



Rural Municipality of Whitehead Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting of Council January 12, 2026 - 08:30 AM (RM Office)

In attendance: Reeve Trevor Tuttosi, Councillor Kevin Klassen, Councillor Kaley Mykula, Councillor Jeff Owens, Councillor Chris Semeschuk, Councillor Curtis Storey, Councillor Dennis Foerster

1 CALL TO ORDER

2 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

2026-001

Councillor Klassen - Councillor Storey

Resolved that the Agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3 ADOPTION OF MINUTES AS CIRCULATED

2026-002

Councillor Semeschuk - Councillor Owens

Resolved that the Regular minutes from December 8, 2025 and Special minutes from December 15, 2025 be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

5 PUBLIC HEARINGS

2026-003

Councillor Storey - Councillor Owens

Be it resolved that the regular meeting of council be recessed to allow council to hold a Public Hearing to receive representations for any person who wishes to make them in respect to the following:

By-law No. 2025 - To Amend the Zoning By-law No. 2021-04

Time: 8:32 am

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5.1 By-law 2025-05 - To Amend Zoning By-law

Jamie Suski, applicant, spoke in favour of the re-zoning as moving forward the conditions set for his subdivision application. He confirmed that the respective Provincial agencies had been contact regarding the required Heritage Resource Impact Assessment and assessment of the land as Class 6 & 7 soils.

Darlene Janssen, area resident, spoke in opposition to the proposed rezoning, noting her adjacent farm operation and the land's past use for grazing. She expressed concerns that increased residential density would disrupt the area's agricultural character, create conflicts with non-farm residents, raise taxes, contradict municipal and provincial farmland protections, and pose septic risks to her downstream property. She urged that the rezoning be rejected to protect the long-term viability and character of the agricultural area.

David Guild, area resident, spoke in opposition to the proposed rezoning, noting the land's longstanding agricultural viability, its historic use for grazing, and proximity to his farm. He stated that to re-zone the property would not meet the intent of the "AG" zone under the Zoning By-law and raised concerns about future conflicts with residential uses, including noise, dust, trespassing, loss of wildlife habitat, fire-protection demands, water and septic handling, school-bus routing,

and inadequate road access during flood years. He requested that the municipality deny the rezoning.

Dale Guild, area resident, spoke in opposition to the re-zoning by raising concerns with what impact the proximity of residential properties may have on future ability to continue cattle operations. He further noted concerns with loss of privacy with higher density, negatively affecting the quiet nature of the area.

2026-004

Councillor Owens - Councillor Storey

Whereas all representatives in regard to matters listed below have been dealt with:

By-law 2025-05 - To Amend Zoning By-law No. 2021-04

Therefore be it resolved that the public hearing be concluded, and council resume its normal order of business.

Time: 9:20 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6 PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

6.1 Souris-Glenwood Vet Board

Reeve Tuttosi - Councillor Klassen

That the presentation by the Souris Valley Veterinary Board be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7 BYLAWS AND POLICIES

7.1 By-law No. 2025-05 - To Amend the Zoning By-law - 2nd Reading

Councillor Foerster - Councillor Klassen

That By-Law No. 2025-05 - To Amend the Zoning By-Law 2021-04 be given second reading.

CARRIED

8 SUBDIVISION

9 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

9.1 2026 Emergency Plan

Councillor Mykula - Councillor Storey

That the pending motion with respect to the 2026 Emergency Plan be taken from the table.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.1.1 Tabled Motion

Councillor Owens - Councillor Storey

Be it resolved that the 2026 Emergency Plan be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10 NEW BUSINESS

10.1 Municipal Election 2026 - Consultant Proposals

Councillor Klassen - Councillor Mykula

Be it resolved that _____ be contracted for information sessions for the purpose of educating interested candidates in advance of the 2026 general municipal election;

2026-005

2026-006

2026-007

2025-226

2026-008

And further, that _____ be contracted for orientation services to the Council following the 2026 general municipal election.

DEFEATED

10.1.1 Tabling Motion

2026-009

Councillor Semeschuk - Councillor Foerster

That the above motion be tabled to the February 9, 2026 Regular Meeting of Council.

