

## RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF WHITEMOUTH

Minutes of the regular meeting of Council held on February 14, 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, 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 Staerk and seconded by Stead

24/23 **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 Honke and seconded by McDougald

25/23 **WHEREAS** the minutes of their regular meeting held on January 24, 2023, and of the special meetings held on January 17, and 24, 2023, and February 8, 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 Stead

26/23 **WHEREAS** the following items have been submitted for approval of payment: Cheque No. 23967 to 23992

Electronic Payments EFT 6835 to 6869

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** payments be approved for an amount not to exceed \$154,745.48.

For: All                      Against:    None

**CARRIED**

Moved by Stead and seconded by Staerk

27/23 **WHEREAS** the following item has been submitted for approval of payment:     Electronic Fund Transfers 6870 to 6873;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** payments be approved for an amount not to exceed \$5,054.81.

For: All                      Against: None

**CARRIED**

Prior to any discussion on Resolution 27/23, 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 Honke and seconded by Staerk

28/23 **WHEREAS** the following item has been submitted for approval of payment:     Electronic Fund Transfers 6874 to 6890;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** payments be approved for an amount not to exceed \$6,199.22.

For: All                      Against: None

**CARRIED**

Prior to any discussion on Resolution 28/23, Councillor Stead requested permission to be excused from all discussions. He left and did not return to the meeting until the resolution was completed.

**Public Works Report:** – February 14, 2023**Utility Report:** January, 2023**Activity Coordinator Report:** January, 2023



**By-Law Officer Report:** January, 2023

### Reports of Committees:

- Community Futures Winnipeg River re: minutes of January 23, 2023;
- Eastman Regional Municipal Committee re: minutes of December 12, 2023;
- Whitemouth Reynolds Planning District re: minutes of November 14, 2023; and
- North Eastman Community Health Committee re: service overview.

### Verbal Reports of Committees:

Councillor McDougald reported on the Whitemouth Reynolds North Whiteshell Waste Management Facility and Public Works; Councillor Stead on the Whitemouth Library; Reeve Amerongen on Public Works, the Manitoba Disaster Management Conference and the North Eastman Community Health Committee; Deputy-Reeve Honke on Public Works and the Whitemouth Reynolds North Whiteshell Waste Management Facility; and Councillor Staerk on the Whitemouth River Valley Community Development Corporation Inc. and the Whitemouth Parent Advisory Committee.

### Delegations:

1:30 p.m. Dwayne Lindstrom attended to provide Council with information on a drainage concern on Elizabeth Crescent in Seven Sisters. Report to be prepared by Public Works for Council's review.

1:45 p.m. Richard Robertson attended to provide Council with information on a drainage concern on Elizabeth Crescent in Seven Sisters. Report to be prepared by Public Works for Council's review.

### In Camera:

Moved by Honke and seconded by Stead

29/23 **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: Negotiations and 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 Staerk

30/23 **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**

2:30 p.m. Eastman SnoPals President John Flemming attended and provided history on their organization and spoke to trail relocation. Council reiterated the importance of having the trails into each of our communities not around them.

**Communications:**

## 1. Manitoba Disaster Management Conference

Moved by Honke and seconded by Stead

31/23 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** 4 members of the Whitemouth Emergency Response Team and Reeve Amerongen be hereby authorized to attend the Manitoba Disaster Conference on January 25 to 27, 2023, in Winnipeg, Manitoba;

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

For: All                      Against: None                      **CARRIED**

2. AMM Insurance Program re: Abuse & Molestation Policy

Moved by Stead and seconded by McDougald

32/23 **WHEREAS** the Association of Manitoba Municipalities has advised that an Abuse Policy is required;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the following is the Rural Municipality of Whitemouth Abuse Policy:



## Abuse & Molestation Policy

### Purpose

The Municipality is committed to an environment free from abuse. The purpose of this Policy is to stress the importance of that commitment by educating Individuals about abuse, outlining how the Municipality will work to prevent abuse, and how abuse or suspected abuse can be reported and addressed by the Municipality.

### Zero Tolerance Statement

The Municipality has zero tolerance for any type of abuse. Individuals are required to report instances of abuse or suspected abuse to The Association of Manitoba Municipalities, and Western Financial Group (hereunder referred to as The Program Administrator) to be immediately addressed under the terms of the applicable policy.

