

CITY OF MASVINGO

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE 1057TH ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, MUNICIPAL OFFICES, ON MONDAY 26
AUGUST 2024 AT 4.44 P.M.**

PRESENT:

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

APOLOGY:

Councillor S.T. Marombedze

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr N. Nyabvure: G.I.Z.
Mr S. Savere: ARDC
Mr B. Behringer: G.I.Z.

OFFICIALS:

Acting Town Clerk
Finance Director
Acting Director of Housing and Social Services
Acting Chief Environmental Health Officer
Deputy Finance Director
Chief Internal Auditor
Public Relations Officer
Human Resources Officer
Committee Officer
Assistant Committee Officer

237. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.

RESOLVED

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 2 August 2024 be taken as read,
confirmed as a correct record and signed.

*Proposed by Councillor A. Time
Seconded by Councillor S. Chikwangwani*

238. COMMUNICATIONS

Introductions

The Acting Town Clerk introduced Mr N. Nyabvure, Programmes Manager, GIZ who is coordinating the Good Governance in Local Authorities in Zimbabwe Programme, who had come to observe the proceedings of the Council meeting. Mr N. Nyabvure was given the opportunity to introduce his Colleagues, Mr B. Behringer from G.I.Z and Mr S. Savere from the Association of Rural District Councils of Zimbabwe (ARDC).

239. HEALTH, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

IT WAS MOVED BY Councillor M. Madhuna seconded by Councillor S. Manyanga

“THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee held on 14 and 19 August 2024 be adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto”.

On minute 221(A), the house raised concern on lack of adequate ablution facilities at Garikai Market in light of the approaching rainy season. The Acting Chief Environmental Health Officer was instructed to refer the matter to the Public Works and Planning Committee for consideration.

On minute 221 (F) regarding state of Cemeteries in the City, concern was raised that Cemeteries were not getting adequate maintenance particularly clearing of bushes. The Acting Town Clerk was reminded to facilitate a tour of Council Cemeteries by the Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee.

On diseases surveillance, the house raised fears about the outbreak of an infectious disease Mpox which had been reported in other countries. The Acting Chief Environmental Health Officer reported that the disease had not yet been detected in Zimbabwe, and she would share more information with the members about the disease.

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 14 and 19 August 2024 be adopted subject to the resolutions passed as follows:

1. THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 1 July 2024 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed.
2. THAT the Chief Environmental Health Officer be instructed to refer the provision of additional ablution facilities at Garikai Market, to the Public Works and Planning Committee for consideration.
3. 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.

4. THAT the matter regarding the provision of office space for the Municipal Police at the Civic Centre be referred to Management for consideration.
5. THAT the matter regarding theft of diesel from Vehicle AGM 0115 UD truck be referred to the Audit Committee.
6. THAT the report of the Chief Environmental Health Officer be approved and adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto.
7. THAT the request for renewal of Memorandum of Understanding between Council and Care Zimbabwe be granted.
8. 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.
9. 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.
10. 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 development implemented by FBC Bank in Harare, in the next Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee.
11. 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.
12. THAT the matter regarding ringfencing of revenue generated from hire of Mucheke Hall to renovate and equip the facility be referred to Management for consideration.
13. 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.
14. THAT the matter regarding installation of security screen (Burglar bars) at Mucheke Old People's Home be referred to the Public Works and Planning Committee for consideration.

15. THAT the Acting Director of Housing and Social Services be instructed to organise an appreciation tour of Cambria Cemetery for members of the Health, Housing and Environmental Services Committee.
16. THAT the report of the Acting Director of Housing and Social Services be approved and adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto.
17. THAT the report of the Acting Town Clerk be adopted.

240. PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Before moving for the adoption of the minutes, the Chairman made the following correction on the minutes:

On Minute 226 (B) (iii): application for change of use on stand number 10 Herbst Avenue, Rhodene, Masvingo from residential to a Creche, the recommendation was corrected to read as follows:

“THAT Tinotenda Chamunorwa be authorised to give public notice their intention for change of use of stand number 10 Herbst Avenue , Rhodene Masvingo from residential to operate a Crèche and serve notice to every owner of property adjacent to the land to which the application relates and such other owners as Council may direct in terms of the Regional Town and Country Planning Act Chapter 29:12 section 26(3).”

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

“THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 20 August 2024 be adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto”

The members appreciated the decline in Non-Revenue Water during the month of July 2024 which was attributed mainly to reduced water pumping owing to electricity challenges.

On minute 226(B), the need to improve on street lighting was highlighted.

On minute 226 (B)(v) and (vi) where application for change of use from residential to institutional (Private College) was turned down as a result of the physical size of the premises to meet the minimum stand sizes of ±6,5 Hectares set for Schools, some members were of the view that the decision was not fair since there were several Private Colleges in the city which were operating without complying with the very same minimum requirements.

It was explained that all Private Colleges operating in the commonage were illegal, and Council should take measures to close the Colleges. It was suggested and agreed that Council should create institutional stands for allocation to Private Colleges.

