

CITY OF MASVINGO

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE HEALTH, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING, HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, MUNICIPAL OFFICES ON TUESDAY, 11 MARCH 2025 AT 4:34 P.M.

PRESENT:

Councillor M. Madhuna (Chairman)
Councillor R. Musekiwa
Deputy Mayor Councillor D. Mberikunashe
Councillor A. Time
Councillor T. Masimba
Councillor S.T. Marombedze

OFFICIALS:

Chamber Secretary
Director of Housing and Social Services
Deputy Finance Director
Senior Health Officer
Acting Chief Security Officer
Assistant Committee Officer (S. Mutero)

072. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 3 February 2025 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed.

Proposed by Councillor A. Time

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Councillor D. Mberikunashe

073. REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF HOUSING AND SOCIAL SERVICES

A. APPLICATION FOR A WHOLESALE LIQUOR DEVELOPMENT PERMIT ON STAND NUMBER 101 SHUVAI MAHOFA STREET, MASVINGO: WALTER MUZEMBA.

Consideration was given to the report of the Director of Housing and Social Services on the application by W. Muzemba, for a Wholesale Liquor Development permit on Stand Number 101 Shuvai Mahofa Street, Masvingo. The application was granted.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

THAT the application by Walter Muzemba, for a Wholesale Liquor Development Permit on Stand Number 101 Shuvai Mahofa Street, Masvingo be granted. **DHSS**

B. REQUEST FOR FREE USE OF MUCHEKE STADIUM FOR TRAINING SESSIONS AND HOME MATCHES: WANGU MAZODZE FOOTBALL CLUB.

Consideration was given to the report of the of the Director of Housing and Social Services on the application by Wangu Mazodze Football Club, for free use of Mucheke

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Stadium for training sessions and home matches. The application for free use of the Stadium for training sessions was granted once per week to allow for maintenance of the Stadium. On home matches, the request was turned down in view of the fact that the Club would have collected revenue from their gate takings.

RESOLVEDV TO RECOMMEND

- 1 THAT the application by Wangu Mazodze Football Club, for free use of Mucheke Stadium for training sessions be granted once per week to allow for maintenance of the Stadium. **DHSS**
- 2 THAT the application by Wangu Mazodze Football Club, for free use of Mucheke Stadium for home matches be turned down on the basis that the Club would pay stadium hire fees from their gate takings. **DHSS**

C. CHILDRENS' CORNER PROJECT WITH BOOK AID INTERNATIONAL

Consideration was given to the report of the Director of Housing and Social Services on the Children's Corner project with Book Aid International. It was reported that the Children's Corner project was being implemented at Rujeko Library, and that the project received some funding to the tune of USD14 093.10, towards equipping Rujeko Library with 3000 books donated by UK publishers , and other locally published books worth \$2 230.00. It was also reported that part of the fund would be utilised in refurbishing Rujeko Library to create a child friendly reading space. The report was noted.

D. REQUEST TO PARTNER WITH CITY OF MASVINGO ON SPORTS AND WELLNESS: ALBINO TRUST ZIMBABWE.

Consideration was given to the report of the Director of Housing and Social Services on the request by Albino Trust Zimbabwe, to partner with the City of Masvingo on Sports and Wellness activities. The request was granted.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

THAT the request by Albino Trust Zimbabwe, to partner with the City of Masvingo on Sports and Wellness activities be granted. **DHSS**

E. APPLICATION FOR A LIQUOR WHOLESALE DEVELOPMENT PERMIT ON PLOT 54, CHARUMBIRA STREET, MUCHEKE A, BUSINESS CENTRE, MASVINGO: ALBERTINA MUZEMBI.

Consideration was given to the report of the of the Director of Housing and Social Services on the request by Albertina Muzembi, for a Wholesale Liquor Development Permit on Plot 54 Charumbira Street, Mucheke A Business Centre, Masvingo. It was reported that after a tour of the premises by the Committee on 3 February 2024, the following findings were made:

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- That Plot 54 Charumbira Street, (Stand 120) Mucheke A Business Centre was owned by Shu-Shine Bus Company.
- The property was a complex leased by several tenants.
- The applicant, Albertina Muzembi was a lease holder already operating a Council licensed restaurant in the complex.
- The space was adequate for the intended business.
- The property has an entrance and exit gates convenient for access by heavy vehicles

The application was granted.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

THAT the application by Albertina Muzembi, for a Wholesale Liquor Development Permit on Plot 54 Charumbira Street, Mucheke A Business Centre be granted.

DHSS

F. TOUR OF NON-FORMAL SCHOOLS IN THE COMMONAGE.

Consideration was given to the report of the of the Director of Housing and Social Services on the tour of non-formal Schools in the Commonage on 3 February 2025. The Committee toured Shining Star College in Rujeko B, and Herentals College in Mucheke D.

