

**RM of Springfield
Council Meeting.
October 15, 2024 6:00 p.m.**

NOTE: There is a Special Meeting being held at the Dugald Community Club at 6 p.m. on Monday, October 21st regarding the Procedure Bylaw 24-10. I hope as many as possible can be in attendance at that meeting as Question Period and it being included in the Procedure Bylaw is the subject of discussion.



Plan 2050 is a construct of the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region, a non-elected organization, that is comprised of the municipalities surrounding and including the City of Winnipeg. What it essentially does is take the authority for planning away from the individual municipalities. As advertised, the object of Plan 2050 is to provide a vibrant collection of unique and thriving “complete” communities that offer a range of housing choices, amenities, and recreation. Now is the time to make your feelings known as to whether or not you wish a proliferation of residential development in the RM of Springfield, and to contribute to the services required to support that development. Note that the Water Treatment Plant proposed for Dugald to enable expanded residential development for which all ratepayers are being asked to pay for in their property taxes is an example. PLEASE VOTE!

WITHOUT PREJUDICE (E&OE)

LENGTH OF MEETING 50 minutes

NOTE: A resident, when speaking with me, referred to Mayor Therrien as a “control freak”. Tonight the Mayor made that aspect of his character clear when, although obviously suffering from a terrible head cold, he chose to come to a public place and share his germs with the community instead of letting Deputy Mayor Fuhl take the meeting.

Mayor Therrien – Thank you. Um this is the RM of Springfield agenda for October 15th of 2024, it’s exactly uh 6 p.m. Um and uh if I can get uh um ... well, actually I’ll introduce uh Council. In front of me is uh Kristy Groenheide, our Assistant uh CAO at the controls. Uh to my left is CAO Colleen uh Draper, myself, uh Mayor Patrick uh Therrien for the RM of Springfield, the rest of the councillors for the RM of Springfield is uh Deputy uh Mayor Glen Fuhl, Ward 1, Councillor Ward 2 (having a coughing fit) Andy Kuczynski, and uh Ward 3 is uh Mark Miller and just in time, Ward 4 is uh Melinda Warren. **NOTE: I am assuming she had just arrived at the meeting, a bit late.** Hi. So if we can get **Councillor Kuczynski** – Excuse me, Patrick, you’re not talking to the mike and nobody will hear you. **Mayor Therrien** – Oh, I’ve got this one here. **NOTE: Council are all wearing headsets with microphones but the Council table also has microphones built in so the room can hear what is being said.** Oh, oh ok, sorry about that. Is that better? Alright, sorry, um then we’ll go to uh um Invocation.

2. CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION - Mayor Therrien – Uh and I’ll, I’ll do that. Uh let us as elected officials uh make uh good decisions going forward. (sniff) And then we’ll got to Land Acknowledgement.

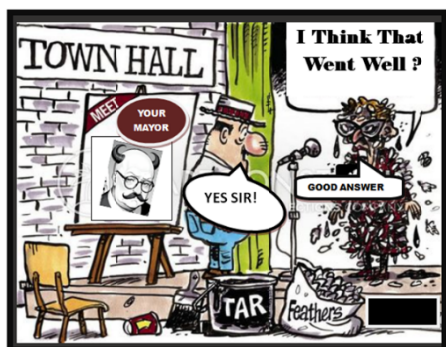
3. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT - Mayor Therrien – Uh if I can get Melinda uh for that, please or did I say you’re so. Oh sorry, Glen ... **Councillor Fuhl** - Land Acknowledgement. The RM of Springfield acknowledges that we are gathered on ancestral, ancestral land, Territory One territory, traditional territory of Anishinaabe, ... Anishinaabe, uh Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene Peoples, and on the National Homeland of the Red River Métis. **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you, uh Glen

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - Mayor Therrien – And then Approval of the Agenda, can I get a mover and a seconder uh please for that? Melinda and Patrick (Warren/Therrien). **Colleen Draper, CAO** – *Be it Resolved that the Agenda be approved.* **Mayor Therrien** – Uh go ahead, Mark. **Councillor Miller** – Uh thank you, Mr. Mayor. Under No. 9, Unfinished Business, I’d like to talk a little bit about the uh Procedural Bylaw 24-10 and the Special Meeting on October 21st if I could, please. **Mayor Therrien** – Uh ok. Uh we’ll add that uh to Unfinished Business. Uh then anything else for Approval of the Agenda, number 9? I see none. Could I uh get a show of hands, those in support? That is unanimous and is carried.

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES - Mayor Therrien – Adoption of the Minutes, a mover and a seconder uh please. Again that’s uh Item No. 5, that’s uh Glen and Mark (Fuhl/Miller). (sniff) **CAO Draper** – *Whereas the Minutes of the Council meeting held October 1st have been previously distributed to Council, be it resolved that the same be and are hereby approved.* **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you. Uh can I get uh a show of hands, those in support? (sniff) It is unanimous, carried.