### Definitions of Abuse

The following description of "Child", "Youth" and "Vulnerable Population" and any other defined terms that are at the discretion of the Municipality include, but are not limited to:

Child is defined as anyone under the age of majority. Manitoba: 18- years-old.

Youth is defined as the period between childhood and legal age of majority.

Vulnerable Population is defined as populations that include: racial and ethnic minorities, children, the elderly, socioeconomically disadvantaged people, and those people with physical or mental health conditions.

The forms of abuse referred to in this policy are defined so that all individuals bound by this policy have a clear understanding of the behaviours that will not be tolerated.

Physical Abuse is defined as, but not limited to any intentional act, causing injury or trauma to another person. It can take the form of slapping, hitting, punching, shaking, pulling, throwing, kicking, biting, choking, strangling or the abusive use of restraints.

Sexual Abuse is defined as, but not limited to any unwanted touching, fondling, observations for sexual gratification, any penetration or attempted penetration with a penis, digital or object of the vagina or anus, verbal or written propositions or innuendos, exhibitionism, or exploitation for profit including pornography.

Emotional Abuse is defined as, but not limited to a chronic attack on an individual's self-esteem. It can take the form of name calling, bullying, threatening, ridiculing, berating, intimidating, isolating, hazing, habitual scapegoat, blaming.

Verbal Abuse is defined as, but not limited to, humiliating remarks, name calling, swearing at, taunting, teasing, continual put downs. The use of harsh words, abuse of trust, embarrassing people in public and threatening in the form of words.

Psychological Abuse is defined as, but not limited to, communication of an abusive nature, sarcasm, exploitive behaviour, intimidation, manipulation and insensitivity to race, sexual preference or family dynamics.

Cultural Identity/Spiritual Abuse is defined as abuse targeting a victim's particular cultural or spiritual identity to inflict suffering or as a means of control.

Neglect is defined as, but not limited to any behaviour that leads to a failure to provide services which are necessary such as withdrawing basic necessities as forms of punishment, failing to assess and respond to changes in health status and refusing or withdrawing physical or emotional support. Neglect may include the failure to provide sufficient supervision, nourishment, or medical care, or the failure to fulfill other needs for which the victim cannot provide themselves.

Harassment is defined as, but not limited to, any unwanted physical or verbal conduct that demeans, humiliates, or embarrasses a person, including gender-based harassment. It can be a single incident or several incidents over time. It includes threats, intimidation, display of racism, sexism, unnecessary physical contact, suggestive remarks or gestures, offensive pictures or jokes. Harassment will be considered to have taken place if a reasonable person ought to have known that the behaviour was unwelcome.

### Governing Legislation

This policy references the applicable legislation that gives grounds to the entity's abuse policy. Examples of legislation include:

- Child and Family Services Act, CCSM c C80



- The Community Child Care Standards Act, CCSM c C158
- The Human Rights Code, CCSM c H175
- Criminal Code of Canada, RSC 1985, c C-46
- The Regulated Health Professions Act, CCSM c R117
- The entity must refer to its governing legislation

#### Abuse reporting procedures

Reports of abuse that are shared confidentiality with an individual by a Child, Youth or a member of any Vulnerable Population requires the individual to report the incident to parents/guardians, The Municipality, The Association of Manitoba Municipalities, or the Program Administrator. Individuals must respond to such reports in a non-judgemental, supportive and comforting manner, but must also explain that the report may need to be escalated to the property authority, which may include the Child, Youth or member of the Vulnerable Population's parent/guardian, or in cases of an ongoing threat of abuse, the police. In addition, any disclosure (disclosed or observed) of abuse must be reported to CFS if the incident involves a "Child" or "Youth". Any report of abuse may need to be reported directly to the police if the individual is in danger.

#### Screening

The Municipality will regularly monitor those Individuals who have access to, or interact with Children, Youth and/or a member of the Vulnerable Population. This will include adherence to the Municipality's hiring protocols for Vulnerable Populations and include:

- Criminal record check
- Vulnerable persons and child abuse registry check

Screening is to take place upon initial employment, and every two years thereafter.

