

RM of Springfield Council Meeting  
May 7, 2024 6:00 p.m.

WITHOUT PREJUDICE (E&OE)

LENGTH OF MEETING 1 hour 29 minutes

**Mayor Therrien** – Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. Um today's uh date uh for Springfield, RM of Springfield uh Council meeting uh on the 7<sup>th</sup> of May uh it's exactly 6 p.m. Um I'd like to uh call this to order. Before I do that, I'd like to uh introduce uh Council. I'm uh Mayor Patrick uh Therrien for the RM of Springfield. Uh to my right in descending order is Deputy Mayor, Councillor Ward 1, Glen Fuhl, uh Councillor Ward 2 is Andy Kuczynski, uh Councillor Ward 3 is uh Mark Miller (coughs), excuse me, and Councillor Ward 4 is uh Melinda Warren.

**2. CALL TO ORDER & INVOCATION - Mayor Therrien** – Uh then I'll ask um Councillor Miller for Invocation. **Councillor Miller** – Thank you, Mr. Mayor. For those who wish to join me in a short invocation. Um Father God we ask that you give us uh discerning minds tonight and that you give us peace in our decisions and that uh Lord, above all, that you give peace to uh the land of Israel and Jerusalem uh we're concerned about all the developments there and uh and we know that all people on all sides uh wish for peace and so we uh, we ask that you guide those nations to that resolution. We uh ask all these things in the name of the Prince of Peace, Amen. **Mayor Therrien** – Amen.

**3. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT - Mayor Therrien** – Uh then we'll go to Land uh Acknowledgement uh **there**. Um sorry, I'm not up here. **NOTE: One would think he would be logged into his agenda already, being the facilitator of the meeting.** If anybody's up, they want to take that. Go ahead. **Councillor Fuhl** – The RM of Springfield acknowledges that we are gathered on ancestral lands, Treaty 1 territory, traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene Peoples, and on the National Homeland of the Red River Métis. **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you uh Glen. I'd like to use this moment uh here to congratulate uh our Springfield Community Recreation Center Fund Raising Committee uh for the outstanding work uh that they've done uh uh for the last uh number of years uh in the exceptional uh hard work and it's all volunteer. These people aren't getting paid. I'd like to uh note uh Mike Witkowitz, uh as the Chair, Tyler Robb uh Blair Sidoro, Cindy uh Loewen Kotelo, and Ashley Stevens, uh a job well done uh guys, uh especially uh the uh social uh on April the 27<sup>th</sup> uh at Hazelridge uh uh Arena. I wasn't able to make it because of a prior commitment but uh I heard it was exceptionally well-done um and I want to thank uh them as well as our uh Recreational uh Director, uh Shawn Wilkinson for all the work that he's done uh um and I'd like to make that uh known **there**.

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - Mayor Therrien** – Uh so if we can go to Item uh 4 please, that'll be the Approval of the Agenda, a mover and a seconder please. Uh Glen and Andy (Fuhl/Kuczynski). **Colleen Draper, CAO** – *Be it Resolved that the agenda be approved.* **Mayor Therrien** – Um and for that agenda, it's uh we have to do it in a different order here, we'll have to do uh 12.1, that's the 2024 Financial Plan before we do the uh 5 uh .1 just so we're aware uh of that. Um unless there's any other additions uh **there** uh from Council uh I don't see uh any **there** so can I get a show of hands of those in support of the approval. Carried. Unanimous.

**5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES - Mayor Therrien** – Uh a mover and a seconder for the Adoption of the Minutes, that's Item uh 5. Uh Patrick and Melinda (Therrien/Warren). **NOTE: Again, I will comment that it is highly unusual for the leader of a meeting who has asked for a motion to himself move it.** **CAO Draper** – *Whereas the Minutes of the Council Meeting held April 16<sup>th</sup> have been previously distributed to Council, Be it Resolved that the same be and are hereby approved.* **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you. Any questions at all from Council? Uh Andy. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Mr. Mayor, we have here uh those 21 questions from Mr. Edwin, uh have they been answered to him or not yet? 21 questions from Giesbrecht, Edwin Giesbrecht. **CAO Draper** – Those will be on the next Committee of the Whole meeting as Unfinished Business. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Ok, thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – I don't see any other questions then can we get a show of hands for Adoption of the uh Minutes. Andy? Yep, so approved then. Uh then we'll go to uh uh what number was that, uh 12.1 ... **CAO Draper** – Sorry it is 5.1. We have a second set of Minutes. **Mayor Therrien** – Sorry. Do 5.1? Ok I'm not quite sure then what I ... the first page, the 5.1. I thought we weren't doing 5.1 unless we do the 12.1 first. So we'll do the 5.1 now? Or just the Minutes? Can I get a mover and a seconder **with regards to 5.1**, uh showing the Minutes of 2024...2024, uh Glen and Melinda (Fuhl/Warren). Any questions on the uh 2024 uh Minutes, uh Mark? **Councillor Miller** – Uh thank you Mr. Mayor. Mr. Mayor, I know that a number of councillors including yourself had comments on these uh in that hearing itself and I don't note that there was any uh record of those comments. **NOTE: My transcript of that meeting is verbatim, i.e. word for word.** I know that the Minutes don't...aren't verbatim and all the rest of it but I don't see any .... I expressed concern on certain issues and I'd have to look back on my notes but uh...and I know Councillor Kuczynski, Fuhl and yourself had specific comments to do with that. I, I just want it recorded that in fact we did have our input as well. Um the Minutes show the input of the ratepayers but they don't express any comments of any of the Council for some reason, I'm not sure why that would be. **CAO Draper** – Yep, we can add those in. **NOTE: Why weren't they recorded for the public record in the first place?** **Councillor Miller** – Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – That's a good point Mark.

**5.1 2024 Financial Plan Hearing Minutes – April 30, 2024 - Mayor Therrien** – Um ok could I get a show of hands uh then if there's no other questions uh those in support of the Minutes um 5. uh 1? **Councillor Miller** – Just a point. So how will those be done uh I mean if we approve these then ... **CAO Draper** – I'll just ... I'm going to write in "with the addition of Councillors' remarks" ... **Councillor Miller** – Ok that's fair... **CAO Draper** – ... I'll read out the resolution and then we will uh resubmit the amended Minutes. **Councillor Miller** – Thank you. **CAO Draper** – *Whereas the Minutes of the 2024 Financial Plan Hearing held April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 have been previously distributed to Council, Be It Resolved that the same be and are hereby approved with the addition of Councillors' remarks.* **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you. Can I get a show of hands, those in support? And those uh...it's unanimous and approved.

**6. QUESTION PERIOD - Mayor Therrien** – Uh then we'll get to uh Item 6, uh Question uh Period. Um we have people on line and in the audience. We'll do the uh on line first. Any questions uh from people on line **with regards uh to** items that are pertaining to the agenda? **Edwin Giesbrecht** – Uh Edwin Giesbrecht. I have a couple of questions, Mr. Mayor, if I may. **Mayor Therrien** – Ok, Edwin, 5 minutes. Go ahead. **Edwin Giesbrecht** – Um in regards to the Plan um I noted there was around 1.5 million dollars uh um attributed towards Heatherdale Road. For what purposes and ... and what constructions or um the 1.5 million dollars, what specifically is intended to be uh dealt with on Heatherdale Road? **Mayor Therrien** – Um would uh Blaine uh be answering that or ... we're just looking, Edwin. What page are you referring to uh Edwin?