6. QUESTION PERIOD - Mayor Therrien – Uh Item No. 6 and that’s Question uh Period. Uh and we have 15 minutes for that uh **there**. Uh and we’ll go on line first and I see nobody uh there. Um **NOTE: At that juncture, you can hear Edwin Giesbrecht.** Edwin Giesbrecht - ... check,

check (ya) check ... **Mayor Therrien** – Ya, ok Edwin. **Edwin Giesbrecht** – On line. Um while they're not uh specifically to the agenda, it is specific to October 21st which is agenda and I have presented to Council for a second delegation and I request a vote this evening, although my first delegation is approved and there is no if, ands and but, I would like be honoured with a second delegation of 15 minutes. That will be to your absolute discretion, Mr. Mayor, and the Council as a whole. **Mayor Therrien** – Ok, that isn't part of the agenda and you got your reply on that, and we'll look at that on the 21st of October uh Edwin. Um so if I can get another question. **Edwin Giesbrecht** – Uh no, that is not true, uh Mr. uh Therrien. Um it's, it's actually contrary, you must abate??? to a vote this evening whether I will be given a second delegation on October the 21st because it must be in advance of October the 21st by your very own Procedural Bylaw so we can't do that. I'm sorry, it must be attended to this evening and I would ask for a motion by my ward councillor or any other councillor that has a stimulus??? of honour to bring this forward and have this voted upon, either I will or will not be granted a second delegation. I don't have time to put a whole delegation together on a secondary basis if I'm not going to be allowed in Dugald. Appreciate that. **Mayor Therrien** – We will discuss it but we're not voting on it. Uh you were ... you've gotten correspondence from our CAO on the 21st of October ... **Edwin Giesbrecht** – **interrupting** No your correspondence from your CAO ... **NOTE: Mayor Therrien tries to interrupt.**... pardon me, Sir, your correspondence to your.... by your CAO is contrary ... contrary to a Municipal Services Officer of the Minister, it is contrary and I can bring that to your attention later in the week but it is contrary. She is out of accord and I **demand** from this Council a vote of whether I will be concurred??? to a second delegation, yes or no. Do it by special resolution, do it by special meeting, I don't care, but I am telling you your CAO is out of accord to the Municipal Services Officer. **Mayor Therrien** – Ok, no, we're not doing that, we, we said we're going to be looking at it on the 21st of October um so that's, that's your answer there, Edwin. Uh chance for another uh speaker, or a question. On line or in the audience and I see neither. Uh then if we can go to uh ... **Edwin Giesbrecht** – **interrupting** Well, hold it, is that your decision or is that the decision of the Council? You are on **Mayor Therrien** – Uh thank you. **NOTE: The Mayor had Kristy Groenheide mute Mr. Giesbrecht. (Picture compliments of a constituent who, like me, would enjoy thus adorning our illustrious head of Council for his actions that are completely the opposite of the 7 desired qualities one should possess as outlined in the RM of Springfield Strategic Plan.)**



7. DELEGATION – nil

8. BY-LAWS- nil

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – nil

10. CONSENT AGENDA – 10.1 AMM News Bulletin - **Mayor Therrien** –Uh we'll go the the uh Consent Agenda there. That's item 10.1, AMMun News Bulletin. Can I get a mover and a seconder, please. **Patrick and Glen (Therrien/Fuhl)** **NOTE: Again, highly unusual that he answers by moving his own request for a motion without allowing time for anyone else on Council to speak and nominating Fuhl as the seconder when Councillor Fuhl never said a word.** **CAO Draper** – Whereas a Consent Agenda has been submitted consisting of one item, Be it Resolved that the said Consent Agenda be received as information. **Mayor Therrien** – Uh thank you. Any questions with regards to 10.1 uh from Council, AMM News Bulletin? I see none. Can I get a show of hands, those in support of carrying it? That is unanimous.

11. NEW BUSINESS - **Mayor Therrien** –Uh then we'll get to the New uh Business ... or did I pass yours uh Mark. Ya, I did eh on Unfinished Business. Sorry about that. Uh let me uh...ya, go ahead, we'll go to, back to Item No. 9, uh Unfinished Business.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS -**Mayor Therrien** – Uh can I get a show of hands, those in support uh or a mover (coughing) and a seconder, please? **CAO Draper** – I don't have a resolution for it, it's just um for discussion.... **Mayor Therrien** – interrupting Uh ok. **CAO Draper** – ... at this point. **Mayor Therrien** – Go ahead, Mark. **Councillor Miller** – Uh thank you, Mr. Mayor. Uh so uh just coincidental, I didn't know what Edwin was going to be speaking about but I just wanted to know some logistical procedures for the uh Special Meeting on October 1st or 21st. Um for instance his may be one of concern. Uh how many delegations are we going to uh allow plus how much time is going to be allocated for delegations and Question Period and the whole nine yards. Uh I want to make sure uh absolutely that we have adequate time, if it takes 2 hours, if it takes 3 hours, because you know this is one of the most fundamental uh and important meetings that perhaps this Council may ever have in this Municipality to do with Question Period, it is fundamentally uh entrenched in democracy. **NOTE: Mayor Fell did away with questions from attendees while agenda items were being discussed and that was the reason Question Period was substituted. If we do away with Question Period, which Mayor Therrien expressed he would like to see, the public will have NO OPPORTUNITY to speak to issues in an open forum. THAT IS BY DEFINITION THE TERMINATION OF DEMOCRACY and the BEGINNING OF DICTATORSHIP in the RM of Springfield.** Uh we have a letter uh from uh the Charter Advocates and further to that um I've done a lot of research and uh this is something we want to uphold to our Municipality, to our public and so forth so has there been any thought or what is purview and I know our CAO is

