

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF WHITEMOUTH

Minutes of the regular meeting of Council held on December 5, 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, and Chief Administrative Officer Johnson

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

Reading and Confirming of Agenda and Minutes:

Moved by Honke and seconded by Stead

349/23 **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 Stead and seconded by Staerk

350/23 **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

351/23 **WHEREAS** the following items have been submitted for approval of payments: Cheque No. 24595 to 24624

Electronic Payments EFT 7501 to 7523;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT payments be approved for an amount not to exceed \$180,865.71.

For: All Against: None **CARRIED**

Moved by Stead and seconded by Staerk

352/23 **WHEREAS** the following items have been submitted for approval of payment: Electronic Fund Transfers 7528 & 7529

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT payments be approved for an amount not to exceed \$2,657.95.

For: All Against: None **CARRIED**

Prior to any discussion on Resolution 352/23, 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.

2. Financial Statements ending October 31, 2023

Moved by Honke and seconded by Stead

353/23 **WHEREAS** the financial statements ending October 31, 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: November 20, 2023, verbal update by Deputy Reeve Honke

Building Inspector Report: Update of November 22, 2023

Delegations:

- 1:30 p.m. Fire Service Advisor Chris Carrier of Fire Marque attended to present their Indemnification Technology Program.
- 1:45 p.m. Brooks Meisner of Al Meisner Ltd. attended to advise Council the contractor that supplied the sidewalks in 2023 did not pay the concrete invoices. Council directed Administration to communicate with Honcho Construction advising of Council’s concern of leaving unpaid bills in the municipality.
- 2:00 p.m. Boreal Shores Art Tour President Richard Cline attended to thank Council for their past support and request funding in 2024. Tabled to the next 2024 Budget meeting.

Communications:

1. Whitemouth Fire Department re: Grant Application.
Moved by Honke and seconded by Staerk
354/23 **WHEREAS** Wawanesa has a funding opportunity for Fire Departments;
AND WHEREAS our Fire Department would benefit from this grant for prevention;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council does hereby authorize this grant to be applied for.
- | | | |
|----------|---------------|----------------|
| For: All | Against: None | CARRIED |
|----------|---------------|----------------|
2. Eastman SnoPals Inc. re: request to cut detour trail. Administration was directed to invite them to attend as a delegation to a regular meeting of Council to acquire additional information. Tabled.
3. Sunrise School Division re: Budget Consultation Meeting. Noted.
4. Community Futures Winnipeg River re: Municipal Forum Notes of October 23/2023 & next meeting date of February 12, 2024. Noted.
5. Canadian Nuclear Laboratories re: Virtual Meeting for 2023 Wrap Up. Noted.
6. Association of Manitoba Municipalities forwarding information from Fisheries and Oceans re: Aquatic Invasive Species Regulations. Noted.
7. Community Planning Branch re: Conditional Approval for proposal to subdivide Pt. SE ¼ 3-10-12 EPM Gulenchyn/Toews. Noted.
8. Boreal Shores Art Tour – 2023 Final Report. Noted.
9. North Eastman Community Health Committee re: attendees of December 6, 2023 meeting. Noted.
10. Manitoba Crime Stoppers – request for 2024 grant. Referred to 2024 Budget discussions.
11. Association of Manitoba Municipalities re: RCMP Reporting Templates. Noted.
12. Minister of Municipal and Northern Relations re: Rural Strategic Infrastructure Funding Letter re: Agreement signed. Noted.

Unfinished Business:

1. Lagoon Update – verbal update from Minister’s Meeting provided by Reeve Amerongen. Tabled.
2. Waterline South of Elma - verbal update from Minister's Meeting provided by Reeve Amerongen. Tabled.
3. Insurance inquiry for Western Financial regarding fraudulent activity of CAO. Tabled for Municipal Solicitor’s attendance to next regular meeting.
4. Air B & B initial works. Tabled for Municipal Solicitor’s attendance to next regular meeting.
5. Rural Municipality of Reynolds re: Fire Fighting Retainer – Fire Department’s Position noted and to be provided to the Rural Municipality of Reynolds.
6. Whitemouth Fire Department re: pagers and radios quote. Tabled.
7. Whitemouth Childcare Centre Inc. re: Maintenance Providers contract inquiry response. Noted.
8. By-Law No. 754/23 re: Provincial Offence By-Law
Moved by Stead and seconded by Staerk
355/23 **WHEREAS** By-Law No. 754/23 is a by-law to provide implementation of the Provincial Offences Act;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 754/23 be hereby given third and final reading.

