



**Rural Municipality of Whitehead
Meeting Minutes**

Regular Meeting of Council July 8, 2024 - 08:30 AM (RM Office)

In attendance: Reeve Trevor Tuttosi, Councillor Chris Semeschuk, Councillor Jeff Owens and Councillor Curtis Storey

Absent: Councillor Dennis Foerster, Councillor Kevin Klassen, Councillor Kaley Mykula

1 CALL TO ORDER

2 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

2024-141 Councillor Semeschuk - Councillor Storey

Resolved that the Agenda be adopted as presented. **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

3 ADOPTION OF MINUTES AS CIRCULATED

2024-142 Councillor Storey - Reeve Tuttosi

Resolved that the minutes from June 10, 2024, be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

5 PUBLIC HEARINGS

6 PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

6.1 Ducks Unlimited Canada - Revolving Land Conservation Program

2024-143 Councillor Owens - Councillor Storey

That the presentation by Scott Henowitch on behalf of Ducks Unlimited Canada with respect to the Revolving Land Conservation Program be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7 BYLAWS AND POLICIES

7.1 Utility Rate Amending By-law 2024-09 - 1st Reading

2024-144 Reeve Tuttosi - Councillor Storey

That By-Law No. 2024-09 - to amend the Utility By-law No. 2022-01 be given first reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.2 Utility Rate Amending By-Law 2023-09 - 2nd Reading

2024-145 Councillor Semeschuk - Councillor Owens

That By-Law No. 2024-09 - to amend the Utility By-law No. 2022-01 be given second reading. **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

7.3 Development Plan Amending By-law No. 2024-07 - 1st Reading

2024-146

That By-Law No. 2024-07 to amend the Development Plan be given first reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.4 Development Plan Amending By-law No. 2024-08 - 1st Reading

2024-147 Councillor Owens - Reeve Tuttosi

That By-Law No. 2024-08 to amend the Development Plan be given first reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8 SUBDIVISION**9 UNFINISHED BUSINESS****9.1 AMM Resolutions**

2024-147 Reeve Tuttosi - Councillor Storey

That the pending motion with respect to the AMM Resolution calling for revitalized rural crime prevention be taken from the table. **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

9.1.1 AMM Resolutions

2024-125 Reeve Tuttosi - Councillor Mykula

Whereas rural crime prevention is a top concern for rural residents in Manitoba, and;
Whereas staffing levels *for* both the RCMP and Conservation Officers are not sufficient,
and;

Whereas Manitoba has invested in technology, equipment and training for Conservation Officers, including establishing a central dispatch service, which allows the COS to provide first response assistance to the RCMP and *greater* crime prevention services in general, beyond their traditional duties, and;

Be it known, that other jurisdictions such as Saskatchewan have developed formal collaborative arrangements between their Conservation Officers and RCMP to provide greater effectiveness and shorter response times, and; Be it known, that in recent years, Municipalities and partner organizations have requested from Government, and received an increased budget to provide for the hiring of an additional 25 Conservation Officers, and;

Whereas Manitoba has instituted greater preventative enforcement actions in recent years including enforcement bulletins that highlight enforcement such that has acted as a deterrent along with other measures such as night surveillance via helicopter, all intended to reduce dangerous, illegal night hunting activities that *are* perpetrated by an array of offenders, and;

Be it known, that illegal night hunting (e.g., on private land without permission) has caused human death, killed and injured livestock, damaged property, crop damage and a general sense of fear in rural communities for decades prior to efforts in recent years by Manitoba to curb this illegal activity, and;

Be it known that a coalition including Rural Municipalities, Agricultural Producers, law enforcement agencies, and hunters advocated *for* many years, expending significant time and resources for increased enforcement to reduce illegal night hunting activity, and;

Be it known that since increased enforcement efforts have occurred in recent years, rural residents report a huge decrease in illegal night hunting activity, and as such, do not want to see any decrease in enforcement activity and a concomitant increase in illegal night hunting activity.

Therefore, many Westman RM's strongly support the ongoing revitalization of the Conservation Officer Service with direct operational linkages to the RCMP, continued night hunting prevention and overall rural crime prevention through the following measures: - The maintenance of Fall and Winter night hunting enforcement including night helicopter surveillance, consistent enforcement bulletins that describe enforcement results as a deterrent, and use of all modern techniques, tools and regulations such that illegal night hunting activity is deterred long term. - The follow-through of past and current budget commitments to grow the number of Officers in the field through the immediate approval to hire 25 new Conservation Officers, with a portion of the new officers located in the southwest region, and - The immediate formalization of operational collaboration between the RCMP and COS leading to reduced response times in rural areas. We respectfully request that these recommendations are implemented in our RM and surrounding areas."

DEFEATED

10 NEW BUSINESS

10.1 MPP Reserve Funds

2024-148 Councillor Semeschuk - Reeve Tuttosi

Whereas Bylaw 2022-14, the Mitigation and Preparedness Program Reserve Bylaw, was passed in January 2023;

Be it resolved that the \$14,212.74 received February 2024 from the Province of Manitoba for the 2022 Spring Flood DFA claim be deposited to the MPP Reserve Fund;

and further resolved that this be recorded as a receivable for 2023 and the money transferred to the said reserve. **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

10.2 Animal Control By-law - Pet Licenses

10.3 Ducks Unlimited Canada - Revolving Land Conservation Program

2024-149 Reeve Tuttosi - Councillor Storey

Be it resolved that a letter be provided to Ducks Unlimited Canada in support of the proposed purchase as part of the Revolving Land Conservation Program.

Name	Yes	No	Abstained	Absent
Dennis Foerster				✓
Kevin Klassen				✓
Kaley Mykula				✓
Jeff Owens		✓		
Chris Semeschuk		✓		
Curtis Storey	✓			
Trevor Tuttosi	✓			

DEFEATED

11 ACCOUNTS

2024-150 Councillor Storey - Councillor Owens

Resolved that the List of Accounts as paid for June, cheques numbers #15881 to #15914 (both inclusive) totaling \$114,388.58 and Direct Deposit Register totaling \$20,562.04 including council indemnity as per by-law no. 2023-01 be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11.1 Budget to Actual

2024-151 Councillor Owens - Councillor Storey

That the June year-to-date budget to actual report be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

12 COMMITTEE AND BOARDS REPORTS

13 CORRESPONDENCE

14 NOTICE OF MOTION

15 IN CAMERA

2024-152 Councillor Owens - Councillor Semeschuk

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this regular meeting now adjourns to an “in camera” meeting to discuss matters in the preliminary stages as per Subsection 152(3)(b)(iii) of The Municipal Act and all matters discussed in-camera are confidential until discussed in an open meeting as per Section 83(1)(d) of The Municipal Act.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

15.1 Personnel

15.2 OPEN SESSION

2024-153 Reeve Tuttosi - Councillor Owens

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this 'in camera' meeting does now resume back to a regular meeting. **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

16 Adjournment

2024-154 Reeve Tuttosi - Councillor Owens

Resolved that we now adjourn to meet again on (date) at (time) for a Regular Council meeting or at the call of the Reeve.

Time: 10:08 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DRAFT