

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF NEEPAWA REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD TUESDAY, JUNE 17, 2025, AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, NEEPAWA MUNICIPAL OFFICE, 275 HAMILTON ST., NEEPAWA, MB**

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

Guests: Jessica Omen - NACTV, Joshua Jackson – Neepawa Banner & Press

**1. 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. – Pre-Meeting Committee of the Whole.**

**Resolution: 2025**

**Gerrard/Nadeau**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we do now sit as a Committee of the Whole “In-Camera” at 6:10 p.m. to discuss planning and development matters.

**CARRIED**

**Resolution: 2025**

**Nadeau/Gerrard**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we adjourn the “In-Camera” session at 6:50 p.m.

**CARRIED**

**2. 7:00 p.m. Approval of Agenda**

**Resolution No: 2025-119**

**Nadeau/Sisley**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we approve the Regular Meeting agenda for June 17, 2025.

**CARRIED**

**3. Approval of Minutes**

**Resolution No: 2025-120**

**Kostenchuk/Gerrard**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held June 3, 2025, as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**4. Council Reports**

**4.1 Councillor Sisley**

- Rural Doctors week was successful; Neepawa would like to participate with a 2-week session in 2026.
- A successful advanced skills bike training session was held at HyLife Back 40.
- Canada Day will feature a free public swim, a bike parade, an obstacle, course, music, food and fireworks.
- Congratulations to FilCan for hosting various successful events as part of Filipino Heritage month.

**4.2 Councillor Kostenchuk**

- Over 70 seniors took advantage of the income tax program offered through the HAND office.

**4.3 Councillor Nadeau**

- While the Neepawa Library was unsuccessful in obtaining a summer student, we did receive approval to 90 hours of programming assistance.
- Temporary library cards have been provided for wildfire evacuees.
- An individual has expressed interest in joining the library board.

**4.4 Deputy Mayor Parrott**

- Attended the Economic Developers Association of Manitoba (EDAM) awards banquet where EDO Crewe was presented with the 2025 Award of Distinction for her contributions to the field of economic development both locally and provincially.

## 5. Department Reports

### 5.1 Manager of Operations Denis Saquet

- Main Street drain from Brown Ave going east has been completed; waiting on concrete.
- Staff have started work on the Mill Street drain.
- Manitoba Hydro is currently installing services for the new residential lots on Isabel Street.

## 6 Correspondence

### 6.1 Prairie Mountain Health

- Successful application to the Healthy Together Now (HTN) program in amount of \$5,000 towards the purchase of kayaks, canoes, paddles and life jackets to establish an "Echoes of the Paddle" program.

## 7. Finance

### 7.1 April 2025 Financial Statements

Resolution No: 2025-121

Gerrard/Nadeau

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we approved the Financial Statements for the month ended May 31, 2025.

**CARRIED**

## 8. Old Business - Nil

## 9. New Business

### 9.1 Radon Action Strategy

Resolution No: 2025-122

Gerrard/Sisley

**WHEREAS** radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that comes from the soil and enters homes and buildings as a carcinogen that causes more than 3,200 deaths per year in Canada; and

**WHEREAS** non-smokers who have high levels of radon in their homes over their lifetime have a 1 in 20 chance of developing lung cancer, and for smokers this risk is 1 in 3; and

**WHEREAS** data from Health Canada shows that Manitoba has some of the highest indoor radon levels in Canada, with approximately one in four homes testing above the national guideline of 200 becquerels per cubic metre, which highlights the urgent need to address radon levels in the homes, public buildings, and workplaces in our province; and

**WHEREAS** prolonged exposure to elevated radon levels poses a serious and preventable public health risk to Manitobans across all communities and housing types and results in incalculable health care costs; and

**WHEREAS** many homeowners and tenants are unaware of the dangers of radon exposure or lack the financial means to conduct testing and undertake mitigation to protect their health, which can range from \$50 for a test kit to \$3,000 or more for professional remediation; and

**WHEREAS** there is currently no comprehensive provincial strategy in Manitoba addressing radon awareness, testing, mitigation, or financial support for residents, and there is a risk of this responsibility being off-loaded to municipalities;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) lobby the Province of Manitoba to develop and implement a comprehensive Radon Action Strategy that includes:

1. Providing free or subsidized radon test kits to residents through public health agencies, schools, and libraries.
2. Establishing a provincial grant or rebate program to assist homeowners and landlords with the costs associated with radon testing and mitigation, prioritizing low- and moderate-income households.

