

RM of Springfield Council Meeting  
May 16, 2023

**ATTENTION: At the July 4th. Council meeting this coming Tuesday, the 2023 FINANCIAL PLAN AMENDMENT PUBLIC HEARING IS SCHEDULED FOR 6:30 P.M. HOPE YOU CAN ATTEND.**

**HATS OFF OPTIONAL? MAYOR THERRIEN APPEARS TO BE SELECTIVE REGARDING HIS POLICY OF NO HATS IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AS AT THE JUNE 22ND. PLANNING MEETING, HE SAID NOTHING WHEN A MAN WEARING A CAP CAME BEFORE COUNCIL REPRESENTING A CONCERN IN THE INDUSTRIAL AREA. THERE WAS ALSO ONE OTHER FELLOW WEARING A CAP AND ONE MAN WEARING A TURBAN AND NOTHING WAS SAID TO ANY OF THEM.**

**NOTE: The first thing one noticed upon arriving at the RM Administration Building to attend this meeting was a SPRINGFIELD POLICE SERVICE vehicle parked in front of the building. One officer was on hand initially, joined by a second subsequently AND THEY WERE THERE FOR THE ENTIRE 3 HOUR + MEETING. MAYOR THERRIEN, that is a blatant insult to your employers, the RATEPAYERS of the Municipality. While you cite two past examples of disruptive behaviours in the Council chambers, I attend every single Council meeting and have yet to see anything I would consider disruptive OR THAT THE HEAD OF COUNCIL COULD NOT HANDLE FROM THE PODIUM. WHAT A WASTE OF TAX DOLLARS AND EXAMPLE OF LEAVING THE MUNICIPALITY "VULNERABLE" FOR NO GOOD REASON. If a constituent comes to Council to voice their discontent with the actions of a Department or of Council itself, as long as their presentation is non-aggressive, I AS A RATEPAYER feel this is not disruptive, rather it is informative. IT IS INCUMBENT UPON YOU, ELECTED TO "SERVE" RESIDENTS, to listen and learn what is happening under your leadership. If you are not prepared to do that, YOU SHOULD NOT HAVE RUN FOR OFFICE. SHAME ON YOU FOR IMPLYING THE PEOPLE YOU SERVE ARE INCLINED TO VIOLENCE AND WORTHY OF THE SCRUTINY OF TWO POLICE OFFICERS! Further, I am endeavoring to transcribe this meeting word for word and while long, it is easier to read than to listen to the entire audio file which is sometimes not that clear. I THINK IT IS IMPORTANT FOR PEOPLE TO READ THIS TO ASSESS THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR CURRENT COUNCIL.**

WITHOUT PREJUDICE (E&OE)

LENGTH OF MEETING 3 hours 4 minutes 18 seconds

**Mayor Therrien** - Well, good evening, uh folks. I'm just going to call uh the meeting uh to order. Thank you very much uh for attending. Uh for the record, the date is uh May the 16th. uh at 6 p.m. uh on the button and uh thank you all for attending tonight in this gorgeous weather. Um finally have that uh the nice weather that we've been looking for. My name is uh Patrick Therrien, I'm the Mayor for the RM of Springfield and uh to my right and following down is uh Deputy Mayor and Councillor Ward 1 is uh Glen Fuhl, uh next to Glen is uh Andy Kuczynski, Councillor of uh Ward 2, and next to Andy is uh Mark Miller, Councillor for Ward 3, and uh Melinda uh Councillor Melinda Warren for uh Councillor for Ward uh 4.

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - Mayor Therrien** - Um Item #3 on the agenda, we'll start uh on that is approval of the agenda, can I get a mover uh and a seconder for that uh please. Uh Andy and Melinda (Kuczynski/Warren). **Colleen Draper** - *Be it resolved that the agenda be amended as follows: Add June District Resolutions, By-law Standardization, and By-law Enforcement Officers.* **Mayor Therrien** - Any questions uh from Council at all? We'll put that to a vote, uh all those in favour of uh approval of the agenda, item number 3, show of hands. That's uh carried.

**4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES (May 2, 2023) - Mayor Therrien** - Um Item #4, is uh Adoption of the uh Minutes, and that'll be for Council minutes of May 2nd. of 2023, um a mover and a seconder uh for that please uh Mark and Pat (Miller/Therrien) um and I'm going to get Colleen to read it. **Colleen Draper** - *Whereas the Minutes of the Council meeting held May 2 have been previously distributed to Council, Be it Resolved that the same be and are hereby approved.* **Mayor Therrien** - Uh any questions from Council at all. .. **NOTE: This is not on the official recording of the meeting but is what was said to initiate Mayor Therrien's answer. Unidentified Gentleman** - *Is there any way the volume could be turned up because I cannot hear one single word anyone is saying. Apparently there is speakers everywhere in here but I can actually clearly hear the air conditioning fan but I cannot hear one person talking. And I don't think this is proper. I think that... You have a microphone and speaker. Does that not work? Is that for show only or?* **Mayor Therrien** - Thank you sir. Uh we'll try to speak up **there** but uh is there a speaker system here um or **NOTE: Unfortunately not. And the acoustics in the Council chamber are not ideal.** ... that's, that's for people on line uh **there** Derrick that's why the speakers uh we're not going to get that on the uh addressed uh tonight but uh as far as I know, we'll just start speaking louder. Did you want to sit in the front as well, sir, that might even help you a little bit better. Ok. Alright, then we'll try to speak up then, sir. Um I'm not sure, adoption of the minutes, a mover and a seconder uh for the adoption of the Minutes, uh oh sorry uh could I get a vote on that. All those in favour. That'll be unanimous.

**5. QUESTION PERIOD - Mayor Therrien** - And Item number 5 is Question Period, it's only questions pertaining to the current uh agenda items. Um we have people on uh Zoom I guess and then people in the audience and uh if there's any questions uh with regards to the agenda items, please step forward from the audience. Karen. **Karen Lalonde** - Uh regarding delegations and ones coming forward tonight, I just feel that residents should not have a hard time limit of 15 minutes imposed upon them. I think residents can request an extension of the time limit from Council once the 15 minutes is reached, they have a little bit more to add. **NOTE: Unfortunately I do not think that is the case.** That's my request. **Mayor Therrien** - Thank you, Mrs. Lalonde. we'll take that into consideration. **NOTE: When she first requests to speak, he refers to her by her given name but after she says her piece, which he may not agree with, he addresses her as Mrs. Lalonde. Is that a reflection of his feelings?** Uh one from the audience and then we'll take somebody on line, if there's anybody on line, I don't see anybody **there**, correct me if anybody sees anybody but uh any other questions uh from the audience? Heather? Did you want to come up to the podium uh Heather just for the sake of the people on line. Just state your name **there** m'am ... **Heather Erickson** - Heather Erickson, Anola, Manitoba. Um I have a few little problems with some of these things like uh the Chair of the Public Hearing may require any person other than member of Council blah blah blah, it shouldn't be up to just the Mayor to decide what is disruptive. It should be by vote of Council. Um the business about the media audio and videotaping the meetings, they have to check with the CAO 2 days prior and it says nothing about the public recording, uh this is a

public meeting, 10/4, so a public meeting is what they call "public" so if somebody wants to record it, I don't care if it's the media or the public, they should be allowed to record it without even asking permission, it's a "public" meeting, the audio files goes on your Web Site. What's the big secret? **Mayor Therrien** - Thank you, m'am. I'll give you a lot of latitude, it's ..so far you've got uh two comments uh no questions uh and nothing's related to the agenda. **Heather Erickson** - Ya, it's the Procedure By-Law. And um, so it says "to ensure a safe and secure environment for Council, Committee, and Board meetings including electronic meetings, a member of public may not .. well (a) and (b) are ok as long as the Chair recognizes the person wanting to speak but if they're being deliberately denied, then it should include "unless the Member is being deliberately refused the opportunity" so anyway, that's all I wanted to say. I think you should work on that. **Mayor Therrien** - Thank you very much. I think what we'll, what we should do is for accessibility uh we'll look at maybe getting a uh something there uh we'll discuss it with Council **there** uh for people that uh aren't able to have as much mobility ..no, no, I know m'am, I know but I'm just saying if there's instances **there** Heather that are...if there's instances where people don't have access **there** we'll have a mike and we can bring it to the person uh and it's not always going to have to be the podium because there is accessibility issues that we'll try to address. Ok um if there's no other questions from the audience.. alright um I think uh you're going up first m'am. **Margaret Akins** - Good evening there everyone. My name's Margaret Marion-Akins, I'm from Springfield. Um I'd like to thank all of you for the ability to come here before you and uh ok my first question is going to be - of all you councillors and the mayor, how many of you have read the old by-law procedure, the new by-law procedure, and compared them? Can I have a show of hands? **Mayor Therrien** - No, just, you've got to address uh the Chair here m'am. **Margaret Akins** - Address you? **Mayor Therrien** - Ya, so, so what is it you're, you're wanting uh **there**. **Margaret Akins** - A show of hands on who, in Council, has compared the old by-law procedure with the new by-law. **Mayor Therrien** - Which by-law are you referring to? **NOTE: Really, Mayor Therrien! Are you that out of touch with the proceedings and agenda?** **Margaret Akins** - The By-law Procedure that ... **Mayor Therrien** - interrupting The Procedure By-law? **Margaret Akins** - Yep. It's on the agenda, ya. May I have a show of hands, who's done it. Like, is that a hard thing? **Mayor Therrien** - I, I've read the new one. **Margaret Akins** - Ok. Well, it seems like..have you read both of them? Good, good. Thank you. But it seems like most of you haven't so anyways, I did the comparison and there's a lot of changes. The ..I made notes just more or less on 14 of them and um they are not in the public's interest so that leads me to the question, who prepared this document? **Mayor Therrien** - The Procedural By-law? It uh. **Margaret Akins** - Ya who, who upgraded it to what..to its present .. **Mayor Therrien** - Well, well we had made some changes in Council, looking at changes to make with regards to um times uh and issues like that. **Margaret Akins** - And, and ok. And um there was no public consultation, just you and the staff? **Mayor Therrien** - interrupting This is what we're doing now. **Margaret Akins** - Ok, good, thank you. **Mayor Therrien** - When we get to the Procedural By-law then you can, you can comment on that if you like. **Margaret Akins** - Oh, ok so anyway... **Mayor Therrien** - interrupting Or go ahead and do it now. **Margaret Akins** - This is going to be short because there's a lot of ... **Mayor Therrien** - Just do it now, m'am. **Margaret Akins** - Oh, ok there'll be a lot of other people. Here's my... my um how many are there...one, two, three, four, five, six, I'll pass these to Colleen or to you to pass around. So those are all the changes that I tracked that I would like to see you folks before you even do a First Reading is to review because you'll see, they're not in the interest of the public and um I think most of you campaigned on the fact that you were going to have an open government. So that's basically where I am for ..on the By-law Procedures. The next question I have is on um which is on the agenda is 08-01. That order was given out quite some time ago by the Municipal Board and in it it gave a by-law and in that by-law it stated that it should be in .. introduced and put into the Procedure or not the Procedure By-law, into 08-01 forthwith. **NOTE: 08-01 is the Zoning By-law.** Well, forthwith means "right away" in legal terms so I'd like to know, my question is why hasn't it been instated into the By-law. **Mayor Therrien** - Um 08-01 like what, what specifically are you looking at that has to be forthwith in that, in the by-law? **Margaret Akins** - The order that was, that was issued by the Municipal Board by the Chairman by the name of Mr. McGinnis. He wrote it out ..in detail.. **Mayor Therrien** - Alright... **Margaret Akins** - You cannot change anything on it. It has to be instated into the by-law procedure, no changes. And it was supposed ..ya. **Mayor Therrien** - Sorry I ..go ahead, Colleen. **Colleen Draper, CAO** - Just to confirm, you're talking about um the order B23-001. **Margaret Akins** - Yes. That is exactly the one I am talking about. **Colleen Draper, CAO** - Ok. Uh so we did draft the changes to the Zoning By-Law based on this Municipal Board Order and a copy was provided to uh the other party to review uh so it is in their hands to review and then the by-laws will be updated... **Margaret Akins** - What party did you draft and give it to be reviewed by? **Colleen Draper, CAO** - Uh, for Sio Silica to review to ensure they .... **Margaret Akins** - Sio Silica has no say in what... the order was written, it is written as is ordered by the Municipal Board. **Colleen Draper, CAO** - Ya and both parties have to agree that we've written it exactly as the Municipal Board orders so we drafted that, sent it to Sio Silica's lawyer uh for him to approve uh and as soon as he says Ok ..he agrees with the changes and everything matches exactly uh it'll just be a matter of updating our by-laws on the Web Site. **Margaret Akins** - So are you going to follow up on that because..maybe I should ask, when did you send it. **Mayor Therrien** - Ok, I don't know what... **Margaret Akins** - It was March 8th. **Mayor Therrien** - You answered the question and there is changes that are going...we're acting...we're ... **Margaret Akins** - No, there's been no changes. **Mayor Therrien** - Excuse me, m'am, I'll talk, ok. We're ..with our lawyer and Sio Silica, they're going through different drafts of the uh, of the uh policy or the by-law so there's uh a process that's being done now so I'm not sure how much more we can talk to you in regards to that so we are, we are working with the Sio Silica uh as part of the Municipal Board uh and then our lawyer and their lawyers are working at it now. **Margaret Akins** - Have you read the order, Mayor? **Mayor Therrien** - Yes, I have, there's two different.. **Margaret Akins** - Then you are aware of the fact that there's to be no changes made to his order. **Mayor Therrien** - Well, that's .. **Margaret Akins** - The order and how he wrote the by-law is to be instated ... **Mayor Therrien** - Our lawyer is actually working on that, m'am. I can't say anything more than that. **Margaret Akins** - And forthwith means nothing? **Mayor Therrien** - It means everything, m'am. But I'm saying, I can't be talking to you with regards to every little line with regards to that. We are actively working on it. Our lawyer **Margaret Akins** - It's been 6 months... **Mayor Therrien** - ..well things take a lot of time I guess. We're actively working on it. It's twice now it's been back uh and so I understand how the process works is that um there's negotiations back and forth and that's where we're at now so we're actively working on that. **NOTE: I have asked to appear as a delegation to discuss water concerns. Frankly, I do not think Sio Silica should be allowed to take anything out of the Sandilands Aquifer. Regardless of what they say, regardless of all the evidence to indicate the potential harm that can ensue, it is only COMMON SENSE that it is not a good idea to allow a company from Alberta, or indeed any company, to extract a tremendous amount of slurry from 200 ft. in an aquifer that provides drinking water to the entire southeastern quadrant of Manitoba. Worse, to allow them to reintroduce the liquid after the sand is extracted back into the same bore hole. That is JUST PLAIN MADNESS. IT HAS TO HAVE AN EFFECT ON THE AQUIFER, no one can say otherwise, and once that aquifer is contaminated, we are all going to have to either have water trucked in to our homes or take some drastic measures to try and mitigate the damage that has been done at great expense to each and every one of us.** **Margaret Akins** - There should be no negotiations. **Mayor Therrien** - interrupting Ms. Akins Ok no negotiations. They're working on it. **NOTE: Sounds like a "faux pas" to me. I wouldn't be surprised if the RM and Sio are collaborating to**

**find a "work around" to the order.** They're working on it. Go ahead, Colleen. **Colleen Draper, CAO** - So I just, I want to point out and I'm trying to speak loudly so let me know if you can't hear me, um upon review of the Municipal Board decision, there was an error that we found on the mapping attached. Uh we pointed it out to the Board and Sio Silica. Uh the Board is working on amending that mapping change so that it is correct uh so as soon as we get the revised Order from the Municipal Board uh we can just proceed with everything as the Board directed. There's just a slight change on the map. There's a, a small section of Sio's land to the west that was not included on the map that should be.