(i). Shining Star College.

The School was operating from a leased property in Rjeko B. The property was measuring about 2 800m² in size. The School was registered with the Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education and licensed by Council. The School had a total enrolment of 155 learners. There was one permanent building and two temporary structures being used as classroom blocks. On sporting facilities the school was hiring grounds from Rujeko Secondary School. The Committee agreed that an institutional stand may be allocated to the school subject to availability.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

THAT institutional stands be created to cater for deserving colleges operating within the city.

(ii). Herentals College

It was found out that the School was operating from a rented residential stand in Mucheke D measuring 450m². The school is registered with the Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education but not licensed with the City of Masvingo. The school has an enrolment of 120 students with one toilet for girls and one toilet for boys. The School has erected temporary sheds of iron sheets with poor ventilation. The students are crowded and the environment is not conducive for learning.

On ablution facilities, it was explained that the requirement was that one toilet should serve 25 girls and one toilet for 20 boys. The Committee agreed that Herentals College

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be given three months' notice by Council to vacate their current premises and find a suitable place failure of which Council would take appropriate action.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

THAT all Colleges not meeting the minimum City of Masvingo Planning standards be given three months' notice to regularise their operations, failure of which they will cease operations in Masvingo. **DHSS**

G. ENGAGEMENT OF STRUCTURAL ENGINEER FROM THE CITY OF HARARE FOR DESIGNS AND BILL OF QUANTITY FOR MUCHEKE STADIUM PROPOSED UPGRADING.

Consideration was given to the report of the Director of Housing and Community Services on the proposed upgrading of Mucheke Stadium. It was reported that the immediate task was for Council to establish the designs and come up with Bill of Quantities (BOQ) for materials so as to come up with estimated quotations for the whole project. Thereafter Council would be able to invite partners for the project.

It was proposed and agreed that Council should engage a Structural Engineer from the City of Harare to prepare the designs and Bill of Quantities (BOQ) for the proposed upgrading of Mucheke Stadium. It was further highlighted that the City of Masvingo would meet the travelling and subsistence allowances for the City of Harare Engineer engaged for the Mucheke Stadium project.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

1. THAT Council engages the City of Harare Engineers to assist the City of Masvingo in preparing the designs and the Bill of Quantities (BOQ) for the proposed Mucheke Stadium upgrading project before Council could invite partners for the project. **DHSS**
2. THAT the City of Masvingo pays travelling and subsistence allowances for the City of Harare Engineers who would be engaged by Council to prepare the designs and Bill of Quantity for upgrading Mucheke Stadium. **DHSS**

H. HOUSING ISSUES

Consideration was given to the report of the Director of Housing and Social Services for the month February 2025, covering housing waiting lists, housing routine business for Mucheke, Chesvingo and Rujeko Administration Offices, title transfer and income from Vendor Markets. The report was noted.

I. WELFARE SECTION

Consideration was given to the report of the Director of Housing and Social Services for the month February 2025, on the Welfare Section covering revenue raised by the section, leased properties payment status, Preschools, libraries, revenue collected,

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workshops and trainings, economic empowerment programmes, Mucheke Old People's Home, Charles Austin Theatre and recreation activities. The report was noted.

J. PARKS SECTION

Consideration was given to the report of the Director of Housing and Social Services for the month February 2025 on the Parks Section covering islands and parks, trees and plantations, state of tractors and other equipment, nurseries, cemeteries and revenue collected from grave payments was considered.

The need for new tractors for grass cutting in the Parks Section was highlighted.

Members expressed mixed feelings over the proposal to demolish tombstones which had been illegally erected at the Lawn Cemetery. It was argued that the tombstones were erected at night. Debate ensued. Members argued that the original concept of the lawn Cemetery had been abandoned and the public had erected tombstones as applicable in the other section of the Lawn Cemetery. The proposal was referred to Management for consideration.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

THAT the proposal to demolish 6 tombstones illegally erected at the Lawn Cemetery be referred to Management for reconsideration, and that the original state of the Lawn Cemetery restored. **DHSS**

K. ESTATES AND VALUATION SECTION

The report of the Director of Housing and Social Services on the activities of the Estate and Valuation section covering status of lease agreements, outstanding rentals and valuations done in the month under review was considered.

L. Adoption of Report

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

THAT the reports of the Director of Housing and Social Services be approved and adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto. **DHSS**

074. 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 February 2025, covering premises inspections, licensing, water and food quality control, meat inspection, meat condemned during abattoir inspections, tickets and intimations issued, Tuberculosis management, weekly diseases surveillance, inspections at Garikai Market, health and hygiene education, dog bites, Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA)

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activities and Ward Health Club activities. The need for mosquito spraying in the City was highlighted.

