

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF NEEPAWA REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 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 Synchyshyn, Manager of Operations Denis Saquet, Asset Management Co-ordinator Kara Sylvester

Guests: Jessica Omen – NACTV, Eoin Devereaux – Neepawa Banner & Press

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

- Preliminary 2026 budget review and discussions.

1.. Approval of Agenda

Resolution No: 2026-32

Clark/Kostenchuk

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we approve the Regular Meeting agenda for March 3, 2026.

CARRIED

2. Approval of Minutes

Resolution No: 2026-33

Gerrard/Nadeau

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held February 17, 2026, as circulated.

CARRIED

3. Presentations/Delegations/Public Hearings – Nil.

4. Council Reports

4.1 Councillor Sisley

- The Health Action Committee sponsored a successful games night on March 2nd for the resident doctors and their families.
- 187 job seekers attended the Job Fair on March 2nd to speak with the 18 businesses in attendance.
- Reminder of the Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) information sessions on March 24th.

4.2 Councillor Nadeau

- Westlake Employments Skills and Services – working on policy development and attended the Job Fair.
- Interesting statistics show that the use of e-resources for the regional libraries has doubled since 2016.
- As part of the Age Friendly funding, the local library will be the recipient of computers, kobo readers and a printer for use by the senior population.

4.3 Deputy Mayor Parrott

- Attended the Tourism AGM; HyLife was the recipient of the Business of the Year Award.

5. Department Reports

5.1 Manager of Operations Denis Saquet

- The first section of watermain installs for Phase 1 of Project 320 is 95% complete with sewer mains progressing in the next week. Services will be stubbed out for the proposed lots.
- Working on resolving issues with the runway lights at the airport.
- Seasonal positions have been posted.

6. Correspondence

6.1 RCMP Report/Crime Statistics – February 2026

- Received as information and filed.

7. Finance

7.1 Accounts – February 2026

Resolution No: 2026-34

Gerrard/Parrott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we approve the accounts for February 2026, totalling \$1,543,986.04, as reviewed and representing electronic fund transfers #2056 to #2132 and cheques #202600080 to #202600144, but excluding #202600091 and #202600118.

CARRIED

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

7.2 Accounts – February 2026 (HH & Co-op)

Resolution No: 2026-35

Sisley/Kostenchuk

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we approve cheque #202600091 and #202600118 for February 2026 to Home Hardware and Neepawa Gladstone Co-op totalling \$10,933.04.

CARRIED

7.3 Year-End Surplus Transfers for 2025

- At close of the 2025 year, the General Operating budget had a surplus of \$1,023,470.66 attributable to projects that remained uncompleted at year-end due to seasonal delays or timing. Such projects include street renewals for Adelaide Street, Second Ave. From Mill St. to Hamilton Street and new road work on the east side of Neepawa in SW 34-14-15W.
- The Utility Operating budget closed with a surplus of \$263,230.06 also as a result of uncompleted renewals on Adelaide and Second Ave, as well as new sewer and water infrastructure.
- Recommendation of Administration to transfer the surpluses into reserves to close the 2025 year and return them back into the 2026 budget to offset these costs.

Resolution No: 2026-36

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we approve the transfer of the year-end unaudited General Operating Fund surplus of \$1,023,470.66 to the Building and Land Reserve and the Utility Operating Surplus of \$263,230.06 to the Utility Sewage and Collection Reserve; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the transfers be net of any year-end audit adjusting entries.

CARRIED

7.4 December 2025 Financial Statements

Resolution No: 2026-37

Gerrard/Parrott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we approve the unaudited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2025.

CARRIED

8. Unfinished Business

8.1 Hamilton Street Bridge Evaluation

- Tetra Tech has completed their inspection of the Hamilton Street Bridge as well as performing superstructure load rating services. High level findings propose that the bridge rail posts need to be replaced; the asphaltic top needs to be replaced; the bridge requires posting for reduced capacity; and that the bridge is close to the end of its useful life and Council should be planning for its replacement.
- All information is based on the current condition which may be impacted if and when future traffic patterns are altered on Hamilton Street. Tetra Tech recommends replacing the guard rail posts and the asphalt at an estimated cost of \$92,580.75 and inspecting the bridge every four years.

- Council in agreement to proceed with works to replace the posts and asphalt; install the required signage and engage in discussions that will outline a plan for the inevitable replacement of this bridge.

9. New Business

9.1 Updating the Personnel Policy PER #010

Resolution No: 2026-38

Sisley/Kostenchuk

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Personnel Policy PER #010 be approved as updated and re-indexed as Policy AD-075.
CARRIED

10. By-Laws

10.1 By-Law 3238-26 Close Part Public Lane Plan 65638 in SW 33-14-15WPM – 1st Reading

Resolution No: 2026-39

Gerrard/Kostenchuk

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 3238-26, being a By-law of the Town of Neepawa to close Part Public Lane Plan 65638 in SW 33-14-15 WPM and transfer that portion so closed to the Town of Neepawa to consolidate with Lot 2 of Subdivision 4437-25-8767, be now read for a first time.

CARRIED

11. Other Business

- Congratulations extended to Tim Speiss who, in advance of the meeting, was presented with a Manitoba Association of Fire Chiefs Long Service Award reflecting 25 years of service as a firefighter on the Neepawa Fire Department. The certificate and medal was presented by Mayor Hedley and Fire Chief Guillas.

12. In-Camera

Resolution No: 2026-40

Nadeau/Kostenchuk

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we do now sit as a "Committee of the Whole In-Camera" at 5:57 p.m. to discuss personnel and development matters.

CARRIED

Resolution No: 2026-41

Kostenchuk/Nadeau

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we do now adjourn the "In-Camera" session at 7:04 p.m.

13. Adjournment

Resolution No: 2026-42

Parrott/Sisley

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we now adjourn this Regular Meeting of Council at 7:05 pm.

CARRIED



Mayor – Brian Hedley



CAO – Colleen Synchrony