**Edwin Giesbrecht** – Umit was previously about the last page uh let me pull this up and see if I can go down ... **Mayor Therrien** –We uh Page 14 uh Edwin? Public Works? **Edwin Giesbrecht** –Uh ya, I'm just trying to expand this here and move quickly around ... 11, 12, 14 ... **Mayor Therrien** –Ya, it's a third of the way up ... **Edwin Giesbrecht** – Uh what um was it...is it, ok well I'll take your word for it, Mr. Mayor. Uh but it specifically identified around 1.5 million dollars for Heatherdale Road. **Mayor Therrien** –For 2025... (ya)...and that's the 5-year Capital Expenditure ... **Edwin Giesbrecht** – Correct. **Mayor Therrien** –Ok. **CAO Draper** – Uh I believe Amram's on line. Uh Amram, do you have the details of that Capital ... **Mayor Therrien** –Ya. **Edwin Giesbrecht** –If it would help, Mr. Mayor, if you wish to defer the answer um to the next meeting with the other questions that I posed, that uh will be undertaken to be answered, that's fine by me. **Mayor Therrien** –Ok uh Amram, he said we can defer it ...he's fine with deferring it to the uh Committee of the Whole uh when we answer his questions. Alright, thanks Edwin. Anything else? **Edwin Giesbrecht** –Uh ya I had um a question that went to the um uh around nine hundred thousand dollars that had been accrued in interest on the ten million dollar grant that was uh targeted for the Water Treatment Plant and uh without knowing the agreement of the uh grant itself, um the, it seemed that the nine hundred thousand dollars have been divested and I use the word specifically, divested, uh from um the specifics and put into another account or part and parcel and the monies were then um deviated or re-delegated at which part and parcel that money seemed to then go towards the purchase of what I refer to as the lagoon land, the 3 titles for around one million five hundred and fifty thousand dollars and my question is, um I guess from point of view of accounting principles um and the uh in, in particular to the principle of prudence and the principle of utmost good faith, by divesting that \$900,000 that had accrued out of a specific grant that was intended for a specific purpose, um I would take um a concern that the ratepayers, the taxpayers, um have had um certain rights deprived of them uh in regards to that \$900,000. For example, um if in fact we're going to borrow \$15 million dollars towards a Water Treatment Plant of which \$10 million dollars is grant and there's \$900,000 accrued, that should have been applied then to reduce the borrowing down from approximately \$15 million to \$14 million dollars so that there wasn't such an encumbrance on the ratepayers so the rights were actually deprived, I would suggest, um under a uh a principle of uh prudence because some of the financial data was shelled around and used in respect to a land and development speculation. And I'm not so sure if um that was done purposely or if that was an honest mistake or it may in fact be within protocols of the general accepted accounting principles. But again morally and ethically um it seems to have taken a low road and I'm just wondering as far as that deviation um what our Finance Officer's opinion is uh in respect to um this very uh specific concern. **Mayor Therrien** –That's a whole lot of question uh there Edwin. **Amram Bangura** – I can answer that. **Mayor Therrien** –Um Amram can you uh answer that? **Amram Bangura** – Yes hello Mayor Pat. I did not get the first part of his question cause I was heading back to the office but I hear him talk about the Water Treatment Plant and I heard about the grants and he mentioned \$15 million borrowing but the first part...so I don't know which \$900,000 he's talking about. **Edwin Giesbrecht** –The accrued interest on the \$10 million dollars. **Amram Bangura** –Which accrued interest... on which \$10 million dollars. **Edwin Giesbrecht** –On the \$10 million dollars that was put forward and held for the Water Treatment Plant which I understood was a Provincial grant. And so there was interest accrued on that account. Is that untrue? **CAO Draper** – So Amram I can just mention that um specifically to the DOWS grant (Dugald/Oakbank Water System) so under our agreement with the Province, uh any of the grant money plus the interest earned can only be applied to that project. So we've had to set aside any interest earned on any money we've received as part of that grant uh and we have to report that to the Province. And that's written into the agreement. **Edwin Giesbrecht** –So that was...that would infer, would it not then, uh Colleen, that the interest accrued um would have to capitulate forward to the Water Treatment plant, however the question remains, has any of those monies been divested somewhere else within the Financial Plan and been possibly used towards the land speculation purchase here. **Amram Bangura** – There is ...hello, Mayor Pat, please may I come in, Sir. **Mayor Therrien** –Sure, go ahead, Amram. **Amram Bangura** – There is no such thing. Um the amount of the grants that were received was not ten million. The grant is in um two portions. So there is the grant from the Province which is the 5.6 million, that is the funds that was released to us, those funds were released to us, \$5.6 million and the other portion of the grant is \$4.9 million which is from the Manitoba Water Services Board. Now those, those funds are not released to us. They are contributed as the project is undertaken on a cost-sharing basis so we're splitting the bills as they come with the Manitoba Water Services Board. Now the interest accruing on the uh 5.6 um million, that one stays in the Reserve account and it goes, it's going to the Water Plant, the project, it's not ... it's not being used for any other thing. **Edwin Giesbrecht** – So would that be fair to say, Amram, that although it's in a Reserve account, it's in trust. **Amram Bangura** – Well, the Province um transferred the money to us on the condition that it is used for this project and if it is not used, yes, it's conditional ... we can return the funds back to the Province so you can consider it as being held in a trust or whatever consideration one may have but the funds are with us and they are accruing interest and whatever interest is accrued, all of it will be spent on the project. **Edwin Giesbrecht** – But would that not be um maybe splitting hairs a little bit if it is put into a Reserve Fund and we're using part of a Reserve Fund uh in general classification um towards a land speculation. Um it would seem that at least forensically, a little bit is uh you know, an overall general of Reserve Fund but yet we do have trust or restrictive of part of that Reserve Fund that cannot be uti...utilized outside of the Water Treatment Plant and it would seem to me that it would have been better held in a separate actual trust. I... **Amram Bangura** –I don't think I understand the land speculation part that um you uh raised. Um I don't know...I don't think uh land has anything to do um with the Water Treatment Plant project. **NOTE: I believe what Mr. Giesbrecht is referring to is that the RM announced that they had purchased some property in the area of the old Oakbank lagoon for future housing projects with what they referred to as "found" money. They didn't specify how or where they had "found" this money but it was a large enough sum to make one curious as to how audited financial records could have been so grossly incorrect.** **Mayor Therrien** –Amram, if I could just interrupt, uh there uh these are two ... two different questions there, Edwin. We're going to be answering your questions with regards to the Water Treatment Plant uh there as a Committee of the Whole so I think uh Amram has fully satisfied or satisfied me that he answered your question. There's no land speculation and we can address that as a Committee of the Whole uh but the money dedicated uh and the interest has been dedicated as a requirement of the Government so there's no uh shell game at all with regards to this. So that said, Edwin, I'm confident that we answered your questions so I'm going to go to somebody else uh in the audience. Um Pat? **Pat Burbank, Sunnyside** – Pat Burbank, Sunnyside. Uh my question is on 8.1, the Bylaw 24-08 Taxation By-law uh First Reading following approval of the Financial Plan. So how can you do that if the Financial Plan hasn't been approved or if it has, I don't know about it, like I didn't see anything about it being approved. So that's my question. **CAO Draper** –So 12.1 on the Agenda is approval of the 2024 Financial Plan and that Financial Plan becomes Schedule A to the Taxation Bylaw so we can't give First Reading to the Taxation Bylaw until the Financial Plan is passed. **Pat Burbank, Sunnyside** – So this is out of order then, is that what you're telling me? **CAO Draper** – Correct, and that's what the Mayor announced at the beginning that he was .... **Pat Burbank** – He was talking uh about uh 5.1. **CAO Draper** –Ya, I think he was supposed to say 8.1 unfortunately so 5.1 was the Minutes of the Financial Plan Hearing. Uh 8.1 is the Taxation Bylaw that we propose to give First Reading if the Financial Plan approves tonight. **Pat Burbank** –Ok, thank you. **Mayor Therrien** –Thank you. I guess we've got time for one more question. Uh Janet. **Janet Nysten** – Thank you