trying to organize this and maybe she can speak to it, of what her sense of the evening will be or what the format of the evening will look like in terms of time allocation and delegations and so forth. **CAO Draper** – Uh so I'm just going to pull up the Special Meeting Agenda. Uh so it is being held at the Dugald Community Club so that we could accommodate uh more in person attendance. Uh so the only item on the agenda there, it starts with Question Period. Uh we have a Delegation, Mr. Edwin Giesbrecht, and uh Question Period right at the beginning. So um and then it's regarding Bylaw 24-10, the Procedural Bylaw, I know there's been questions whether it will be by ZOOM, um unfortunately we don't think the WIFI can handle 8, a minimum of eight computers set up um on ZOOM, uh so we're not going to depend on that. We will have a recording of **NOTE: Mr. Giesbrecht is trying to interrupt her**, of the meeting and ... so we will be recording the meeting and posting that audio on the Website like we do other meetings. Uh so the only difference is that it's in person only but um it can hold, I think, up to 170 people or 175 people in Dugald Community Club so uh that's the format, uh I know for um the delegation um Mr. Giesbrecht is scheduled at 6:15 for Question Period and the importance of it, he has requested a second delegation uh so that's up to Council if they want to decide that. At this point, I've told Mr. Giesbrecht that he can carry on with his delegation and take extra time if Council allows him so that's kind of the compromise we made, so yep, if Council has different feelings on that, that's ultimately up to you. **Councillor Miller** – I think, um Madam CAO, that's a compromise uh to allow Edwin to have additional time, or for that matter, any other constituent or other resident additional time. All I want to ensure is that as we had a packed Chamber and overcrowded, packed Chamber here, if we have a capacity crowd or just in general if we have 40 people or 30 people or 20 people who want to speak, that we give them that opportunity. I think it's critical. That's the whole purpose of us moving it from this Chamber to another location is to give those people an opportunity to speak to us **NOTE: When the planning was being done for the new Administration Building, and CAO Draper was a member of staff at the time, the idea was to build a Chamber that could accommodate large crowds that had been experienced at the old site on Main. Instead, the CAO's office is almost as large as the Chamber and the Chamber is not much larger than it was on Main Street. POOR PLANNING???** on such a critical and an important issue and for us say, well we'll move it somewhere but just limit it to 15 minutes and thank you very much, our decisions have been pre-made or pre-ordained. I think that's uh a travesty of justice but beyond that, I just want to ensure that I'm going into this meeting knowing that I'm going to hear from residents ... I've had ... I've been inundated with people e-mailing, texting, and calling me in the last week, saying, Mark, how do I speak at this and if they're going to be cut off, there's going to be a riot. People will go bananas saying we came all took the effort to come to this meeting and give us 2 minutes to speak **NOTE: That would only be enough time to say your name and that you are not in favour, pretty much.** and ... and, you know, so a Special Meeting should allow for additional time, additional speakers and so forth, that's just my uh sense of what this meeting should look like. In terms of ZOOM, I know there's logistical challenges to that so I give you a little bit of leeway with that but I know that we are in 2024. I've been in meetings all across the world and, you know, the most remote corners of this planet and organizations can do ZOOM meetings, you know, so I'm not sure why we can't get there. We have a spec ... specific technology person here in the RM who could set that up and so forth. I'm not going to fight for this one necessarily but I think it's important for us to provide adequate communication tools to those who can't participate directly at these meetings so ZOOM is not ... again, we're not in a Third World developing country where it's not possible. If we can't get Internet connection and ZOOM possibilities here, then we're really hooped, like I ... we're in a sad state of affairs, not because it's too hard but because we maybe don't want to do it. So I think we should give every opp ... every opportunity to find a way to make it happen but that's not my call. **CAO Draper** – Ya, like obviously, we don't um run that building, we didn't put the Internet in, uh we use what they have to offer. Uh we've kind of discovered that 8 computers would not be accommodated on their WiFi that's available there. Um in my opinion, Question Period ... this is the only item on that agenda so I don't expect it to be a 15 minute Question Period and I don't expect it to be limited but I also don't expect to go to midnight either so um there's one agenda on the item ... Question Period will go as long as Question Period needs to go, as long as we're not hearing the same thing over and over again, that's not a good use of time either so ... uh and then Mr. Giesbrecht can take over his 15 minutes, he's been assured that by me umand that'll be up to Council how long he's allowed so. **Councillor Miller** – And I would absolutely agree. Mr. Giesbrecht has to be respectful to Council and to those are participating too. If others want to speak, he can't domineer or dominate, I'm, I'm more than ample to hear him and all of us in Council but for him to take oodles of time and bump other people wouldn't be right either. So I want to be reasonable and I think Mr. Giesbrecht knows that, he should be succinct and to the point and uh **CAO Draper interrupting** – And I've encouraged him to submit material ahead **NOTE: This is another requirement that I do not agree with. As long as one provides the topic of their delegation, I do not believe they should be required to submit their actual presentation. Some people do not put anything down on paper but merely ad lib at the time of the meeting. They should not be disallowed from appearing as a delegation simply because they have no written material to provide to the CAO.** of time as well so that he can get all his points across and Council can review those ahead of time as well so. **Mayor Therrien** – Well, how much time were you thinking uh Mark. We extended last time a half hour. Are you thinking a half hour or 40 minutes or what? **Councillor Miller** – Well, I don't have any number in my head, so to speak. I guess it all depends on how many people there are, if there's, you know, 20 people who want to speak, surely we could give them 3 or 4 minutes each or whatever it might be but uh I wouldn't want to cut people off. I agree with you in terms of repetition but um you know, in general, there might be other points of view out there so uh I don't know that we can determine it here and now but if there's again 50, 60, 80 people who want speak, maybe we should at least hear the majority of them. Um I mean, we've got all night, right, it's the only item on the agenda and this is so critically important, this is going to hit national news, I have a feeling so I think uh we're going to see a lot of ... (laugh) ... a lot of uh ripples in the wind either at this meeting or after it so how the outcome of the vote goes is extraordinary, it could be precedent setting and as I say, it could be national news. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – Uh it's not going to be precedent setting, uh at all, uh but we have to have a time, we have to have a structure, we just can't go in there blindly so let's ... let's see if we can word...work out a time, what, what are you looking at? **Councillor Miller** – Well, again, I don't want to prejudge it, if there's only 10 people there obviously we don't really need that.... **Mayor Therrien** – interrupting Well, then we'll adjust it if there's 10 people but we have to assume there's going to be a lot of people, that's why we're putting all the expense and the new hall... well, I would say 45 minutes uh but we have to have a structure, we can't just allow an open-ended uh that's just not uh good governance. We have to allow some time for our time as well. Uh I'm thinking uh and I'll leave it up to Council uh a number out there, 40, 45 minutes. **Councillor Miller** – Well you know, just like the Municipal Board or any uh institution of ... the House of Commons or the Manitoba Legislature, they allow the public to speak until the last speaker so why we're doing any different and saying you've got 45 minutes ... maybe 45 would be adequate but if it isn't, let's extend it and let's allow the others to speak. I don't see why we have to be a ball and chain and cut off people just because we don't want to hear from people, that would be **Mayor Therrien** – interrupting Ok, well what does Council think of 45 minutes, like I say, we've got to have structure, we can't just go in there blindly. Um I'm thinking 45 minutes, that's a lot of questions we can have in 45 minutes. What does Council think about the time? Glen? **Councillor Fuhl** – Ya, I'll speak to that. I don't think there should be a set time, I kind of side with Mark on this one, um