**NOTE: Our Council and the RM of Springfield could deny Sio Silica the right to mine in land designated Natural Resources or Agricultural or whatever. Instead they are bending backwards to change the zoning to enable Sio to proceed to the detriment of not only Springfield but all the other municipalities on the Sandilands Aquifer, Beausejour, Brokenhead, Hanover, Ste. Anne, LaBroquerie, Steinbach, Woodridge, Reynolds. The other RMs all banded together and took out an injunction. Our Council refused to participate in that.** So we pointed out the error. Uh we're waiting for the Municipal Board to correct that. I don't know what the process is for them to correct that. We're just waiting for final information on that. **Margaret Akins** - Well, thank you very much. Ok, so then how will I be notified when you find out? **Colleen Draper, CAO** - I, I assume it would come back to a Council meeting and we would provide the information then when the by-laws would be updated. **Margaret Akins** - And then do the first and second reading on that by-law that's supposed to be instated forthwith.... **Colleen Draper, CAO** - **interrupting** Apparently we don't have to give any readings, we just amend the by-law and place it on the Web Site and it's active from that date. **Margaret Akins** - Perfect, ok, thank you very much. **Mayor Therrien** - Thank you, Mrs. Akins. Was there somebody else uh sorry M'am, you were...I'm going to go with this lady here, she was just before you. Go ahead, m'am. Sorry, m'am, I'll just go with her, she had her hands up...sure. **Gloria Romaniuk** - Thank you very much. My name's Gloria Romaniuk, I'm from Cooks Creek in Springfield. Um I think that was just a fantastic illustration of how important records are for the kind of business that the RM is doing. Um my question pertains to everything on the agenda because it's about records management. Uh I probably have a little question to almost everyone in Council and to the CAO. Probably I'll begin with Councillor Fuhl because you're the elder statesman, in a sense. You've been on Council the longest. I wonder... **Mayor Therrien interrupting** - Excuse me, m'am...it's all the questions have to go through me just as a policy **there**... **Gloria Romaniuk** - Ok, sorry about that, if you agree with me that Councillor Fuhl is the right person. I'm wondering if each councillor has an office with a file cabinet. **Mayor Therrien** - I can answer that. No we don't. **Gloria Romaniuk** - You don't. So are you mostly using digital records, uh electronic. Are you handling paper very often? **Mayor Therrien** - Uh just ..I'm an old school kind of a guy. I like having printouts uh for me and I uh so an often do that, I can't speak for any other councillors here so um. **Gloria Romaniuk** - How do you file your paper, then? **Mayor Therrien** - Um I have an office uh at home and I'll put it in there in a secured uh like anything else. **Gloria Romaniuk** - Uh this afternoon I went on the Web Site looking for the Records Management policy and I actually couldn't find anything. I did find that Councillor Kuczynski is on the committee for cemeteries and I saw that they have guidelines and regulations digital and meetings on line electronic and I saw that there was a Berger plant, what is it called, a liaison committee and that Councillor Warren is the representative or the contact. I'm kind of wondering how people get appointed to these committees. Is everybody serving on a committee? **Mayor Therrien** - I think everybody has equal amount on committees uh **there** so uh yes everybody is on a committee. **Gloria Romaniuk** - Well, how are those records stored when I saw that from the Berger Liaison Committee, the Minutes were stored as they were collected beginning September 8th., 2020 and there were uh maybe three meetings in 2020, then they went to April 2021 and I don't see any more minutes after that. Is that truly the case? Uh I don't know if you agree that that should go to Council for ... **Mayor Therrien** (laughing) - Uh, thank you, m'am. Can you answer that uh Melinda? **Councillor Warren (Melinda)** - Uh the Liaison Committee meets twice a year so when um (laughing) uh when we have those meetings um they send me an electronic copy and I send them to be posted on the Web Site. **Gloria Romaniuk** - So I guess what I'm wondering uh I have done work in archives. Archives are an extraordinary uh part of our life. We never need them till we really need them and then we need them very badly and if you can't find them, we will be missing "proof" documents, "proof" documents in case I didn't say that loud enough. That can make a huge difference in our lives but also in the lives of an organization like a Municipal office um administrative office so would you agree, Mayor, that I now could ask the CAO if there is a Records Management policy for the RM of Springfield. **Mayor Therrien** - Sure M'am. **Colleen Draper, CAO** - Uh we do not have a Records Management. We follow the Municipal Act and we follow the Retention and Disposition of Municipal Records Regulation. **NOTE: In the Regulation it states: b)in respect of each record designated as archival, that (i)the record is not destroyed, and (ii)the record is transferred to the Archives of Manitoba, or to an archives that the council has determined meets established minimum archival standards, as soon as is reasonably possible after the minimum retention period. Not too long ago, someone observed box after box of records being taken out of the Administration Building to a shredding truck. Would casual paper records of no importance have been kept in that abundance? I think not. Casual waste would be destroyed on a daily basis and go out when the office is being cleaned.** Uh so that's the Regulation we follow on what needs to be archived, how many years things have to be saved for and how they are destroyed when uh we... **Gloria Romaniuk** - You have a schedule ... **Colleen Draper, CAO** - Yes. Correct. **Gloria Romaniuk** - And uh so is there a person in charge of deciding what's to be kept and what's to be destroyed. **Colleen Draper, CAO** - Uh right now we're following the Regulations um and we don't have the capacity to store much past uh what we're required to store so we regularly get rid of the last year and replace it with the next so... **NOTE: I hate to dispute the CAO but up until this Council, I could go back in the records on the Municipal Web Site for several years and often did. Has the Web Site suddenly shrunk?** **Gloria Romaniuk** - So if I wanted to know ..to the Mayor now uh what the genesis of the relationship was between the RM and the Berger Company, is there any way I could find that out through a record, a "proof" document. **Mayor Therrien** - If uh, if you did an Access to Information, a FIPPA request, so you can always ask uh for that stuff if you... **Gloria Romaniuk** - Where would it be stored though, it's not going to be here in the office.. **Mayor Therrien** - Oh, I don't know, I guess once we get the request, the storage **there**, that's something I think we really have to address that uh just because we're a relatively new Council **there**, we have an Archives uh um I guess I'll call it a unit **there** at the Library and we're in the process of trying to update all of that so it's an exceptional good question and I think, I'd like to get some answers on that and uh... **Gloria Romaniuk** - I can help you out there a little bit with your Archives because uh I, I was helpful with Jack Mavins when it was established and actually Colleen Draper was tremendously helpful at that time also. I needed access to your taxpayer records to determine how many Slavic settlers there were in Cooks Creek uh in the early 1890s and I went to the RM office on Main Street. Colleen was the one person in the office who knew all about the records. I went down to the basement. They were stored in water and cracking concrete and horrendous conditions and at that time Jack and Yvonne were sitting at a little table sorting through things and deciding what to throw away and what to keep. They were not trained archivists. Um it's a big responsibility to put on volunteers. I will..I'm going to come back to "proof documents". I sat in on the October Anola By-law Hearings for SIO Silica. Um I went because I noticed that this company was changing its name, that caught my eye, and um many other things became apparent to me in October and then I took part in the CEC Hearings this Spring. I think the RM could be facing serious issues upcoming in the future if this project is

approved. And if this group, and the previous group, are found responsible for making decisions that led to tragedy possibly, who knows. It's a risk. I would prefer to err on the side of caution and your documents are tremendously important and I'll point out that the citizens who took part, who have been participants in the Hearings and who are working both for Berger and for the CEC matters have done this all out of their own time, their energy, their pocket, they have nothing to gain personally so that to me indicates that they are not vested personally in the matter, they care about the common good as opposed to those who are paid to represent the company. So I think the RM has a big job in protecting itself and protecting us, the ratepayers, from possible who knows what and that's what I've learned about Archives. You never know what's going to make you or break you. Something very small that you cannot prove can be your downfall and both paper and digital, you need redundancy, you cannot be shredding things, you cannot be relying on digital alone, you have to have that and you need to be Archives, not just collecting of genealogical information so if I wanted to donate to your Archives what I prepared for the CEC Hearing, I'm not sure that's the right place to donate it because I don't know that it will truly be safe into the future, I don't know that there is a long-lasting, enduring commitment to your Archives. **Mayor Therrien** - Ok, m'am, you know maybe you may want to go as a delegation somewhere down the line uh to give us more insight in regards to that but uh I think it's an exceptional uh question **there** so we'll follow up on that. Uh I just want to see if anybody's on line here M'am. I don't see anybody on line so go ahead, please state your name. **Cynthia Sinclair** - Good evening, my name is Cynthia Sinclair. I reside in Ward 2. Um my questions relates uh to the Procedure policy that is uh on the agenda, your draft by-law, uh 22-22 I believe right. First of all, I want to say uh Mr. Mayor, I was very gratified when I met you when you were campaigning and you stopped by my home, that you promised **transparency** and **accessible government**. I really appreciate that because I didn't feel that we had that kind of government in the past um and so I want to uh extract your promise that you are going to uh continue with an open and transparent and accessible government and as such, within this Procedure Policy I'm wondering why we don't have as part of our, as part of the Procedure Policy, an opportunity uh every 6 months to meet, for the residents to meet with department, municipal departments heads, to ask questions directly. I think it would be highly informative. I think it would be um uh a way for there to be trust built, uh back from the residents of the community um and I think that's something that should be added to the Procedures, is that something, Mr. Mayor, that you would be willing to entertain? **Mayor Therrien** - Um the first thought, Mrs. Sinclair, in doing that, that would just be a, a, an extra layer on, on what our uh managers have to uh deal with **there**. They're always accessible uh uh through questions, sending an e-mails to our uh through myself or to your councillor, that'll go through our CAO but to just set up to go to individual..they are employees of everybody in this room so on, on the first insight or my first thought is sure, I'm all for accessibility uh but for having a lineup outside of our Public Works, somebody asking the question with regards to that, I think that, that could be very uh hard to get things done uh with regards to that. If you have a question, uh Mrs. Sinclair, then feel free to, to send your question to your uh your councillor uh through myself uh through the CAO um so I can't give you a definite question for that. I like it on, on the way it's, it's in theory but I just see that it would be kind of a cumbersome uh situation like if there's one or two people, like I don't see like a big problem but I don't see as how it's going to be one or two people, it may be somebody knocking on the Public Works door every day asking uh the questions and so on like that. **NOTE: So what he's saying is that Public Works is so inefficient and inept that hoards of people are going to be asking them questions.** Um I would like to streamline that and, and put it like it is now as it seems to be working uh ok. If there's a complaint with regards to that, please feel free to contact myself, your councillor, uh and the CAO uh for accessibility ... **Cynthia Sinclair** - Uh the Municipal Department Head directly. So if I have an issue about Planning, I should not contact Mr. Doucet directly. **Mayor Therrien** - No, I'm not saying do not, I'm just, I'm just saying that, that if everybody were just to go there knocking on the door, making a phone calls and so on like that, it may be cumbersome but there's nothing stopping you from, from checking out uh the Planning Branch with regards to a question. **Cynthia Sinclair** - And I guess, just to, just to, you know I'm not trying to be argumentative ... **Mayor Therrien - interrupting** No, you're fine, M'am. **Cynthia Sinclair** - ..just say that if, if we had an opportunity once or twice a year to ask some general questions that for instance, um um Public Works and Operations, I mean I'm sure a lot of us have questions around the condition of some of our roads, for example, that you know, if we could ask them directly to the people that are doing the work instead of going through you, through you, through you (laughing) in my stable a lot of aggravation, I came up road uh uh Oakwood Road and I've got to tell you, I know that they were busy fixing but it's, it's a mess (laughing) **NOTE: And having been on it lately, I am here to tell you it is in great condition compared to Pleasant Road from #15 to Oakwood.** you know so that's the kind of thing that I'm requesting and I have to also say to you that I have heard and I would appreciate it if you could verify or, or please correct me if I'm wrong, that the Municipal department heads have been asked not to respond directly to residents, that there is basically a type of gag order and that does not seem very right to me so I would like to... **Mayor Therrien - interrupting** There's no gag order, M'am, I, I heard that when I was campaigning uh **there**, there's no gag order. Uh we want transparency and uh, um that'll, that'll always be adhered to, so there's no gag order, it's just we want to try to make sure the system is not uh uh bottlenecked with certain people always..or people always going to the uh uh uh to the office and .. **Cynthia Sinclair** - I understand, I understand that but I also wonder if you would create that issue, or that issue exists anyway because people always having to go individually asking the same questions so ten of us have the same question over road repairs for example and each of us are going to end up going and knocking on Public Works office door or sending e-mails, it seems to me that it actually would be **more efficient** um to allow that kind of access, not every meeting, not even every month but, you know, once or twice a year I think might be appropriate where you can set an agenda far in advance that we could as residents participate in setting and I think it would be a very collaborative process, I think it would go a long way to uh um advancing an open and um interactive kind of government structure so that's my comment. I'd like you to please take that under consideration. **Mayor Therrien - interrupting** I'll reply to it **there** Mrs. Sinclair. I uh we uh have discussed uh having a uh town hall meetings **there**. Um how we're going to format uh that uh then I think in having some of the uh the main uh uh municipal managers, directors **there** uh may be an option that we'll explore and it seems like um I'm all for the town halls, I did them up north all the time and they were exceptional, uh you could have 400 people in there and asking the questions in a respectful manner uh and different people, different questions, sometimes the same uh but it was always uh uh very uh polite and cordial and I think it's a great idea, Mrs. Sinclair, I think we've already discussed that, uh adding that different layer into it I think is also another idea (ok) um so just stay tuned uh, contact me or contact uh our CAO uh or your councillor, anybody else you want. **Cynthia Sinclair** - Thank you very much for entertaining my question and my thoughts. **Mayor Therrien** - Thank you, M'am. Andy? Oh uh Mrs. Sinclair, there's going to be one question from uh Councillor Kuczynski. (laughing) **Cynthia Sinclair** - I thought you were just waving at me, I apologize. **Councillor Kuczynski** - Ya, I would just like to ask .. no, no I want to speak, that's why I raised my hand. Um I want to know, how many meetings would you like to have with the public, with Council, open house? **Cynthia Sinclair** - You know, ideally it would be great if we, if we could do it twice a year but I'd be happy even with once a year. I'd be happy with anything at this point because we don't really have that kind of forum other than, than this forum and this..everybody recognizes that this is limited in many ways. There are time constraints, there are set agenda items, and there isn't that ability to have that back and forth.

Whether it's a town house format as Mayor Therrien has suggested which I'm in favour of as well, that's great, but something to give us more access and more information, uh I mean this is a municipality of hundreds of hundreds of hundreds of people, these are the folks that come and I don't how many you typically get on line, it, it, it's not the same kind of back and forth so ideally, short answer, once or twice a year would be great. **Councillor Kuczynski** - But maybe once we have those meetings with the public, the public is going to realize, oh yes I have access to Council and maybe that's going to open the doors because right now people may be saying, well they don't have it and you know, just go to Council meetings and I cannot talk about anything, just what's on the agenda, and they may be restricting the people. The second thing I'll ask you, what time should be available for every individual to speak because how long is the meeting going to last. **NOTE: Very few people attend regular meetings, I know as I am one of them. Further, I suppose a town hall might be somewhat useful for some but the problem is that Council/Administration does not allow one to speak to an issue when it is being discussed by Council which is when it would be useful. Prior to a meeting, one does not know what Council members are going to say or what resolution might result and therefore, it is difficult to know what to ask. Further, seldom are answers provided during Question Period.** Like if we fill the hall and we have 200 people, then how are we going to manage that? **Cynthia Sinclair** - Well, and I think that's something that you need to discuss as to what, what the procedure might look like and it might, it might look like you ask for ..when I used to do town halls in my organization, I would ask for agenda items from the public and so that's something you can post on your Web Site, it's something you can call for in your Council meeting and say we want agenda items for our municipal department heads when we have a uh a meeting and that we will devote "x" amount of time to each individual to ask a question, please make sure you're do not repeat a question that's already been asked. Those are procedures, those are things that you can look at and figure out and the first time maybe won't be perfect. So what. You're supposed to be a learning organization I hope. **Councillor Kuczynski** - The meeting is never perfect but we want as much input from the residents at that meeting except from us. **Cynthia Sinclair** - Exactly. **Councillor Kuczynski** - Because we do make decisions on a weekly basis but the public doesn't have that time... **Cynthia Sinclair** - Exactly. **Councillor Kuczynski** - And opportunity to present whatever is on their mind. **Cynthia Sinclair** - I agree with you. Exactly. Like you want that same opportunity to hear from the public in Council. Um when we're limited to ask questions before delegations are heard and such, it makes it very difficult that, you know, people have to wait until the next meeting to go back and ask a question from the previous meeting. And to me those kinds of procedures make no sense but I'll leave it because I talked more than enough unless some....thank you very much for listening to me. **Councillor Fuhl** - Hi, Cynthia. **Cynthia Sinclair** - Hi, Glen. **Councillor Fuhl** - Ya, just to talk about that we have talked about these town halls meetings, I just wanted to reiterate that because we have talked about them, we've also even talked about them going around to the wards, not just having the meetings here so that everybody has an opportunity to speak, not just specifically here in Oakbank so again we have had those discussions and I can assure that we will be implementing something on that. **Cynthia Sinclair** - Ok, when, can I ask ..repeat..just a follow up question on that, when might we hear that something is definitely going to be organized? Because I understand that Council is busy, the business of the RM is busy, but I think this is an important issue so when might you make a decision? **Mayor Therrien** - Uh I hate to be uh .. we couldn't say with exact assurety when that..but I would hope we would have some kind of a discussion in our next working group uh and in Council in general. So I hope to get some kind of a, a, a narrowed down time line, I would think in the next uh 30 days. **Cynthia Sinclair** - Ok, alright, fair enough because I was going to say, can we at least have a town hall before the end of the year. **Mayor Therrien** - But on a 31 day...thirty-first day ...thirty-first day. **Cynthia Sinclair** - I'm not going to call you on the 31st. day. **Mayor Therrien** - But I'm just saying you want a time line and I think that's fair. We'll, we'll try to get something more organized around that time. **Cynthia Sinclair** - Thank you. I really appreciate that. Thank you very much. **Mayor Therrien** - Before you sit down, M'am, I'll make sure there's nobody..just kidding you (ha,ha,ha,ha,ha,ha,ha) Uh any other questions uh go ahead M'am. State your name and your address, please. **Jill Overall** - My name is Jill Overall , I live in the town of Oakbank and I am here tonight with a question related to By-law 21-25 which is part of what may become our new municipal zoning code but before I cue my question, I think I need to give you a brief bit of background so you can fully realize how the proposed changes to our zoning plan are going to affect my rights as a citizen and my neighbour rights. I live in a house that we own on Aspen Drive in Oakbank but my husband and I intend to stay in Oakbank throughout all our life stages of retirement so we own a condo at Oaks North at the northern edge of town and this will be our next move eventually. Three years ago we became aware that the lot beside that retirement condo had been purchased with the intent to build a storage facility. This would require a change to zoning to move that lot from multi-family residential to highway commercial. Under the Municipal Zoning Plan then, the neighbours and citizens had the opportunity and the right to object to such a facility beside this retirement condo or any other place in the municipality for that matter and of course we objected and it ended up going to the Province for review and we were able to voice our opinions and we had some input regarding how we wanted our community to look and the life style we wanted but now, if you as a Council member ratify By-law 21-25, I will have lost my voice and it seems you councillors will have lost your voice because that lot has now surprisingly already been zoned highway commercial. How the heck did that happen. Look closely at all the new designations. There's a lot of them so now I've got no control over how my community grows and you councillors seem to have no control over how your community grows and it seems that those decisions rest solely on our town planner. **NOTE: If I am not mistaken, the Province now has the power to overthrow the planning decisions of municipalities if they so choose. I believe that is a new law that was introduced by the current Provincial government.** I know that most of you are new Council members and you're trying to get up to speed and absorb a ton of information to make good decisions for all of us. You were voted in as new councillors because citizens like me, we wanted more of a voice, not less so my question is this, how can By-law 21-25 be appropriate for our Municipality when it removes the power of decision making from you, the councillors, and from me and my neighbours as citizens. So I think that you all want to retain the power to guide the development of Springfield and my example is just one of many. Our original Zoning Plan which I took part in was developed with citizen input and it was a good plan and it allowed you councillors and me a voice. **Mayor Therrien** - Um any uh questions from Council? Mark? **Councillor Miller** - Well thank you very much for your presentation and for your example because these are the kinds of examples that led me on February 7th. to make a point of order to stop, to stop the movement of 21-25 forward without the engagement of the public. This is so critical. There's many more examples of what you're talking about (exactly) throughout our community and so we want to go back to the public, open it up beyond 53 changes I believe and have a full course invitation for the public to be engaged with this because... **Jill Overall** - I would encourage you to hit the "whoa" button on 21-25 that's for sure cause there's so much hidden. I mean how did this even happen. Three years ago we were able to come and object and we came before Council, the past Council, Mr. Fuhl was here, we came before Council twice and it ended up going to the Province but at least we had some input. Now it's already been re-zoned. I have absolutely no input. I mean if you read the list of commercial things that could go in there and if someone buys it with the intent to put one of those in there, none of us have any power to stop it so things like a crematorium could go in there, a gas bar, of course a storage facility, I mean it's residential. There's, there's 45, 46 people living right there next to that lot and it's a beautiful lot so there's a lot of