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

RESOLVED

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 20 August 2024 be adopted subject to the resolutions passed as follows:

1. THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 18 July 2024 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed.
2. THAT the Director of Engineering Services be instructed to create institutional stands in the City to accommodate Private Colleges.
3. THAT all illegal Private Colleges operating in the City be closed.
4. THAT the proposal by Private Utility Company to conduct a pilot study for smart city and smart metering solutions as a pilot project by installing twenty smart water meters on the twenty properties in Eastvale be granted.
5. THAT Mr. Allen Sibanda be authorized to give public notice of the application and serve notice to every owner of property adjacent to the land to which the application relates and such other owners as council may direct, in terms of the Regional, Town and Planning Country, Act Chapter 29:12 Section 26(3), their intentions for change of use of Stand Number 27397 Zimre Park, Masvingo, from residential to lodge.
6. THAT Mr Bryan Matingwina be authorized to give public notice their intentions for change of use on stand number 8 Ironwood from residential to institutional, Drug and Substance Rehabilitation Centre and serve notice to every owner of property adjacent to the land to which the application relates and such other owners as council may direct, in terms of the Regional, Town and Planning Country, Act Chapter 29:12 Section 26 (3).
7. THAT Tinotenda Chamunorwa be authorized to give public notice their intentions for change of use on stand number 10 Herbst Avenue, Rhodene, Masvingo from residential to a Creche, and serve notice to every owner of property adjacent to the land to which the application relates and such other owners as Council may direct, in terms of the Regional, Town and Country Planning Act Chapter 29:12 Section 26 (3).
8. THAT the application by Jayden Family Trust for change of use on stand number 6542 Batsire Street, Masvingo, from residential to institutional (Secondary School) be turned down on the basis that the stand measures 450m² and therefore does not meet the minimum stand size requirements of a secondary school of ±6.5ha.

9. THAT the application by Mr Ardiel Pururu for change of use on stand number 6622 Mugagao street, Mucheke, Masvingo, from residential to institutional (Private college) be turned down on the basis that the stand measures 649m² and therefore does not meet the minimum stand size requirements for institutional use.
10. THAT the application by Great Zimbabwe Realtors for change of use on stand number 9126 and 9126B, Production Brigade Street, Chesvingo, Masvingo, from residential to institutional (Private college) be turned down on the basis that the stand measures 800m² and therefore does not meet the minimum stand size requirements for institutional use.
11. THAT the application by the Zimbabwe Prison Services to utilise a piece of land adjacent to Masvingo Remand Prisons for service industrial activities be turned down on the basis that the applied use conflicts with the provisions of the Operational Master Plan as the said piece of land is zoned institutional.
12. THAT the Acting Director of Engineering Services be instructed to organize an appreciation tour of the Municipal Workshop and the Sewage Treatment Plant, for members of the Public Works and Planning Committee.
13. THAT the request by Zimbabwe Open University (ZOU) to conduct research on traffic analysis, monitoring, and classification within the City of Masvingo area be granted.
14. THAT the Zimbabwe Open University (ZOU), be authorized to erect four traffic lights at four intersections within the City of Masvingo Central Business District as part of their research on traffic analysis, monitoring, and classification.
15. THAT the report of the Acting Director of Engineering Services be approved and adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto.

241. FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

IT WAS MOVED BY Councillor B. Muchokwa seconded by Councillor A. Time

“THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 23 August 2024 be adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto”.

On minute 233 (B) regarding participation of Council employees at a Sports Gala in Zaka, organized by Zaka Rural District Council it was explained that the City of Masvingo had been invited to attend the sports festival and this would improve the wellness of Council employees and motivate them.

On minute 234 (A) regarding the request by Shineplus Housing Project for a payment plan to settle design approval fees, some members were of the view that the request should be turned down since there was no valid Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Masvingo, and Masvingo Rural District Council (MRDC) regarding developments in Victoria Ranch.

Debate ensued. The Acting Town Clerk reported that work on the review of the MOU with Masvingo Rural District Council was underway and would be completed by the time of the next Ordinary Council meeting. It was agreed that the MOU would be presented to the relevant Committee.

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 23 August 2024 be adopted subject to the resolutions passed as follows:

1. THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 23 August 2024 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed.
2. THAT the Finance Director be instructed to refer to a special meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee where all Councillors would be invited, the implementation of the 2024 approved Budget.
3. THAT the Finance Director be instructed to arrange a half day workshop to consider reports and prepare for the 2025 Council Budget Consultation Roadmap.
4. THAT the report of the Finance Director be approved and adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto.
5. THAT the application by Sylvester Zvavamwe (130174) Class 4 Driver Grade 5, for a Class 2 Drivers License with Junior Driving School at a cost of USD 150 be granted subject to availability of funds in the educational loan account and conditions governing study loans.
6. THAT Council employees be authorised to attend a Drugs/Substance Abuse Awareness Sports Gala hosted by Zaka Rural District Council on 31 August 2024 at Zaka Grounds, at a cost of ZiG 6,065.25 and USD 67 covering food for the participants, allowances for the bus Driver and 100 litres of diesel
7. THAT the report of the Acting Town Clerk be approved and adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto.

8. THAT the application by T. Nzuwa on behalf of Shineplus Holdings for payment plan to settle USD 58,691.28 due to the City of Masvingo in design approval fees be put in abeyance pending the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Masvingo and Masvingo Rural District Council over developments in Victoria Ranch.
9. THAT the report of the Acting Director of Engineering Services be approved and adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto.

242. MOTION FOR COUNCIL TO TURN INTO COMMITTEE

IT WAS MOVED BY Councillor A. Time seconded by Councillor E. Zihsiri

“THAT Council turns itself into Committee for purposes of confirming the Minutes of the 1056th Ordinary Council In Committee meeting held on 2 August 2024, and adopting the minutes of the Human Resources and Gender Committee meeting held on 21 August 2024, and the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held on 19 August 2024”.

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

RESOLVED

THAT Council turns itself into Committee for purposes of confirming the Minutes of the 1056th Ordinary Council In Committee meeting held on 2 August 2024, and adopting the minutes of the Human Resources and Gender Committee meeting held on 21 August 2024, and the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held on 19 August 2024.

The meeting ended at 6.20 p.m.

CONFIRMED THIS

DAY OF

2024

MAYOR

TOWN CLERK