very much. Just in regard to what was just said, I believe that the wording of the resolution Council passed did have 5.1 and not 8.1 so I think Council should vote on amending that resolution. I'm glad that you're going to be uh looking at the Financial Plan before the Bylaw. Um I guess the one question, I have two questions or maybe three but 12.2 ... **Mayor Therrien – interrupting** If you can do that within the 5 minutes, M'am. **Janet Nysten – I will.** I know, you've told me my time limit. Um 12.2 Hillside Waste Disposal Grounds, can you explain ... like I understand the monitoring costs of this proposal but in the, in the document that you have on line, it talks about 35,000 for 2024 and 36,000 for 2025 and 2026. Can you tell me what, what is going to be done with that money. **NOTE: If I recall correctly, samples are being taken continually of anything leaching out of that disposal grounds into the aquifer in that vicinity. This has been going on for years, at least since I was a Councillor.** **CAO Draper –** So that is the monitoring program so that's the cost for the consultant to take samples and provide ... with reports from those sample wells. **Janet Nysten –** And uh tonight's uh \$5,200. Is just in addition to that? **CAO Draper –** Right. That's just if um we need to do any repairs to the wells during those years when the testing is done. Sometimes there's issues that come up with the wells that need maintenance. **NOTE: I find that a bit odd. What could happen that would need maintenance. The consultant taking the samples, if I remember correctly, was Friesen Drillers. I may be wrong.** Uh so that would just be additional if required. **Janet Nysten –** And so, does that amount appear in the 2024 Budget in that \$80,000 extra for environment? Like I just wondered where it's shown. **CAO Draper –** Amram, can you explain where this Groundwater Monitoring Program is showing in the Budget? Is it Operational or ... **Amram Bangura –** Hello. Hello. **Mayor Therrien –** We can hear you, Amram. **Amram Bangura –** Ya, ok. Um I'm not sure, I'm trying to check the ... **Janet Nysten –** Page 4, Environmental Health Services, is it under Environmental Studies. **Amram Bangura –** Ya, there is um there is a budget amount within the uh the Solid Waste um Budget... that's um, the Manager uses for yes, that Environmental Studies line for consulting so maybe the Manager will use funds from there for that reference. **Janet Nysten –** So there's 80,000 but here we're talking about 35,000 and maybe another 5,000, I guess that was my question. **Amram Bangura –** Your question exactly is the that we did not budget for the amounts? **Janet Nysten –** No, it's the opposite. Is the \$35,000 part of that \$80,000 and if it is, like what's the other \$40,000 for, like I just, if it's included, fine, that's my question now. I have to move on. **Amram Bangura –** So the Manager... **CAO Draper –** Perhaps Phil can answer that. **Mayor Therrien –** Phil, can you answer that? **Phil Pawluk –** Uh ya Mayor Therrien, that is the money for the Hillside Waste Disposal grounds, is included in that Budget line item. **Janet Nysten –** Ok, thank you. **Mayor Therrien –** Thank you. **Janet Nysten –** Um 12.12, the Financial Plan draft, I notice that there was some changes made regarding the Springfield Road and Holland Street projects. Um some were high...some points were highlighted, others weren't. I hope that there were no other changes because I didn't go through it line by line but I did see that in the uh the borrowing part, there still is no indication that this debt is forthcoming, it's neither interim financing, temporary financing, and I guess I was disappointed to see that it wasn't also identified. Could you explain that please. **Amram Bangura –** Um which borrowing M'am, are you talking about? **Janet Nysten –** Um there's uh I think it's 3.2 million dollars for Springfield Road and Holland Road extension that happened in 2022. I believe you just had an audit uh correction made because you hadn't recorded it properly in 2022 and it costs us eight hundred and some thousand dollars from our surplus account but I still see nothing in this year's budget showing that there's an outstanding borrowing bylaw of probably three million, two hundred thousand dollars. It is I think Colleen or the CAO explained that it's not finished but it is interim, it is in progress, it is...you've got some other type of funding. It should be reflected because this debt is going to be ...have to be paid by the Municipality and I wonder why it's not showing on Part 3 of page 13. I brought that up the other day. **Amram Bangura –** The ...the borrowing bylaw provide for ... provides for certain uh amount and the project is at almost the completion uh stage and what we've reflected now in the Financial Plan is to ensure that um we stay within the provisions of the borrowing bylaw. So the 3.27 million that was to be borrowed, that's what was stated on the borrowing bylaw. And we had ...at initially we had budgeted two hundred and thirty-six thousand (\$236,000.) for the extra work that is going to be done on the road and the Manager ... we've looked at it and have reviewed these figures. Um we still have about \$89,000 to be spent up to the amounts that was provided for in the borrowing bylaw. So that's why we changed that figure in the Financial Plan to reflect that so that's why we changed it from two thirty-six thousand to the about eighty-nine thousand dollars and if there is anything beyond that, I believe um Council ... it would be brought to Council's attention and Council's approval would be sought by the Manager and the CAO. I'm not sure if I answered the question. **Mayor Therrien –** Thank you Amram. **Janet Nysten –** No. That isn't the answer to the question. I see that in your Capital budget, what he just said you reduced the figures and it went through the Financial Plan but nowhere is it reflecting that the RM of Springfield has a debt of \$3.27 million dollars that is yet to be borrowed. **Amram Bangura –** Well, the debt has not yet been undertaken. **Janet Nysten –** No but you have ... in part... **Amram Bangura –** In previous Financial Plans...sorry, M'am...in previous Financial Plans, especially when I came in um in 2022, the amounts that were to reflect the borrowing portion of the projects, those were...those were shown on those Financial Plans so now we're waiting. The projects have to be completed and then the debenture will...will be undertaken then. It's already been reflected in previous Financial Plans and there's a borrowing bylaw. **Janet Nysten –** Yes, there's ... **Amram Bangura –** What we reflect on the Financial Plan, they're outstanding debentures. Those are what we show on page 12, 11 and 12. **Janet Nysten –** 11 and 12, what about 13? **Amram Bangura –** Yes. **Mayor Therrien –** Ok, M'am. We're going to ... **Janet Nysten –** Anyway I... **Mayor Therrien –** We're going to carry on ... **Janet Nysten –** I guess ... **Amram Bangura –** They're shown in previous years. It's been done in previous years. Those projects started some years ago. **Janet Nysten –** I'm not disagreeing ... I'm not disagreeing with that, I'm just drawing to the attention that there is a borrowing of 3.2 million dollars that has been spent that has not been borrowed that is a debt to the Municipality and we're not reflecting it here, that's my point. Thank you very much. **Mayor Therrien –** Thank you. We're well past the 15 minutes uh there. Um since there's only one question, that's all the time that we have uh uh well no, Procedural Bylaw we'll adhere to but we're well beyond...we're well beyond that anyways, Karen. So what I'm saying if you allow me to do so, Darryl, you're up. Five minutes, Darryl, whenever you're ready. **Darryl Speer –** I, I'm looking at the Budget for 2024 and I don't see where we have funds allocated to protect our sustainable water as was mentioned as one of our strategic goals and uh I've mentioned this before but it's happening as we speak and I'm going to send a picture around. Uh I'd like to have it back. This is happening at the Weatherdale...Heatherdale Wells... and as we speak and it's gravel washing... **Mayor Therrien –** So when was that taken, Darryl? **Darryl Speer –** ... that shouldn't be taking place in the intake zones of those wells ... **Mayor Therrien –** When was that taken? **Darryl Speer –** Pardon? **Mayor Therrien –** When was that taken? **Darryl Speer –** Actually today. **Mayor Therrien –** Today? **Darryl Speer –** Ya. Uh what's happening there is that's contrary to regulations. They should not be putting processed water back to affect the Municipality's water supply. This water supply is going to be required by us for some time to come and is our major uh source of uh raw water uh that isn't meeting drinking water standards. The other thing I want to talk about is the uncontrolled activities that are happening in other areas, uh one that's uh due to the time I'm going to focus on is what's happening at the uh Inland uh operations uh depleted operations I should say at Highway 207 and the Oasis Road. It runs uh east, west and it has been uncontrolled too many years and that's detrimental to the groundwater which we're supposed to be protecting and it's supposed to be, according to our bylaws, it's supposed to be fenced, it's supposed to be controlled, and uh it's supposed

to be rehabilitated and uh the consequence is that it is a uh a source for aggravation for the adjoining residents. It's also a threat to their water supply for those that have wells that are shallow, that's an issue there, for those that have deeper wells, uh the activities there which include uh uh sea-dos, boats, uh garbage, uh abandoned vehicles, it's all contributing to uh contamination of and detrimental to the groundwater that represents there. Uh I do not believe that uh it's ... not... they have a company that has insufficient resources to uh control this site properly according to regulations. Uh they have security at their Heatherdale and uh Garven Road area, uh presumably to keep people from vandalizing their equipment. Uh it appears this location has no issues with vandalizing of equipment but they've got issues with contamination of a uh water source that we're dependent on, the adjoining residents are dependent on and also the RM of East St. Paul is dependent on. So uh what I'd like to see happen is enforcement here and that there be penalties assessed and that uh you know we have the issues with out-of-control property with weeds and we do have penalties assessed where they're not uh covered, then they go on the tax bill. So I think that we should not be expecting our law enforcement here, I see you're present tonight, uh to be responding to issues on this property when it's unsecured and is now beginning another season where it's a magnet for all the ATVs, Sea-dos and partying and garbage disposal that's going on. **NOTE: As a ratepayer, I take issue at the RM of Springfield Police or the R.C.M.P. enforcing trespassing on private property. It is up to the property owner to provide for security as with fences, gates, perhaps surveillance cameras, etc. That goes for every ratepayer in the RM, including the Industrial area. Sure, the police should be driving around, being a presence, discouraging crime, but it is not up to them to be a constant presence in one particular area. They are there to provide service to the entire community. The R.C.M.P. in Oakbank actually are responsible for patrolling and enforcing the law in the town of Beausejour and the RM of Brokenhead as well as Springfield and its urban centers so for a Detachment with a total of 9 members (according to them), and 3 shifts 7 days a week, and with some of their members out sick or on desk duty, essentially we have very little coverage.** So I appreciate Council re-looking at the Budget and uh making some provision for that kind of protection. **Mayor Therrien** - Thank you uh Sir. Um Karen, did you have something? Go ahead. **NOTE: At this point, the Mayor is sounding very annoyed and frustrated.** So people uh on the uh media uh I don't listen to the media, I don't watch it there so where 15 minutes is allowed time on our Procedural Bylaw uh 5 minutes each. So that uh my math is good, that's uh 3 presenters but uh we're well beyond that and uh I want to just make sure that's good for the record. **Karen Lalonde** - Then I'll keep mine uh ... **Mayor Therrien** - ... No that's fine, you've got 5 minutes there M'am. **Karen Lalonde** - Ok. What I want to address is the massive debt which uh when I look at it, see the blueprint for more and better health coming from the uh Federal Government is uh forcing us to uh do this massive expansion and um the blueprint also wants to repeal policies, zoning, planning that prioritize conservation of the physical character of a neighbourhood exempt from site plans approval and public consultation on all projects that conform to the blueprint, in other words, remove citizen's rights to a democratic process. Springfield residents may not want to have a high-density housing with decreased parking since we're a rural community, not a large city. The Plan requires municipalities to raise development charges and property tax on all forms of **affordable housing** and set annual housing targets for Municipalities. **NOTE: And who gets to decide just what "affordable housing" is. Looking at the real estate portion of the Winnipeg Free Press, and seeing a home that is in excess of 40 years old being offered at almost a half a million dollars to me is not affordable. It would take me two lifetimes and then some to pay off such a debt.** I believe uh the Mayor has committed to 200 per year although I haven't been able to find a motion from Council to that effect. Council is forcing Springfield residents to fifty million in debt at the present time for infrastructure to accommodate this Plan. They're using an inferior water source where toxins need to be removed and these toxins placed in the Cooks Creek Diversion and ultimately into Lake Winnipeg. **NOTE: "Toxins" may be the wrong word. There is too much fluorine and the water is hard but I have been drinking it for 44 years without appreciable ill effects other than a stained toilet and bathtub.** There are better water resources in Springfield that will provide quality water and a cheaper way of treating it. We need to take time and not rush into this uh simply to satisfy Government beyond Springfield. Council was elected to represent Springfield, not other entities. The reassessment next year along with the uh borrowing ... horrendous borrowing costs uh will force a lot of people to...to leave Springfield and then uh you'll have your extra homes for sale. That's all I have. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** - Thank you, M'am. Ok. That's all we have time for uh Question Period. **Mayor Therrien** - Um do we have to amend the Resolution to show 8.1 because I made an error 5.1? **CAO Draper** - I didn't even include an agenda number. That was just a statement you made. I never noted that in any of the Resolutions so. **Mayor Therrien** - Council good with uh understanding when I said 5.1 I actually meant 8.1? Uh Council good with that? Can I get a show of hands, everybody is good with that? Andy? **CAO Draper** - Do you understand what ...what we're talking about when we have to amend, so 12.1 is the 2024 Financial Plan and once that is passed, that becomes Schedule A to the Taxation Bylaw so if for some reason Council doesn't approve the 2024 Financial Plan tonight, we don't proceed with First Reading of the Taxation Bylaw which is 8.1 so that's just what we're trying to explain.