things that you have to look at in 21-25 please. **Mayor Therrien** - M'am, you can just stand up there uh Colleen, did you have something... **Colleen Draper, CAO** - I think I just want to clarify that if you do look at the mapping for Zoning By-law 21-25, that piece that you're speaking about north of the Oaks Condo is still zoned Residential Multiple Family so it is not zoned Highway Commercial. **Jill Overall** - The map that I looked at gave it the hot pink colour ... **Colleen Draper, CAO** - That would be the Development Plan amendment... **Jill Overall** - That is the one that you gave... **Colleen Draper, CAO** - No I am looking on the Web Site right now, the Zoning By-law still has it zoned as Residential Multiple Family. **NOTE: Let's be honest, the Zoning By-law mirrors the Development Plan. If it has been changed in the Development Plan, ultimately the Zoning By-law will be changed to reflect the change in the Development Plan. Ms. Overall has every right to be concerned.** **Jill Overall** - Because we objected but what my point is, the proposed new Municipal ... **Colleen Draper, CAO** - interrupting No this is the 21-25 I'm looking at so it's still ... **Jill Overall** - So I just have the map and it says it's in pink and it says it's Highway Commercial. **Colleen Draper, CAO** - Ya, so I know the Development Plan amendment did go through for Highway Commercial but the zoning has remained residential multiple family. **NOTE: But how can that be when the Zoning By-law is supposed to mirror the Development Plan.** **Jill Overall** - And so if someone buys that and puts a crematorium on ... **Colleen Draper, CAO** - interrupting They would have to rezone and it would come to a public hearing. **Jill Overall** - Ok. **Mayor Therrien** - Any other questions from Council? Thank you, M'am. Um yes Heather. Could you come up to the podium. No, it's just that the people can't hear that are on Zoom. That's why we're going to try to get some kind of a ... **Heather Erickson** - By what process was that Development Plan changed without public input? **Colleen Draper** - There was a public hearing for that. **Heather Erickson** - And that specifically was uh stated as being uh ... **Colleen Draper** - The proposal was for a storage facility and the Development Plan was amended for Highway Commercial but the Zoning By-law 21-25 is still zoned uh the residential zoning. **Heather Erickson** - But I mean it could be changed when... **Colleen Draper** - interrupting It would have to go through a rezoning process and a public hearing. **Heather Erickson** - Ok. Alright. **Mayor Therrien** - Thank you, M'am. Uh we're already at the quarter to 7 **there** so we spent uh ..at 6:30 we were supposed to have a delegation and we still have two more uh three more by-law uh subjects to follow. Unless there's any more questions, uh uh Tangi. It has to be related to the agenda. **Tangi Bell** - And so it's just not strictly on the procedures that we had previous to that. **Mayor Therrien** - Uh if the procedure by-law is coming up so if you've got a question in regards to that. **Tangi Bell** - Uh 11.7 the Registry for Lobbyists on a volunteer basis. If that...you know, it's rather disappointing. It's a good start with a form for lobbyists to fill out on their own volition um but I have a few concerns there. The wording under examples of actions for who is not a lobbyist needs some clarity. Example 3 states "citizens contacting a decision maker about a policy or grant for an organization". I request the use of a singular form of citizen and that regular be added to describe this citizen so the example would then read "a regular citizen contacting a decision maker about a policy or grant for an organization". So what this does is it helps define the intent of the action um more of a citizen inquiry into a policy or a grant rather than, you know, an organization, a bunch of citizens organization so that really needs to be changed. And also, also the definition for who is a lobbyist. It reads "the financial interest of a not for profit with paid staff". And then there's a definition for who is not a lobbyist has a "not for profit with no paid staff", that's cool but what is concerning is also including an individual representing a non-profit organization. So we've got "not for profit" and "non profit" organization with no paid staff or a board member or volunteer who is not paid by the organization who interacts with the decision maker so you, the majority of you, except for one individual, ran to ensure that the Springfield Chamber of Commerce which is the local business lobbying group would be..there would be more transparency of the dealings with them between Council and Administration. **NOTE: The RM of Springfield was a member of the Springfield Chamber of Commerce until recently when, due to Glen Fuhl having to remove himself from the vote as he and his business are a member, the vote to renew the membership was not approved.** So the Springfield Chamber of Commerce is a non profit and my question and concern is simply, would a representative for the Springfield Chamber of Commerce be defined as not a lobbyist as defined in this. **Mayor Therrien** - Um Mark you want to answer uh that? **Councillor Miller** - Uh thank you Mr. Mayor. In terms of this, as you know, it's a first step and we're going to have these tweaks that we need to do and to clarify but I agree with you that we do want the Chamber of Commerce and reps of the Chamber of Commerce to be engaged and be registered, no question. That was my intent first off for proposing the Lobbyist Registry. Uh so we will need to clarify that uh and we can do that by comparing to other jurisdictions uh quite easily. **Tangi Bell** - So again my question, as it reads, is the Chamber of Commerce held accountable and are they considered a lobbyist under this since you've now put non profit in there as well as not for profit. **Councillor Miller** - I think that's what we'll clarify uh to make sure that they are. **NOTE: Again, the Council/RM of Springfield was a member of the Chamber and that was not brought out but should be.** **Tangi Bell** - Thank you. So even everybody here is kind of unsure of that. **Mayor Therrien** - Not unsure. We're, we're going to discuss this uh 11.6 when it comes up uh **there** and uh in full debate uh **there** so it's coming forward. **Tangi Bell** - So procedure, I know we have to get going, Procedure 15.9. It reads "The Municipality will audio tape all regular and special meetings except for Closed meeting sessions and will make available to the public within 2 working days notwithstanding any unforeseen circumstances. Now this gets back to um Gloria's statement ..there about accountability, transparency and making a record of what they've been doing. What I find missing here is that there's no statement that these audio tapes will continue to be made publicly available. We're already seeing an issue on the Web Site. Um we can't go back any further than this Council, however the negotiations, the proceedings of the previous Council has impacted this and we know that, there's evidence from previous Councils, council meetings within here, uh one that comes to mind is the..oh the ponds. Um that was something that was previous. Now in order for me to find out anything further, I can't go on the Web Site, I can't search it. That's all, all those files have been just trashed. They need to be brought back on there as an Archive section of the Web Site. Will Council place all meetings' audio files into an Archive file and available on line as many other municipal web sites do. And Springfield was doing that up until this Council. **Mayor Therrien** - Ok um I'll ..Mrs. Romaniuk's uh uh question as exceptional. I liked that, the fact that we could get the digital ..and I, we're going to explore that uh. Um with regards to the retention periods uh **there** um that's uh something out of the Municipal Act, am I right Colleen that uh there's a retention period for, for items **there** like I'll tell you one thing, when I leave office I got my files and I'll be turning them over to the Archives. I got nothing, I got my notes uh. When I was in the R.C.M.P. I had two suitcases full of notes and I returned them and they're held in perpetuity. Now, now this is what we're going to explore. Um I think Colleen can probably answer Tangi uh a little bit more on retention if that is your question. **Colleen Draper** - So as I mentioned we follow the Municipal Act for the retention period. Uh audio tapes are not a required..as a retention item. We do it because of Zoom, that was the only time we were recording and posting um ever since COVID, that's something we did. Uh we are looking into the Meeting Manager that we use has a limited storage space so we have discussed this with our IT Department. Um so right now it only keeps so much material and that's a concern to us so we are looking at other options. We're not deleting the audio tapes, we have them on our own um computer server so it's still accessible past what's posted on the Web Site um but honestly it's not a requirement. We are keeping them um, I don't know if that answers your questions. **NOTE: That means if they have them stored on their server, then anyone can request an audio file that is not on the Web Site to be sent to them, as I see it. They are records of**

**PUBLIC MEETINGS. And they should not make comments to the effect that people asking for information is making work for them. They made it for themselves by picking a records management tool that is inadequate.** **Tangi Bell** - Yes, thank you. Now I know that they're there on the server, can they be uploaded for the...on to the Web Site. **Colleen Draper** - That's what we're looking into. Um we just kind of recently found out that uh after two years they don't keep the stored so we're looking at our own storage and it may mean a new Web Site, a new Manager for our meetings, we're looking at all those options and it would be a Budget so.. **Tangi Bell** - You can at least have this year and last year on the Web Site, that's fantastic. **Colleen Draper** - Ya, I'm taking notes and we'll see what we can do. **Tangi Bell** - Ok, good, I'd love to see them at least the previous years on the Web Site and then it's easier to search without bothering you for information...thank you. **Mayor Therrien** - Thank you, Mrs. Bell. **NOTE: I'm impressed. He remembered her name. No M'am.** Uh Darryl. **Darryl Speer, Oakbank** - Darryl Speer, Oakbank. My questions relate to 7.1 on the agenda and I'd actually like to speak to that when that comes up for discussion. **Mayor Therrien** - Uh no this is Question Period now. If you've got questions, then please ask it. **Darryl Speer** - Ok, uh this is my concern that when we have an item on the agenda that we're not clear what the discussion, what the topic is about, we do not have the opportunity to question or input on that item when it's on the table. I don't feel that's either fair, transparent, or conducive to public participation. For example, we have a case where the agenda is set for Friday, it changes between Friday and you know Tuesday and uh so we don't have the opportunity to really understand or get a grip as to what, what is coming and we can only speak before we even hear what the item is about and uh, to me that's not fair or open to or being transparent to us as, as ratepayers. Uh I'll give you an example in the previous Council uh there was this on the agenda, uh financing for the Rec Centre so I rose to ask the question about that, financing for the Rec Centre. I was told I was out of order because this was about fund raising. There was nothing on that agenda to indicate in any way this was about fund raising so to me it's not being fair or uh giving an opportunity to actually ask the question and in the case of this case here, I should have been given the opportunity to ask the question I had about financing for the Springfield Rec Centre. That was disallowed. So to me when you're talking this matter of how the agenda is set out, I've got issues with that. Uh Question Period is at the beginning, it's limited to items on the agenda only and sometimes specifically ..something very specific on that item. To me that's not acceptable or appropriate. I believe that the Question Period should be open to the public to ask the questions as they appear on the agenda. There may be general questions that have nothing to do with the agenda, an opportunity for a separate discussion about that would be like tonight for example....say ok we're having a discussion, it doesn't necessarily have to be an item that's listed on the agenda, it's a general concern that we should be allowed to come forward. I am in favour of the open house, as was mentioned before, and that was mentioned during the campaign. I think all of you are open to the idea of the possibility quarterly open house meetings to have uh any interactions with Council members uh regarding issues that are uh Council RM business. I uh think that for us to move forward in being more accountable and available to the public, we need to pull off the restrictions. Uh this was the case in the Council that was previous to the last Council and we were able to interject, have input on the matters being discussed and then a previous, just prior Council and shut that all down with uh there had to be a Question Period at the beginning of the meeting, it could only be on matters on the agenda, you had not an understanding of what was being brought forward so it was a very uh undemocratic process. So I would like to see this opened up so that, you could have your Open House, yes, but I think your house should be open at the Council meetings, that's my issue. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** - Uh just remain there if you don't mind uh Mr. Speers. Any questions from Council? **Mark? Councillor Miller** - Thank you Mr. Mayor and again thank you Mr. Speer for indicating how you'd like to see it uh go forward. I did some research over the last little while and there is a significant difference between public hearings and public meetings. This is a public meeting, it's not a public hearing. Public hearings have restrictions on the types of questions. They're supposed to relate to specific things on the agenda or what not. This is a public meeting. In other words we should broaden the perspective to not allow questions beyond what is on the agenda. I'm a strong advocate for that, I'll continue to be a strong advocate for the public to be engaged. You might remember, I was back in my twenties, the question is coming, I was back in my twenties when Reeve Holland was, as you know, the Reeve of this municipality, and he opened it, he let people and residents speak throughout the agenda. I thought that was phenomenal, in fact I thought that was the norm and now somehow, somehow, in the last 4 years, 8 years, things have changed so my question to you is, if we continue to have a restrictive engagement in Question Period, what would be the difference between this Council and the previous Council? (none) Exactly and I ran to make a difference, to change things, to be transparent and open and I'm not pontificating, some would say on this Council, but what I'm saying is, I'll fight for the public to have open dialogue with the Council and the open houses that have been suggested here are fantastic. Uh Councillor Fuhl has said, we've already discussed it and I think we're going to absolutely move forward with that but I love the way that you're talking and I think it needs to move that way and uh we'll see what the other councillors think. **Mayor Therrien** - Um I'm going to interject uh on that **there**. Uh you can sit down, Mr. Speers. **NOTE: How come everyone else refers to him by his correct surname, Mr. Speer, but Mayor Therrien always calls him Speers? Does he have hearing problems?** It's not a question or anything like that for clarification. Um I'm not going to get **too long winded** with regards to this. Um I was all for uh coming in to uh this position that uh for open mike, I call it an open mike, but it, it got uh to the point where it was um it was dysfunctional, I found that uh uh the questions became uh personal um they were mean and, and many uh conversations uh with regards to employees, employees that were here, employees that weren't here, um the matters did not, they weren't focussed and I stress the dysfunctional part with regards to that. It wasn't a healthy uh relationship **there** where people were taking advantage uh of talking to Council where it was a fact uh making comments uh towards our employees uh **there**. Um Question Period uh I found uh was not uh and we talked uh as Council with regards to this. **NOTE: Mayor Therrien should take heed as to what he is saying as there is audio files of the meetings and my transcriptions of same and what he is saying is simply not true. The questions were not personal, they were regarding specific issues where, specifically, the RM in general was not enforcing its by-laws. People affected by this lack of enforcement tried other means of getting satisfaction and when those failed, they came to a Council meeting to express their frustration during Question Period. Instead of assuring these individuals who had right on their side, Mr. Mayor instead treated them in a manner which I, a ratepayer and voter, find disturbing.** Participation is everything and I am very much uh for participation and interaction, the transition and dialogue. I'm very much for talking to people, always have um but when we're standing up here, people were standing up, uh it was uh I apologized for using the term dysfunctional because I have no other term for it, it was uh um like I say it'd gone, it went to the stage of being not healthy. **NOTE: It got to that stage because you ignored the pleas of those whose rights were not being observed and defended and instead chose to, in the eyes of observers, to defend the rights of those NOT IN THE RIGHT.** Um and that's essentially the reason why we required a focused approach. Many RMs do not have a Question Period and in my time in office here, I spoke to many uh mayors uh reeves and councillors uh and they have uh the same problem, the same situation uh **there**, uh not all and um Question Period was taken away uh just because of that, it wasn't a focussed address with regards to items within the RM, it became a personal matter uh towards some employees uh i've um..and e-mails towards some employees were uh on the extreme mean side uh uh I just seem..it seems to me that once the people uh come before

