

CITY OF MASVINGO

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE 1074th ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING,
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, MUNICIPAL OFFICES ON MONDAY, 2
MARCH 2026 AT 4.41 P.M.**

PRESENT: His Worship the Mayor Councillor A. Tabe (Chairing)
Deputy Mayor Councillor D. Mberikunashe
Councillor S. Chikwangwani
Councillor B. Hwata
Councillor R. Musekiwa
Councillor M. Madhuna
Councillor A. Time
Councillor E. Zishiri
Councillor S.T. Marombedze
Councillor S. Manyanga
Councillor B. Muchokwa
Councillor S. Shonhiwa
Councillor W. Sitemere

IN ATTENDANCE: Chiwena T: Local Governance Studies Student: GZU
Vhomo W: Local Governance Studies Student: GZU

OFFICIALS: Town Clerk
Chamber Secretary
Director of Housing and Social Services
Finance Director
Director Health Services
Acting Director of Engineering Services
Monitoring and Evaluation Manager
City Economic Development Officer
Principal Human Capital Officer
Committee Officer (II)
Content Creator

049. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.

A correction was made to the minutes, on the attendance list where Councillor W. Sitemere was omitted on the list but attended the meeting.

RESOLVED

THAT the minutes of the meetings held on 26 January 2026 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed.

Proposed by Councillor B. Hwata

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Alderman R. Musekiwa

050. MATTER ARISING

(i). Minute (021) Public Lighting

A request was made for the swift procurement of electricity tokens for tower lights in the commonage to avoid disruption of power. The concern was noted, and it was clarified that the ZETDC electricity voucher system was also experiencing challenges, thereby contributing to delays.

COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications.

051. 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 2 February 2026 be adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto”.

On the Parks Section, a complaint was raised regarding the section’s greening efforts. It was observed that planted trees were not being watered and grass cutting was erratic. The challenges were attributed to the bowser used for watering the trees which required some repairs. With regard to grass cutting, it was noted that the situation would improve as the Department had procured 20 handheld grass cutters.

On Parking Fees, it was highlighted that residents were complaining about penalties for failure to purchase discs and continuous parking, given that the system was now automated. A proposal was made that motorists with expired discs be spared from clamping. The concern was noted.

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 2 February 2026 be adopted subject to the resolutions passed as follows:

1. THAT the minutes of the meetings held on 12 January 2026 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed.
2. THAT the application by Tawanda Nyamarebvu, for change of Bottle Store Liquor Development Permit to a Bar Liquor Development Permit on stand number 28119 Hillside Extension, Masvingo be granted.
3. THAT the report of the Director Health Services be approved and adopted.
4. THAT the request by Masvingo United Football Club for a waiver on payment of stadium fees in the 2026 Soccer League season be put on abeyance pending formulation of policy on waiver of use of stadium.
5. THAT the proposal to award Rujeko Secondary School a Merit Prize for achieving an 80% pass rate in the first sitting of the 2025 Ordinary Level and subsequent awarding of the best performing students be referred to Management for consideration.
6. THAT the report of the Director of Housing and Social Services be approved and adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto.
7. THAT the report of the Chamber Secretary be approved and adopted.

052. PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

IT WAS MOVED BY Councillor B. Hwata seconded by Councillor E. Zishiri

“THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Public Works and Planning Committee held on 9 February 2026 be adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto”

On the 2026 ZINARA Roads Maintenance Fund, it was clarified that the recommendation to procure the Grader using funds from the Estates Account was due to the reduction in the ZINARA Fund allocation for Council as the funds alone were insufficient.

On Road Maintenance, progress was sought regarding Council’s position that major roads be repaired and it was clarified that the Council budget could not cater for all roads within the same financial year. However, scheduled repairs for some roads including resealing and regravelling, would be covered under the current budget.

Council highlighted the need to prioritize road maintenance since some were in a severely deteriorated state. A request was made for the Acting Director of Engineering Services to submit a detailed report on the cost of repairing major damaged roads in the City to the next Public Works and Planning Committee meeting for consideration. It was also noted that Statutory Instrument 41 of 2026 which gazetted new parking fees would significantly reduce Council revenue by 50% and Council emphasized the need to plan accordingly. It was also recommended that the Prepaid Parking By-laws be reviewed.

On the incomplete Treasure Consultants Housing Project, a proposal was made for Council to stop further developments and take over the project. The Town Clerk explained that there was no binding contractual agreement granting Council such rights. He clarified that Clause 5 of the Contract stipulated that, in the event of a dispute, parties would be subject to the jurisdiction of the Masvingo Magistrates Courts for conflict resolution. Management was tasked with determining the cost of outstanding works, identifying the person responsible for administering the project since the last known administrator was now deceased, and preparing a report on the matter. The update was noted, and Council requested that the matter be expedited.