**7. REPORTS - Mayor Therrien** - So I just...I said 8.1...I said 5.1 when I meant 8.1, it was just a mis ... uh mis-verbiage. Everybody good with that? Can I get a show of hands? Show that...everybody good with that? Mark and Andy? **Ok then where are we at here? NOTE: How can he not know what item they are on when he has the agenda right in front of him?** Uh so Question Period is over, let's go to Item 7.1, that's Elected Officials uh Report, a mover and a seconder, uh please. Uh Mark and Melinda (Miller/Warren). Any questions uh at all **with regards to that?**

#### **7.1 Elected Officials**

**Mayor Therrien**  
**Councillor Kuczynski**  
**Councillor Miller**  
**Councillor Warren**

**CAO Draper** - *Be it Resolved that Council Activity Reports for the month of April be received as information.* **Mayor Therrien** - Can I get a show of hands, those in support? It's unanimous and is carried.

**7.2 Department Reports - Animal Control - February 2024; Animal Control - March 2024; Public Works; Water Waste Department; Asset Management and Special Projects; Springfield Police; Springfield Fire and Rescue Services. - Mayor Therrien** - We'll go to 7.2, that's Departmental uh Reports uh a mover and a seconder, please. **CAO Draper** - *Be It Resolved that April Operating Reports be accepted as information.* **Mayor Therrien** - Alright. I uh did have a question uh **there**. Um I see on the Asset Management uh **there** we have an assessment of roads noted either as very poor or I should say uh the scale from...excuse me...from Very Poor to Fair. Uh it shows the entire highway uh **there** class, PTH 15 ... well, not the entire road is uh poor, I use the example of 206 as noted as ... as Poor uh but I also would kind of label it as, it's a disaster and it's unsafe especially for a motorcycle which Andy and I uh uh operate uh **there** between Hillside and Boundary. Um I'm just wondering where we get uh uh can we be... can we be more precise on where it's uh it's uh recorded as uh as poor. **NOTE: 206 is a Provincial**

**Trunk Highway and the stretch between Boundary and Hillside, I believe, would be in the RM of St. Clements.** And like I say, that uh Highway 206 is uh it's atrocious between Hillside and Boundary. Um that's uh...is it uh MOMAR. **CAO Draper** – Well, I think that last time MOMAR **NOTE: Minister of Municipal Affairs ????**...met with Council to discuss Asset Management, uh all of those pages that say “work in progress”, those have not been conditioned yet. Sowhen they've been put in, they've kind of all been put in just as a standard and then as they go into effect and upgraded, then those will change uh but you can set up a time for MOMAR to meet with Council again and explain that but um... **Mayor Therrien** – Ok, lets... like he did put down there, there's 6 uh roads that he put down as uh as fair or uh very poor. I'm just saying that uh uh 206 is uh .... for the most part it's good up until uh that uh section uh **there** between Hillside and Boundary, it's...it's not a safe road and uh I'm pretty sure they're going to be working on that but I thought I'd note that. **NOTE: Yes, for all of us who ride motorcycles, I am sure it is.** Um ya so that's fine uh and I can wait to hear from MOMAR with regards to that. Uh my next question was with Animal Control. I wanted to make note uh their Reports are very uh detailed uh but it would be nice to know a general area where the event has occurred. Um the reports are quite detailed but it doesn't say where the uh the incidents are coming from, uh the stray dogs that are attacking uh chickens and so on like that and this is just a bylaw animal control issue **there** but if we're able to put more detail down.... **CAO Draper** – Well the only thing we've asked them to put is at least the ward that the complaint comes from but we don't put location. **Mayor Therrien** – Okya that ... that's what I was sayng**there**, even the Ward numbers would be fine. **CAO Draper** –So they do have a column that says Ward on the report so that's ... **Mayor Therrien** –Then I'm uh I'm bad, I didn't see that part. Uh and Fire and Rescue, has there been a determination about that Durango that the SPS uh have uh are they going... are they using that for Medical First Responders? **CAO Draper** – Uh nothing's been uh decided yet. **Mayor Therrien** –Uh so that's in transition, I guess. Um alright, that's all I had. Any uh questions uh from Council at all? And if I can get a ... oh Andy? **Councillor Kuczynski** – Ya, Mr. Mayor, our roads are very poor shape in our Municipality. Are we going to allocate some funds from the Reserves to correct that problem? Like by the corner there on Lornehill Road and Garven, by the corner store, like the roads are just falling apart completely. I think it's our responsibility to provide proper roads for safety of the residents in this Municipality. **NOTE: I would not want to see our Municipal fund being used to fix Provincial Trunk highways. That money is for local roads belonging to the Municipality.****CAO Draper** –Ya, I think Public Works are doing their best but road restrictions are still on and until the frost comes out of the ground completely, they can't even put their large equipment on their right now to blade or like gravel or anything at this point. They would probably make the road worse at this point. So they're doing their best, they'll take smaller equipment for roads that are very unsafe um but I think the roads, you know, on the east end of the Municipality are ... are worse than what you're seeing you know further west. Um so I know that Public Works goes and checks every complaint that we get and goes and looks at the conditions and sees what they can do but right now they're just not able to put the large equipment on there. **Councillor Kuczynski** – But my question is are we going to allocate some extra money for all the roads and the condition they are today? And maybe we fix them like within a month or so but that's understandable but we should give them as much money as required to, you know, remedy that problem. **CAO Draper** –Ya, I don't know the budget number off hand but we do have budget money for, for correcting those kind of situations so... **Councillor Kuczynski** – Ok. And then people complain about this Oakwood Road by Heatherdale, that whole area, and I talked with our um Public Works and they said that it's not allocated funds until 2025 and residents are really not happy about that so they want to do it now so. We're going... they said, you know, there's so much dust. Blaine said they would look into it and maybe you know put dust abatement but, you know, they're not happy. **CAO Draper** –Ya, I'm sure there's a few roads like that so they have to prioritize based on their budget and.... **Councillor Kuczynski** – And that road, is used by a lot of residents of Oakbank so understandable because that's one of the better roads that we have going from 207 to Oakbank. **CAO Draper** –Right. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – Ok, unless there's other questions... I see none. Then we're prepared to uh um those uh approving um uh ya the 7.2 then we'll go to uh delegation uh now. Uh um with Sargeant uh Jeremy Wilson. Sorry... am I missing oh ok I guess we didn't vote. Sorry .... you can vote too at the same time (laughing). Can I get a vote on uh the uh Reports uh Departmental Reports, show of hands in support. That's unanimous and carried. **NOTE: Mayor Therrien seems often to be the only one laughing at his own “funnies”?**

9. DELEGATION - Mayor Therrien –Alright, Jeremy. Whenever you're ready.

9.1 RCMP Sgt. Jeremy Wilson – 2 Year Comparison 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter – Hello. Thanks for having me. It's well the first time meeting uh most of you here. I'm a most of the time ... so I'm here today because Courtney's gone off to Norway House there and his seat sits empty. Um I don't have any time lines. Um I spoke to District on that. They told me to expect it'd be empty for a while so I'll be only the face of Oakbank I guess .... **Mayor Therrien** –Alright. **Sgt. Jeremy Wilson** – .... in the meantime, so this is just for your information. Um I guess you guys wanted me to talk about the uh quarter ... fourth quarter comparison ... 2-year comparison that uh Cst. Sookermanny provided to you guys. **NOTE: When I was a Councillor between 2014 and 2018 and years prior to that, a detailed list of the crimes of a period were provided by the R.C.M.P. to Council. That report described the crime and identified the ward in which it occurred and which service responded to the call. I used to review those reports and in one of my notes, I pointed out what I thought was inappropriate for the ratepayers of our Municipality because some of the calls were not in Springfield. The Oakbank Detachment responds to calls in Springfield, Beausejour and Brokenhead and sometimes, it was reported, even in Winnipeg. This is an excerpt from my notes: Oct 5 21. I am particularly interested in this Service as formerly I was the Chair of the Springfield Police Board and the Councillor assigned Protective Services. Ratepayers of the RM of Springfield pay, through their taxes, for the Springfield Police Service which is mandated to provide added protective services to residents of Springfield as an adjunct to the RCMP. They are a service of the RM of Springfield and in no way any part of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police who are the official police service for the Province of Manitoba. The RCMP has a detachment in Oakbank. Below is a list of questionable incidents to which the SPS attended, often dispatched by the RCMP. Some calls are not even in the RM of Springfield and quite a few are on primary highways that are the responsibility of the Province of Manitoba. This was sanctioned by resolution of Council. While the Springfield Police do have the authority to act under the Highway Traffic Act, their primary responsibility is enforcing the by-laws of the RM of Springfield and I do not personally feel they should be dispatched to attend incidents that are reported to the RCMP but rather their focus should be on complaints filed by residents of the municipality directly to them. As far as I know, only one other very small rural municipality in Manitoba has their own police service in addition to the RCMP. All others are policed solely by the RCMP. When I was a Councillor, and also the Chair of the Springfield Police Board, every year Council petitioned the R.C.M.P. at the Association of Manitoba Municipalities conventions to increase the complement of the Oakbank Detachment. Now it appears the Springfield Police Service are being used to augment the RCMP at the expense of Springfield ratepayers meaning they are paying twice in a sense for the RCMP, once through their Provincial taxes as does every Manitoba taxpayer, and once through their municipal taxes. This is quite the opposite of one large municipality south of us who does not**