Council and especially on social media which I do not follow, I have..you know, anybody wants to save their breath with regards to that as I do not follow that uh um I find that uh that people are just too, too easy to uh to make critical comments with regards uh uh to Council and uh to, to our staff. No, I'm sorry, we're going to uh limit uh, you've already had two questions there, m'am. **NOTE: One - if that is not "too long winded", I would like to see what is! Two - His very last sentence typifies his rudeness. He just nattered on forever but we, the taxpayers, are limited to how much we can talk.** Uh Andy. **Councillor Kuczynski** - So Mr. Mayor, I want to suggest to you, you like always have opportunity to stop somebody if they are being out of line. So you're never going to lose that. You're conducting the meeting but people should be able to go and talk freely, not necessarily everybody is going to, you know, say talk with the same tone or or whatever on the subject, they are probably not public speakers and anything like that but we should have freedom, what people can say and whatever you stated right now is just your opinion because that's not my opinion, and I don't know the other Councillors opinion, whatever you just said so I think we always said when we were campaigning that we were going to have free and open Council and that is what's going to happen when I am here and I'm always going to vote for it. **Mayor Therrien** - Ya but Andy, uh the 7th of February and the 7th of March, **there** are the two dates uh **there** that come to mind, the last one I mean the 7th of March uh were, it was uh uh uh again I apologize but it was dysfunctional, it was rude and mean comments were coming out of everywhere and it affected our employees **NOTE: The effect was noted on one particular employee after the meeting. Usually there are only 3 employees present at these meeting, the reception person, and recording person, and the CAO. Attached (#1) are the dialogues of those meetings to which you can form your own opinion of whether they are dysfunctional, bearing in mind the meaning of that word is "not operating normally or properly" which is subjective meaning "based on or influenced by personal feelings or opinions". THE MAYOR DOES NOT GET TO BE THE DEFINING OPINION!** um you know that it comes to the health of a workplace issue. This is a workplace of the first...I guess it's a business as well, uh we've got a business of administration with regards to the RM. Uh this is something that uh sorry, if anybody's talking please uh hold it down if you don't mind. We want to make sure that uh everybody is addressed and we have delegations for that and we have two delegations that are coming before us tonight and people can easily sign up for a delegation and make their voice known at any time, contacting us, I'm, I make it a point, I answer all my calls. Uh I get calls all the time, e-mails all the time, and I answer all that and I know this Council um we do the same thing. Everybody answers their e-mails and so on like that uh so we're very uh front and transparent in regards to that. Any other, uh Glen. **Councillor Fuhl** - Ya, I just would like to speak to this. Uh um (clearing his throat) everybody has an opportunity to come as a delegation to speak on any subject that they wish. They also have the opportunity to have Question Period prior to the meeting to speak on every item that's on the agenda for the meeting so and again, now we're trying to do the um public um town hall meetings. I think that again will allow more opportunity for the residents to come in and share their concerns or whatever that topic may be and I think we have to try to run things in an orderly manner and this is the piece that allows that and again, again I believe that once we get out there and do a town hall, voices will be heard. We will make documents of what is taken, what we need to work on and what to help the communication with residents so that's how I look at it. Thank you. **NOTE: So again, I think Councillor Fuhl must be thinking of running for Mayor in the next election because in past Councils, his voice was hardly never heard and now he appears to need to REPEAT EVERYTHING THAT HAS BEEN SAID PRIOR TO HIS SOLIQUAY.** **Councillor Kuczynski** - I will say again, why are we going to stop 16,000 people who are residents of this Municipality because of 2 individuals. The numbers don't make any sense. 16,000 people that can come here and speak freely whatever and nobody is abusing anybody here today at this meeting and everybody is speaking freely and we are conducting the meeting properly. Whatever is happening in the e-mails, anybody can do anything on the e-mails or the social media, we cannot stop that. Because I mean it is out of your control, it's out of my control, and the rest of Council's control so that's going to happen but you know, I want to know, how come nobody comes here to the Council and abuses me..because I do what is right for the people and that's what people say and they say, whatever Andy says we agree with it and ..some past mistake was made and people were being, you know, upset about that, that's why they were coming here and they stated their frustration. If the mistake wouldn't be made, nobody would complain, everybody would come here with the roses to this Council meeting so we have to see that side of this story. We have to, we have to say this is the people's chamber, it's called the Council chamber but people have the right to come here, that their house here, they paid for it you know through their taxes and they are allowed to be here and speak freely. That's how we live in a democracy. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** - Thank you, Andy. Uh Mark. **Councillor Miller** - I would just echo what Councillor Kuczynski has said but Mr. Mayor, I'm just a bit concerned too. I think we can't taint and brush everyone in this Municipality because there's a couple of people who uh made bad offenses. You as Chair, you know, Head of Council, have to take command of this and I know you've tried and this is a new game plan for you but having said that uh my goodness, we can't limit public engagement. Uh that would be all what I ran against, I wanted to, I wanted to turf the person who was in our seat uh to make sure that they wouldn't restrict the public, I wanted to get rid of the former Mayor because I felt that she was restrictive and the public showed at the polls that this was exactly what was happening, that's why they purged you know 3/4 of us. So um you know we have to respond, we have to respect the decision that was made at the ..you know, back in October and if we don't, you know, you guys ought to purge us too. Really! **Mayor Therrien** - Thank you, Mark. Um ok we're at 10 after 7 and no other questions uh from Council, I don't see any other questions uh on line uh or in the audience so we'll continue on to uh By-laws. Uh 7.1 um ... **NOTE: For those listening to the audio, there is a huge blank space where nothing is said or heard.**

## 8. DELEGATION

**8.1 Janet Nylén - Procedures and the Zoning By-laws 08-01 and 21-25 - Presentation - Janet Nylén** - Can I have a minute just to comment on two things that have been raised tonight. The one is a procedure and that's what I am talking about that your Procedure By-law 17-08, the current by-law, the agenda, when it's written in the agenda, it doesn't limit questions to items only on the agenda. What happened one night was you inserted it, the Mayor inserted it and said he was going to try it out for 4 weeks and I've been here a couple of times asking cause we're past the 4 weeks and I see now it's not in your proposed new by-law. **NOTE: Another long pause and the Mayor is talking but does not have his mike on.** Ok. Well, I guess it wasn't a vote, it was, you know you just said that you were going to do that and so I guess my point is if you are reviewing your Procedure By-law and that's going to become the procedure, then I think it should be in your Procedure By-law, not just a change because of a certain situation. Ok. Good evening, Mayor Therrien and Council. I'll try to keep to your timeline as best as possible but there is much to be said. At a previous meeting, I described myself as a Council watchdog but others have pointed out that I am more than just that because of my 20 years experience as a municipal administrator, a CAO in fact, and more than 5 years as a working consultant on special projects for over 10 other municipalities. Just as Mayor Therrien often relates to his past years of experience as a police officer, I see things through the lens of a municipal administrator. Unlike some others that come before Council, I do not want anything from you. I don't want a

subdivision or a development or anything like that, I just want good governance for the community where I have chosen to live for most of my life. Throughout my years in municipal work, I was never faced with the type of procedural behaviour that has now become entrenched in Springfield. Most elected officials that I worked with and this is what we're talking about tonight, expected to or even wanted to hear from their constituents, not discourage them from expressing their viewpoints, their concerns, and even their suggestions, particularly on important matters such as land use. I see on the agenda for tonight which I must point out was made up the day after I had applied to be a delegation, that Council is considering revisions to its Procedure By-law. This is either coincidental or ironic in that the printed version appears to increase the autocratic measures and lessen the democratic ones that began 4 years ago. As Councillor Fuhl may remember, under previous Councils, meetings were conducted very differently. The rest of you are new to local government and understandably learning a lot of new things and likely leaning on the CAO to guide you. Coincidental or ironic again, that the CAO who was only appointed the permanent position of CAO 4 years ago was at the same time these procedural changes began, is now the proponent of further public interaction and voices excuses of meetings to be prepared and why we can only talk about items on the agenda. I have previously expressed my views on the procedure of limiting questions so I won't say anything further at this point. I would like to use, though, an example of how the changes in public consultation, hearing and participation have proven to be detrimental to Springfield and why this practice should change. Land Use Planning. There are two major land use by-laws that govern land use in a municipality, the Development Plan and the Zoning By-law. The Development Plan is the long range plan that helps direct development and manages change in the municipality. The Springfield Development Plan was updated through a lengthy process that began in 2017 and ended with the final reading of the by-law in February of 2019. Any application to change a use must conform to the Development Plan but this document does not mean that the land use change that appears on the Development Plan map must happen immediately but rather it means that it could happen through an appropriate process upon application or sometime in the future. The purpose of a Zoning By-law is to establish regulations deemed necessary to ensure the general conformance with the objectives and policies of the Development Plan. It divides the municipality into zones and prescribes permitted and conditional uses for land and buildings in each zone. It also outlines the powers and duties of the Council, Development Officer, and of land owners including developers as they relate to the Zoning By-law. Regulations include the following: changes to all buildings and structures; changes to the use of all buildings, structures and land; and lastly development must also comply with all levels of legislation including Federal and Provincial legislation. That is part of the reason that the Zoning By-law changes are so important. They can and they do affect every property owner in Springfield. The process that should be followed to make changes to land use should be held to the highest standards of transparency, accountability, timeliness, and in my opinion fairness, and be subject to public hearings. So you may be wondering why I am speaking to Council about this. Let's look at the October 28, 2021 public hearing process that was held for the proposed Zoning By-law 21-25. I don't expect you to go to all my attachments but they're there just to tell you like prove what I am saying. A Zoning by-law that under a requirement of the Planning Act must be generally consistent with the Development Plan By-law so it is not surprising that a Zoning By-law passed in 2008 should be updated to comply with the Development Plan that was revised and passed 10 years later in 2018. What was disturbing was the process that was followed by the CAO and former Council and I have provided a number of documents I mentioned for you to review should you not believe what I'm saying. The agenda for the October 28, 2021 meeting scheduled the public hearing on this important by-law as the last item on a regular Planning Meeting. It's the 14th item on an agenda. You would also see that there is another Zoning By-law amendment. even another Development Plan amendment which were both scheduled at the beginning of the meeting. Proponents for or against those hearing and the hearings on variances and conditional use applications were not time restricted, however Mayor Fell dictated that when the Public Hearing of Zoning By-law 21-25 began, that presenters were limited to 5 minutes. Presenters included a professional planner who had been hired to represent 150 people concerned with some of the wording included in the By-law. Ms. Lim had even called ahead to arrange with the CAO to make an overhead presentation which of course Mayor Fell denied. There were over 200 written objections to the proposed by-law submitted ahead of the meeting, a meeting that I should add had limited capacity in Council Chambers, not only due to the other 13 items on the agenda but also it took place during a partial COVID lockdown. Minutes of the meeting of October 28, 2021 show in attendance NONE yet there were 9 people for information, 3 registered in opposition, and one in support. I was there, Dan Doucet, the development officer was there, Meaghan Boles, the consultant planner was there, there were a lot of people there, both property owners and there were people on line. More importantly there is no mention in the Minutes of the 200 plus letters of objection that had been filed. This is not a true record of the meeting in my opinion, a meeting that was going to go before the Municipal Board and where Minutes of the meeting would have had to be provided as part of the record. **NOTE: Fortunately my notes and transcripts of the meeting are quite comprehensive.** And I might add, I'm not even sure at this point if you know about those objections, all those 200 objections to those bylaws. Has Council even been shown them, are they aware they exist because those objections didn't go to the Municipal Board because after the Second Reading, well I'm getting ahead of myself so just hang on. So anyone looking back, looking at the Minutes, the written record, will not know what happened at that public hearing. Fast forward to June 23rd, 2022 to agenda minutes again that are included in my presentation, almost 8 months later, Council gave Second Reading to By-law 21-25. Note there's no reference in the resolution to any changes being made although the former Council, Development Officer, WSP, Planning and Development and the CAO insisted that all 53 changes made are minor in nature and no further public hearing was required. **NOTE: Pretty amazing that there would be 53 typing or other minor changes. The competency of the person who drafted the first one should be seriously under consideration.** Changes were made to the map and the wording such as: the Development Officer and Council may, as a condition of issuing a Development permit or major development and/or development requiring construction of municipal services require that an applicant enter into a development agreement. The word "may" sticks out to me in a big way and is just one of the many examples of discretionary interpretation and power that many of us feel should not be in a proposed Zoning By-law. I mentioned the Development Plan by-law earlier. It had been passed in 2018 but I didn't tell you that for a public hearing it was held in Dugald Community Center. It was not part of a regular Planning Meeting, nor were presenters limited in length of time that they could speak. I also didn't mention that the Public Hearing took place when Russ Phillips was the CAO and Bob Bodnaruk was the Reeve. Going back to Zoning By-law 21-25, after Second Reading was given on June 23rd., further objections to Zoning By-Law 21-25 had to be filed within 14 days uh from when we had notice from the Planning Office. This was some time in mid August, we scrambled but we did get about 80 further objections if I remember correctly. Yet the Municipal Board did not schedule a Municipal Board hearing until February 15th., 2023. The Municipal Board is required to schedule a public hearing within 60 days of receiving a by-law information. Why the extra long delay? Only the Development Officer can explain but the Planning Act states that he must forward the by-law and the objections to the Municipal Board as soon as practicable after Second Reading. Perhaps "practicable" is..if I'm pronouncing it right, included in the Municipal election ..includes the Municipal election in October. I realize that this Council could be described as being new and unfamiliar with various routines surrounding complicated matters like Planning but it's

reasonable to think that you should all be able to count on your staff to be giving you pertinent information acting in a timely way and a legislative prescribed way. You should also be cognizant of the promises you made to the public that elected you and recognize that you are in your positions because of actions like those I have mentioned which were questionably conducted by the people whose seats you fill now. On June 23rd, 2022 there was a municipal board order. It was the same meeting that Council gave second reading to the Zoning By-law 21-25 and also where the previous Council refused the application by Sio Silica to amend the Zoning By-law 08-01. The Resolution cited Section 80(2)(a) of the Planning Act. It didn't include the wording but I'll read it to you. The wording says "an application for an amendment to a Zoning By-law under Clause 1(b) may be refused if in the opinion of the Council it is without merit". As many of us now know, this matter went to a 3 day long public hearing in Anola in late October, costing the citizens of Springfield both time and money, only to be told by the Board that Springfield Council was wrong not to proceed with an amendment application to By-law 08-01 and have a public hearing on it. The Municipality's 3 defense attorneys unsuccessfully argued that an amendment wasn't necessary because Sio Silica's needs could be accommodated by a Conditional Use application under the existing by-law. However Sio Silica had applied for a Conditional Use in June of 2020 but it was not processed because of unfulfilled or maybe unreasonable conditions put on to it by municipal staff and/or Council. It was also reported and is in the Municipal Board order that Mayor Fell had told Sio that it, Council would never approve a Conditional Use. You've heard the term "Catch 22", that's what I think Sio Silica must have felt. Council won't approve an application to amend the Zoning By-law because the Development Officer says it can be accommodated within the existing by-law as a Conditional Use but the Development Officer won't process a Conditional Use as the Mayor says they'll never pass a Conditional Use. I'm not in any way supporting Sio Silica and its endeavours but the unfairness is obvious. Was this another plan to avoid a public hearing. Maybe? And was this a plan to delay after the Municipal election. Maybe. Or was it a Plan to push off any unpopular Council decision and make Sio Silica use the new Planning route that is a result of Bill 37. I don't know. Regardless the Municipal Board ordered the amendment of Zoning By-law to add a new zone called MRP, Industrial Resource Processing Zone district and a new category under Natural Resource Development uses. I know this is likely very confusing but the takeaway I'm trying to express is if a by-law doesn't identify a particular use application, then the Development Officer and/or Council should just not try and make it fit into one or guess at the closest process and proceed as they like. They should be expected to, in fact, required to follow the established rules and regulations, both Provincially and those set by our by-laws or amend the by-laws to better accommodate any previously unforeseen applications. I'm sorry if I've digressed a bit but I have one more point to make before I write, bring my conclusion. On February 15th, the Municipal Board again made Springfield Administration and Council look unprofessional when the Board said it would not begin the formal public hearing process until the preliminary matter of improper procedure regarding further public hearings was required to amend the uh Zoning By-law 21-25 was addressed. The room was almost full and it included Council members, its legal team, WSP Planning Consultant and Administration staff, all of whom had to go and huddle in the kitchen of the Dugald Community Club when the Municipal Board Chair asked them point blank if the .ok thank you, yup asked them point blank if the Municipality had erred not having a second public hearing. When they came out, they admitted that the 53 changes to the Zoning By-law were not all minor and that they should have had a further public hearing on the changes to the by-law. Should have, could have. In fact on February 7th, Ms. Lim, the professional Planner I mentioned previously and I both appeared before as delegation and warned you that Springfield's Planning Department and Administration had not complied with the Planning Act requirements. We asked you not to go to the Municipal Board to conduct second public hearings. Council chose to disregard our advice and instead put themselves in a very awkward position. The Municipal Board was not happy that they had prepared for a 3 day public hearing but couldn't proceed because Springfield had not followed the Act's required procedure. The Board Chair even went as far as to say if Springfield had not conceded that they had erred in procedure, that it was prepared to add costs to its order. The Chair then went on to say he was referring the By-law back to the Municipality and suggest that they have as many public hearings as necessary so that when the By-Law comes back before the Board, that as many of the objections as possible have been resolved locally. This brings me to the principle purpose of my delegation. It was relayed to me by Dan Doucet, the Development Officer, that he is recommending to Council that further public hearings on By-law 21-25 will only be about 53 proposed changes. I'm asking is that true? Is that Council's intent? Ok. Well, I'm going to finish this if you don't mind, I just, as a former CAO, I strongly disagree with this position and I hope that at this time at least the majority of Council will listen to public input and avoid another debacle before the Municipal Board. The Municipality has rescinded Resolution 22-250 that gave Second Reading to By-law 21-25 so in my opinion, the By-law exists only as written as it was at First Reading. The Planning Act, Section 74(1) states that before or after Council gives First Reading of a Zoning By-law, Council must hold a public hearing to receive representation from any person on the by-law. The 53 changes are not from the public, they were made either from former Council or the CAO and Development Officer who in my opinion has shown that its intent for more power and autonomy and less to do with what the public and potentially the affected land owners want. The Municipal Board in its order stated that referral of the By-law to the Board was not valid. Proceedings with just a hearing on 53 changes would in effect be repeating the same mistake. Do you really want to go to the Municipal Board again on that? I can assure you that there will be double the 80 objectors from the last time if you proceed on only the 53 changes. I guess what it can be boiled down to is what kind of Council do you want to be? One that does have the best interest for its citizens or one that hides behind restrictive procedural rules that are intended to muzzle public participation and facilitate um Administration's preferred method of controlling public input and consultation. Why not try working with and for the public, not excluding them. What legacy do you want to leave behind? One with fair and planned land development and use reached through legislative consultation process or open up development at a rate and a cost that is not sustainable based on long term financing and borrowing. I'm available for questions. **Mayor Therrien** - Thank you, M'am. We have another delegation right after you. Is there any questions for Ms. Nylen? Go ahead, Mark. **Councillor Miller** - Thank you, Ms. Nylen, for that information. You know, I'm kind of taken aback because when you provided it on the record that there was an error in the Minutes, there's legal responsibility for our RM to be accurate and for the Municipal Board to understand how many people objected to this. If you are correct in what you said, those 200 written objections aren't into that record, it goes back to what Gloria was saying that it's somehow not there, it's not available to the public and to other bodies that are going to assess this situation. So going forward, uh we need to correct those measures. Um, you know, I'm not aware of those 200 written objections, what they were specific so that, that would be uh um offensive to me not to know how many people are opposed to 21-25 in the past going forward so my question to you is uh do you feel that uh if we just take the easy path like politicians love to do and just adopt 21-25 with the 53 changes, that that does justice to our community going forward. **Janet Nylen** - I don't think you'll be able to, I think you will have to go before the Municipal Board again. **Councillor Miller** - Thank you. I too echo that. I believe that's true. **Councillor Kuczynski** - Well, I would like to ask, like did those mistakes that were made by the previous Administration, were they deliberately made or were they made by mistake, they didn't know what they were doing? So going forward now, should they actually be involved with this 21-25, all these people that were involved there? Because they kind of shamed the Municipality that we don't