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 9 February 2026 be adopted subject to the resolutions passed as follows:

1. THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 15 January 2026 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed.
2. THAT the procurement of a Grader be funded by the Estates Account after downward review of the 2026 Council ZINARA road fund allocation.
3. THAT the report of the Acting Director of Engineering Services be approved and adopted.
4. THAT the Chamber Secretary be instructed to engage Treasure Consultants (Private Limited) with a view to discuss the modalities of completing outstanding services at Runyararo South West Housing Project.
5. THAT the report of the Chamber Secretary be approved and adopted subject to the resolution passed in relation thereto.

053. 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 26 February 2026 be adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto”.

On the commemorations of the 2026 Independence Day in Maphisa, Matebeleland South Province, some members felt the need for Council to engage the Minister of Local Government to seek approval for a visit to Maphisa, in order to understudy the preparatory works as Council prepares to host the Sanganai/Hlanganai Expo. The Mayor explained that there was no need to request authority to attend since an official invitation would be extended.

On Council expenditure, concern was raised regarding the salaries-to-service delivery ratio. It was agreed that the matter be deferred for discussion in the Ordinary Council in Committee.

On the invitation to attend the 2026 Performance Achievement Series Workshop in Malawi, the proposal to second one Councillor was turned down on the basis that this was a technical forum and there was no justification for the attendance of a policy maker.

On the donation extended to the Zimbabwe Prison Services, His Worship the Mayor emphasized the need for reciprocity in terms of government departments supporting Council activities. The Town Clerk advised that there were areas for possible collaboration, such as the provision of free labour to Council from inmates when required and this partnership would be explored.

On the applications for donations on payment of affiliation fees by Shine Shine Football Club and Masvingo United Football Club, which were turned down due to the absence of a Council policy, some members were of the view that Council should proceed with the donations since some of the clubs were community teams. Proposals were made to utilize the Council Budget allocation of 7% for Sports Infrastructure Development, but it was clarified that Council had already resolved to direct those funds towards upgrading Mucheke Stadium. It was further clarified that many soccer teams and other sporting disciplines required financial assistance, and Council had a responsibility to support them all. These matters would be addressed in the forthcoming Council policy. The Director of Housing and Social Services was urged to expedite formulation of the policy and submit to the relevant Committee for consideration. Council agreed that the two applications for donations from Shine Shine and Masvingo United Football Clubs be put in abeyance pending the formulation of the guiding policy, and that the two recommendations be amended accordingly.

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 26 February 2026 be adopted subject to the resolutions passed as follows:

1. THAT Councillor Sengerai Manyanga be appointed Vice Chairperson of the Finance and General Purposes Committee.
2. THAT the minutes of the meetings held on 22 September 2025, 1 October 2025, 3 December 2025 and 20 January 2026 be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record and signed.
3. THAT the request by the Ministry of Local Government for a donation of 20 000 red bricks and yellow equipment to support construction work and earthworks in Maphisa, Matebeleland South Province in preparation for the 2026 Independence Day Celebrations, be granted.
4. THAT the Finance Director be instructed to process a donation of USD 120.00 to the Zimbabwe Prison Services towards hosting of the Goodwill's Trust Fundraising event.
5. THAT, subject to cabinet approval, Town Clerk, Eng. Edward Mukaratirwa, Finance Director, Mr. Danister Jori, Acting Director of Engineering Services, Eng. Kudzaishe Mbetu, Assistant Director Water and Wastewater, Eng. William Madzivadondo and Senior Credit Controller, Mr. Isau Nyengera be authorized to attend the 2026 Performance Achievement Workshop Series No.2 hosted by RockBlue and Lilongwe Water Board to be held in Lilongwe, Malawi on 13-14 April 2026.
6. THAT Council approves the expenditure covering, airfares, accommodation and conferencing for the five (5) delegates attending the 2026 Performance Achievement Workshop Series No.2 hosted by RockBlue and Lilongwe Water Board to be held in Lilongwe, Malawi on 13-14 April 2026.
7. THAT the report of the Finance Director be approved and adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto.
8. THAT the report of the Town Clerk be approved and adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto.
9. THAT the request by Shine Shine Football Club for financial assistance amounting to USD 1 300.00 for the 2026 season affiliation and player

registration fees in the ZIFA Eastern Region Women Football be put in abeyance pending formulation on donations towards sporting activities.

10. THAT the request by Masvingo United Football Club for financial assistance amounting to USD 3900 for the 2026 season affiliation and player registration fees in the ZIFA Eastern Region be put in abeyance pending formulation on donations towards sporting activities.

11. THAT the report of the Director of Housing and Social Services be approved and adopted subject to the resolutions passed in relation thereto.

054. 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 1073rd Ordinary Council In Committee meeting held on 26 January 2026, adopting the minutes of the Human Resources and Gender Committee meeting held on 13 February 2026 and minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held on 13 February 2026.”

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 1073rd Ordinary Council in Committee meeting held on 26 January 2026, adopting the minutes of the Human Resources and Gender Committee meeting held on 13 February 2026 and minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held on 13 February 2026.

The meeting ended at 6.30 p.m.

CONFIRMED THIS

DAY OF

2026

MAYOR

TOWN CLERK