have their own police service but pays the R.C.M.P. extra, I believe, to provide policing in their municipal jurisdiction without having the additional cost of vehicles, uniforms, arms, etc. After I included that analysis in my notes, as you can see from this excerpt from past notes, the RCMP changed the format of their Report. January 18, 2022 REPORTS - NOTE: I see that Council and staff of the RM of Springfield did not appreciate my analysis of their Police Board reports as they have now changed the format and no longer report the location of the incident but simply identify it by ward. This means that they may now respond, after being dispatched by the RCMP, to incidents on Fermor Avenue (which is only known as that within Winnipeg) and Transcona but the incident will be assigned a ward number whether the call may be within the ward or outside the jurisdiction of the Springfield Police Service, paid to service the RM of Springfield only. SO MUCH FOR "TRANSPARENCY" AND "ACCOUNTABILITY" MENTIONED IN THEIR STRATEGIC PLAN. As time goes on, it seems we, the taxpayers, are receiving less service, not more, from the institutions in place to make our lives better.

**Mayor Therrien** –Yes. **Sgt. Jeremy Wilson** –Uh I don't know your normal format to this ...you guys, I, I guess, review this ahead of time or do you guys review it when he comes. **Mayor Therrien** –Uh no, we review it beforehand, uh **there** and then he, he just basically points out some of the uh um the increases **there** and I'm going to be asking about property crimes, that's always seems to be uh a high uh um visibility area but I also noticed that it's doubled too so it's .... it's gone up considerably, almost .... almost doubled. **Sgt. Jeremy Wilson** –Ya so I reviewed it and I ... I quite noted the same section as you, the property crime. Um unless you had questions of the other sections, the other stuff to me seems all kind of flat or status quo or within expectations. The property crime, though, I do see that it is close to double. So the Break and Enters, the Theft Unders, and Frauds are kind of up. Um the only thing I would caution in a cue for year over year is um one quarter doesn't necessarily give us a trend um so I ... before I would say that there may be an issue with those, I would like to see a few more quarters of information um just because there's different factors that affect those type of numbers um and at this point, I know there's been discussions about some of the Industrial Area and you guys had, had that meeting there (sorry) and a lot of these stats except for the frauds will be related to the Break and Enters and about the ease of crime or the acceptability of crime in the Industrial Area but that's where some of these numbers have come from so now we've had that meeting, there's some other stuff going on. I guess we can look at Q1 (? Quarter 1) of this year and then we'll be able to compare the numbers. We'll see if we're still trending in the wrong direction and then we can um say make some further plans on how we can try to tackle this because we don't want it to get out of control of course. Um Frauds um I don't think there's a specific one that um even I have a good uh because I look after Beausejour and Oakbank, I kind of get to see both areas and it's just a ... it's kind of every fraud you can think of, it's kind of all being reported at the same time so it's not ... sometimes it gets the kind of grandparent scams all coming in but this is ... the detail at this point to people's stolen identities uh gift cards still kind of coming in ... so it's kind of a little bit of everything at a time we don't really have that strategic plan except for uh as much education as we can do to the public. Um it's, it's unfortunate people being tricked. Um we had a couple of job advertisement scams uh ... you apply and they ask for money for you to do work and always they're taking people's money and disappearing right. **Mayor Therrien** –Ya. Uh Jeremy, how do you .... how do you disperse uh like our citizens uh there, our senior citizens as well, we've got a large demographically, a large and Beausejour, probably more so, (ya) uh how do you tell the people to be aware uh how are we doing that in the R.C.M.P., how are we uh uh letting the public know that. **Sgt. Jeremy Wilson** –Uh so I can specifically uh in Beausejour recently just because we've had some outreach from some of the groups about the elderly stuff, and we've...we've been putting uh direct sections from the Anti-Fraud Agency into the news release that the Clipper has been publishing. So if we ... typically some of the elderly people will read the paper and that's still a source of their information so that's how we're trying to reach out to them with that...with that Fraud information. Uh we also have the ability if... if trends are identified through our Facebook, our media team. We can... we can send information out to the younger generation that use that source for their information. **Mayor Therrien** –Ok. Um I'm...I'm not a member anymore but I was thinking that there's some way, like old school, having a uh uh a flyer, uh I'm not asking uh you know to reinvent the wheel here but sending out a flyer like the old-fashioned way ummm having some kind of a one page where we can give to the uh uh the nurse in charge of some of our senior homes and uh they could be aware and then they can let the seniors know uh about that, just simply just uh one paper, give it to the recruit or something like that. Again I'm ... I have to maintain that distance but something like that where we can address uh some of the fraud cause I know my own family, my grandmother was defrauded of quite a bit of money uh um but uh it's nothing I hate worse than something like that uh. We've got to protect our seniors and I know you'll...you'll be on that. Can I throw something else our there? **Sgt. Jeremy Wilson** –Sure. **Mayor Therrien** –Um the Rural Crime Watch initiative uh Courtney and you have probably talked about that, that's a bit of uh uh a primary issue I'd like to bring back. When I was here, the Constable here at the Detachment, we had a Rural Crime Watch area um and we had lots of different areas, four or five uh if I'm not mistaken, and it worked out exceptionally well. I know D Division doesn't uh have it any more but I'm thinking this ... this is a great um initiative that uh you know the uh Oakbank/Beausejour Detachment uh can at least look at uh um if you've got a recruit or something ... do they still have to do these community projects uh **there** ... recruits when they come into the.... the Detachments? **Sgt. Jeremy Wilson** –They do. Do we have any recruits? **Mayor Therrien** –Ya, that was my next question, um somebody that's on sick or something like that uh again, I've got to maintain ... but if I could throw that into your ear uh **there** uh I've been throwing in Courtney's ear **there** for a couple of years uh **there** and uh he was supposed to come back to us but little did I know he was going to get transferred, that's probably why he had a grin on his face and (laughing alone), I like Courtney, I've got no problem, I'm just saying this is an initiative since your the Detachment commander now, uh if you could uh look into that uh you know, that's all I... all I'd be asking for uh ... **Sgt. Jeremy Wilson** –So additional the COPP. **Mayor Therrien** – Ya, ya it's additional to that. Uh essentially it's a uh uh a rural uh crime watch captain, um they'll sit down, they'll have a group of houses uh ...the area that I had was uh Glen's area uh plus uh down south of uh Dugald and I'd just take the PC **NOTE: Patrol car**.out there and do my work and then meet with the Captain and he does all the work, he or she does all the work, and it was a lot harder back then because we didn't have the cell phones uh there wasn't a MAS (? Mass Casualty Initiative) tree, I guess there was a tree uh initiative uh **there** that this...the guy that we had on there, John, he was a Doctor in Engineering so he was just a genius when it came to stuff like that. So he sent it out, the 4 days of MAS uh social blast and so on like that so that one person uh and a Chair uh they'll...they'll be out there and they'll say oh, well, Pat's gone for the weekend and all that but you know, the supply of a one ton cube van **there**, there should be no reason for that and the neighbours will kind of see that, just you know, neighbours taking care of neighbours, then they'll phone the police. Uh we don't want them to go in there and start kicking in doors or anything like that, we just... phone the Detachment and say hey we've got a problem, this is a cube van. Maybe the Detachment was already looking for a cube van or something like that so um if...if you want to talk about it just give me a call any time. It's...it's as simple as that (ok). It's the very initial part of it is the manpower incentive or um load um but then it runs itself. And just, people get out at barbecues and see what's going on, get to know your neighbours but it's...it's kind of like... like it's a great initiative for uh uh for crime... crime watch and it...it does exceptionally well. **Sgt. Jeremy Wilson** –Alright. **Mayor Therrien** –Uh any other questions from Council at all? Uh Glen. **Councillor Fuhi** – Uh I'd just like to add information as uh the Mayor said, I had that experience

being on the Tree of the phone calling from the neighbourhoods and again uh it worked. I've experienced just getting the phone call and say look, there's a 5-ton truck in the area and just watch where it's going so it does work. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** –Anybody else? Andy?