B. CURATIVE HEALTH SERVICES

The report of the Chief Environmental Health Officer on Curative Health Services statistics for the month of February 2025 covering Mother to Child health services, Masvingo Urban Demographic data, revenue collected, medicines availability, out patients, chronic conditions, maternal and child care services, EPI programme, growth monitoring, patients' attendance at Council Clinics, Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) Management, partnership projects and mental health report was noted.

It was proposed and agreed that the Committee should conduct a tour of Council Health facilities to appreciate the current state of the institutions on the ground.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

THAT the Chief Environmental Health Officer be instructed to organise a tour of Council Health Facilities by the Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee to appreciate the state of the clinics.

CEHO

C. CLEANSING, REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Environmental Health Officer for the month of February 2025 covering number of operational refuse trucks, refuse removal statistics, pest control, waste management and collection, status of public toilets, hygiene monitoring, and clean up campaigns.

On refuse collection, it was reported that three refuse trucks were on breakdown hence the Section was struggling to meet scheduled collections. The need for Council to procure spares for refuse trucks was highlighted.

D. NATIONAL AIDS COUNCIL DAAC PROGRAMME.

The report of the Chief Environmental Health Officer for the month of February 2025 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.

075. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

A. ACTIVITIES OF THE MUNICIPAL POLICE: FEBRUARY 2025.

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Consideration was given to the report of the Town Clerk on the activities of the Municipal Police for the month of February 2025 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
- Chiwororo Beerhall
- Runyararo West Dumpsite.

B. JOINT OPERATIONS

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 further conducted blitz to enforce public health by laws including Shop licensing. The Municipal Police were urged to strengthen patrols in the commonage.

On the proposal for Council to create a dedicated unit within the Municipal Police to deal with illegal vending in the City, the matter was referred to Management for consideration.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

THAT the idea of creating a special vending unit within the Municipal Police be referred to Management for consideration. **DHSS**

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The statistics of arrests made as well as revenue realized were summarised as follows;

OFFENCES /ACTIVITY	ARRESTS	AMOUNT US\$	AMOUNT ZIG
2.3 Traffic			
Failure to purchase parking disc	23	460	
Continuous parking after expiry of disc	243	2430	
Storage fee	5	150	
Pick and drop at undesignated points	125	5000	
Impound fee	34	680	
Parking anywhere	43	1290	
Towing fee	2	200	
Wash and repair	1	40	
Total	476	10 250	
2.4 LICENCING			
Shop licence	270	5400	
Push carts	30	300	
Illegal Selling of gas	38	760	
TOTAL	338	6460	
2.5 VENDING			
Perishables (potatoes, vegetables and fruits)	74	1220	
Non-perishables (bales)	168	2330	
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	242	3550	
2.6 COMMONAGE			
Failure to licence dogs	5	50	
Excess dogs living threshold	10	200	
TOTAL	15	250	
2.7 BOOM GATES			
Croco Motors	576	5750	
WID	438	4375	
L.Takawira	262	2615	
TOTAL	1276	12 740	
GRAND TOTAL	2347	33 250	
Disciplinary Cases			
Criminal Cases			

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The Committee raised concern that the Municipal Police Constables have not been provided with the basic defence tools like button sticks and pistols thereby exposing them to high risk of robbers and other mischievous gangsters in the City. For high security risk areas like the Target Kopje water reservoirs, the members suggested that the Municipal Police Constables be armed with pistols when on guard. The matter was referred to Management for consideration.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

1. THAT the proposal to provide fire arms to Municipal Police Constables guarding high security risk areas like the Target Kopje Water Reservoirs be referred to Management for consideration. **TC**
2. THAT Council provides baton sticks to all Municipal Police Constables. **TC**

C. CASH IN TRANSIT (CIT)

It was reported that the Section collected and banked cash from Bradburn Street Bus Terminus, Welby Avenue Bus Terminus, L. Takawira Terminus, Garikai Market, Civic Centre, Chiwororo Beerhall, Chidavaenzi Bottle Store, Rujeko Beerhall, Runyararo West Clinic, Runyararo Clinic, Mucheke Clinic, Rujeko Clinic and Nursery.

D. DOG SECTION

It was reported that the Section has two trained Dog Handlers and 1 Municipal Police dog. The dog was assisting in guarding Municipal Workshop, patrolling the streets and commonage area as well as in crowd control in the Central Business District and Garikai Market. It was highlighted that two more Officers had been seconded to this Section.

E. GARIKAI MARKET

It was reported that the Municipal Police provided security to Housing Department Revenue Collection staff at Garikai Market.

F. Adoption of Report

RESOLVED

THAT the report of the Town Clerk be adopted.

The meeting ended at 6:41 p.m.

CONFIRMED THIS

DAY OF

2025

CHAIRMAN

TOWN CLERK