

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF NEEPAWA REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2026, AT 5:30 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, Asset Management Co-ordinator Kara Sylvester

Guests: Rrain Prior – NACTV

5:00 p.m. – 5:30 P.M. – Committee of the Whole

In-Camera

Parrott/Kostenchuk

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we do now sit a “Committee of Whole In-Camera” at 5:00 p.m. to discuss strategic planning and development matters.

CARRIED

Adjourn In-Camera

Gerrard/Sisley

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we do now adjourn the “In-Camera” session at 5:27 p.m.

CARRIED

1. 5:30 p.m. Approval of Agenda

Resolution No: 2026-43

Nadeau/Parrott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we approve the Regular Meeting agenda for March 17, 2026.

CARRIED

2. Approval of Minutes

Resolution No: 2026-44

Clark/Gerrard

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held March 3, 2026, as circulated.

CARRIED

3. Presentations/Delegations/Public Hearings – Nil.

4. Council Reports

4.1 Councillor Sisley

- Upcoming events include Multi-Cultural Day on March 21st and the Riverbend Market on July 18th.
- Yellowhead Investment Corridor is disbanding. Remaining funds will be returned to the partners.
- Handivan continues to work on an advertising decal campaign and in recognition of the higher costs related to gas, they will be reviewing their rates.

4.2 Councillor Nadeau

- Attended the Rossburn Subdivision Trails Association AGM in Erickson. Individuals using the trails for snowmobiling were present, as well as members of the Trail Association. Discussions were held about accessing trees from the 2 billion Tree Program to plant along the trail.
- At the most recent Spruce Plains Justice Committee meeting, the group honoured Jodi Baker who is retiring from this committee with 27 years of service.

4.3 Deputy Mayor Parrott

- The Community Clinic Committee is once again running the Farm & Leisure Lottery. Profits from the lottery have served the community well. These funds provide the ability to continually improve and create space at the medical clinic.

- Neepawa is fortunate to have 11 doctors. 2 additional doctors graduate in June, and we are hopeful they will choose to practice in Neepawa. Upcoming clinic renovations will include an expansion into the north side of the building to create more office for the doctors.
- Along with Councillor Clark, attended Economic Development training in Portage. It was evident through the various discussions that Neepawa is used as an example for progression.

4.4 Councillor Kostenchuk – Home Assistance Neepawa & District

- Three new lifelines have been installed; hosted a successful social afternoon and a movie day; Foot care clinics are popular, and further clinics will be scheduled.

4.5 Mayor Hedley – Project 320 Update

- Significant progress has been made over the last number of weeks to complete actions that will assist in completing the subdivision of 58 acres of land for housing.
- Construction is underway including the installation of new water and sewer lines and a lift station.
- This development is being structured to pay for itself with the potential sales expected to cover costs.
- Staff will continue to work on cost estimates to determine lot prices.
- Lot prices will be announced as soon as there is sufficient information.

5. Department Reports

5.1 Manager of Operations - Denis Saquet

- Water and sewer installation continue in the new subdivision; storm sewer and road work will commence as we near spring.
- Staff are busy thawing drains and participating in training sessions.

6. Correspondence - Nil

7. Finance

7.1 January & February 2026 Financial Statements

Resolution No: 2026-45

Gerrard/Parrott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we approve the Financial Statements for the months ended January 31, 2026 and February 28, 2026.

CARRIED

8. Unfinished Business – Nil

9. New Business

9.1 Manitoba Water Services Board – Capital Projects Request

Resolution No: 2026-46

Sisley/Clark

WHEREAS the Manitoba Water Services Board is requesting the identification of water and sewer projects slated for the next five years in rural Manitoba in order to prepare a capital plan for the prioritization and allocation of funding;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Neepawa hereby identify the following water and sewer projects to be considered for technical and financial assistance through the Manitoba Water Services Board capital plan:

- 1) Water Tower Rehabilitation
- 2) Distribution Flow and Pressure Analysis of Watermains
- 3) Water & Sewer Mains - New Development (Project 320 - Phase 1B)
- 4) Install 3rd RO Train - Water Treatment Plant

CARRIED

9.2 Storefront Improvement Incentive Program – 2026 Intake – the Mill

Resolution No: 2026-47

Sisley/Clark

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we approve an application to the Storefront Improvement Program submitted by Lisa Adams of The Mill to remove and replace windows at 263 Hamilton Street; and taking into account that the total cost of the project is greater than the project threshold of \$10,000, the project be approved at an amount no greater than \$5,000.

CARRIED

9.3 Beautiful Plains County Court Building

- Council discussed the shared ownership of the building with the Rural Municipality of Rosedale and the Municipality of North Cypress Langford, as well as the continuing issues related to keeping the building sustainable. Based on the existing income, it is increasingly difficult to avoid annual operating deficits.
- Further, without being able to offset costs with sufficient revenues at the time the budget is passed, the operational year starts with a projected deficit. In the instance that annual deficits continue, there is limited funding available in the savings account to cover deficits for a period longer than 1 – 2 years.
- More recently, the Minister of Municipal and Northern Relations clarified for the partners that “contribution” to the building was different than revenue generated from “users” of the building.
- Over the last several years, the old boiler system has failed on many occasions. It is difficult to service; is very expensive to repair and the users of the building more recently have expressed concerns with the lack of heating for days at a time when the system fails and the inability of the electrical system to support space heaters without tripping the breakers.
- Council will encourage discussions with the partners to talk about the viability of the building and the short term and long-term solutions for the continued operations of this designated heritage site.

9. By-Laws - Nil

10. Other Business - Nil

11. In-Camera

Resolution No: 2026-48

Sisley/Parrott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we do now sit as a “Committee of the Whole” In-Camera at 6:09 p.m. to discuss planning, development and personnel matters.

CARRIED

Resolution No: 2026-49

Gerrard/Kostenchuk

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we do now adjourn the “In-Camera” session at 7:30 p.m.

CARRIED

Adjournment

Resolution No: 2026-50

Parrott/Nadeau

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we now adjourn this Regular Meeting of Council at 7:31 pm.

CARRIED



Mayor – Brian Hedley



CAO – Colleen Sychyshyn