**Councillor Kuczynski** – Yes, I went to the Industrial area and some of their businesses, they have...they would like to have private security there and they would contribute to it and marked cars, they want marked cars then driving around that area and if something they see, call the Police, R.C.M.P. or local police then. You know, they're not going to chase or anything, they just want to call the police and that's probably one of the uh areas that, you know, that's what they want to have there, otherwise you know the insurance is going up and you know, so they...they're really not, not really liking what they...what's happening right now in that area. Thank you. **NOTE: The Industrial Area pays a much larger percentage of the Municipal taxes than residents and I do believe they have a right to expect some kind of protective service for that but the reality is that unless a marked security vehicle is constantly dedicated to and patrolling that particular area of the Municipality, and their businesses are sitting unprotected in off hours, break-ins and vandalism are bound to occur. Springfield is a very large geographic area and the R.C.M.P. Oakbank Detachment is responsible for Springfield, Beausejour, and the RM of Brokenhead. This has long been a problem and brought to the RMs attention more than once. I am thinking that if the businesses all got together and hired a private Security Firm in a marked vehicle to patrol the area in the off hours 24/7, the rate of theft and mischief would be reduced. They could feel they are paying twice for the same security but actually not as the security firm, not having any authority to police, would still have to contact the R.C.M.P. to respond to incidents.**

**Sgt. Jeremy Wilson** –And I could just mention like one of the ones that we have about making patrols, if they don't have security, is sometimes we can't tell, like who should be there, who isn't so if they have security that knows that, that can let us know that people aren't supposed to be there, that just makes it easier for us to do those patrols. So the guys could drive around and feel like on a business that normally they're on wouldn't know any the wiser but maybe there is some nefarious activity going on, right, so and we know, we don't want to be harassing the legitimate businesses all the time for no reason but we'll uh keep hours definitely in that area. **Mayor Therrien** –Any other questions at all? I see none. Uh who's uh have you got your name in for the Staff's position, then? **Sgt. Jeremy Wilson** –I don't think it's going to be a promotion.... **Mayor Therrien** – interrupting A lateral? **Sgt. Jeremy Wilson** –.... I think there's...someone's probably uh been asked to do it, they're just not ready to come yet. So it's just a matter of a timing thing, I ...course I am **speculating** um but it hasn't gone up for any type of promotion. **Mayor Therrien** –Um alright. So is that member going to have trouble selling uh or are they coming from the north or ... oh, it's hard to say. **Sgt. Jeremy Wilson** –Ya, I don't...they ... like like questions ... I didn't really get too much of an answer so it's good... but obvious I need to know for planning what's going on with us. Um so I don't know if it be of interest to you, if this would be a pop-forum to talk about our numbers (ya) like as...for our people so ... so uh we're currently operating ...so all our members together between the 2 Detachments uh we work some, made a schedule so we have 18 bodies. Um the 1 body is uh Constable Madelin which is our Admin constable so he's not actually operational so at times I have 17 operational members. Right now I have 9 able bodies out of that...out of that 17... (wow) ... yaso that's ... then that's between the two offices so I have 5 in Beausejour including myself and I have 4 able bodies in Oakbank right now. **NOTE: And that's covering 3 shifts, 24/7.****Mayor Therrien** –Is that R.C.M.P. or are you talking uh.... **Sgt. Jeremy Wilson** –Just R.C.M.P. **Mayor Therrien** –Ok and then you've got uh our SPS (yes) as well. **NOTE: Springfield Police do not work night shifts.****Mayor Therrien** –Ok. **Sgt. Jeremy Wilson** –So for this month I have hopefully one member coming back from "off duty" ... sick. Hopefully I'll get confirmation uh this week that my expectation that one will be coming back. I have one member leaving for 5 week "pat" (paternity) leave and then first week of June I should have two corporals coming in. And that's kind of what I know for the next two months. **Mayor Therrien** –Who's running uh Oakbank uh then if you're in Beausejour? Is there a Corporal here? **Sgt. Jeremy Wilson** –Yes, well I have ... so one of the Constables is acting Corporal. **Mayor Therrien** –So there's no NCO (? Non-commissioned Officer) here at all in Oakbank? **Sgt. Jeremy Wilson** –It's me so I... so I run back and forth between the two. **Mayor Therrien** –Ok, that's fine. **Sgt. Jeremy Wilson** –Ya, I live in Oakbank. **Mayor Therrien** –Oh, you do. Ok. Alright, then give me a call for doing a coffee. Ok. If there's no other questions, then uh thank you very much, uh Jeremy. **Sgt. Jeremy Wilson** –There's one more thing I can ... (sure) ... so I ... it's the time of the year for the APP updates. Do you guys hold a separate meeting or how do you guys want to discuss this year's priorities um... **Mayor Therrien** –I'm trying to remember how Courtney did that? Did he contact you **with regards** to that. **CAO Draper** – So typically we would just be presented with those priorities during this kind of session and then Council would adopt those by resolution at a future meeting. **Sgt. Jeremy Wilson** –Ok. **CAO Draper** –We usually we get a sheet of paper noting the priorities and that would be distributed to Council. **NOTE: As I recall, during the Association of Manitoba Municipalities Convention, past Councils would schedule a meeting with the R.C.M.P. rep there and at that time priorities would be discussed as well as any other issues. I don't recall seeing any such sheet of paper listing the priorities of the Oakbank Detachment. And I was the Chair of the Police Board.****Sgt. Jeremy Wilson** –Ya, well I have ... I have a formulation of what I want to do and it's almost exactly the same as last year except I want to remove the Drug Section because ... like it seems from statistics that like Drugs just isn't .... it's not a big concern for this area. Like Property crimes like you noted and uh Fraud was up and a number of those things so um but I didn't want to draft up ...and you guys want changes and like it goes back and forth but if that's how you want me to present it, I'll create it and I'll send it to you and if you want to assess that then at the next meeting um I'd just like to ... we do have to sign off at the beginning of the year so we can start working on them but that...you guys have input as I go into creating them. **Mayor Therrien** –I guess if you're bringing it uh to us and what you find is uh priorities, then us together uh I've done these, it's typically going to be visibility is high uh. I did them on Reserves where visibility was the big thing was bootleggers so it's adapted those to every ... every Detachment, it's...and so on uh your clientele and so on so if you bring it to us and then we'll look at it **there** and we may have our own uh issues as well. Obviously you know mine, it's going to be the Rural Crime Watch uh uh B&Es and so on like that uh... reduce that uh and I'm sure uh Council will have their uh uh as well so whatever you come up with that you feel that it's going to be uh this and that and it's not going to be Drugs, then just your rationalization, I'm sure uh we'll be able to figure that out. **Sgt. Jeremy Wilson** –Ok. **Mayor Therrien** –Thank you very much. **Sgt. Jeremy Wilson** – Ok. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you, Jeremy. Ok, so where are we at uh here? The Consent Agenda? Um let me do this. Uh that was excellent. I thought that was one of the better uh Reports that we got uh **there** but why don't we uh proceed to uh Consent uh agenda, uh **there** please.

**11. CONSENT AGENDA 11.1 Age Friendly Newsletter April 2024; 11.2 Seine Rat Roseau Watershed District Minutes March 19, March 21 and March 28, 2024; 11.3 Manitoba Horse Council Open House; 11.4 Seine River School Division – Full-day Kindergarten; 11.5 Meet the Assessor Open House date and 2025 Manitoba Property Reassessment Brochure. - Mayor Therrien** –Um if we can do it all together. That'll be 11.1, .2, 3, 4 and uh 5. Um can I get a mover and a seconder, please? Uh Glen and Melinda (Fuhl/Warren). **CAO Draper** – *Whereas a Consent Agenda has been submitted consisting of 5 items, Be It Resolved that the said Consent Agenda be received as information.* **Mayor Therrien** –Any uh questions uh from Council? And I see none. Can I get a show of hands, those in support of the Consent Agenda. That is unanimous and it is

carried. **CAO Draper** – I just want to highlight uh the Assessor Open House this year. Um so there is a list of the different meetings being held. The one in Oakbank is being held here at the Municipal Office from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. on June 13<sup>th</sup> but that you are welcome to attend any of the Open Houses scheduled if that date doesn't work. **Mayor Therrien** – Alright. **CAO Draper** – That's for residents. Sorry. **Mayor Therrien** – Ok.

