize of eighty (80) text books of their choice for being the first runner up in the 2024 public examinations Grade Seven results.
- 13 THAT the reports of the Director of Housing and Social Services be approved and adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto.
- 14 THAT the Acting Director of Engineering Services be instructed to install Boom Gates at the Pick-up and drop off point at the Corner of Bradburn Street and Industria Road, and Welby Avenue Bus Termini to enhance revenue collection and control of buses in the City.
- 15 THAT the report of the Town Clerk be adopted.

022. PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

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

“THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Public Works and Planning Committee held on 13 January 2025 be adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto”

On minute 313 (C), members sought clarification on how the Committee granted the application for change of use of Stand Number 17243 Runyararo West from residential to a Guest House against the Council policy. It was explained that following a tour of the premises, the Committee saw it fit to grant the application cognisant of the standing policy prohibiting the establishment of lodges in high density residential areas. Some of the members were against the granting of the change of use whilst some of the members were in favour of the application. Debate ensued.

The Chairman of the Public Works and Planning Committee proposed that the item be withdrawn and referred back to the Committee for further consideration. The motion was adopted by the members.

The motion was moved by Councillor R. Musekiwa, seconded by Councillor E. Zishiri.

On the status of pumps at the Raw Pump Station, it was reported that the station was running with one pump and two pumps were on breakdown. The members raised concern on the lack of a standby pump. The Town Clerk reported that procurement for the spares for the two pumps was underway.

On minute 007(C)(i), regarding the application by Bryan Matingwina, for change of use of Stand Number 8 Ironwood, Rhodene, Masvingo from residential to a Drug Rehabilitation Centre, the Town Clerk reported that the matter was considered by the Public Works and Planning Committee meeting, and the 1058th Council meeting held on 26 August 2024, minute 240(6). Members agreed that the item be withdrawn from the agenda.

On the ZINARA 2025 projects allocation of ZWG17 519 799, the members were of the view that the amount was inadequate in light of the huge backlog for road maintenance in the city particularly on the dire state of Mucheke Bridge and Chimusana Bridge. The members suggested that Council should engage the Provincial Roads Engineer (PRE) for assistance in road maintenance.

Council noted with concern the traffic congestion at Mucheke Bridge and highlighted the need for Council to engage the Provincial Roads Engineer to carry out urgent pothole patching to improve trafficability.

On the issue of tarring roads in the City, the members were of the view that Council should surface some of the critical roads. The Acting Director of Engineering Services was instructed to prepare a report on the cost of surfacing roads in the City and report to the Public Works and Planning Committee for consideration.

On the issue of opening up other link roads from the Central Business District to residential areas to ease traffic congestion at Mucheke Bridge during rush hours, it was highlighted that construction of new roads in the city would be informed by the Master Plan.

On the motions submitted by Councillor Madhuna, it was corrected that the request was not about rehabilitation of public toilets, but it was about the need to change the type of toilets in Old Railways area from squatting holes to the modern flushing toilet seats.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor R. Musekiwa, seconded by Councillor B. Hwata

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

RESOLVED

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Public Works and Planning Committee held on 13 January 2025 be adopted subject to the resolutions passed as follows:

1. THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 11 November 2024 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed.
2. THAT the Town Clerk be invited to the next meeting of the Public Works and Planning Committee to discuss implementation of Council resolutions on the Sewage Works and the Workshop.
3. THAT the application by Junior Sibanda and James Mukorera for change of use of Stand Number 17243, Runyararo South West, Masvingo from residential to a Guest House be referred back to the Committee for consideration.
4. THAT the Chamber Secretary be instructed to convene a combined meeting of the Public Works and Planning, and Finance and General Purposes Committees to discuss ways of reducing non-revenue water and sewer reticulation upgrading.
5. THAT report of the Acting Director of Engineering Services on the state of the Council fleet for the month of December 2024, including resuscitation of grounded vehicles be deferred to a Combined meeting of the Public Works and Planning, and Finance and General Purposes Committee for consideration.
6. THAT motions submitted by Councillor M. Madhuna on request for change of type of toilets in the Old Railways area from squatting holes to morden flushing toilet seats, Storm water drainage clearance exercise in Ward 3, and rehabilitation of Public Toilets at Chesvingo Business Centre (Sisk) be referred to Council Caucus for consideration.
7. THAT the request by Komasa Investments for additional land adjacent Stand Number 14225 Eastvale Shopping Centre be turned down.
8. THAT the Acting Director of Engineering Services be instructed to create a Commercial stand on the vacant space adjacent stand 14225 Eastvale Shopping Centre.
9. THAT the proposal for Council to utilize design approval fees for Runyararo West Housing project amounting to USD120 790.03, in the provision of 4 x single Cab (GD6) operational vehicles be granted.