know what they were doing and Municipal Board... **Mayor Therrien** - We're not going to be insinuating that the previous Council or any other Council deliberately did anything wrong. Um... **NOTE: Mayor Therrien cannot stifle what is FACT. The intent...no one can know that except those involved. Councillor Kuczynski is merely asking the question! The CAO, Ms. Draper, and the Director of Planning, Doucet, both held those positions when the previous two Councils were in place so they are in a position to advise this Council the true facts of what transpired in the past, not merely their version of the facts.** **Councillor Kuczynski** - Well, then I ask, what did Council do that 2 of you voted against us and for some reason we were right and the Municipal Board proved us right and yet Councillor Fuhl and you, Mr. Mayor, voted against it so didn't you see the mistakes there in that, in that proposed By-law? **Mayor Therrien** - Ok, well I'm not uh not going to answer that uh. We're here as the delegation and we've answered all the questions um. Thank you. Thank you, Ms. Nylen. It was already answered many times. No that's enough, we're going to carry on with the next delegation, uh Mr. Giesbrecht. That's enough, Mr. Bennici. Go ahead.

**8.2 Edwin Giesbrecht - Sidewalk Oakbank to Dugald, Municipal Cemeteries, Zoning By-law 21-25 - Edwin Giesbrecht** - Mr. Mayor, I am here in delegation filed in respect to the items that I wanted and I do believe that should fit your allotted time schedule. **Mayor Therrien** - I'm going to give you 20, Edwin, if we need that or if you need that, just to be fair. **Edwin Giesbrecht** - In respect to the first item, and for the record, Edwin Giesbrecht, Municipality of Springfield. I'd like to draw your attention to Page 5 of the Clipper and I've also put an insert and this goes back to where I presented on delegation by proxy in regards to the sidewalk from here, Oakbank to Dugald and the primary concern of that resident was the safety of the children. In fact he identified possibilities of abduction. And here we are coincidentally not 2 weeks later here in the Clipper we've got an R.C.M.P. identification of a report of attempted child abduction. Here we have in Transcona um published is an individual that has been trying to invite um little boys and things of that nature so I just wanted to draw the coincidence to your attention given the sensitivity of the um unsafe distance, unmonitored distance between Oakbank and Dugald for any sort of child that might utilize the sidewalk of which I was also given to understand that there was approximately a 2.2 million dollar grant that would have been applied to a 4.2 million dollar cost. However it doesn't appear to be a grant at all, uh it may be a circumstance where in fact Works and Operations may want to seek a 2.2 million dollar grant in order to accomplish that 4.2 million dollars. And that's just a point of order. So that completes that first item. The second item that I wanted to speak to you about, our Municipal Cemeteries and in particular the Sunnyside Cemetery. **Mayor Therrien** - Thank you. **Edwin Giesbrecht** - And I'll just read this in to our esteemed members of Council and you, Mr. Mayor. I stand before you today to express my deep concerns regarding the treatment of Sunnyside Cemetery, a place of immense importance to our community. The commercialization of this sacred ground has caused great distress, and I implore you to address this matter urgently. I must emphasize that I have previously raised this issue with the municipality, but the decisions made by the former council, administration, and planning consultant displayed a complete disregard for the respect owed to the resting places of our loved ones. The broad classification of aggregate re-designated under "Employment" zoning designation was a callous and insensitive decision that has caused turmoil for the friends and families of those laid to rest in these graves. While I acknowledge and extend my deepest respects to the families and friends of those interred in the existing columbaria, known as Sunnyside Estates, we must address the issue of available space for future use. I propose that any remaining vacancies in the columbarium be preserved and respected its private entity until they are fully exhausted. If the municipality wishes to provide future further compartments for the deceased, it should take the responsibility of developing these structures with utmost respect. This approach would ensure fairness for both residents and non-residents, with the management entrusted to the municipal cemetery supervisor and overseen by the municipal caretaker. What deeply troubles me is the flagrant disrespect shown toward the sanctity of Sunnyside Cemetery. This cemetery holds municipal and historical significance, recognized by federal authorities and the esteemed Manitoba Historical Society. The blatant commercialization of these funerary grounds by a private entity driven solely by profit-seeking motives is a desecration of the highest order. We must not forget brave individuals like "Cadet John Richard Speer died October 24<sup>th</sup> 1918, 21 years of age" and "Sergeant Gerald Henry McMurray, died 25<sup>th</sup> October 1941 34 years of age", who made the ultimate sacrifice for their nation, resting within these, hallowed grounds. Their memory and the memory of others who's pioneering spirits endure within a very first municipal cemetery in the very first 1873 municipality of the new 1870 Province of Manitoba of a newly confederated 1867 Canada who's dearly bereaved rest here, are deserved of our utmost respect and admiration. While it may be understandable for the municipality to refer individuals to businesses for headstones, engraving, or related services, it is imperative that we prohibit any form of commercial signage within or around the cemetery grounds or on municipal road allowances near the cemetery's frontage. Preserving the sanctity of the cemetery and upholding its historical significance must be our unwavering priority. Furthermore, I sincerely hope that the municipality has not entered into any proprietary contracts that would allow for the private commercialization of any of our cemeteries, especially a site of such historical significance. Families have paid for the privilege of rest and peace in this historic cemetery, and we must remain committed to preserving the dignity and sanctity of these sacred grounds. Any future actions taken by the council should be guided by a profound sense of respect, reverence, and understanding that we are entrusted with the responsibility of honoring those who have gone before us. Additionally, recent excavations surrounding the cemetery have raised concerns that necessitated a halt to be issued. The excavated grade for the preservation of the embankments should be re-analyzed and, with the cooperation of historic considerations, acknowledged for stabilization and plantation to preserve stability and undertake bank remediation. A ministerial directive/order should be sought to clarify this matter and avoid misunderstandings. The maladministration of prior governance is inexcusable. It is also crucial to address the structure of the arrangement between the municipality and the private entity. While private enterprises seek a return on investment, the questionable nature of this arrangement raises serious concerns. No private business should be allowed to enter into an agreement with the government property, let alone a historic ground, immaterial concern of property tax or maintenance obligations. I commend the business for their strategic move, off-loading and would relish in exponential returns, but the accountability and transparency of this arrangement indeed requires scrutiny. I can assure you that this was done without proper Federal or Provincial review.



Given the considerations of private enterprise, the embankment security, historical societies, federally recognized historical significance, potential malfeasance, and questionable accountabilities, I urge the appointment of a public inquiry officer to conduct a serious investigation into this matter. Considering that Sunnyside Cemetery falls under Councilor Kuczynski's elected ward, I suggest that he be appointed to lead this public inquiry and consult with provincial authorities to examine the facts, events, and any factors that may have caused or contributed to

this issue. The inquiry should provide recommendations to improve the management, dignity, and jurisprudence concerning our public cemeteries. I implore you, esteemed council members, to consider these concerns seriously and take appropriate action to rectify the current state of affairs. Let us prioritize the preservation of these hallowed grounds, acting with the utmost respect and reverence for the deceased and their grieving families. The disrespects shown towards this subject far outweigh the trivialities of requiring hats off in chambers. Let us work together to restore the sanctity of Sunnyside Cemetery and ensure that public respects are preserved instead of being exploited for private profit. And I mean that sincerely, as Edwin Giesbrecht. And in light of the above, I also want to draw attention to the proposed overall zoning By-Law 21-25, as it further highlights the importance of addressing this matter, especially in light of cemetery having been classified at least at one point as Employment. My God. And so I'd like to carry it on, Mr. Mayor, esteemed Council, Deputy Mayor, um and for further I stand before you today here to address a matter of utmost importance regarding our Municipality's governance and administration. During your campaign, Mr. Mayor, you gained well deserved respect for your leadership roles in the R.C.M.P. However upon taking office, you inherited a crucial issue, lacking leadership concerning our Zoning By-Law 21-25. This matter had reached the Manitoba Municipal Board for adjudication due to the established practices of the former Mayor cartel and administration. Their modus operandi involved delegating contentious issues to the Manitoba Municipal Board with the expectation that the Board would align their decisions with their agenda. This approach can be likened to throwing dirty laundry into a washing machine and having a proxy receiver deliver the desired deliberation. Fortunately several courageous councillors among these Chambers recognized the need to regain control of this matter on behalf of their constituents and the public at large. They took the unprecedented initiative to retract the issue from the Manitoba Municipal Board, a move that garnered widespread support and admiration from the majority of the public. Purely by the process of the Manitoba Municipal Board in this regard, By-law 21-25 subsequently adjudicated upon an elemental and material aspect by concluding and closing File No. B23004, Order No. 22B30008. It is important to appreciate the Board's related concerns about and regarding the Municipality's obligation to conduct a second hearing. Additionally it is consequential that applications for amendment of the proposed By-law 21-25 which could have implications for By-law 08-01 in its pre-altered state are still pending and have not been appropriately re-heard with the Council. Given the learning curve thrust upon this Council, I urge you to please move forward appreciating the many implications if due process is denied to the public proposed By-law 21-25. Mr. Mayor, I hope you can appreciate the gravity and far reaching effects of constitutional protected property use and enjoyment including our thousands of residents. I suspect with respect that although you voted previously to approve 21-25 in its drafted form, dictated in last minute form by the previous governance and Administration as referred to the Manitoba Municipal Board, such issues that may have been made without full political experience. **Clearly the Manitoba Municipal Board as this Council's superior authority in its absolute right has given you an order of decision that states that the referral of the proposed By-law No. 21-25 to the Municipal Board is not valid.** And the order clearly indicates its invalidity. I do know after a career in the paramilitary that you can appreciate the importance of following orders. As we navigate this situation and seek to address objections and rectify past wrongs, I wish the best Mr. Mayor and Deputy Mayor in fulfilling your responsibilities to your voters by honouring their wishes for hearings, presentations, appropriate deliberation, and/or responsible and respectful council votes where required or requested on matters of amendments, objections, contentious issues or requisite matters brought forward prior to any Second Reading of the by-law. I encourage you to proceed in caring, compassionate, unbiased, impartial and democratic manner. Mr. Mayor, it would have been impossible for you to have been aware of issues with the proposed 21-25 unless informed by your CAO or Deputy Mayor or witnessed them in Chambers yourself. In just one such instance, it has been confirmed by an officer of municipal relations who by the way served as a CAO to multiples that contrary to the indications provided by the Planning consultant and concurred by our Development Officer any changes to the by-law would not be considered major until after the Third Reading. Furthermore actions before your time by the consultant and municipal administration would raise concerns regarding their attempt to mislead the public. They presented a map of the proposed overall by-law plan displaying a dated government logo stamp on top of the final draft stamp of the municipality and consultant. This makes misleading presentation suggesting that the Provincial Government had authorized the final draft. However upon scrutiny it was revealed that the stamp merely confirmed that the government printed the draft map for the municipality through the consultant on that particular date without any connection to authorizations of finality. Mr. Mayor, I firmly believe that true leadership involves acknowledging one's mistakes. Therefore I bring these factors to your attention as well as to the esteemed Council as a glimpse into the underlying issues surrounding the proposed by-law 21-25 and other grave matters that cast shadows on the integrity of our municipality. As this Council is well aware, I've been representing a petition for the proposed Zoning By-law specifically for a minor event to the proposed map only. Outside the issue of proposed 21-25 I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate my deep concern about the various factors in the Municipality. I strongly urge you to consider initiating a public inquiry into the many ongoing situations inherited from the former Administration in part identified in my white paper. Thank you for your attention to these matters this evening, Mr. Mayor and esteemed Council. **Mayor Therrien** - Thank you very much, Mr. Giesbrecht. Thank you for your patience. We're running late uh **there**. Any questions from Council? You got a question, Mark. Go ahead. **Councillor Miller** - Thank you very much, Mr. Mayor. Thank you, Mr. Giesbrecht, for sharing your concerns. A lot of them have resonated with me. You started out with talking about, of course, the path between here and Dugald and the exploitation of children. Uh my nieces were exploited in a similar situation. They were 12 and 13 years old at the time and um a man tried to coerce them into a car. I was the uncle at the time and I was in my twenties and I was going to do some damage to that person. Fortunately the law took care of it but having said that, if there's, if there's concerns with this, we have to definitely take consideration to our children of this community going forward. Second is, I have a quick question. Were you paid to make this presentation tonight? **Edwin Giesbrecht** - Absolutely not. **Councillor Miller** - And I didn't think so. So the kind of conviction, the passion, the energy that you have to share that amongst Council and the community is extraordinary so I want to thank you for that. In terms of the graveyards, the third item I have, my conflict of interest is I am on the Board of Directors of MADD, Mothers Against Drunk Driving. Would the commercialization of the cemeteries include what MADD is now doing uh in various cemeteries like Glen Eden erecting the victims of drunk driving. Would you consider that commercial sign and going a little bit further, would you include uh faith based communities having signs as what you would want to prohibit? So in other words, probably in Sunnyside and other cemeteries throughout our community, there's people who have died or have uh incidents with drunk driving, right, who have perished because of it and the faith-based communities sometimes want to advertise as they do in cemeteries on Main Street whether it be a Catholic one or whatever it might be, would you want to prohibit that in our community too? **Edwin Giesbrecht** - Well, it would ..it certainly raises a question. It could raise a question of contention in regards to MADD. There has been a number of issues historically as you well know with MADD including even some of its directors being charged with DUIs but as to the victims, that's another question. Ok. That's another question entirely. And um I think that just as we would pay homage to a fallen officer or a fallen veteran, just as they have the walls of the names of people that have sacrificed their lives, if it was done in an extremely respectful manner and engraved so that these are actually fallen victims,

that is something that I think would be to the benefit of future generations well past our times to come and bead on. The um..as far as faith based signage, things of that nature, if they identify on their gravestone their faith, great but if they're going to start putting up 4 x 8 signs that I am of this faith or that faith, there is...let me share this with you, Councillor Miller. Um having grown up in this municipality and come through the Springfield Collegiate curriculum, I had the privilege of a one semester we studied religion and I had a taking away after that semester as to religions and it really didn't matter what faith you were, whether it was Catholic, Presbyterian, United or if Buddha, uh any religion you can possibly imagine, there came out one common denominator. All people of faith believe in something bigger than themselves unless of course they're atheists but then they still believe in something which is nothing so to say that should we allow advertising of faith as such, I think just by our inclusiveness as a Canadian nation, I think that's well enough that they may rest and put on their headstone or within their marker their faith there. I don't think that we need to have commercialized signs that are latched to our fences of our historic sites and things of this nature and again, I want to make very clear I do not begrudge the business. I applaud them from a business perspective. **Councillor Warren** - I have one question. Mark, are you not on the Cemetery Board? Oh. Ok. **NOTE: Was she asleep?** **Mayor Therrien** - I have the utmost respect uh for uhhh our fallen heros uh **there** uh um, I can't say enough about that **there** uh uh I have uh I'd like to go with you and have a look at some of these points that you're, you're noting in your presentation. So if you'd like to reach out to myself and uh maybe Mark since he's on the Board, wouldn't mind taking a tour ...I've been there patrolling **there** and it's, it's uh an area where people have no respect uh uh for some of the things that were being done there at night uh but that's all I have. **Edwin Giesbrecht** - Well, I would say, Mr. Mayor, that if you could concur with Mr. Miller, a time of convenience and/or whomever, just let me know what day and what time, give me a 2 day advance notice and I will make myself a hundred percent available. **Mayor Therrien** - Sounds good, thank you, Mr. Giesbrecht. Uh Andy. **Councillor Kuczynski** - I would be available too, ya. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** - Sounds good. Thank you, Mr. Giesbrecht. Ya we'll reach out to you **there**. **Edwin Giesbrecht** - Thank you, Mr. Mayor. **Mayor Therrien** - Thank you, Edwin. Sorry people, I keep on forgetting about the muting myself or unmuting myself, sorry. Uh we'll go to 7.1, it's the By-law 22-22 Procedural By-law, the First Reading.

