

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF NEPAWA REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2023 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, NEPAWA MUNICIPAL OFFICE, 275 HAMILTON ST., NEPAWA, MB**

Present: Mayor Hedley, Deputy Mayor Parrott, Councillors Gerrard, Nadeau, Kostenchuk and Sisley, CAO Colleen Synchyshyn, ACAO Jodi Baker, Manager of Operations Denis Saquet

Guests: Jeremy Vogt – NACTV, Eoin Devereaux – Neepawa Banner/Press

Regrets: Councillor Pottinger

**1. Approval of Agenda**

**Resolution No: 2023-73**

**Gerrard/Sisley**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we approve the Regular Meeting agenda for Tuesday, April 18, 2023.

**CARRIED**

**2. Approval of Minutes**

**Resolution No: 2023-74**

**Parrott/Kostenchuk**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting and Public Hearing held April 6, 2023 as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**3. Council Reports**

**3.1 Neepawa and Area Disabled Persons Association – Councillor Sisley**

- HandiVan - 462 trips the last month; Celebrations trip was successful; three Sand Hills Casino trips coming up; and the HandiVan will be providing shuttle service from the Coop Parking Lot for the Chamber Fair.

**4. Department Reports**

**4.1 Manager of Operations Report – Denis Saquet**

- Active Transportation Study – A booth will be set up at the Chamber Fair to receive public input.
- Street sweeping, patch repairs and general clean up taking place. Spring clean-up with volunteers will be arranged when weather permits.
- Tenders going out on a number of projects shortly.
- Golf Course and Park Lake DFA repairs & work continues with no water work permitted at this time.

**5. Correspondence**

**5.1 Canadian Heritage – Celebration and Commemorative Program**

- Awarded \$2,400 Grant under the Celebrate Canada Component for the 2023 Canada Day Activities.

**6. Finance**

**6.1 Financial Statement – February 2023**

**Resolution No: 2023-75**

**Nadeau/Kostenchuk**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we approve the Financial Statement for the month ended February 28, 2023.

**CARRIED**

**6.2 2023 Financial Plan**

**Resolution No: 2023-76**

**Kostenchuk/Parrott**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we hereby adopt the 2023 Financial Plan.

**CARRIED**

## 7. Unfinished Business - Nil

## 8. New Business

### 8.1 RCMP Contract Policing

Resolution No: 2023-77

**Sisley/Gerrard**

WHEREAS, The Government of Canada has made the decision in Budget 2023 to make municipalities responsible for all retroactive costs stemming from the latest RCMP collective bargaining agreement; and WHEREAS, These extraordinary one-time costs, which in some jurisdictions amount to millions of dollars, will cause significant hardship for communities and residents across the country, and were negotiated without meaningful consultation or a seat at the table for the municipalities responsible for paying the bill; and WHEREAS, Municipal governments are already paying a growing share of policing costs, but unlike other orders of government, cannot run deficits to spread out the impact of these extraordinary one-time sums, and have limited revenue tools; and

WHEREAS, Local governments will now be forced to make difficult decisions that will impact residents, such as cutting essential services, reducing policing levels, raising property taxes significantly, and/or cancelling work on local infrastructure, at a time when Canadians' concerns about community safety and the cost of living are already rising; and

WHEREAS, Going forward, it is critical that municipalities be proactively engaged in any forthcoming processes related to contract policing to prevent this occurring again;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Neepawa joins the Federation of Canadian Municipalities in calling on the federal government to commit to ensuring that local governments are meaningfully consulted, fully informed, and at the table on issues related to policing costs given the municipal role in keeping our communities safe; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Town of Neepawa conveys this support in writing to local Members of Parliament.

**CARRIED**

### 8.2 Arts, Culture and Sport Community Fund Application

- This application follows up on a previous application made in 2022, which was not approved for funding. Total project cost of \$1.8 million for a proposed sharing ratio of 50/50.

Resolution No: 2023-78

**Sisley/Nadeau**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Neepawa approve an application to the Arts, Culture and Sport Community fund for the construction of a new pool building that will allow for compliance with Accessibility Legislation and provide greater functionality for the revitalization of Riverbend Park, as a targeted area for increased leisure and recreational activities on a year-round basis; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT should the project application be successful, the Town of Neepawa is committed to ensuring that the municipal portion of the funding will be readily available to give effect to the project.

**CARRIED**

### 8.3 Authorize Destruction of Nuisance Birds and Vermin

- Noted by CAO Sychyshyn that any requests to shoot a raven cannot be accommodated, as they are considered a protected species under the *Wildlife Act*.

Resolution No: 2023-79

**Gerrard/Parrott**

WHEREAS certain species of birds, such as crows and pigeons and vermin, such as beavers and gophers, pose a public nuisance and a danger to the public;

AND WHEREAS Council deems it necessary to shoot such that pose a public nuisance and a health risk;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Council of the Town of Neepawa authorize Chad Campbell and Jake Birch, through direction and consultation with the local Police Detachment and the CAO, to discharge firearms for this purpose within Town limits during the 2023 year.

**CARRIED**

**9. By-Laws**

**9.1 By-Law 3224-23 Levy of Taxes for 2023 – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

**Resolution: 2023-80**

**Kostenchuk/Nadeau**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 3224-23, being a By-Law of the Town of Neepawa to levy taxes for the year 2023; to provide for a tax due date; and to provide for late payment penalties, be now read for a first time.

**CARRIED**

**10. In-Camera**

**Resolution: 2023-81**

**Gerrard/Kostenchuk**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Neepawa do now sit as a "Committee of the Whole In-Camera" at 7:18 p.m. to discuss planning and development matters.

**CARRIED**

**11. Out of In-Camera**

**Resolution: 2023-82**

**Gerrard/Parrott**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we do now adjourn the in-camera session at 8:35 p.m.

**CARRIED**

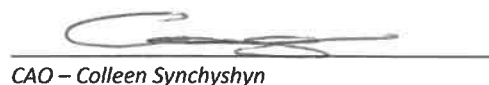
**12. Adjournment**

**Resolution No: 2023-83**

**Kostenchuk/Sisley**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we do now adjourn this Regular Meeting of Council at 8:36 p.m.

**CARRIED**

  
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Mayor – Brian Hedley  
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CAO – Colleen Synchyshyn