10. THAT the report of the Acting Director of Engineering Services be approved and adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto.
11. THAT the Chief Internal Auditor be instructed to investigate the alleged illegal Lodge operating in Rujeko B along Mhizha Street, and report to the Public Works and Planning Committee.
12. THAT the Acting Director of Engineering Services be instructed to identify suitable land for the construction of a Shopping Mall in the City.
13. THAT the Acting Director of Engineering Services be instructed to prepare a report on the cost of surfacing 1km of road in the City and report to the Public Works and Planning Committee for consideration.

023. FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

IT WAS MOVED BY Councillor B. Muchokwa seconded by Councillor M. Madhuna

“THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 21 January 2025 be adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto”.

On minute 015(F), regarding the purchase of Motorbikes for Councillors, members were of the view that representations be made to the Ministry of Local Government and Public Works requesting that Councillors be allowed to channel the loan for Motorbikes towards purchase of personal light vehicle particularly for Councillors in Urban Local Authorities. It was further explained that the circular was clear on the conditions of the loans and any deviations from the circular would be best initiated by the Urban Councils Association of Zimbabwe (UCAZ).

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 21 January 2025 be adopted subject to the resolutions passed as follows:

- 1 THAT the minutes of the meetings held on 18 November 2024 and 13 December 2024 be taken as read, confirmed as correct records and signed.
- 2 THAT the report of the Finance Director be approved and adopted.
- 3 THAT the application of M. Mutambasere (120033), Constable Grade 5 for an educational loan amounting to USD 540 being tuition fees towards a Bachelor of Commerce Degree in Accounting with Great Zimbabwe University be granted subject to conditions governing study loans and availability of funds.

- 4 THAT the roadmap for the establishment of a Truck Stop, Phase 1 with scope of works to include land clearance, site assessment, drainage and grading plans, utilities assessment and civil works be adopted.
- 5 THAT the Town Clerk be instructed to initiate negotiations of a public private partnership with Mhukahuru Investments over the revival of Shagashe Game Park.
- 6 THAT Council Liquor outlet leases with rental arrears in excess of sixty days be handed over for debt collection.
- 7 THAT Council purchases 13 Samsung S24 Ultra Cell phones for Councillors at a total cost of US\$16 900.
- 8 THAT the conditions of use of the Cellphones be guided by the City of Masvingo ICT Policy.
- 9 THAT Council purchases 12 Honda 125cc Motorbikes for twelve Councillors at a cost of USD 30,000.
- 10 THAT the Motorbike loan be recovered from Councillors over a period covering their term of office.
- 11 THAT the report of the Town Clerk be approved and adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto.

024. MOTION FOR COUNCIL TO TURN ITSELF INTO COMMITTEE.

IT WAS MOVED BY Councillor A. Time, seconded by Councillor E. Zishiri

“THAT Council turns itself into Committee for purposes of confirming the minutes of the 1060th Ordinary Council In Committee meeting held on 25 November 2024, and adopting the Minutes of the Human Resources and Gender Committee meeting held on 20 January 2025”.

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

RESOLVED

THAT Council turns itself into Committee for purposes of confirming the minutes of the 1060th Ordinary Council In Committee meeting held on 25 November 2024, and adopting the Minutes of the Human Resources and Gender Committee meeting held on 20 January 2025.

The meeting ended at 6.59 p.m.

Minutes: 1061ST Ordinary Council: 27/01/2025

CONFIRMED THIS

DAY OF

2025

MAYOR

TOWN CLERK