#### Investigative & Disciplinary Procedures

Disclosure of abuse (disclosed or observed) will undergo an investigation that will determine applicable disciplinary action. The details of the investigation will be kept on record with the municipality and will be disclosed as necessary to parties to the investigation. Details of the investigation will include:

- The role of the alleged assailant within the organization
- Action taken as a result of the disclosure (i.e.: Suspended with/without pay, terminated, moved to another position)
- Action required by individuals within the Municipality
- Resolution of the complaint- counselling, disciplinary action
- Appeal process (if applicable)
- Identification of false allegations
- Documentation procedures

This all must be made available for any civil or criminal proceedings.

#### Media Representative

The Municipality will appoint a "media representative" to respond to any and all inquiries from any media outlet (Television, Radio, Newspapers, Social Media) and all staff are to refer any media personnel to the "media representative" for response.

#### Training

The Municipality will provide training to all staff that includes safety and handling of "Child", "Youth" and "Vulnerable Population" as defined above.

Additional resources to be reviewed for information on Abuse in Manitoba:

Manitoba Child and Family Services, Provincial Advisory Committee on Child Abuse  
Manitoba network for the Prevention of Abuse of Older Adults and Manitoba Abuse Registries <https://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/abuseregistries.html>.

For: All

Against: None

**CARRIED**

3. Hudson Bay Route Association re: request for financial support. Noted.

4. Rural Municipality of Reynolds re: next joint meeting date.

Moved by Honke and seconded by Staerk

33/23 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** all members of Council and the Chief

Administrative Officer be hereby authorized to attend a Joint Meeting with the Rural Municipality of Reynolds on September 19, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.;



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

For: All

Against: None

**CARRIED**

5. Breaking Barriers Together Association re: invitation to Bill C-20 meeting. Noted.

6. Association of Manitoba Municipalities re: webinar sessions available on Water Strategy Action Plan. Noted.

7. Whitemouth & District Lions Club re: thank you to Council and Staff for assisting with the CP Holiday Train event. Noted.

8. Manitoba Street Lighting quotation re: Mandzuk & Karpoff.

Moved by Honke and seconded by McDougald

34/23 **WHEREAS** a quote has been received from Manitoba Hydro for street lighting along Mandzuk Street and Karpoff Avenue, in the amount of \$2,837.10;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** that this purchase is hereby approved.

For: All

Against: None

**CARRIED**

9. CNL - received notice that the WR-1 Project has been accepted for technical review. Noted.

10. Association of Manitoba Municipalities re: Insurance Program update available by zoom.

Moved by Honke and seconded by Stead

35/23 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** all members of Council be hereby authorized to attend the Association of Manitoba Municipalities Insurance zoom meeting on February 22, 2023;

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

For: All

Against: None

**CARRIED**

11. Association of Manitoba Municipalities re: Eastern Directors Report. Noted.

12. Manitoba Hydro re: Annual Public Meeting on March 14<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Noted.

13. Whitemouth Emergency Response Team Members re: Thank you. Noted.

14. Community Futures re: Board and Council Training.

Moved by Honke and seconded by Stead

36/23 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Councillor McDougald be hereby authorized to attend the Community Futures training to enhance board knowledge on March 2, 2023, in Beausejour, Manitoba;

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

For: All

Against: None

**CARRIED**

15. Provincial Planning re: workshop on Climate Change.

Moved by McDougald and seconded by Staerk

37/23 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Reeve Amerongen and Deputy Reeve Honke be hereby authorized to attend the Workshop on Planning for Climate Change in Gimli, Manitoba, on March 9, 2023;

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

For: All

Against: None

**CARRIED**

#### **Unfinished Business:**

1. Lagoon update – road property & construction signage.

Moved by Staerk and seconded by Stead

38/23 **WHEREAS** Council is in receipt of the Environmental Assessment for our new lagoon;



**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Rural Municipality of Whitemouth do hereby respectfully request technical and financial assistance for the detailed design of same.

For: All                      Against: None                      **CARRIED**

Moved by Staerk and seconded by McDougald

39/23 **WHEREAS** the Manitoba Water Services Board has requested the Rural Municipality of Whitemouth's water and sewer plans for their next 2 to 5 year Capital Plan;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council does hereby direct Administration to provide the Manitoba Water Services Board with the following:

New Lagoon and a Waterline extension south of Elma.