3. Introducing a Manitoba Radon Mitigation Tax Credit, allowing residents to claim a percentage of certified radon mitigation expenses, making mitigation more affordable and accessible.
4. Requiring regular radon testing in schools, child care centres, and social housing units, with results made publicly available and mitigation efforts undertaken where necessary to protect vulnerable populations.
5. Updating *The Residential Tenancies Act* to mandate radon testing and disclosure in rental properties, ensuring landlords address elevated radon levels to safeguard tenant health.
6. Collaborating with stakeholders to include radon mitigation measures in new home warranty programs, ensuring that new constructions meet radon safety standards and provide recourse for homeowners if elevated levels are detected.
7. Exploring regulatory changes to require radon testing and disclosure during real estate transactions and for rental properties.
8. Revising the Manitoba Building Code to assess the effectiveness of radon control standards and incorporate more protective measures from CAN/CGSB 149.11-2024, particularly in high-risk areas, to prevent radon infiltration from the outset.
9. Launching comprehensive education initiatives to inform Manitobans about the health risks of radon, the importance of testing, and the availability of resources for mitigation.

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT** AMM advocate for interdepartmental collaboration within the provincial government, engaging Manitoba Health, Manitoba Housing, and other relevant agencies, including the Manitoba Lung Association and CancerCare Manitoba, to coordinate efforts and resources across sectors in addressing radon exposure throughout Manitoba.

**CARRIED**

#### **10.2 Approve Hospital Roadway Construction Project**

**Resolution No:** 2025-123

**Kostenchuk/Sisley**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we accept the tender of Zenith Paving to complete the new roadway construction in SW 34-14-15W at a cost of \$1,777,693.67 plus GST.

**CARRIED**

#### **10.3 Approve 2025 General Street Patching and Paving Projects**

**Resolution No:** 2025-124

**Kostenchuk/Nadeau**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we accept the tender of Meseyton Construction Ltd. to install asphalt paving on Isabel Street, to replace sections of Adelaide Street and Second Avenue with new asphalt, and to complete various other pre-determined patching projects for a total cost of \$346,978.44 plus GST.

**CARRIED**

#### **10.4 FCM Green Municipal Fund – Updating Climate Change Local Action Plan**

**Resolution No:**2025-125

**Gerrard/Sisley**

WHEREAS the Town of Neepawa filed an application with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities under Green Municipal Fund to update Neepawa's Climate Change Local Action Plan to ensure the document integrates equitable and inclusive climate adaptation planning;

AND WHEREAS the Green Municipal Fund Council and FCM's Executive Committee has approved the application for a project totalling \$140,000, cost shared 50/50 with the Town of Neepawa;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Town of Neepawa approve proceeding with this project and agree to commit the Town's share of the funding.

**CARRIED**

**11. By-Laws**

**11.1 By-Law 3235-25 Establish Rates for Solid Waste & Recycling – Special Service Plan 01-2025 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading**

**Resolution No: 2025-126**

**Sisley/Kostenchuk**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 3235-25, being a By-Law of the Town of Neepawa to establish rates for solid waste and recycling services, be now read for a third time and passed.

For: All

Against/Abstained: Nil

**CARRIED**

**11.2 By-Law 3234-25 Levy of Taxes for 2025 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading**

**Resolution No: 2025-127**

**Nadeau/Kostenchuk**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 3234-25, being a By-Law of the Town of Neepawa to levy taxes for the year 2025; to provide for a tax due date; and to provide for late payment penalties, be now read for a third time and passed.

For: All

Against/Abstained: Nil.

**CARRIED**

**12. Other Business**

- Residents are reminded of their obligation to maintain their properties, cut their grass and not to park campers and trailers, etc. on the streets for prolonged lengths of time. The Town has been following up recently with enforcing the by-laws.

**13. Adjournment**

**Resolution No: 2025-128**

**Sisley/Kostenchuk**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we now adjourn this Regular Meeting of Council at 7:32 pm.

**CARRIED**

  
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Mayor – Brian Hedley

  
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CAO – Colleen Synchyshyn