## 7. BY-LAWS

**7.1 By-law 22-22 Procedural By-law (1st reading) - Mayor Therrien** - Can I get a mover and a seconder for that please. Uh Melinda and Andy. (Warren/Kuczynski) **Colleen Draper** - Be it Resolved that First Reading be given to By-law 22-22, being a by-law of the RM of Springfield to regulate the proceedings and conduct of the Council of the RM of Springfield and the Committees thereof. **Mayor Therrien** - Council has read through the by-law **there** and the First Reading is there any questions in regards to that? Andy. **Councillor Kuczynski** - Ya, I would like .. I would suggest that we postpone this First Reading because we didn't see the old one ..procedure and the new one so we have to compare both of them. **Colleen Draper, CAO** - So Council has all been provided a copy of the current Procedural By-law in your Orientation Binder and it was reviewed at your first Council meeting. Um and it has been to Council uh more than once now so you would have access to that original by-law but that's Council's decision if you want to postpone. **Mayor Therrien** - We've, we've change the time from 6:30 to 6:00, then we're actually using one of those meetings for our uh our working group **there** so um my, my suggestion here is uh we have uh other points uh uh that we could follow up uh between Second and Third reading uh **there** just to allow this um uh forward with our, our amendments uh **there** um uh just reading this uh if there's any other additions that we want to make, we can do so uh and bring it forward at our next Council meeting. Any other questions at all from Council? Mark. **Councillor Miller** - I would echo what Councillor Kuczynski said although what I would say is there's no question there's been more public engagement. We've heard some good suggestions tonight uh and before we go forward, I think we should absolutely incorporate some of those ideas and perhaps there'll be more uh but to go forward, I just want to be absolutely clear on the record that we would be able to amend it before Second Reading. **Mayor Therrien** - Uh what's other Council's thought on that? Uh Glen. **Councillor Fuhl** - Ya so from First Reading to Second to Third Reading, we can amend that um at any time in between so maybe we bring this back to First Reading and then bring it back to a working group meeting or even a Committee of the Whole meeting and then do our amendments and then bring it back for second, third reading. **Mayor Therrien** - I, I had a suggestion that we, I could ..that I was thinking of bringing it forward and it's kind of a spur of the moment thing **there**, it gets kind of late at 11 p.m. to uh uh look at the clock now..yet (laughing) at 11 p.m. it gets pretty late cause uh everybody here uh the majority have uh full time jobs so we're going to 11 and doing your full time job **there** in the morning, um we, we could change it to 6 p.m. as opposed to the 6:30, I'm saying 11 might be a little, little late uh those should be few and far between uh with a half hour extension allotment uh with Council's consent. Uh, Uh I was thinking and this is a change we can discuss uh later on in a ..putting it out to the public **there** um so at 10 o'clock will be our latest with a half hour extension, that will give us half an hours **there** and still it's not uh gonna impact your, your next job uh I think if we can get things done in a 4 1/2 hour period, I think that's quite reasonable. This is the exception to the rule one in a way as well. Um so these changes uh Mrs. uh Akins had some changes there that we could look at as well but adopting the First uh Reading then we could uh look at the uh these in a working group uh and follow up at that time there. **NOTE: There are so many changes, theirs and those suggested this evening, I think it would be wiser to start all over again and bring the newly changed by-law back for First Reading at a later date.** If we, are we ready to vote **there** uh after you read... **Colleen Draper** - Does Council want me to read through the edits that were made from...the major edits that were made from the current by-law to this version to the public or just...do you want to vote on it? **Mayor Therrien** - I, uh, just answer Colleen **there** uh uh the changes that I think the public should know what those changes are. Um that's my thought uh with regards to that uh. **Colleen Draper** - I'm just going to run through them quickly uh then it'll be on the record and Council can review the by-law and see if there's any further before Second Reading. So 4.0 The Inaugural Meeting time changed to 6 p.m. from 6:30. 4.0 Inaugural Meeting time changed to 6 p.m. from 6:30. 4.1 Council must review its Procedural and Organizational by-laws at the Inaugural Meeting. The intent is not to make amendments but rather review them so that they are aware of the Regulations they are expected to follow and that's the process we've followed for many years, 5.0 the quorum was adjusted to 3 members instead of 4, 7.0 clarifying that it is a draft agenda that is distributed prior to the meeting, um that way it's only considered final when Council approves it by resolution at the meeting **NOTE: But nonetheless, what is posted in advance should be for the most part complete with the exception of necessary last minute changes. As I have pointed out, things added at the meeting leave the public unprepared to consider and therefore it is not a fair and open process.** 7.4 Uh we did remove or the suggestion was to remove the Conflict of Interest declaration. Um the advice I got from the Province and based on their template, they've said it is up to each Council member to declare Conflict of Interest prior to any item being discussed um and the other thing we removed was matters arising from delegations. That's not always required and Council's not obligated to make a decision or respond to a delegate's presentation at the same meeting. Uh Delegations, the intent is to provide the information, Council takes the information back, discusses and then if there's any actions, can bring it to a future Council meeting.

8.0 First and Third Tuesday meetings will remain at 6 p.m. instead of 6:30. 8.3 Notice of Change in meeting, we reduced that to 4 days instead of 6 days. Uh there's been times on a Friday that um a decision has to be made whether we're proceeding and we prefer to give notice before the weekend. Um a lot of times that decision is being made on the Friday. **NOTE: For those without computers, 4 days is not enough notice. I personally know of a person that would have gone to a meeting that was cancelled at the last minute.** 14.2 Clarification that the Chair can move, second and debate a motion. 15.9 Remove videotaping as the Municipality is not currently doing that, however we left the videotaping in 15.10 for the media request. Uh Section 15 was edited because of the new section 17 about public decorum at uh meetings. Uh Section 16 is the Question Period so my note would be that I think it's still kind of being debated both ways - should it be for agenda items only or open to any issue uh and it shouldn't be used in place of a delegation request and should be only for time sensitive issues that are not on the agenda or that have just arisen and Section 17 we added the public decorum at meetings so I think the comment was who drafted this by-law um so I worked with the Province to draft it because we were getting criticized on a lot of the procedures that were taking place and they referred me to the template that the Province puts out and um when looking at other municipal procedure manuals or procedure by-laws this is the version that most use and they're consistent. **Mayor Therrien** - That's it, Colleen? (yep) Thank you very much. Did you have a question, Andy? **Councillor Kuczynski** - Yes, so can we have copies of this that you just described now, of those changes, please. **Colleen Draper** - Yep. The edits, I can send those out to you. **Councillor Kuczynski** - Yes I want to ask another question, why weren't we presented those changes as we received this um procedure here? **Colleen Draper** - I just ..when we tried to do kind of the red lined and the track changes, it made it very hard to read the by-law with all the changes and edits we were making. And so we just made a clean copy of the by-law and I can give you those edits that I read out loud. **Councillor Kuczynski** - I appreciate that. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** - I'm not sure. What does Council think? Is it better to have the slash in there, the red like we did with others or having that uh the way that Colleen has it written there. What's everybody's opinion with regards to that? Ok, well this is something we could also discuss in a working group as well. **NOTE: These discussions should be done in the Council meeting. There is no reason the discussion should occur behind closed doors. Council should not be, in effect, making the bulk of decisions outside of the Council chamber and then bringing those decisions before the public.** Uh why don't..if everybody ..if all the questions are answered uh can we have a vote with regards to uh um 7.1. All those in favour of the First Reading of By-law 22-22, Procedural By-law? A show of hands. Uh that'll be unanimous uh in regards to that.

**7.2 By-law 23-02 Council Indemnity By-law (1st reading) - Mayor Therrien** - Then we'll continue, excuse me for a sec, with uh 7.2, that's the By-Law 23-02 Council Indemnity By-law First Reading. Um can I get a mover and a seconder in regards to that as well, please. Uh Glen and Melinda (Fuhl/Warren). **Colleen Draper** - *Be it Resolved that first reading be given to By-law No. 23-02, Being a By-law of the RM of Springfield to establish the rates, taxable allowances, types and conditions of payment to or on behalf of members of the Council of the RM of Springfield.* **Mayor Therrien** - And this uh like uh the Procedural ..we've had discussions with regards to that on the First Reading. Is there any questions from Council with regards to uh 7. uh 2? Mark? **Councillor Miller** - Just a quick comment, Mr. Mayor. As you know, I am opposed to 3.10. **NOTE: I believe it is 2:10 on the agenda.** 3.10 is the cost of living increase will be applied annually to equal the COLA increase percentage applied to non union employees. For myself, I will not accept a raise through these 4 years. Um that's my position, that was my statement and I'm upholding that statement. Um others can take it but I'm committed to not taking any increase. **Mayor Therrien** - What's that Mark? Thank you. Any other comments from uh Council? With that uh, I got no questions **there** and I don't see any other questions **there**. Can we have a vote with regards to uh passing uh the First Reading of the Council Indemnity By-law uh with a show of hands. That'll be unanimous as well. **Colleen Draper** - If I could just clarify, there's no increase proposed for 23. **Mayor Therrien** - Thank you, uh Colleen. Uh so we'll carry on to 7.3 and again give me a second here.

**7.3 By-law 23-05 Mitigation and Preparedness Program Reserve (2nd Reading) - Mayor Therrien** - And that'll be By-law 23-05 uh Mitigation and Preparedness Program uh Reserve. This is our Second Reading uh **there** um um nothing has changed with regards to that uh and if anybody on Council has any question with regards to that then if I can get a show of hands or sorry, you have to read that then. **Colleen Draper** - Mover and seconder please. **Mayor Therrien** - Can I get a mover and a seconder. That'll be Melinda and Andy (Warren/Kuczynski). **Colleen Draper** - *Be it Resolved that Second Reading be given to By-law No. 23-05 being a By-law of the RM of Springfield to establish a Mitigation and Preparedness Program Reserve Fund.* **Mayor Therrien** - I'll be with you in a second **there**. Any questions from uh Council. We already went through that, there's no questions, no such change. Can we have a vote, those in favour of the Second Reading of the Mitigation and Preparedness Program Reserve. Show of hands, please. That's unanimous.

**7.3 By-law 23-05 Mitigation and Preparedness Program Reserve (3rd Reading) - Mayor Therrien** - And this is the Third uh Reading with regard uh to uh that Mitigation and Preparedness Program Reserve. Um could I get a mover and a seconder with regards to that. Uh Glen and Melinda (Fuhl/Warren) **Colleen Draper** - *Be it Resolved that Third and Final Reading be given to By-law No. 23-05 being a By-law of the RM of Springfield to establish a Mitigation and Preparedness Program Reserve Fund.* **Mayor Therrien** - All those uh in favour with a show of hands. That'll be unanimous and it is carried.

**7.4 By-law 23-06 Organizational By-Law (1st reading) - Mayor Therrien** - Moving along at 7.4 that's a By-law 23-06 the Organizational By-law. This is the First Reading as well. A mover and a seconder, please. That'll be Mark and Pat (Miller/Therrien). **Colleen Draper** - *Be it Resolved that first reading be given to By-law No. 23-06, Being a By-law of the RM of Springfield to govern the organization of the RM of Springfield and the Council Committees thereof.* **Mayor Therrien** - Any questions from Council with regards to this. Mark? **Councillor Miller** - Thank you, Mr. Mayor, I have a number of suggestions for improvement. One specific one and there'll be others as we refer it to a working group before Second Reading, **NOTE: Again, reference to behind closed door meetings of Council to discuss agenda items outside the purview of the public. THESE DISCUSSIONS SHOULD BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER DURING MEETINGS!** the Head of Council, number 4, uh I would propose uh to make the Head of Council for the Rural Municipality of Springfield is to have the title of Reeve instead of Mayor. **Mayor Therrien** - Ok. Did you say you had a couple? Just the one. Oh, ok then we can discuss it in a working group. Ok, um any other questions uh from Council at all for this uh..sorry my screen's going blank here..um did we get a mover and a seconder already for that? And you already read that. Then we're ready for the vote. Oh, ok sorry so uh we'll vote the First Reading **there** By-law 23-06 Organizational By-law, those in favour of First uh Reading, show of hands, and Andy, you had your hand up? That's unanimous. Uh Items 8.1 and 8.2 we have already had delegations.

## 10. CONSENT AGENDA

**10.1 Manitoba Good Roads - 2023 Annual Competition - 10.2 AMM News Bulletin - Mayor Therrien** - Consent Agenda Items #10 is the Manitoba Good Roads um and the AMM uh News Bulletin. Maybe we can do both of those at the same uh time um, can I get a mover and a seconder with regards to that? That'll be Mark and Glen (Miller/Fuhl). **Colleen Draper** - *Whereas a Consent Agenda has been submitted consisting of two items, Be it Resolved that the said Consent Agenda be received as information.* **Mayor Therrien** - If there's no questions from Council, I don't see any hands up uh **there** can I get a consent with regards to uh these two items. And that'll be unanimous.

## 11. NEW BUSINESS

**11.1 National Public Works Week - May 21 - 27, 2023 - Mayor Therrien** - Then we're into New Business, that's National Public Works uh Week, a mover and a seconder uh please. That'll be Melinda and Pat (Warren/Therrien). **Colleen Draper** - Uh just for the sake of time and probably my voice, I'm going to read the last clause of these next few resolutions that are quite large so um *Whereas Year 2023 marks the 63rd. Annual National Public Works Week sponsored by the American Public Works Association, now therefore be it Resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield does hereby designate the week May 21st. to 27th., 2023 as Public Works week in the RM of Springfield.* **Mayor Therrien** - Any questions from Council with regards to the National Public Works uh Week uh dates noted uh **there**. Andy? **Councillor Kuczynski** - And what's involved with that? Can somebody explain please? Are they going to give bonuses or... **Colleen Draper** - (sigh) It's just a chance for our residents to recognize the great work our Works Department does and we'll be highlighting some of our staff and the work they do on our social media site. **Councillor Kuczynski** - Ok, thank you. **Mayor Therrien** - And I guess on behalf of our Council being the Mayor **there**, I'd like to thank our Public Works and everything that they do for us and I'm sure all of Council concurs with me and with nodding of heads, everybody concurs. Um so with that uh **there** if everybody's uh in concurrence with that, we have a vote uh for the National Public Works Week. All those in favour. Unanimous. **NOTE: I mean it is nice to give accolades to staff, I guess, but THAT IS THEIR JOB. One expects an employee to do their job to the best of their ability.**

**11.2 Dust Control Program Additions - Mayor Therrien** - Uh Dust Control Program 11.2 a mover and a seconder **there** please. Uh Mark and Melinda (Miller/Warren). **Colleen Draper** - *Be it resolved that Council agrees to add full dust control application to the Municipal Dust Control Program along Willowdale Road between PR 213 Garven Road and Park Road, and be it further resolved that Council agrees to add full dust control application to the Municipal Dust Control Program along Poplar Road from Centreline Road south to the start of the asphalt.* **Mayor Therrien** - And Council hearing that, uh can we vote on the Dust Control Program Additions uh **there** with a show of hands? Those in favour. That'll be unanimous.