For: All                      Against: None                      **CARRIED**

2. Whitemouth Municipal Childcare Committee re: update and Council Board.  
Moved by Stead and seconded by Staerk

40/23 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** all members of Council and the Chief Administrative Officer be hereby appointed to the Whitemouth Municipal Childcare Centre Board.

For: All                      Against: None                      **CARRIED**

3. By-Law Officer Position – Prairie By-Law Enforcement contract.

Moved by Honke and seconded by McDougald

41/23 **WHEREAS** we have received our By-Law Officer's resignation;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Prairie By-Law Enforcement Ltd. be hereby hired effective March 1, 2023;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** Reeve Amerongen and Chief Administrative Officer Johnson are hereby directed to sign the required Agreement.

For: All                      Against: None                      **CARRIED**

4. Noise By-Law - Tabled.

5. RM of Lac du Bonnet re: Mutual Aid Memorandum of Understanding.

Moved by Stead and seconded by Honke

42/23 **WHEREAS** our Municipal Emergency Coordinator has presented Council with the 2023 Emergency Preparedness Plan;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council acknowledges the following Emergency Management Memorandums of Understanding between this Council and the following Councils/Organizations and renew our commitment annually for each Memorandum of Understanding which will be in effect indefinitely:

Town of Lac du Bonnet

Rural Municipality of Lac du Bonnet

Rural Municipality of Brokenhead

Town of Beausejour

Rural Municipality of Reynolds

Interlake Eastern Regional Health Authority

Sunrise School Division

Whiteshell Hutterite Colony

For: All                      Against: None                      **CARRIED**

6. Eastman SnoPals – trail relocation inquiry, see delegations above.

7. Election By-law – By-Law No. 741/23

Moved by Honke and seconded by Staerk

43/23 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-Law No. 685, being the Campaign Expense and Contributions by-law Schedule A be replaced to reflect the appropriate years;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-Law No. 741/23 be hereby given first reading.

For: All                      Against: None                      **CARRIED**



Moved by Honke and seconded by McDougald

44/23 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-Law No. 685, being the Campaign Expense and Contributions by-law Schedule A be replaced to reflect the appropriate years;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-Law No. 741/23 be hereby given second reading.

For: All

Against: None

**CARRIED**

8. Hyperlink munisoft Councillor Staerk. Noted.

9. RCMP – our request for an update from the Association of Manitoba Municipalities meeting. Tabled.

10. Handivan Step – request for direction.

Moved by Honke and seconded by Stead

45/23 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** a detached step and a garage door opener and weather stripping be purchased for the Handivan.

For: All

Against: None

**CARRIED**

**New Business:**

1. Pandemic Discussion – To be removed from the agenda and brought back if required.

2. Reeve Amerongen – request for meeting with MLA. Noted.

3. Reeve Amerongen – doctor update. Noted.

4. Trailer Fees – information, and By-Law No. 742/23 to rescind.

Moved by Stead and seconded by Honke

46/23 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-Law No. 742/23 being a by-law to rescind By-Law No. 428/05, being the trailer fee by-law be hereby given first reading.

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

Prior to any discussion on Resolution 46/23, Councillor McDougald requested permission to be excused from all discussions. He left and did not return to the meeting until the resolution was completed.

5. Elma Community Centre – update. Noted.

6. Councillor Staerk re: Fire Department “50<sup>th</sup>” Anniversary. It was noted that additional information will be coming from the Fire Department Committee for Council’s consideration.

7. Councillor Staerk re: Hiring of Fire Fighters. It was noted that additional information will be coming from the Fire Department Committee for Council’s consideration.

8. 2022 Surplus – request for direction.

Moved by Honke and seconded by Stead

47/23 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** of our 2022 Surplus, \$8,062.30 be deposited into the Fire Equipment Reserve, with the remainder being deposited into the Equipment Reserve.

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

Prior to any discussion on Resolution 46/23, Councillor McDougald requested permission to be excused from all discussions. He left and did not return to the meeting until the resolution was completed.

9. Special Meeting to discuss Committees date to be set. Tabled.


**Adjournment:**

Moved by Honke and seconded by Stead

48/23 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the regular business has concluded and this meeting does hereby adjourn at 3:12 p.m.

For: All                      Against: None

**CARRIED**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Reeve  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Administrative Officer