Mr. Miller or Councillor Miller, sorry, um you know we ... we don't know what's going to be, there could be 10 people, could be 150 people, I believe that Colleen...our CAO has explained it right, that you know, depending on the amount of people, we can decide how much minutes per person and if there's common denominations??? of people speaking the same thing, then we don't need to hear it twenty times, we can scale it back then and just bring it closed to a number but at this time to actually state a number ... I'd like to wait to see what shows ... how many people show up and then take it from there. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – Melinda? **Councillor Warren** – I'm in agreement with (laughing) Councillor Miller and Councillor Fuhl. Let's just wait until we see how many people and then we can judge cause we did this before, we allowed it to go on at our last meeting for half an hour or 45, however long it took for people to get, to get what they wanted to say, right so. **Mayor Therrien** – But if we ... we or I were to stop somebody ... **Councillor Warren** – Well just, just wait. **Mayor Therrien** –... who's doing the same question again and again that nobody's going to listen and that just seems to be the way so um why ... ok we'll go with that um and see what turns up on the 21st of October but I ... it's...it's out there on Facebook uh and some groups are telling everybody to show up so we'll have a lot more than 10, I think you know that. Um Andy? **Councillor Kuczynski** - I just want to say that anybody who wants to speak, it's very important and we have to listen to them. We just can't choose whatever people are going to say. It's not our ... it's only about Question Period and the connect Invocation so they cannot, you know, come with the different wards or whatever but everybody who is there, whoever is going to show up, it's very important to our community. That's who we represent and they have to have time allowed for them to speak, we cannot just say ... we created a Special Meeting just for that purpose and then we're going to limit people from speaking and saying why some people are more important than others, no, they all are important who are going to show up to the meeting. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** –Thank you. I'm not against speaking, I'm just saying we have to have a structured uh basis for this to go on blindly uh there um but I understand the majority of Council will go in there on the 21st of October and see what happens uh there but I'd like to know a time where we're not there till midnight uh as well, that's uh ... or you know, be there ... there be a time uh part of our Procedural Bylaw says uh 10 o'clock or 11 o'clock, is it 10 or 11?**CAO Draper** – Uh I believe it's 10:30 with an option to go to 11. **Mayor Therrien** – Well, if we still uh adhere to the 10:30 uh with the option of a half hour. **NOTE: Does the Mayor need to go to bed early to get his beauty sleep?** Yes? Ok. **CAO Draper** – So I guess I'll just mention that we wanted to get this agenda out just because I know there were so many people interested in this, we released the agenda early **NOTE: And the sky did not fall in!**but uh now I'm kind of looking at the order of the agenda and we really should have started with the delegation uh before Question Period because if our Question Period goes for 3 hours, then our delegates are going to be sitting there waiting to speak so um if Council wants to amend that, we can certainly do that. We have more than enough time to change that on the agenda and ... **Mayor Therrien** – interrupting Can we do it now or then? **CAO Draper** –Um well if Council's ok with me just changing the agenda order and start with delegation right at, right at the beginning at 6? Ummmmm ... **NOTE: That is not OK. People reading the agenda might not show up until the delegation at 6:15 and they would then miss the Delegation. YOU CANNOT BE CHANGING AGENDAS AFTER THEY ARE POSTED TO THE PUBLIC. Since that agenda has been posted early, in case not everyone listened to this meeting, I don't think you can now be changing the time of the delegation.****Mayor Therrien** –That makes sense. Everybody good with that? **Councillor Fuhl** – Yep. **NOTE: Again, speaking for all on Council, I presume.****Mayor Therrien** – Ya, we'll just.... **CAO Draper** – interrupting I'll just communicate with Mr. Giesbrecht the change in his time um and then we'll follow that with opening up the Question Period. And there's no vote scheduled on this, on this meeting so ... **Councillor Miller** – And just so I know, delegations can uh apply up to what, Friday, is it, I don't even (laughing) thank you **CAO Draper** – interrupting Five days prior again ... **Councillor Miller** –So that would be uh ... actually, that would be what uh is it Thursday? **CAO Draper** – Friday ... **Councillor Miller** –interrupting Friday.