

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF WHITEMOUTH

Minutes of the regular meeting of Council held on December 21, 2023, at 1:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Rural Municipality of Whitemouth.

Present: Reeve Amerongen, Deputy Reeve Honke, Councillors McDougald, Staerk and Stead, Chief Administrative Officer Johnson and Municipal Solicitor Currie

Reeve Amerongen called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Reading and Confirming of Agenda and Minutes:

Moved by Stead and seconded by Staerk

365/23 **WHEREAS** the agenda for this regular meeting has been reviewed by Council;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda shall be adopted as amended.

For: All

Against: None

CARRIED

Moved by Staerk and seconded by Stead

366/23 **WHEREAS** the minutes of their special meeting held on November 20, 2023, and of their regular meeting held on November 14, 2023, have been submitted to Council for their review;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT these minutes be adopted as presented.

For: All

Against: None

CARRIED

Financial:

1. Payment of accounts

Moved by McDougald and seconded by Honke

367/23 **WHEREAS** the following items have been submitted for approval of payments: Cheque No. 24625 to 24677

Electronic Payments EFT 7530 to 7582;

Cheque Nos. 24 & 25

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT payments be approved for an amount not to exceed \$451,603.58 of which \$48,277.17 is schools and \$26,750.00 is Childcare.

For: All

Against: None

CARRIED

Moved by Stead and seconded by Staerk

368/23 **WHEREAS** the following items have been submitted for approval of payment: Electronic Fund Transfers 7583 & 7586

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT payments be approved for an amount not to exceed \$5,411.17.

For: All

Against: None

CARRIED

Prior to any discussion on Resolution 368/23, Reeve Amerongen and Deputy Reeve Honke requested permission to be excused from all discussions. They left and did not return to the meeting until the resolution was completed.

Moved by Staerk and seconded by Honke

369/23 **WHEREAS** the following items have been submitted for approval of payment: Electronic Fund Transfers 7587 & 7599

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT payments be approved for an amount not to exceed \$2,362.53.

For: All

Against: None

CARRIED

Prior to any discussion on Resolution 369/23, Councillor Stead requested permission to be excused from all discussions. They left and did not return to the meeting until the resolution was completed.

2. Financial Statements ending November 30, 2023

Moved by Honke and seconded by McDougald

370/23 **WHEREAS** the financial statements ending November 30, 2023, have been circulated to Council for their review;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT these statements are adopted as presented.

For: All

Against: None

CARRIED

Public Works Update: December 18, 2023

Utility Report: Ending November 30, 2023

Building Inspector Report: Ending December 11, 2023 & Recommendations

Reports of Committees:

- Whitemouth Reynolds North Whiteshell Waste Management Facility report ending November 30, 2023, and minutes of October 11, 2023.

Verbal Reports of Committees:

Councillor Staerk on the Parent Advisory Committee; Deputy Reeve Honke on Public Works, Whitemouth-Reynolds Waste Management Facility, and the Fire Committee; Councillor McDougald on the Whitemouth-Reynolds Waste Management Facility, Community Futures Winnipeg River, and the Whitemouth Reynolds Planning District; Councillor Stead on Canadian Nuclear Laboratories and the Whitemouth River Valley Community Development Corporation Inc.; and Reeve Amerongen on the Canadian Nuclear Laboratories and the Eastman Regional Municipal Committee.

Delegations:

- 1:15 p.m. Snopals Representative Dave Bruderer attended to provide additional information on their request for a detour trail. In addition, Mr. Bruderer confirmed that the groomer will clear snow in our hamlets on a regular basis as they are doing their trails.

Moved by Honke and seconded by McDougald

377/23 **WHEREAS** Eastman SnoPals Inc. has requested permission to clear a 200 foot trail 14 feet wide on the municipal wood lot adjacent to Townsite Road, in the area of the Hydro Pole and Guide Wire to allow the Club to jog off the shoulder of Townsite Road into the bush for 200 feet;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council does hereby approve this request;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT all debris be removed from the area and that this request be at no expense to our municipality.