## 10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

## 12. NEW BUSINESS

**12.1 2024 Financial Plan–2024 Financial Plan Draft - Mayor Therrien** – Uh so uh we'll go to uh 12 uh 12.1 uh there? I'll move this up. Uh 12.1, 2024 Financial uh Plan. Uh can I get a mover and a uh seconder, please. Patrick and uh Andy (Therrien/Kuczynski). **CAO Draper** – *Be It Resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield adopt the 2024 Financial Plan as amended consisting of an Operating Budget, a Capital Budget, an Estimate of Operating Revenue and Expenditures for the following fiscal year, and a 5-Year Capital Expenditure Program.* **Mayor Therrien** – Any questions uh from Council **with regards to 12.1?** And I see none. Can I uh get a show of hands, uh those in support of uh 12.1 uh '24 Financial Plan. That's uh Melinda, Glen and uh Patrick (Warren/Fuhl/Therrien). Those opposed? Uh Mark and Andy (Miller/Kuczynski). **NOTE: It does not look good when 2 of a Council of 5 are not in favour of the year's Financial Plan. Any issues should have been settled before it was even brought to the public meeting for resolution but that is just my opinion.**

**12.2 Hillside Waste Disposal Grounds Post Closure Groundwater Monitoring Program Extension - Mayor Therrien** – Ok, let's go to uh 12.2, that's the Hillside Waste Disposal Grounds uh Closure Groundwater Monitoring Program, a mover and a seconder uh please. Uh Glen and Patrick (Fuhl/Therrien). **CAO Draper** – *Be It Resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield award the work for Post Closure and Annual Groundwater Monitoring Program for the Hillside Waste Disposal Grounds for a 3-Year Period to WSP Canada Inc. in the amount of 2024 \$35,012. plus applicable taxes, 2025 \$36,654. plus applicable taxes, 2026 \$36,371. plus applicable taxes, and Be it Further Resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield permit the Water & Waste Department to spend additional funds of up to \$5,200., if required, to maintain the functionality of monitoring wells at the site and conduct additional testing if advised by the Province of Manitoba or the consultant.* **Mayor Therrien** – Could I get a show of hands of those in support of 12 uh point 2. Oh, go ahead. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Um I want to point out, why are we using WSP after the fiasco that was done to us on 21-25? There is no other company that uh we could use? **CAO Draper** – Uh so I mean I'm not really comfortable commenting on this but uh WSP has different departments, uh different staff um, we've been quite happy with the work that's been done at the Hillside Transfer Station with the groundwater monitoring uh and it would probably cost more if we had to go to a different company as they wouldn't have all uh um you know, the background of the project, and know the history of it, um.... **NOTE: Presumably the RM would have documentation of anything that has been done previously. Surely WSP would be required to provide Reports to the RM.** **Councillor Kuczynski** – But we're not supposed to, you know, support the companies that uh was working against us as a Municipality, no matter how much it costs uh.... **CAO Draper** – Well, I'm ... I'm not sure what concerns you have, that might just be your personal .... **Councillor Kuczynski** – Well what happened ... **CAO Draper** – ... opinion but ... **Councillor Kuczynski** – ... no, no, not ... well, of course, it's my personal ... I speak for myself on it, ya, I don't speak for any other member of the Council or Mayor but just myself so I don't think whatever they did on that 21-25 I don't think that was in the best interests of this Municipality and I don't think we should support that company in any shape or form going forward. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – Um I think I have to comment on that. I, I don't see the fiasco uh part of it **there**, Andy. I uh they're a global company here and I'm not uh uh a card-carrying member of WSP but uh they're very entrenched uh, they know what they're doing uh so I uh I know that's your view but I don't think we could uh say it was a fiasco. That was the last Administration and how that was uh processed uh **NOTE: The Administration did not change, only the Council. there** uh. I don't see an issue uh with WSP, I don't uh see uh the uh problem with them, to be honest with you, they're ... they've got different uh expertise uh that they uh ... that use uh as consultants and they're used as consultants and in many of the RMs so I just thought I'd have to uh comment **with regards to the...the determination of being a uh a fiasco.** Um ok that's my comment, that's Andy's, any other questions at all or comments? Can we get a show of hands ... uh Mark. **Councillor Miller** – Uh thank you Mr. Mayor. Ya I had concerns with WSP on the uh 21-25 too so but in terms of the document at hand here, on Page 3 it notes that pricing has been discounted by 12.5% based on long-standing collaborative client relationship so I'm assuming there were other quotes and other bids and/or research done to justify that number. I guess it follows up on what Councillor Kuczynski was saying, is there someone just as competitive that would do the same kind of work, um we don't always have to go to the lowest person, I know, but um... well, I guess what I'm asking is, was, was there other firms consulted or asked to provide a quote or.... **CAO Draper** – Uh in the beginning there was and WSP was chosen. Um in the Report we talk about 3 other wells, that we used a different company um a different year put in and we're actually having to discontinue monitoring those because those wells failed. **NOTE: What does that mean, "failed". I have had the same well for 44 plus years.** So you know the work that WSP has done for us has lasted over several years. Uh we're happy with the work and the quality that we're getting, the Province is happy with the quality that we're getting from this company and ultimately it's the Province um that kind of controls what data we're getting uh in order for us to comply with our closure uh license so I guess that's my answer. **Councillor Miller** – Ya, and I do recognize it's...it's a global company and this is a totally different uh department than the group that did the Municipal work in the bylaw 21-25 so those really aren't associated to the "nth" degree but I understand your concerns too, **Councillor Kuczynski**. **Mayor Therrien** – Andy? No, I thought you had a hand up, so.... **Councillor Kuczynski** – No, no I didn't... not anymore. Ya I just stated my position so.... **Mayor Therrien** – **laughing** I didn't want to spotlight you, **there**, but uh ...I thought you had your hand up. Ok. Uh any other questions uh from Council **there**, that's 12.2. Uh have we read the resolution on that? (ya) Then can I get a show of hands of those in support uh of the uh 12.2, Hillside uh uh Waste Disposal Grounds? That's uh Melinda, uh Mark, Glen and uh Pat. (Warren/Miller/Fuhl/Therrien). Uh those opposed? That'll be Andy (Kuczynski).

**12.3 Springfield Collegiate Institute – 2024 Scholarship - Mayor Therrien** – Uh then we'll go to uh I don't know if we could do this uh as a Consent Agenda for 12.3, 4 and 5? **????** Oh, ok. Then we'll go to 12.3, can I get a mover and a seconder, please. Uh Patrick and Glen (Therrien/Fuhl). **CAO Draper** – *Be it Resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield provide a scholarship in the amount of \$500. for award recognizing academic achievement for the Springfield Collegiate Institute for 2024 and Be it Further Resolved that Mayor Therrien or alternate be delegated to attend the graduation ceremony on June 27<sup>th</sup> in Winnipeg to present the award.* **Mayor Therrien** – Any questions from Council? Uh Glen. **Councillor Fuhl** – Um how long have we been giving the \$500. for ... or has it gone up since the 5 ... 4 years or ... **CAO Draper** – Uh it's

always been \$500. **CouncillorFuhl** –So I recommend we raise that to \$750. based on inflation and what’s been happening in the economy with everything. Um these are people that are coming out to our future in Springfield and uh I think it’s important that we show recognition to this uh um so that’s my recommendation. **Mayor Therrien** –I uh...I totally agree and you asked how long. I remember when my daughter graduated, she’d be the last one to graduate there and that was 4 years ago and I believe my son before that, it was \$500. uh **there** so I would totally agree, uh \$750 is more appropriate, just given the costs incurred uh for university uh **there**. Mark, you know all those costs. (laughing) It’s high so I would say \$750. Is everybody good with that? Ya, ok, so if we can change that wording to \$750. Then we’ll change the wording to \$750. Uh can I get a show of hands of those in support of 12.3 at \$750. That is unanimous and is carried.

**12.4 President’s Gala Dinner – Oakbank-Springfield Kinsmen’s Seniors Complex - Mayor Therrien** –Uh then let’s go to 12 point uh 4, uh can I get a mover and a seconder. Uh that’ll be uh Melinda and Mark (Warren/Miller). **CAO Draper** –Uh so I guess I drafted a resolution but I’m not quite sure what uh Council’s direction would be on this. This is for the President’s Gala Dinner so there’s different options that you can sponsor or purchase a table or individual tickets so depending on um who plans to attend, that might direct Council on how they want to support the event because right now it’s drafted that we purchase a thousand dollar corporate table uh which gives you eight tickets. **Mayor Therrien** – And that’s a thousand dollars cause I didn’t see that, I see silver, gold uh platinum ... **CAO Draper** –Probably at the very end there. **Mayor Therrien** –Oh, the event sponsor, that’s \$5,000, isn’t it? **CAO Draper** –Keep going to the very last page, there’s a corporate/family table for \$1,000 uh so you get eight seats for that or individually you can just delegate Council to attend at their discretion and we can purchase individual tickets. **Mayor Therrien** –And individual is \$65 dollars or.... **CAO Draper** –\$125. for the individual tickets. **Mayor Therrien** –Well, if we’re looking for 8 seats uh we could do the \$1,000 corporate uh family tables uh it’ll put our logo out there as well. Uh I’d like to see the logo uh out there, that’s kind of uh it’s an RM contribution so we should get some recognition uh and apart from that, we get a tax break so that’s just me. The corporate uh family tables for \$1,000. Uh Glen? **CouncillorFuhl** – Yep, I support that fully. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** –And Melinda says yes. (yes) Uh any other questions or any other comments from uh Mark, Andy? I don’t see other questions. Then if we’re prepared to uh to vote for the \$1,000 corporate uh family uh family tables uh **there**. Um can I get a show of uh hands for that? That’s unanimous and is carried. **NOTE: I do not personally think ratepayers’ taxes should be being used to send councillors or staff to a dinner to raise funds for a privately funded entity. I know the Kinsmen do great work but it is their initiative and they can appeal to ratepayers themselves.**

