

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF NEEPAWA REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 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 Clark, Gerrard, Kostenchuk, Nadeau and Sisley, CAO Colleen Synchrony, Manager of Operations Denis Saquet, EDO Marilyn Crewe, Asset Management Co-ordinator Kara Sylvester, Director of Recreation Cassandra Noonan-Robinson

Guests: Jessica Oman – NACTV, Eoin Devereaux – 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 5:00 p.m. to discuss planning, development and personnel matters.

CARRIED

Resolution: 2025

Parrott/Kostenchuk

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we adjourn the “In-Camera” session at 6:52 p.m.

CARRIED

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

Resolution No: 2025-170

Kostenchuk/Nadeau

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we approve the Regular Meeting agenda for September 2, 2025.

CARRIED

3. Approval of Minutes

Resolution No: 2025-171

Gerrard/Clark

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held August 5, 2025, as circulated.

CARRIED

4. Presentations/Delegations/Public Hearings - Nil

5. Council Reports

5.1 Deputy Mayor Parrott

- Doctor recruitment and retention initiatives continue; Dr. Eleche has started his position.

5.2 Councillor Sisley

- 5 resident doctors were welcomed to Neepawa and gift bags provided.
- 1st annual health worker appreciation barbeque was well supported – 360 + burgers were cooked, of which 195 were packaged and delivered.
- The Health Action Committee is currently working on creating promotional materials to display at the Family Medicine Resident Retreat on September 19th.

5.3 Councillor Nadeau

- The Neepawa Library has organized several activities and initiatives for the month of September and in response to a number of requests, they will be purchasing DVD and CD players for people to access.

5.4 Councillor Kostenchuk – Home Assistance Neepawa & District

- 3 new life line units have been issued to clients; Marsha Fogue is the new coordinator for Meals on Wheels; Individuals are participating in the Manitoba Rent Assist Program.

6. Department Reports

6.1 Manager of Operations Denis Saquet

- Recent rains have caused construction delays for all road projects. The boulevards on the newly constructed section of Isabel Street have been landscaped and grass has been seeded.

6.2 Director of Recreation Cassandra Noonan-Robinson

- The pool closed on August 31st - 816 swim lessons over the summer (601 regular & 215 private).
- Day Camp ended on August 22nd - all eight weeks were fully booked with 20 kids each day.
- The campground contract ends next week with 900 bookings; the Storybook Trail is undergoing some repairs; and the pickleball group has been working with the Town to install fences at the courts.

6.3 Economic Development Officer Marilyn Crewe

- Hosting a "Pathway to Owning Your Own Home" session on October 4th.
- What's the Big Idea is scheduled for October 16th. This will be the 10th anniversary and plans are underway to invite past participants to attend a short celebration and supper.
- Working on securing training initiatives for the training centre as well as procuring furniture.
- Children's Business Fair had 17 participants who collectively made \$2,019.00.
- 2 of the Town's billboards have now been replaced.

7. Correspondence

7.1 Canada Post – CMB Delivery to Westpark Mobile Home Park

- Community mail boxes will be installed at Westpark Place to service the 51 occupants at this location. Each customer will receive a 30-day notification letter in September specifying their new civic formatted mailing address and when the changes will take place.

8. Finance

8.1 Accounts – August 2025

Resolution No: 2025-172

Kostenchuk/Nadeau

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we approve the accounts for August 2025, totalling \$1,343,388.77, as reviewed and representing electronic fund transfers #1302 to #1439 and cheque #2025000606 to #2025000685, but excluding #2025000665 and #20250000666.

CARRIED

Mayor Hedley & Councillor Gerrard declared a conflict for the following resolution; vacated the room, returning at the close of discussion and debate. Deputy Mayor Parrott presided.

8.2 Accounts – August 2025 (HH & Co-op)

Resolution No: 2025-173

Kostenchuk/Nadeau

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we approve cheque #202400665 & #2024000666 for August 2025 to Home Hardware and Neepawa Gladstone Co-op totalling \$10,127.90.

CARRIED

8.3 Appoint Auditors 2025 - 2028

Resolution No: 2025-174

Parrott/Kostenchuk

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we accept the audit proposal of MNP LLP and appoint them as the Town of Neepawa auditor for the years 2025 - 2028 at an annual rate of \$32,000.00 for 2025, \$31,000.00 for 2026, \$33,000.00 for 2027, and \$35,000.00 for 2028 plus applicable taxes.

CARRIED

9. Unfinished Business – Nil

10. New Business

10.1 Street Closure – 2025 Santa Parade of Lights

Resolution No: 2025-175

Sisley/Clark

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of Town authorize the closure of the following streets to facilitate the Parade of Lights on Saturday, November 29, 2025:

Starting at the Yellowhead Arena, travel south on Mountain Avenue to Davidson Street; East on Davidson Street to Brown Avenue; South on Brown Avenue to Hamilton Street; and West on Hamilton Street past 1st Ave for dispersal. These streets to remain closed until the end of parade and/or scheduled festivities.

CARRIED

10.2 Neepawa Training Facility – Lease to Assiniboine Community College

Resolution No: 2025-176

Gerrard/Clark

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Neepawa approve entering into a lease with Assiniboine Community College to host a Medical Administration Certificate Program at the Neepawa Training facility in 2026 at a rate of \$3,500/month;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Mayor & CAO be given authority to conclude the terms of the agreement.

CARRIED

10.3 Neepawa Functional Design – PTH 16

Resolution No: 2025-177

Gerrard/Clark

WHEREAS in 2004 the Province of Manitoba endorsed a long-range plan, known as the PTH 16 Neepawa Functional Design, for the upgrading of PTH 16 through the Town of Neepawa to ensure minimal conflict between land development and highway traffic;

AND WHEREAS the expansion and development of residential, institutional and commercial properties in Neepawa have significantly increased the demand on the highway system relative to both local and commuter traffic;

AND WHEREAS Neepawa continues to grow and develop with several new planned initiatives unfolding on both the east and west side of Neepawa;

AND WHEREAS the Town has proceeded with a traffic impact study for a 58-acre residential development to the north-west of the PTH 16 & 5 (N) intersection, the draft recommendations of which, contemplate changes to the highway system, which may include the requirement to construct a north south service road to reduce highway access conflicts, provide enhanced connectivity and ensure public safety;

AND WHEREAS actions by the province to upgrade PTH 16 through Neepawa as per the 2004 Functional Design have been extremely limited and poses an increased risk, especially where PTH 5 traffic is superimposed, leading to increasing conflict between local circulation and highway through traffic.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Neepawa hereby request the Department of Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure to actively proceed with the first two stages of the Functional Design related to the construction of the north and south service roads around the commercial business district from PTH 5 (N) east to Fifth Avenue; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT any further highway improvements identified for this area of Neepawa as part of the most recent traffic study, incorporate a commitment by the Province of Manitoba to facilitate the construction of the PTH 16 service roads around the commercial business district as a critical step in the modernization of the highway system and a pre-cursor to understanding the scope of improvements that will be necessary to address traffic that is outpacing the existing design of the transportation network through Neepawa.

CARRIED

11. Old Business - Nil

12. Adjournment

Resolution No: 2025-178

Kostenchuk/Clark

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we now adjourn this Regular Meeting of Council at 7:35 pm.

CARRIED



Mayor – Brian Hedley



CAO – Colleen Synchishyn