For: All

Against: None

CARRIED

1:30 p.m. Municipal Solicitor Orvel Currie

Communications:

1. Canadian Nuclear Laboratories re: Trenches Community Engagement. Noted.

2. Community Futures Winnipeg River re: Regional Planning in the North Eastman Region meeting in Oakbank.

Moved by Honke and seconded by Stead

371/23 **WHEREAS** Community Futures Winnipeg River is coordinating a meeting for 11 Eastman Municipalities to discuss how development and planning provision could be improved within individual municipalities, and the region as a whole on Wednesday, January 10, 2024, in Oakbank;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT that the Chief Administrative Officer and Assistant Chief Administrative Officer be hereby authorized to attend meetings regarding this initiative;
AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT they be reimbursed as per municipal by-laws.

For: All Against: None **CARRIED**

3. Adelene Schultz re: Whitemouth Recreation Center Financial Approved. Noted.

4. Municipal Emergency Coordinator Dowbyhuz re: first draft of Emergency Plan updated and a key for the Fire Hall has been requested for the Alternate Municipal Emergency Coordinator & Provincial Portal request Information. Tabled for additional information from Napier Consulting. Tabled.

5. Manitoba Water and Wastewater Association re: conference February 25 to February 28, 2023.

Moved by Honke and seconded by McDougald

372/23 **WHEREAS** the 2024 Manitoba Water and Waste Water Convention and Trade Show will be held in Brandon, Manitoba, from February 25th to 28th, 2024;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT that the Senior Utility Operator be hereby authorized to attend same;
AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT that he be reimbursed as per municipal by-laws.

For: All Against: None **CARRIED**

6. Winnipeg River Arts Council – request for 2024 per capita grant. Denied. Information was requested

7. Thomas Gloor – request to burn peat moss

Moved by Honke and seconded by Stead

373/23 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Rural Municipality of Whitemouth does hereby authorize Gloor & Sons to burn peat moss in SW 32-12-11 EPM, being Roll No. 131900, as specified in the Burning Plan for Permit provided to be extinguished by March 15, 2024, as specified in the Manitoba Conservation guidelines, and contingent upon approval from Manitoba Conservation.

For: All Against: None **CARRIED**

8. Multi Material Stewardship Manitoba re: 2024 Municipal Recycling Fund Payments. Noted.

9. Association of Manitoba Municipalities – Meet with Council in January

Moved by McDougald and seconded by Staerk

374/23 **WHEREAS** the Board of Directors from the Association of Manitoba Municipalities will be in Whitemouth to meet with Council on January 26, 2024;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT all members of Council be hereby authorized to attend same;
AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT that he be reimbursed as per municipal by-laws.

For: All Against: None **CARRIED**

Unfinished Business:

1. Lagoon Update – Request from Manitoba Water Services Board confirming project request for 2024 & notice from them that a Kick off meeting will be in January 2024. Tabled.

Moved by Stead and seconded by Staerk

375/23 **WHEREAS** the Manitoba Water Services Board will be attending Whitemouth for a Lagoon Kick Off Meeting on January 4, 2024;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT all members of Council be hereby authorized to attend meetings regarding this initiative;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT that they be reimbursed as per municipal by-laws.

For: All Against: None

CARRIED

2. Waterline South of Elma – Tabled.

3. Insurance inquiry for Western Financial regarding fraudulent employee activity in Manitoba. Tabled to In Camera with solicitor.

4. Air B & B initial works. Tabled to In Camera with solicitor.

5. Whitemouth Fire Department re: pagers and radios quote

Moved by Stead and seconded by Staerk

376/23 **WHEREAS** pager and electronic equipment is required by the Whitemouth Fire Department;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT this equipment be purchased at a cost not to exceed \$8,014.58, which includes all taxes.

For: All Against: None

CARRIED

6. Policy Review – ongoing. Tabled.

7. Eastman SnoPals Inc. re: request to cut detour trail. See delegations above.

8. Fire Marque Presentation – request for direction. Council directed Administration pursue this initiative. Tabled.

New Business:

1. Plow Truck

Moved by McDougald and seconded by Honke

378/23 **WHEREAS** a snow plow truck is required by the Rural Municipality of Whitemouth;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT a C-34740 2019 Western Star 4700 be hereby purchased from Gamache Truck Centre Inc. at a cost not to exceed \$199,500.00 which includes all taxes.