**CAO Draper** –... would be kind of the cutoff for a delegation so ... **Councillor Miller** – Friday at noon or something like that, like is it Friday at noon? **CAO Draper** – Right now it's Friday till the end of the day basically before we set the agenda. **Councillor Miller** – Ok, thank you. **CAO Draper** – No I think Andy has **Mayor Therrien** –Oh, Andy? **Councillor Kuczynski** – Yes, uh I would like to ask uh Madame CAO, why did we choose Dugald Community Centre when we know that we cannot use ZOOM there? Can we use in Cooks Creek? **CAO Draper** –Uh, I'm not even sure about Cooks Creek, the last time we were there, we didn't have more than 2 computers set up so I don't know what the capacity is for those, ummmm, here we can we hard-wired, **NOTE: I didn't know exactly what that meant so I googled it: implemented in the form of permanent electronic circuitsconnected or incorporated by or as if by permanent electrical connections. I STILL DON'T KNOW!**there we cannot so that makes a big difference ??? so uh I wouldn't want to go out, you know, staying stating we can do ZOOM and then the whole thing crashes and we don't have the capacity to do it so uh so we **Councillor Kuczynski** – So do we know which area in Oakbank has capacity to have ZOOM from? **CAO Draper** –Here. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Only here? **CAO Draper** – In our Council chambers. **Councillor Kuczynski** –No church is available that has good Internet? **CAO Draper** –Well, you're all, **you're all working off the WiFi there, we're not hard-wired** when we go to another location so um you know, you have to look at every Council laptop, mine um, one for the presenters to speak, one for Kristy to run the ZOOM so that's why I'm saying there's a minimum of 8 computers we would need to function on a ZOOM meeting. **NOTE: So I still don't quite understand. Does that mean that the Council chamber is wired with permanent electronic circuits that are required to facilitate ZOOM? When I google "what is ZOOM", the following explanation is provided: Zoom is a cloud-based video communications platform that allows users to connect with video, audio, phone, and chat. It is commonly used for virtual meetings, webinars, and collaborative work. WiFi – a facility allowing computers, smartphones, or other devices to connect to the internet or communicate with one another wirelessly within a particular area. HARD-WIRED – (past tense) make (a function) a permanent feature in a computer by means of permanently connected circuits, so that it cannot be altered by software ... connect (electrical parts) permanently.SERVER – A server is a computer or system that provides resources, data, services, or programs to other computers over a network. It is a piece of hardware designed to store and manage data, typically with more RAM and reliable power sources, the primary function of which is to provide services such as web hosting, application storage, and database management.NETWORK – a number of computers that are connected together so that they can share information. VIRTUAL – carried out, accessed, or stored by means of a computer, especially over a network.VIRTUAL MEETINGS – are a form of communication that enables people in different physical locations to meet in the same virtual room. MY CONFESSION – after looking up all those terms, I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND. But I do know "where there's a will, there's a way" but if "will" is lacking, so probably is a "way".****Councillor Kuczynski** – Well, couldn't two councillorslook at one computer? We can share computers. We don't have to be **CAO Draper** –I think we would be ... **Councillor Kuczynski** –... you know, everybody have their own computer. We're going to see the same thing on one computer than on more computers. **CAO Draper** – Ya, I can't imagine there's more than 170 people that are going to say something different about Question Period but I think we're going to hear a lot of the same information. Um we booked the larger venue because that's what we needed to do was to exceed our maximum capacity in this room and unfortunately we can't offer ZOOM so it's a compromise we had to make. **NOTE: On September 19th I contacted Brian Seaton of the RM of Springfield Fire Department at what was apparently his personal e-mail address, and I cannot remember now how I obtained that**