**12.5 2024 Ward Appropriation Requests -Mayor Therrien** – And then uh 12 uh point uh 5, a mover and a seconder. Uh Patrick and uh Melinda (Therrien/Warren). **CAO Draper** –We did receive a request from Oakbank Beautification for \$500 for new T-shirts for volunteers. Um I’m not sure if Council wants to split that cost or if um... **Mayor Therrien** –Um... **CAO Draper** –... if they want to take on that cost out of their own ward appropriations. **Mayor Therrien** –I’ll take that cost out of my ward appropriations uh I know most of the people there. They asked me for that. Uh Council’s good with that. It’s going to come out of my pocket. **NOTE: Au contraire, it is coming out of the pocket of ratepayers. And those ward appropriations are supposed to be used for things that benefit a large majority of ratepayers, not to go to a group that volunteers to beautify Oakbank and wants T-shirts announcing their volunteerism.** **CAO Draper** –Be it Resolved that the following 2024 ward appropriations be approved: \$500 to the Oakbank Beautification Committee from the Mayor’s appropriation. **Mayor Therrien** –Can I get a show of hands of those in support? Unanimous. Carried. 12 point uh 6... **CAO Draper** –You have something ... **Councillor Kuczynski** –I, I would like to donate \$2,000. to um to this playground in Oakbank. **CAO Draper** –Ok, so for the Oakbank Playground Committee. **Councillor Kuczynski** –Yes, yes. **Mayor Therrien** –Ok then we’ll just do another vote un including that \$2,000. uh for Andy uh to uh the playground, was it? **CAO Draper** –Is there any other additions or... ?.... ok so it’s amended to include \$2,000 to the Oakbank Playground Committee from Ward 2 ward appropriations. **Mayor Therrien** –Unanimous. Carried.

**12.6 National Public Works Week May 19 – 25, 2024 - Mayor Therrien** –Uh then let’s go to 12. uh 6 uh a mover and a seconder, uh please. Uh Mark and Andy. (Miller/Kuczynski) **CAO Draper** –*Whereas public works professionals focus on infrastructure, facilities, and services that are of vital importance to a sustainable and resilient communities and as public health, high quality of life and well-being of the people of Manitoba and whereas these infrastructure facilities and services could not be provided without the dedicated efforts of public works professionals who are engineers, managers, employees at all levels of government and the private sector who are responsible for rebuilding, improving and protecting our Nation’s transportation, water supply, water treatment, and solid waste systems, public buildings and other structures and facilities essential for our citizens, and Whereas it is in the public interests for the citizens, civic leaders and children of Manitoba to gain knowledge of and attain an ongoing interest and understanding of the importance of public works and public works programs in their respective communities, and Whereas the year 2024 marks the 64<sup>th</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024 as Public Works Week in the RM of Springfield.* **Mayor Therrien** –Can I get a show of hands, those in support of 12.6. Unanimous and is carried.

## 8. BY-LAWS

**8.1 By-law 24-08 Taxation By-Law (1<sup>st</sup> reading) Following approval of the Financial Plan - Mayor Therrien** –Then we’ll get to uh 8... 8.1 can I get a mover and a seconder **with regards to** Bylaw 24-08 Taxation Bylaw. Uh Patrick and ...and uh Melinda (Therrien/Warren). **CAO Draper** –*Be it Resolved that First Reading be given to By-law Number 24-08, being a Bylaw of the RM of Springfield to establish rates of taxation and impose taxes for 2024.* **Mayor Therrien** –And I’ll throw it out to Council uh, who wants to start it off in regards uh to this. Any questions or comments? Uh Mark? **Councillor Miller** – Uh thank you, Mr. Mayor. So my question for our CAO or Amram, I guess, our Financial Officer, is uh anything associated with DOWS or the longer term uh Wastewater Treatment Plant in this particular item specifically? **CAO Draper** –Well, this Bylaw Schedule A is the Financial Plan that was approved so the Financial Plan does include the DOWS project. **Councillor Miller** –Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** –Just so people know, DOWs, you’re referring to uh .... **CAO Draper** –Dugald/Oakbank Water (ya) Treatment. **Mayor Therrien** –I know, there’s a lot of these acronyms uh **there** and I think we have to uh so people understand what they are uh but that’s just for clarification. Any other questions at all. Andy? **Councillor Kuczynski** – Yes, I would like to know, do any changes happen from previous one to uh uh this um bylaw? **CAO Draper** –Uh so any changes were highlighted on 12.1, the Financial Plan draft. Uh so I think the major change that was pointed out was that we reduced um the Capital Project amount for the Springfield Road uh project just to show that we’re completing the

borrowing amount. **NOTE: They are going ahead with this project when half the road is the responsibility of the City of Winnipeg but the City was unwilling to repair it at this time or to contribute, maybe because it was just sprung on them suddenly, so our Council is prepared to pay the entire amount. That is not fair to ratepayers. The road could wait until arrangements are made with the City of Winnipeg.** Uh and then any funds spent over and above that, we would come back to Council for a resolution and a report. **NOTE: And who is really managing tax dollars, Council or Administration when the CAO indicates they are going to spend and then come to Council for a resolution to justify the spending.** **Councillor Kuczynski** – Ya because in the Municipal Act, one point, 142.3, each member present at the meeting on which First Reading is to take place must be given or hand...of hand... the opportunity to review the full text of the proposed bylaw before the bylaw receives first reading. **CAO Draper** –Ya, so the bylaw is attached for Council to read through so that... **Councillor Kuczynski** –Ok...but we don't have the previous one? Can we compare that to the previous to this one ... if there are any changes ... the previous bylaw, ya. **CAO Draper** – The previous bylaw or the Financial Plan document? **Councillor Kuczynski** –No, Financial Plan document. **CAO Draper** –So it's attached as well to 12.1 so any changes that were made between the draft that was presented to the Financial Plan Hearing and tonight have been highlighted. **Councillor Kuczynski** –Oh, ok. **Mayor Therrien** –Any other uh questions, comments from Council? **Amram Bangura** – Ya, I had something. **Mayor Therrien** –Sure, Amram. **Amram Bangura** – Yes, so in terms of changes, the only other change that was made was on Page 14 and looking at the DOWS project, we wanted to just show clearly there the total grants and funding for the project and what is currently proposed in the borrowing bylaw as amounts that may likely be borrowed which is \$12.563 million and then the portion coming in from Reserve. So on Page 14 that's the only change so it was the 10.6 million there as grants and like we've talked about, drafting portions of that grant so one from the Province and one from um the Manitoba Water Services Board. And then the amounts that have been put forward to Council um that is the amount that has been considered for borrowing the \$12.563 million. And in terms of um what is on this Financial Plan for the DOWS project, it clearly shows for the current year on Page 13, there is \$2.5 million dollars that the RM is looking to spend for the project. Of that \$2.5 million dollars, \$1.25, one million two hundred and fifty thousand dollars is coming from Reserve and the other one million two hundred and fifty thousand dollars will be the 50% cost share that will be coming from the Manitoba Water Services Board so there is ... there is nothing levied to residents for this project. There is no levy for this project in this 2023 uh 2024 sorry Financial Plan. It's a Reserve and Grants for 2023 and so we've shown the figures on Page 14 and Page 13 regarding this project. **Mayor Therrien** –Thank you, Amram. Um if there's no other questions, then uh or comments, I ...the only thing I can add here is uh uh in closing uh we started the process some time ago, in January and February. Uh I want to commend our CAO and our CFO uh the Directors, the Managers uh for their work in maintaining their budgets where and when they can, especially in this time uh uh where large prices and uh high increases uh **there**. Uh we cannot control the school taxes. The school taxes in the subdivisions, the three that we have in our uh area uh their increases were 5, 7 and 7 so uh that uh uh obviously will affect the residential property taxes uh going forward uh **there**and uh I just think it's a ... it's a good budget uh **there**. One percent increase is uh very attainable uh given some of the other RMs. Uh again I'm most concerned about our RM. Um so with that said, uh for...did we read the uh resolution already? Can I get a show of hands, those in support of uh what one is it again, 8 uh .1, that's the Bylaw for 24-08 uh Taxation Bylaw First Reading, can I get a show of hands of those in support. That's Melinda, Glen and Patrick (Warren, Fuhl, Therrien). Those opposed, uh Mark and Andy (Miller and Kuczynski). That is so uh uh approved and carried.

**13. CLOSED MEETING - Mayor Therrien** –Uh then we will go to a Closed Meeting **at this point**. Can I get a mover and a seconder to uh to move this into a Closed Meeting? Patrick and uh Glen (Therrien/Fuhl). **CAO Draper** –*Be it Resolved that this meeting recess In Camera to discuss legal issues and Be it Further Resolved that all matters shall remain confidential until a Report is made public.* **Mayor Therrien** –Thank you  
**13.1 Legal Issues**

**14. RETURN FROM CLOSED MEETING - Mayor Therrien** –Ok uh it's the same date uh May the 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:36. We're coming out of uh Closed uh Meeting. Can I get a mover and a seconder please. Uh Glen and Patrick (Fuhl/Therrien). **CAO Draper** –*Be it Resolved that this meeting reconvenes from In Camera.* **Mayor Therrien** –And then we'll go to adjournment, no issues to bring forward. (prompted by the CAO) Oh, can I get a show of hands of those in support? Unanimous and is carried.

**15. ADJOURNMENT- Mayor Therrien** –And at this exact same time at 7:36 we'll go into an adjournment. Uh thank you very much.