For: All Against: None

CARRIED

2. Electronic/Home Office Reimbursement/s – Tabled.

3. Utility accounts added to Tax accounts

Moved by Honke and seconded by McDougald

379/23 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the 2023 outstanding utility accounts be transferred to the Tax Roll in the amount of \$54,468.48 for 79 accounts.

For: All Against: None

CARRIED

4. Development Agreement – draft for consideration. Council approved same.

5. 2024 Emergency Plan - Tabled.

6. Adrian Kauenhowen re: resignation from Public Works. Noted that ads will be posted to fill public works position.

7. Eastman Regional Municipal Committee re: request for resolution regarding the Lac du Bonnet Personal Care Home Project being placed on pause.

Moved by McDougald and seconded by Honke

380/23 **WHEREAS** the Lac du Bonnet Personal Care Home project was formally announced in 2012, by then Premier Selinger, along with an official sod turning event within the Town of Lac du Bonnet;

AND WHEREAS during the past decade and despite countless meetings with various government officials, Health and Finance Ministers, this much needed project did not move forward until July of 2022;

AND WHEREAS And Whereas during this time the Lac du Bonnet Heritage Corporation was established with municipal representatives from the Eastern Regional municipalities as well as private citizens to manage the planning and development of the Lac du Bonnet Personal Care Home;

AND WHEREAS And Whereas the Lac du Bonnet Heritage Corporation Board has spent countless hours updating the project costing and design plan with community volunteers, board members and senior Government officials;

AND WHEREAS the Lac du Bonnet Personal Care Home project had been approved by the previous government through the cabinet and treasury board funding processes;

AND WHEREAS construction contracts have been awarded and the project is in the final stages of approval by the Provincial Fire Commissioners office, with construction slated to begin once the final permits are obtained;

AND WHEREAS this Personal Care Home is clearly supported by the Interlake Eastern Regional Health Authority (IERHA) data, as there are currently 65 paneled Lac du Bonnet Seniors awaiting PCH placement, along with many other paneled seniors from the Eastman region, who are currently being placed in hospitals far from their homes, while awaiting Personal Care Home beds in our region;

AND WHEREAS the new Provincial Government decided to **pause** the Personal Care Home Project on December 14th, 2023, with no consultation with the Lac du Bonnet Heritage Corporation or Eastern Regional municipalities, with no definitive timeline to resume the Project;

AND WHEREAS with the new building code in 2024 and inflationary costs this "PAUSE" in construction, will significantly increase costs for this much needed project.

AND WHEREAS any contractual postponement of the awarded Personal Care Home contracts would cause potential liabilities in the range of \$1.8 million or higher if the project does not immediately move forward;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT That the Eastman Region Communities, Municipalities and Local Government Districts respectfully request that the Premier and Health Minister reconsider and lift the PAUSE on the Lac du Bonnet Personal Care Home, so that construction can commence and move forward as planned.

For: All

Against: None

CARRIED

8. Advertisement for Building Inspector Services - Noted that ads will be posted to fill building inspector position.
9. Financial Reviewer Fee - An inquiry was made as to how much the fee is which was verified at \$85.00 per group/organization. Tabled for an increase for providing this service.

In Camera:

Moved by Staerk and seconded by Stead

381/23 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council recess the Regular meeting and go "In Camera" as per Section 152(3) of The Municipal Act to discuss the following item: Legal

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT all matters discussed are to remain confidential as per Section 83(1)(d) of The Municipal Act.

For: All

Against: None

CARRIED

Moved by Honke and seconded by McDougald

382/23 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** as per Section 152(4) of The Municipal Act Council does hereby now re-open the meeting to the public.

For: All

Against: None

CARRIED

Council directed that UB 3 – Insurance Inquiry for Western Financial regarding fraudulent employee activity in Manitoba be tabled for additional solicitor input for July 2024 when limit changes will be available for review; and draft documents regarding Air B & B/Temporary Lodging for Council's review.

Adjournment:


Moved by Honke and seconded by Stead

383/23 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the regular business has concluded and this meeting does hereby adjourn at 3:52 p.m.


For: All

Against: None

CARRIED



Reeve



Chief Administrative Officer