address, to inquire if the RM of Springfield has a Fire Code and if so, where I might view it. His response on the 20th was to ask who I was and what this was pertaining to as it was his personal email. I replied that I had got the address from the RM Website and that I had been a councillor from 2014 to 2018. As I received nothing further, on October 14th I again contacted him as he had not as yet answered my question regarding the Fire Code. His reply was that he had answered my question, that it was his personal email, and that he would not answer my question on his personal email, especially on the long weekend. AS MAYOR THERRIEN HAD RESTRICTED THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE ALLOWABLE IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER BASED ON THE RM'S FIRE CODE, it was a legitimate question. However, based on his response, I did not pursue the issue further. I can no longer find that address on the website, it seems to have disappeared although it does say "email" beside his name and that of others but there is no actual e-mail addresses now. I can find no RM of Springfield Fire Code, but when I googled Manitoba Fire Code, I found registered July 7, 2023 Adoption of *National Fire Code of Canada 2020* Subject to the amendments set out in the Schedule, the *National Fire Code of Canada 2020*, issued by the Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes of the National Research Council of Canada, as amended from time to time, is adopted as the fire code for Manitoba. Councillor Kuczynski – Thank you.

11. NEW BUSINESS

11.1 Update – Winnipeg Metropolitan Region – Regional Growth Plan - Mayor Therrien – Ok, then let's get back uh um where did I leave off, um an Update, 11.1 Update uh Winnipeg Metropolitan Region, Regional Growth Plan. Um I've uh uh received a letter from the Minister Bushie, last time I spoke I was uh waiting for it, I cannot share the contents as it is a government document and not addressed to myself specifically and not in my purview to release to the public. I will forward this to the Council, probably tomorrow morning just because I'm feeling so crappy today um **NOTE: The Mayor can attend a 50-minute long meeting, as ill as he is, but cannot find the 2 minutes it probably takes to forward a document to Council members until tomorrow.** but it must remain confidential uh at this time, like it's um I've had a prepared statement, the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region or WMR received this correspondence uh from the Minister indicating that more information would be introduced in the Fall Session of the Legislation giving the municipalities the freedom to choose, **NOTE: I believe that was on TV news.** to take part in the Capital Planning Region. Details on what these legislative changes will look like will be shared once the legislation has been introduced before the House. The Rural Municipality of Springfield has not yet uh made any decisions regarding Plan 2050 nor can we uh until further details about the next steps and options are available, the Municipality is not able to make an informed decision about what is best for the community and if people want to uh contact the uh Winnipeg Metropolitan uh Region uh there's a website uh **there**, um and a phone number as well on, on the Website uh **there** so it's more than accessible uh to the public uh **there**. Um and that's it, that's just my update so far, it's not uh um titillating uh **there** but I just want to keep Council uh update and I'll send you a copy. Again it cannot be uh distributed, it must stay with yourselves. Um any questions at all? Andy? **Councillor Kuczynski** – Yes, so does the Government have a time frame, whenever they're going to prepare or they don't give us any time frame? **Mayor Therrien** – No, uh Michael Moore and the Executive Director General for Freedom are continuing to meet with the Deputy Minister Gray and Assistant uh Deputy Minister Neufeld **NOTE: Bruce Gray, Deputy Minister of Municipal Relations and perhaps Assistant Deputy Minister Neufeld is also Municipal Relations but I was unable to find that on Google.** so um I don't, I'm not purview to when and where they meet with the Ministers at all. Um just uh the fact is uh it's ongoing and it's in our best interest to await further clarification on the legislative uh changes before we make any major decisions (sniff) and we'll be closely monitoring uh these uh developments uh **there** and uh there hasn't been any since uh uh I don't know how many months uh now (coughing). **NOTE: I am grateful I was watching this meeting on ZOOM because as good as it may be, I don't think it can transmit germs to me over the Internet. Unfortunately, the remaining members of Council and those who attended the meeting in person were not as lucky.