DEFEATED

10.2 Western Caucus Membership

2026-010

Councillor Semeschuk - Councillor Storey

Be it resolved that the RM of Whitehead shall continue sending representatives to Western Caucus for the 2026 year.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.3 Audit Recommendation - Payroll Reviews

2026-011

Councillor Storey - Councillor Foerster

Be it resolved that Councillor Semeschuk will review and provide oversight of payroll monthly, as per the auditor recommendations.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.4 Assiniboine West Watershed District - Oak River Appointments

2026-012

Councillor Owens - Reeve Tuttosi

Be It Resolved that Councillor Curtis Storey and ratepayer Marvin Thiessen be appointed to the Assiniboine West Watershed District Sub-District Committee.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.5 Employee Vacation, Banked Overtime and Sick Time Balance

2026-013

Councillor Foerster - Councillor Klassen

That the statement for employee banked hours, vacation days, sick and severance accrued days as of December 31, 2025 be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.6 Interest & Late Fees

Administration advised Council that several requests had been received from residents to forgive interest incurred for late July – September quarter utility payments. It was confirmed that the quarterly bills had not been mailed due to potential disruptions by the Canada Post strike occurring at that time. Alternatively, bills had been made available for pick-up with advertising efforts undertaken throughout the RM and on social media pages.

Council determined that interest remained applicable and requests to remove interest would not be approved.

10.7 2026 Tax Sale

2026-014

Reeve Tuttosi - Councillor Owens

Whereas Section 365(2) of The Municipal Act provides that Council may in any year designate the immediately preceding year, or any earlier year, as the year for which properties, the taxes in respect of which are in arrears for the year, must be offered for sale by auction to recover the tax arrears and costs;

Be it Resolved that 2025 is to be the Designated Year (meaning all properties with outstanding balances owing on the tax ledger for the year 2024 or prior) for which properties in arrears, with the exclusion of Roll #7950, are to be offered for sale by auction; and

Be it Further Resolved that in accordance with s. 363(1) of the Municipal Act, "costs" shall be the actual costs incurred by the municipality for each parcel

listed for the tax sale plus an administration fee of \$50.00 per roll as set forth in Manitoba Regulation 50/97; and

Be it further resolved that the tax sale be held October 6, 2026 at 10:00 am at the RM Office in Alexander, Manitoba.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.7.1 Tax Service

2026-015

Councillor Mykula - Councillor Storey

Whereas the Municipal Act requires the Municipality to conduct tax recovery proceedings every year; and

Whereas Council for the RM of Whitehead deems it to be in the municipality's best interest to hire Taxservice Inc. to manage tax arrears recovery on its behalf; and

Now therefore be it resolved that the RM of Whitehead hire Taxservice Inc. to manage tax arrears recovery on the municipality's behalf for a term of three (3) years;

And be it further resolved that administration be and is hereby authorized to sign the Taxservice Inc. engagement letter on behalf of the municipality.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11 ACCOUNTS

11.1 Accounts

2026-016

Councillor Klassen - Councillor Storey

Resolved that the List of Accounts as paid for December, cheques numbers #16715 to #16770, EFT numbers #94 to #129 (both inclusive) and 3 auto withdrawals for a total of \$216,143.71 and Direct Deposit Register totaling \$31,400.80 inclusive of payroll and council indemnity as per By-law No. 2023-01 be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11.2 Bank Reconciliation

2026-017

Councillor Semeschuk - Councillor Storey

Resolved that the October and November 2025 Bank Reconciliations be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11.3 Budget to Actual

2026-018

Councillor Storey - Councillor Owens

That the preliminary December 2025 year-to-date budget to actual report be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

12 COMMITTEE AND BOARDS REPORTS

12.1 Western Caucus

2026-019

13 CORRESPONDENCE

Councillor Owens - Councillor Foerster

Resolved that the Correspondence listed below be received;

Reimer - Reimbursement of Interest

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

14 NOTICE OF MOTION

15 IN CAMERA

16 Adjournment

2026-020

Councillor Foerster - Councillor Storey

Resolved that we now adjourn to meet again on February 9, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. for a Regular Council meeting or at the call of the Reeve.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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