For: All

Against: None

CARRIED

9. Policy Review – progress update on ongoing project. It was noted that Public Works Staff is reviewing the policies which relate to their department. Tabled.

New Business:

- ## 1. Provisional Estimates

Moved by Honke and seconded by McDougald

356/23 **WHEREAS** in accordance with Section 163 of The Municipal Act requires that an interim operating budget be completed to have effect from January 1, 2024, until the adoption of the operating budget fiscal year is completed; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the following interim operating budget be adopted:

Operating Requirement –	
General Government Services	\$ 200,000.00
Protective Services	\$ 50,000.00
Transportation Services	\$ 200,000.00
Environmental Health Services	\$ 20,000.00
Public Health & Welfare Services	\$ 10,000.00
Environmental Development Services	\$ 20,000.00
Economic Development Services	\$ 20,000.00
Recreation & Cultural Services	\$ 10,000.00
Fiscal Services –	\$ 100,000.00
Capital Requirements	
Borne by Reserves	\$100,000.00

For: All

Against: None

CARRIED

2. Christmas Holidays

Moved by Honke and seconded by Stead

357/23 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Rural Municipality of Whitemouth Administration Office be hereby closed for the Holiday Season from December 25, 2023 to January 1, 2024;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Anita Honke be hereby appointed to do Administration Building checks daily during this period.

For: All Against: None **CARRIED**

3. Administrative Wages – Deputy Reeve Honke requested permission to leave the Council Chambers, he returned when Council tabled this item for In Camera discussion later in this meeting.

4. Whitemouth Childcare Centre Inc. re: copy of communications to Minister of Education. Noted.

5. Change of Council Meeting Date

Moved by Staerk and seconded by Stead

358/23 **WHEREAS** the regular Council meeting set for December 19, 2023, has to be changed to accommodate all members of Council;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT this regular meeting of Council be changed to Thursday, December 21, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.

For: All Against: None **CARRIED**

6. Liquor availability in Whitemouth

Moved by Staerk and seconded by McDougald

359/23 **WHEREAS** it is deemed to be in the best interest of our ratepayers to continue to pursue authorization for our local Grocer to sell liquor in his Whitemouth establishment;

AND WHEREAS Council has directed that Administration pursue this venture;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council and the Chief Administrative Officer be hereby authorized to attend any meetings in this regard.

For: All Against: None **CARRIED**

7. Seven Sisters Manitoba Hydro Generating Station re: annexation

Moved by Staerk and seconded by McDougald

360/23 **WHEREAS** it is deemed to be in the best interest of our ratepayers to again, pursue having the Seven Sisters Manitoba Hydro Generating Station annexed into our municipality;

AND WHEREAS Council has directed that Administration pursue this venture;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council and the Chief Administrative Officer be hereby authorized to attend any meetings in this regard.

For: All Against: None **CARRIED**

In Camera:

Prior to any discussion Deputy Reeve Honke requested permission to be excused from all discussions. He left and did not return to the Chambers until the resolution number 363/23 was completed.

Moved by Staerk and seconded by McDougald

361/23 **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: Personnel

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 Staerk

362/23 **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

Moved by Staerk and seconded by Stead

363/23 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Assistant Chief Administrative Officer and Administrative Assistant be hereby each provided a fifty cent per hour increase;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this takes effect as of the first pay period in 2024.

For: Amerongen, McDougald, Staerk & Stead Abstained: Honke **CARRIED**

Adjournment:



Moved by Stead and seconded by Staerk

364/23 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the regular business has concluded and this meeting does hereby adjourn at 2:27 p.m.

For: All

Against: None

CARRIED


Reeve
Chief Administrative Officer