** **Councillor Kuczynski** – So what happened, what happened with that uh decision that the Board of Directors made in Niverville that they said that in 40 days they were going to be another location uh for the Second Reading? What happened with that, uh they just fell asleep and they're not going to second, 40 days was like uh **Mayor Therrien** – interjecting September the 18th. **NOTE: Suddenly there is a woman's voice obliterating the audio and what is being said can't be heard.** **Councillor Kuczynski** – So why aren't they releasing any information to the public. **NOTE: More noise on the audio.** It's their responsibility to do it **NOTE: The Mayor can be heard coughing.** and you, Mr. Mayor, you're representing us, you should ask those questions, why aren't they proceeding with that? Why are they keeping people in the dark? **Mayor Therrien** – Well, I don't know about keeping them in the dark but why, I haven't heard anything **with regards to** that and the deadline for the 40 days was September the uh 18th. That's ... that's a government uh decision. (ok) There's a lot of feedback, uh Kristy, I'm not sure who. **Councillor Kuczynski** – That's not government decision, that's a decision of Plan 2050 directors. **Mayor Therrien** – No, no it's not uh it's Ian Bushie or uh Minister Bushie's decision. **Councillor Kuczynski** – No, Minister Bushie is just going to have legislation and create something, freedom there. That's their responsibility but to advise everybody what's happening with the Plan 2050 is the responsibility of the Board of Directors of Plan 2050. **Mayor Therrien** – No, it's not. You're wrong, Andy. It's not the decision of the Minister, it's uh he's, he's the one that is in charge of uh of uh the regional plan and it's up to him to, to make that announcement. I haven't heard anything is what I'm saying to you so I can't, I can't answer that, it's the Minister that will address uh a second public hearing when or if that's going to happen, uh you know, it's um I have no idea. **Councillor Kuczynski** – I didn't hear when I was in that meeting in Niverville, I didn't hear Mr. Bushie being there, I didn't see him and make that decision, it was, it was the Chair of the uh Plan 2050 who made that uh announcement to the public. **Mayor Therrien** – Ya, and ... **Councillor Kuczynski** – So he ... if he announced it, then he should correct it and state to the rest of the uh public that, ok, we're not going to have a meeting for the second reading and we wait for the decision of the government but they should have some kind of announcement to the public, not everybody waiting and you know, nobody knows what's happening. **Mayor Therrien** – I agree. I can't tell you anything more than that. I agree. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Ok, ok. **Mayor Therrien** – But it's not uh WMR that makes that decision, it's the uh the Minister who's in charge of that Act and he's the one that makes that decision. He's made it uh clear that he has to wait for uh our Premier, Wab Kinew, to uh, to release the Freedom Act and that's, that's where we're at now, uh nobody knows anything more than what I just said now, it's nothing uh holding back or anything uh like that. **NOTE: There is a Freedom of Information Act of 1988 provided for access to members of the public to records held by the Government of Manitoba and government agencies, with certain exemptions. The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) was drafted and passed on June 27, 1997. There is no Freedom Act.** Um ok then.... **Councillor Kuczynski** – interrupting Another thing, another thing, Mr. Mayor, I want to say, I just followed the program 2050 and it's all over the news, all over the ... everybody in Poland ... can know what they discussing and how they're going to proceeding with it. Why the ... here in Manitoba we have secrets. What's the reason for it? **Mayor Therrien** – Well, there's no secret. So I'm not sure what that I've never read that article, you

should have sent it to me in advance ... **Councillor Kuczynski – interrupting!** I'm telling you, it's there, it's in the ... on Internet and it's ... the Polish government announcing that ... what's happening to the ... with Plan 2050. **NOTE: I checked it out and I don't think it is the same thing as our Plan 2050. It is Poland Net-Zero: The roadmap toward achievement of the EU climate policy goals in Poland by 2050.** Mayor Therrien – Ok, well if you can send us copies of that, that would be really nice. **Councillor Kuczynski –** Sure, yep. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien –** Ok um I think that's everything there. Thank you.