**11.3 2023 Winnipeg Metropolitan Region Inc. Membership Fees - Mayor Therrien** - And we'll move on to 11.3, that's the 2023 Winnipeg Metropolitan Region Membership uh Fees, a mover and a seconder please. Melinda and uh Glen (Warren/Fuhl). **Colleen Draper** - *Be it Resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield approve the 2023 Winnipeg Metropolitan Region Inc. Membership Fees in the amount of \$13,466.25.* **Mayor Therrien** - Any uh questions from uh Council in regards uh to uh the fees? Andy? **Councillor Kuczynski** - Are we getting any benefit for these fees or uh just uh rubber stamp? **Mayor Therrien** - Um we uh I'm, I'm the only one that's on the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region from here. Um and it's uh been around for quite a few years. Uh Susan Thompson started it in 98. The inception started with her and we are uh part of a investment program which is under a um uh it's, I can't, I, I'm not even sure if I'm allowed to say the name but the investment program um is, is investments that the 14 directors in the R...in the different oh, I'm sorry no the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region is made up of 14 different regions, basically where Winnipeg is, all the regions around uh Winnipeg so all the uh directors are appointed under this new Act **there** which came into effect the first of May, uh um and uh uh they work together with a traffic plan from the city so if there's a street that's coming out or a road that's going to be coming out, Chief Peguis uh eventually will be coming down through Gunn Road, uh they'll have a bridge going across and that's our Traffic Plan. The City of Winnipeg's Master Traffic Plan and the Province has a land use Traffic Plan as well so, so that we're not uh doing something within our quarter and everybody's in a blind spot I guess is kind of the figurative way of looking at it **there** so that we're working towards um something that's, that's going to be conducive towards our other RMs. It's not just Big Brother Winnipeg, it's, it's all the uh the centers around that we kind of work in coordination so that our projects are not going to be uh duplicating uh towards uh let's say Tache that their project. They've got a regional plan together, where they put a regional wastewater uh plant together and that was a great thing to do uh **there** so uh regional is part of the our presentations and we have presentations from all kinds of experts that tell us uh uh uh you know whatever items that we're looking at and then we brought in uh the 2050 program that did our presentation to us if you recall, Colleen that did our presentation uh **there**. So it's a very long and very intricate uh balance between uh the City of Winnipeg and all the outlying uh regions. Um I believe there's 10 uh directors and all the mayors and reeves are automatically under the Act made uh directors, uh of that so that there's...we're not basically doing everything in our bubble because we all work together just like the greater Toronto area, uh Moncton area, Calgary, Edmonton, they all have a greater area uh that they don't work again within that bubble, we all work together um and a part of this is an investment corporation uh **there** that's under uh a name and I can't say the name cause I'm not sure if I'm allowed to and I'm under a non disclosure uh and this was under Mayor Fell and then Mayor or Reeve uh Bodnik **NOTE: Bodnaruk**, uh I'm sorry if I mispronounced his name uh **there** so many of the reeves previous to me uh Mayor Fell was a part of this so I'm basically continuing it and I think it's, it's an excellent plan. It's very expensive, there's no doubt about it. Uh taxpayers are paying for it but I think uh our investments if they come forward then that's going to be exceptionally good for us. Some of the uh daycares that you see around, I think the one right across from my son's house in East Selkirk **there**, that's part of this uh um enterprise that we have with the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region. We've allotted land, we were asked with regards to that uh as well, we had to decline because we have no land. There has to be sewer, a very rigid criteria **there** uh cause the RM of St. Clements was uh able to offer that land uh they got a bonus for that, they got this really nice uh day care. Kind of long winded but that's essentially it. That's, there's 9 daycare centers that were given to these centers, they cost a little bit of money but most of it is money allocated through um land values uh sewage and so on like that to the RMs. **Councillor Kuczynski** - So how many years have we belonged to that organization and what benefit has the Municipality of Springfield received within those I don't know 10 years, 15 years already that...Susan Thompson, that was a long, long time ago? **Mayor Therrien** - 97, 98 uh **there** and uh the benefits that we have uh uh coming from

the uh the investment uh side of it **there** um frankly I don't know that answer for you **there**, Andy. **Councillor Kuczynski** - Can you please find out and let me know as a councillor. **Colleen Draper** - We have been a member since the beginning when it started in 98, we became members and I think the investment opportunity you're talking about is public so it's John Q Public is what you're referring to and it's the municipalities have created this and it's kind of like a buying power or purchasing power service that we can get better deals when we group together to purchase items. **Councillor Kuczynski** - So why are we duplicating .. I thought we have purchasing power through A.M.M. (Association of Manitoba Municipalities) already .. **Colleen Draper** - Ya, we do. **Councillor Kuczynski** - .. so why do we need another group. **Mayor Therrien** - Sorry Colleen but this is a uh uh an international??? group that uh that they look for investments. It's like an economic development officer if we had let's say Kristy here as our Economic Development Officer, she would go out and then solicit and try to get some businesses for us, same thing as John Q Public has that and they're out **there** trying to get some investments in our uh Winnipeg Metropolitan Region. **Councillor Kuczynski** - So what benefit do we get through that group, what have we purchased through that group that we get benefits for the Municipality of Springfield? **Mayor Therrien** - One of them is the daycare that was offered to us, we just haven't got the land uh for that, uh we have... **Councillor Kuczynski** - Ok, we didn't get it, what did we get? **NOTE: In a word, NOTHING. The only beneficiary that I can see is Colleen Sklar who runs the thing and owns a building in Winnipeg which is the headquarters of John Q Public.** **Colleen Draper** - Uh, I think the most purchases we've made have been through the Fire Department so a lot of their safety...all the fire departments use the same materials and we went in together and had buying power and got savings on gloves and boots and helmets and you know, that kind of thing. **Councillor Kuczynski** - So how much savings did we get? **Colleen Draper** - I can get that information, it was quite a few years ago so... **Councillor Kuczynski** - I'd appreciate that. **NOTE: That does not answer Councillor Kuczynski's question. And that group purchase could have been done through AMM just as easily.** **Mayor Therrien** - Uh that's a good example that Colleen had come up with there. There was a unified ..that's part of that uniformity uh **there**, the radio systems. Like I know when I was our R.C.M.P. here, our radio system was not conducive to the Winnipeg Police and so uh we would have a chase and we'd have to go through our intercoms and so on like that. So now they're working together and having the same system. This is much like that. Um so the uniformity is amongst the Fire Departments uh **there**. Uh I know the Chief is, is listening **there** but I don't really require him to input on that but essentially now that we've got a uniformity in our radios, it's safer. It's quicker. Uh it's a win/win for everybody so that's part of that buying power that Colleen was talking about. **Councillor Kuczynski** - And can I, can we please find out how much we paid in those fees altogether all those years, the total number and how much savings that we got. **Mayor Therrien** - That's uh.. I guess we can get that as well then, eh Colleen? **Colleen Draper** - Uh, ya. **Mayor Therrien** - Uh it's every year I think it's around that, I know some RMs are paying more um the City of Winnipeg I wouldn't even hesitate how much they would..they're paying in regards to uh this. Based on population and so on, like our RM is quite uh it's size, it's 17,000 people so um most RMs are in and around that area are going to be paying the same amount uh so... like our RM is uh quite uh the size, uh 17,000 uh people so uh most RMs are in around that uh area are going to be paying the same amount uh so it's uh that's a good question. I would like to know that as well. **Councillor Kuczynski** - Ya, and do we have to belong to that group or not necessarily? **Mayor Therrien** - Um there is I won't mention uh any names of course but uh some municipalities uh um uh are not uh as happy with it **there** and we are mandated under the uh the Act to be part of that uh Winnipeg Metropolitan Region. **NOTE: Really? What Act is that? I know of no Act that requires us to belong to the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region. Further if you go to the Web Site of John Q Public, there is virtually no information except for a telephone number and e-mail. It does not list the directors etc. It simply states: We deliver regional services and develop strategic projects in the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region to make communities better. John Q was built by Metro Region leaders, led by a Board of Directors from the founding municipalities and informed by an expert business advisory council. Through JohnQ, municipalities will be able to coordinate services, purchase professionally and secure better value, keeping one eye on today without compromising tomorrow. We believe we can do better for communities, for our province and for our future, and that's what we intend to do.** **Councillor Kuczynski** - Mandated by whom, by Province? **Mayor Therrien** - By the law. The new law that came out uh mandates uh the RMs around the City of Winnipeg uh and the City of Winnipeg Charter to be part of this group now. How we work together is the main point. **Councillor Kuczynski** - And can we see that document as a Council, please? **NOTE: Bravo, Councillor Kuczynski, not just "drinking the Kool-Aid".** **Mayor Therrien** - Uh, um I'll, I'll reach out to uh Colleen, that's the uh, the uh I guess the CAO that's in charge of this Winnipeg Metropolitan Region and I guess we'll do that through Colleen but ya, I'll try to get that to you. It may be under..in uh In Camera **there** so I am not sure about that but we'll get you up to speed. Yes, M'am. Maybe I'll answer that if you don't mind, Colleen. John Q Public is part of the uh the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region. It's, it's, it's a investment side of it **there** uh like you, you know, if you're doing your bills at home and so on like that, then you've got an extra some money **there** and going to invest that in whatever, that's kind of what it is, your household is your Winnipeg Metropolitan Region, you've got a little bit of extra money but you're going to put it under another name, just they had to put it under another name to have that separation is what it is, it's the investment part, an investment arm of the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region. Um ok any other questions uh from Council at all. So we'll get that stuff, Andy uh to you uh **there**, I'm hoping Colleen kept a note of that because I don't remember everything. **Councillor Kuczynski** - Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** - Um so with regards to that uh are we ready for a vote? Did you read it and all that? Uh, a vote with regards to the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region membership fees of eleven thousand, uh \$13, 466. uh show of hands. That'll be uh unanimous.

**11.4 Association of Rural Municipalities - 2023 Membership Fee - Mayor Therrien** - Uh and the membership fees uh for 11.4, is the Association of Rural Municipalities, it's the same thing, I guess, membership fees with regards to that. Uh can I get a mover and a seconder as well please. That'll be Glen and uh Andy (Fuhl/Kuczynski). Ya, Andy had his hand up. Ok Melinda (Fuhl/Warren). Then we'll (laughing) ... **Colleen Draper** - Be it resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield approve the Association of Rural Municipalities 2023 Membership in the amount of \$500. **NOTE: Interesting that the AMM Annual Fee is only \$500. while the John Q. Public or Winnipeg Metropolitan Region fee is \$13,466., yet according to Mayor Therrien the two organizations provide the same group purchasing service. AMM provides additional benefits that John Q. Public does not.** **Mayor Therrien** - Um I don't think there's any questions with regards to uh this. Can I just get a show of hands? Uh those in favour? That'll be unanimous.

**11.5 June District Resolutions - Mayor Therrien** - Uh June District Resolutions, that'll be 11 uh point uh 5. A mover and seconder, please. Uh that'll be Melinda and Pat (Warren/Therrien). And there's really nothing to read in regards to that uh oh there is quite a bit. **Colleen Draper** - I'll do my best to read the important parts. Uh, and whereas Municipalities are thankful for the Disaster Financial Assistance Program, now therefore be it resolved that we request the Association of Manitoba Municipalities to lobby the Province of Manitoba to continue to lobby the Government of Canada to amend the Federal DFAA Program to include eligibility for carrying costs or interest as part of the Program and further

be it resolved that we request the Federation of Canadian Municipalities to lobby the Government of Canada on behalf of all Canadian Municipalities to have the Government of Canada amend the DFAA Program to include eligibility for carrying costs or interest as part of the Program and further be it resolved that we request the AMM to lobby the Province of Manitoba to reimburse municipalities for any carrying costs that have incurred for disasters that have occurred over the past 5 years. **Mayor Therrien** - Thank you very much. Um any questions from uh Council with regards to uh to Item 11.5 June District Resolutions. Can I get a vote on that, uh a show of hands. Uh that'll be unanimous and carried.

**11.5.1 Disaster Financial Assistance Interest Resolution (RM of Montcalm - Request for Support; DFA Interest Resolution - RM of Montcalm - Mayor Therrien** - And 11.5.1 Disaster Financial Assistance Interest Resolution uh show of hands or I'm not sure, a mover and seconder please. That'll be Glen and Melinda (Fuhl/Warren). **Colleen Draper** - *Whereas Manitoba municipalities share resources such as Fire Departments, Libraries, and Recreation Facilities and whereas the facilities are jointly owned by two or more municipalities and whereas the facility is located in one municipality and whereas under Section 22(1) of the Municipal Assessment Act real property is exempt from taxation if it is owned by the municipality other than for local improvements, and whereas the percentage of ownership that is retained by the other municipality is therefore taxable, therefore be it resolved that AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba, Department of Municipal Relations to revise the Municipal Assessment Act to exempt property jointly owned by municipalities from taxation regardless of what municipality the facility is located in.* **Mayor Therrien** - Everybody has read that from uh Council. If there's any questions, I don't see any. Uh can we vote on DFAA Interest Resolution The RM of Montcalm? Show of hands. That is uh carried.

**11.5.2 Tax Exemption (Town of Beausejour Resolution Request; Tax Exemption Resolution - Town of Beausejour) - Mayor Therrien** - Uh 11.2 the Tax Exemption 23 uh Town of Beausejour resolution, a mover and seconder please. That'll be Glen and Melinda (Fuhl/Warren). Um I'm not there. What number would that be? I haven't got that. Oh, ok. When I say I don't have it, it's here. Not a problem.

**11.5.3 By-law Standardization - Mayor Therrien** - 11 point uh uh 5.3, that is the By-law Standardization - if we could get a mover and a seconder for that uh please. That'd be Mark and uh Pat (Miller/Therrien). **NOTE: Never in the history of my following RM of Springfield meetings have I ever heard of the Mayor being able to move or second motions. This is something completely new to me. Has this been change to ensure that our Mayor and CAO are able to move THEIR agenda forward?** **Colleen Draper, CAO** - So this is the resolution, I'm going to read the final clauses if that's alright with Council. *Therefore be it Resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield does hereby support this resolution requesting the AMM and MMA (Association of Manitoba Municipalities and Manitoba Municipal Association) work together to develop a by-law standardization Web Site or electronic portal which could be accessed by all municipalities and communities and thereby assist them in developing and sharing streamlined enforceable standardized municipal by-laws reducing duplication and legal costs and further be it resolved that the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to develop a regional by-law court process which would be specific to by-law enforcement offenses. This would greatly reduce legal costs for all cities, municipalities and communities while enhancing by-law enforcement and overall public safety.* **Mayor Therrien** - Um it's a great thing to do, it's, it's getting into the 21st. uh century uh **there** uh Lorne Schenkel is a retired uh police **NOTE: Lorne Schenkel is the Reeve of Lac du Bonnet, retired from RCMP and City of Winnipeg Police and is on the AMM Board of Directors. It is not surprising our Mayor, retired RCMP, would be in favour of rigid enforcement of a policy that reduces the ability of our Municipality to set its own municipal enacted by-laws, particularly with respect to planning.** and uh it's a very good ..my apologies, uh resolution **there** so if uh we could uh...any questions in regards to that, then maybe we'll get into the vote uh portion of that. All those in favour of the by-law standardization resolution. Show of hands. I see it's unanimous and that is carried. **NOTE: NO DISCUSSION OF WHAT I CONSIDER A VERY IMPORTANT ISSUE, at least none in the public's presence. Hopefully it has been carefully considered behind closed doors but I have my doubts. I feel it was probably bulldozed past a "green" Council by the Mayor and CAO.**

**11.5.4 By-law Enforcement Officers - Mayor Therrien** - And now we're into 11.6 and 5.4 .. is uh By-law Officers the RM of Lac or...a mover and seconder with regards to that. Uh Mark and Pat (Miller/Therrien). **Colleen Draper, CAO** - *Therefore be it Resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield does hereby support this resolution requesting that AMM continue to lobby the Province of Manitoba to include by-law enforcement officers within the ongoing review of the Police Services Act and designate them as peace officers within the regulations with the development of training standards and further be it resolved that AMM continue to lobby the Province of Manitoba to remove the requirement from the Police Services Act that the Community Safety Officer and First Nations Safety Officer be a direct employee of the City, Municipality or community and provide the option of contracting out as this would greatly assist smaller municipalities and communities within another option to address by-law enforcement and enhance public safety.* **NOTE: The official police of the Province of Manitoba are the R.C.M.P., however a few cities and municipalities in the Province have their own police services that work in cooperation with the R.C.M.P.. What this is in fact doing is giving individual cities/municipalities the option to influence the changes in the Police Services Act to include the provision to contract out enforcement to a body other than the RCMP, i.e. autonomy. At least, that is how I interpret it.** **Mayor Therrien** - Any questions from Council? Going to get a show of hands, those in favour uh of the by-law enforcement officer's resolution. That'll be unanimous and passed uh **there**. **NOTE: I think that is an important issue and should be discussed in public, yet there is absolutely no discussion on it. Well, I will say the Mayor is nothing if not polite while conducting the meeting but politeness does not replace integrity. He always says the magic word, PLEASE.**

**11.6 Council Expense Policy - Mayor Therrien** - We'll get into 11.6 uh that's the Council Expense uh Policy, uh a mover and seconder please. That'll be Glen and Melinda (Fuhl/Warren). **Colleen Draper, CAO** - *Be it resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield Council Expense Policy be approved as presented.* **Mayor Therrien** - Any questions uh from Council? Could I get a show of hands with regards to the Council Expense Policy? That'll be unanimous and uh carried.

**11.7 Volunteer Lobbyist Registry - Mayor Therrien** - Um I'm wondering if we could go to eleven point eight uh if Council's good with that uh and then 11.9 and get up to the Volunteer Lobbyist Registry at the very last. Is that good with Council? Uh everybody's good with that? That'll be unanimous with regards to that.

**11.8 Springfield Collegiate Institute - 2023 Scholarship - Mayor Therrien** - So maybe we can get into 11.8, the Springfield Collegiate Institute uh 2023 Scholarship there, uh a mover and seconder. That's Melinda and uh Pat (Warren/Therrien). **Colleen Draper, CAO** - *Be it resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield provide a scholarship in the amount of \$500. for awards recognizing academic achievement for the Springfield Collegiate Institute for 2023 and be it further resolved that Mayor Therrien or alternate be delegated to attend the graduation ceremony on June 27, 2023 in Winnipeg to present the award.* **Mayor Therrien** - Any uh questions with regards to Council? If everybody's ok with that, we'll vote on that, the Springfield Collegiate Institute 2023 Scholarship, uh show of hands. That's uh carried.

**11.9 List of Accounts - Mayor Therrien** - Um List of Accounts, 11.9 uh can I get a mover and a seconder for that please. Uh that's Melinda and Glen (Warren/Fuhl). **Colleen Draper, CAO** - *Whereas disbursements have been reviewed for the period of April 12th. to May 12th. 2023, Be it Resolved that all accounts listed on the attached printout from Cheque 157465 to 157661 totaling \$1,730,502.01 be approved for payment as well as the following EFT payments: Western Financial \$11,966.12, Amelia \$203.08, RBC Visa \$23,152.56, Mid West Fire U.S. cheque \$134,350.94 and be it further resolved that April payroll in the amount of \$281,755.62 be approved.* **Mayor Therrien** - Any uh questions from Council with regard to this? Can I get a show of hands uh those in favour of uh passing uh this. That'll be unanimous.

**11.7 Volunteer Lobbyist Registry (Continued) - Mayor Therrien** - And then we'll get into 11.7, the volunteer lobbyist uh registry, a mover and a seconder for that please. Uh Mark and Melinda (Miller/Warren). **Colleen Draper, CAO** - *Be it resolved that Council approve the Volunteer Lobbyist Registry document as presented.* **Mayor Therrien** - Um I uh I have problems with the uh the registry, uh it's just we're going to be voting on this tonight. Um I uh with the greatest of respect **there** uh Mark I just, I just find uh um the Lobbyist Registry is, uh will uh put an undue burden upon um uh businesses uh people trying to get businesses within our RM. Um there's never been a uh situation where it was required whether it's any bribery or any uh uh graft uh these are all uh words that I've never uh I've not used but I just, I just find that uh it's cumbersome, it'll be cumbersome on the RM uh to have uh a person volunteer as well, uh registry with regards to that. I've spoken to other Mayors and Reeves um and uh just to get at their insight and have they got this and none of them do, none of them have heard of it apart from the uh City of uh Winnipeg and it's a large uh center. Um the um the, the going out there and uh getting businesses **there** although a lot of businesses come to us uh **there** um this may be that, that point where they're not going to want to come to us and then go on to the other RMs around our, our um our RM and uh look into that for businesses. I think people will be skeptical and they could be chased off in regards to uh this. Um the process that we have, um you know, if there's any chance of, of this kind of uh uh situation where somebody could be uh taken advantage of uh **there** um we are one vote amongst five of us. So it's not a uh uh one vote uh can take all this, **NOTE: I feel I must interject. What the ??? is he talking about? I have been typing relentlessly trying to get to the end of this dissertation and I am at a loss to understand anything but the fact that he is being "defensive"**, it's not the case uh **there** and we have the Canadian Criminal Code which is um you know our, our Criminal Code for well over 100 years that'll take care of this, any situations with regards to uh a lobby group trying to uh intimidate uh and put, put forward uh whatever item that they, they may be uh looking at with regards uh to that. Um um we have uh many checks and balances uh that uh are, are in place um and these checks and balances uh all come down to uh ethics uh and there's never been a situation where um a lobbyist uh group uh has uh infiltrated and made a uh um uh a (cough) Councillor or a Mayor um vote in any other way, like I say. We're .. I am one vote, Glen's one vote, Andy's one vote, Mark's one vote, and Melinda's one vote. Um it's uh this is uh uh like I say I it's it's good on your part uh **there**. I just think that...it's uh do like a governance is trying not to overburden our citizens and as well as businesses um governance like uh **by-laws are supposed to be for situations where there may be a problem**, we're going to address it through a by-law, through laws, and this isn't a problem. Uh I don't see that it's ever been a problem. Uh I know the City of Winnipeg has it uh **there** and uh um I've been on their Web Site and it seems to be uh mainly salesmen uh **there** looking at small sales and so on like that. Obviously I haven't gone through it with a fine toothed comb. I'm just concerned about the RM of Springfield. Um there's a right to privacy here as well as that I find, I'm not a lawyer um a person calling if he or she is a conflict, what are their rights, you know, the person putting down their information uh **there**, they don't have to have their information down as far as I'm concerned, in my dealings as an R.C.M.P. officer **there**, I've had many people um um where they don't want their name uh mentioned and it's, it's, it's incumbent upon me to keep that sensitive ummm uh informants and the whole nine yards so it's, it's a matter of ethics uh **there** and uh we all have the ethics, I don't think that this is a situation where we are required to have um a lobbyist registry, I think that may hinder businesses coming forward. Uh we have our oaths, everybody took their oaths uh to the office and to the citizens uh **there** um that uh you know that's, that's a very strong commitment. We've got our Code of Conduct and the Criminal Code and I keep on saying the Criminal Code but the Criminal Code is our number one thing there. It doesn't matter what we do here, we are supervised by the Criminal Code uh and that requires us to, to be above board and if there's any problems then it's a simple phone call and then it's, and there's an investigation. Actually it's not as simple as that but obviously if, if there is a problem, then we have our, our, our ways and means uh to do that. I've got pages here and I don't know if I want to ramble on more than that, I'll open it up to other uh councillors if they've got uh other issues. **NOTE: I certainly hope not. While ratepayers are restricted to the amount of time they may ramble, obviously the Mayor is not as evidenced by the foregoing endless rambling and saying next to nothing.** Uh go ahead, Mark.

**Councillor Miller** - Uh thank you Mr. Mayor and I respect your position but for the simple reasons and the exact reasons you just indicated uh bribery and graft usually is under the radar. Is it because the International Olympic Committee was governed by uh a lobbyist registry. No. Was it because the Government of Canada had a lobbyist government registry that there was graft and bribery. Is it because the Premier of British Columbia had a deck installed by a contractor, was there a lobbyist registry in British Columbia..no there wasn't. Coming closer to home here, was it the CEO and the Mayor of Winnipeg that had a lobbyist registry prior to...no. There wasn't. Is it because the European community and the organization of Economic Cooperative Development internationally is advocating and asking that communities across the world are, are being held more accountable through uh this kind of registry, it's critical, it is a voluntary registry and of course we'll probably tweak it as we go but uh if there's fear from the business community then I suspect that the government of Canada would have dissolved the Federal bureau, the Federal Commission of Lobbyists so uh I don't think the British Columbia government has, in fact I know the Ontario government has a lobbyist registry, so for these reasons it's a wave that's coming that we have to take more accountability. It's not beyond us, it's not beyond us to be bribed and to have graft come our way and/or for bureaucrats so I'm trying to protect our bureaucrats as well as us. You will remember in the C.E.C. (Clean Environment Commission) hearings, there were accusations or insinuations that two former members of Council, one now, that there was activity going on behind the scenes and I am very glad that Councillor Fuhl made it very clear there wasn't but bribery, you know, can happen and this would put a layer where it wouldn't. Now you ask, or you make a comment about other municipalities across the Province, well you're right, we're ..Manitoba's behind the scenes, we're behind the times uh you know if you look to British Columbia, there's more and

more communities adopting a lobbyist registry as well in Ontario, Newfoundland as well, and in the United States, it's very prevalent so I would say to you, it's not a perfect uh Lobbyist Registry but it's a step forward and it's voluntary so it shouldn't exclude anyone. If a business opts to not to register, they don't need to but at least we have one level that we can refine and, and enhance and get better to protect us so to discard it I think is uh is irresponsible and not addressing the issue that is going to come towards us uh in the future so any actions we can take to limit uh you ..you because your career has been in law enforcement, I respect that and you hope that everybody abides by the law but you and I know, being on MADD as well, that people don't abide by the law. We've got the toughest drinking and driving legislation in Canada. People are still drinking and driving. So if we can add to this and go forward, I think it's a step, it's a huge step forward uh in our RM. And I don't see anybody opposed, frankly. I haven't heard one business opposed, maybe you can name I mean yourself, yes, but beyond a business or entity, I haven't heard one. There's no delegations, there's no written submissions, there's no ..so why would we, why would we (laughing) be fearful to adopt something no one's opposed to. **Mayor Therrien** - Well, I uh **there, there** is uh uh what I see, what I foresee is that it's a situation where if they're looking for businesses **there**, someone's coming forward and looking to uh you know uh have some uh some initiative that's going to be uh ideal in the RM of Springfield, it could be ideal for the RM of St. Clements and I'm not bad mouthing any of the RMs so nobody please tell me otherwise. So the other RMs and I've spoken to all of them uh **there**, they haven't got a lobbyist registry and I don't, I don't see that there's, there's a problem **there** uh Mark, I don't think uh um I can talk for historically but I know criminally there hasn't been as far as I know of and I, I was in this municipality uh for 14 years uh patrolling and, and worked all kinds of different uh files uh there and there hasn't, it hasn't been an issue and what I understand and with George uh Cuff uh during our um presentation **NOTE: I think he means orientation.** boot camp **there** and you and I both uh were there and he had talked about the uh Lobbyist Registry and so on like that, that seems to be more of an Ontario kind of a thing, large areas where the uh the populations are in a regional centers like Quinty West and so on like that which is my home area, I don't want to use that as an example because of that. Um this, I, this doesn't .. uh this isn't good governance in my opinion, that it's an undue burden on uh hhhh for uh for uh people to uh voluntary commit to that and then they're ..it's incumbent upon us to make note of who is talking to us uh and I don't see there's ever been a situation where this has arisen and good governance shows in my opinion that if it's not a problem, then why, why bring it up and my, my only remedy to yourself is that maybe we can bring this up in a year. We have to wait the 12 months uh **there** uh if it's defeated tonight uh. I think, I think ..I commend you for that, I just don't think that there's a legitimate reason to have it uh um within the, within this RM that'll, that'll kind of make us the uh uh you know um it could be that little infinitesimal decision to be made ...well I'm not going to go there, it's just too much bureaucracy and so on, I'm not saying that's the case, I'm just saying that if a businessman is looking or a businesswoman is looking, they may go somewhere else. There may be that charge. Seems to me it's just Mark and I. Are there any other questions at all from uh, from Council? **Andy. Councillor Kuczynski** - Mark, I would like to ask a question. You know more about lobbying than me. If a company wants to set up a business here in the Municipality and they're going to sponsor a training camp for Blue Bombers, so they want to, they want to be actually (laughing) shown as a good corporate citizen and they're sponsoring...and they don't even exist and they do it. **Mayor Therrien** - Sorry Andy, I must have missed ..what company is this? **Councillor Kuczynski** - Sio Silica. **Mayor Therrien** - Oh, ok. **Councillor Kuczynski** - They want to, they want to sponsor the Blue Bomber's Training Camp. Actually they are. They are. They already put money and they're not even here (yet) and they are already, you know, isn't that part of lobbying, maybe you can explain that. And they want to sponsor tournaments and they want you know for hockey and this is like part of the lobbying. They want to be here. **Mayor Therrien** - I think you're right, Andy, it may be a component but it's not uh that's just part of uh doing business, I think with regards...**NOTE: Wait a minute. Who is Mayor Therrien representing? Us or the interests of the corporation?** **Councillor Kuczynski** - They're not even here. **Mayor Therrien** - Well, I know but that's an example for the RM of Springfield, what I'm saying is ... **Councillor Kuczynski** - Ok but what image are they leaving for other people, they're going to say, well, you know what, why are they doing that. There must be a reason, a financial reason for what they're doing, They're just not doing it from, you know, the goodness of their heart if they don't see a benefit. Nobody throws their money away you know on say you know ...maybe Bill Gates foundation, you know. **NOTE: Even Bill Gates has a motive, a tax break, good PR.** **Mayor Therrien** - Never heard of them (laughing). Any other questions from uh Council. Uh Glen. **Councillor Kuczynski** - Mark, could you explain, please. **Councillor Fuhl** - I just want a little bit of clarity. Like it's all voluntary so if a company comes to Springfield and they decide that they don't want to do it voluntary, they can still do their business without registering. Is that correct? **Mayor Therrien** - Well there's a part there where you have to write down uh that it's on this Council..councillor uh or the Mayor uh and the CAO as well that they have to put down that they met or had a conversation with somebody with regards to information, that they lobbied you or they had a discussion about um lobbying, the definition, I think Mrs. Bell had touched upon that quite well **there**. It's a very grey area, there's, there's some overlap uh with regards to that. It's, it's an interpretation. There's 18 pages with the uh, the Winnipeg uh **there** for the regulations and so on like that and essentially it comes down to if it's done in Council, then it's not..but if it's done ..you get a phone call at home or anybody gets a phone call at home and we've all had those, we have to put that down there, we have to let them know that as well cause that's, that's a privacy issue if they're not aware of that uh that this information is, is collected so I just, that's, that's the, there's just so many layers to it and it's very uh it's complex, it's for..in my opinion it's for large centers like uh City of uh Winnipeg uh that have that uh and of course that ..there's lots of large areas there that uh utilize that. It's just not rural municipalities uh, ours is relatively uh small **NOTE: Are you kidding me? Ours is relatively large geographically and even insofar as population in some cases.** compared to other centers that utilize it. Mark. **Councillor Miller** - Just to rebut that again, the British Columbia government, the Ontario government, the O.E.C.D. **NOTE: The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development** is saying smaller communities should have this so uh and you're asking for us as a municipality to be reactive, in other words, wait until something happens and then we'll respond. That's exactly what the City of Winnipeg did, uh did Prime Minister Mulroney when he got the bag of uh \$10,000. from uh the German contractor, did he disclose it. No. So it's always after the fact until you get caught. Exactly and the same thing would happen here. If somebody gave me \$10,000. you think I'm going to say "oh well, ya this company "x" gave me..", no you guys are going to have to come after me and find me so I don't want that to be the case. I don't want us ever to have to face that kind of scenario so this is one step forward and looking at the O.E.C.D. and as I say other Provinces and stuff, I don't know why we have to wait and, and...we can be leaders and I strongly believe in accountability and being leaders, and that's one opportunity to do that. And we can improve this uh Registry as we go. I commend the Staff for putting in the effort to do this so I'm thankful. **Mayor Therrien** - Um ok I guess I'm kind of going in circles. Like you say waiting for uh what happens. I don't, I don't see that uh uh if we, if we uh have this Lobby Registry that that's ..it's going to suck out these bad people that want to try to infiltrate us and then so on like that uh pardon the analogy **NOTE: Where's the that analogy? An analogy is "a thing which is comparable to something else in significant respects". I must have missed it. Maybe he means "imagery".** **there** but um we've got the Canadian Criminal Code and I know that very well so there's ways that if somebody is being uh unduly uh propositioned and so on like that, that's what that's for. It ..it's entrenched, there's precedents, it's all for that purpose, I just think a

lobbyist registry here for the RM of Springfield in my opinion um uh is ..could harm us **there**, it's something that uh nothing, none of the other RMs have it and there's a reason for that uh, there's no, there's no factual evidence that that's ..this is going to stop that and I don't see it's a ..it's a big problem. You, you did mention B.C. and that uh the deck incident uh **there**, uh the Premiers uh deck, ya I remember that.. so ya that's, that's a large, that's a government and so on. This is, this is uh for uh, for the RM of Springfield, uh a minor one **there** which I think could negatively affect us in, in businesses **there**, they're going to go somewhere else, they could go somewhere else. Ya, I'm not the kind of guy, Mark, to fear monger but I just think that, like you say, it's either or. **NOTE: Where have I heard the expression, ".thou doth protest overly much, methinks". The worst kept secret - Springfield is rife with examples of business interests exerting undue influence on RM officials to advance their cause. Such incidents should be included in the Elected Officials Reports.** I don't know if there's anything else anybody wants to add or if we're ready to uh to vote uh in favour of it or uh against it. Are we prepared then Council to uh, to vote on this? Is that a "yes" uh um uh the resolution will be those in favour of the, of the Lobbyist Registry. **Colleen Draper** - Yep. **Mayor Therrien** - Could you do the wording for us then please. **Colleen Draper** - *Be it resolved that Council approve the Voluntary Lobbyist Registry document as presented.* **Mayor Therrien** - Say that one more time if you don't mind. **Colleen Draper** - *Be it resolved that Council approve the Voluntary Lobbyist Registry document as presented.* **Mayor Therrien** - Those opposed to approval of the Lobbyist uh Registry, a show of hands. **Councillor Miller** - You can't..Point of Order..you can't ask for "opposed" first can you? **Mayor Therrien** - I'm not sure. I kind of thought ...what is.. **Colleen Draper** - You have to ask those who are for and those against, same as any other resolution. **Mayor Therrien** - **interrupting** Sorry Mark, I wasn't...those in support uh of the Lobbyist uh Registry with a show of hands. Those uh opposed uh to the Lobbyist Registry with a show of hands. That'll be Melinda yes Melinda uh Glen and uh Patrick and those opposed uh is Mark and uh Andy. Uh my screen is just dead. We got one thing and it's a uh Closed Meeting. Sorry people uh um we have to vacate the uh the room here. Uh Mrs. Romaniuk, if you don't mind giving me a call one of these days, my phone number..I'd love to talk ... Pat... go out of... **Colleen Draper** - Go into... **Mayor Therrien** - Into a Closed Meeting. Sorry, Scott, can I get a mover and a seconder to go into Closed Meeting. Uh Melinda...just hang on Scott uh Melinda and uh Glen, sorry I just had to do this kind of a thing here, Scott. **NOTE: Who is Scott and why is he still in the Chamber after other members of the audience have left?**

## 12. CLOSED MEETING

**13. RETURN FROM CLOSED MEETING - Mayor Therrien** - Uh we are back in uh out of Camera at uh 9:22 p.m. and just to go back uh we're going to adjourn our uh sitting after uh having a Financial Plan amendment...can I get a mover and a seconder with regards to closing the uh the meeting. **Colleen Draper** - Uh, you just need a mover and seconder to come out of closed meeting, please. **Mayor Therrien** - Ok, that'll be Glen and uh Andy (Fuhl/Kuczynski). **Colleen Draper** - *Be it Resolved that this meeting reconvenes from Closed Meeting.* **Mayor Therrien** - All those in favour of closing the meeting? That's unanimous and thank you very much, Council and everybody who had attended.

ADJOURNED