11.2 AMM Member Meetings with R.C.M.P. - Mayor Therrien – Uh why don't we go to 11.2, that's AMM Member Meetings with the R.C.M.P. **CAO Draper –** Yep, no resolution on this one, sorry. **Mayor Therrien –** We're going to go to the Consent Agenda, all the way through uh or just uh just to make it known. **CAO Draper –** Uh this is New Business, 11.2. **NOTE: Indeed, Mayor Therrien, you did Consent Agenda on Page 2 of my notes, Item 10, and this is Page 6 and Item 11.2.** **Mayor Therrien –** Oh, ok. **CAO Draper –** Um just for Council's information, with the AMM um Conference coming up, we received letters from both the D Division uh the R.C.M.P. as well as you can request meeting with uh different Ministers about topics that you'd like to discuss so for now it's just information. I believe the R.C.M.P. uh request needs to be in by November 1st and the request to meet with Ministers is November the 6th. **NOTE: I personally think the RM should schedule a meet with the R.C.M.P. to discuss why the Oakbank Detachment, and the satellite Beausejour Detachment, are understaffed, and our Springfield Police Service members, of which I now believe we will have only 2 remaining as the Chief and one member are leaving, are being used to respond to calls made to D Division and the Oakbank and maybe even Beausejour offices. The SPS are funded directly from the property taxes of Springfield ratepayers while the R.C.M.P. are funded by, I think, by the Provincial Government whose funds come from all taxpayers in the Province of Manitoba. Springfield should be, perhaps in conjunction with Beausejour and Brokenhead, pressuring the R.C.M.P. to provide more members for these areas. Steinbach did that years ago and ended up with having additional R.C.M.P. officers assigned to the Detachment responsible for policing in their locale.** So if Council can please think about that and send me any topics that you'd want to meet with the D Division or a particular Minister uh and then we can put those requests in. Unfortunately we don't meet again, I don't believe, until November 5th so **NOTE: There is a Planning Meeting scheduled for October 24th where they could add an item to the agenda and they could also call a Special Meeting for October 29th just for that one item.** we would need to get that information from Council by e-mail please and we'll send out a reminder. **NOTE: Is this the first time she is bringing this subject up? Isn't it a bit late? The Fall Convention is November 25th to November 27th.** **Mayor Therrien –** Any questions at all, Council? I see none.

11.3 Speed Zones – Speed Zones and Crosswalks Memo- Mayor Therrien – Then we'll go to Speed Zones, 11.3, um go ahead Colleen. **CAO Draper –** Uh so if Council recalls, on September 17th you passed a resolution and that was resolution of Council number 24-329 for several speed limit changes on 206 uh north and south of PTH 15 uh and then also some crosswalk signal locations, uh following discussions uh with MPI, they prefer to have each request by a separate resolution and very specific wording on that resolution so we're just asking uh Council to pass separate resolutions for all of those locations so we'll be requesting a resolution for PR 206 North of the Tracks in Oakbank, uh PR 206 south of PTH 15 in Dugald, north of PTH 15 in Dugald, and we've also had a request that Council has discussed previously about changing Jaffray Street in Dugald from PR 206 to the eastern limit to all 30 kilometers an hour. So those are the resolutions we have drafted for Council's consideration. **Mayor Therrien –** Excellent. Andy? **Councillor Kuczynski –** I have one question. I never heard this term Village of Oakbank and Village of Dugald. When did this appear in our communities? **CAO Draper –** Ya, they're actually known as unincorporated villages so that's how we refer to it. **NOTE: According to Google, there are 22 unincorporated communities with a population of more than 1,000 within Manitoba's rural municipalities, the largest of these being Oakbank with a population of 4,604. A village, on the other hand, is an incorporated urban municipality under the Province's Municipal Act of 1997 with a minimum population of 1,000 and a minimum density of 400 people per square kilometre to incorporate as an urban municipality which community then has the option to be name a village, town or urban municipality. While Oakbank might meet the criteria, is has not incorporated and is known as a dormitory town or bedroom community. Google is nothing short of amazing for the amount of information that it contains. As to whether it be accurate or not is another matter entirely. In this case, I believe it is.** **Councillor Kuczynski –** Well, you never used that term before. I thought it was the town of Oakbank and community of Dugald. **CAO Draper –** Ya, no it all falls within Springfield so they're referred to as unincorporated villages. **Councillor Kuczynski –** Well, nice to know, thank you.

11.3.1 PR 206 North of Tracks in Oakbank - CAO Draper – Uh the first resolution is for PR 206 north of the tracks in Oakbank and we've had residents requesting this change, we've have sent resolutions to MTI in the past. Unfortunately they have not been approved uh so we're going to continue to pass them and send them until uh maybe we can get some reconsideration of that. So we're looking to uh readjust the 50 to 70 to 90 uh positions so there is a map attached for Council's information. **Mayor Therrien –** Ya, I get lots of calls from uh from one complainant there and uh I totally agree, it's uh moving the speed uh zone uh up there's long uh long due. **CAO Draper –** And Mike is here from Public Works if you have any specific questions that I can't answer. **Mayor Therrien –** Any questions from Council? Uh **do we have to have a mover, seconder for the resolution (ya) or did we already do that....** can I get a mover and a seconder for this uh resolution uh **which one is that, 11. uh 3.1?** **NOTE: At the risk of seeming critical, the Mayor does not appear to keep abreast of the agenda, the discussions of the items on it, and the requirements of the RM's Procedural Bylaw, two fine examples of the latter being: 9.0 A special meeting of Council of the RM of Springfield may be called at any time by the Mayor ... and posted at least 2 days (48 hours) before the scheduled time of the meeting; and 14.0 Council may only act by resolution or bylaw. But he's only been the Mayor since October of 2022, two years.** **CAO Draper –** Yes. **Mayor Therrien –** Can I get a mover and a seconder, Patrick and uh Melinda (Therrien/Warren). **NOTE: Moving the motion he asked for without even pausing to take a breath. Maybe he has a hockey game or something later that evening that he wants to attend?** **CAO Draper –** *Be it Resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield request that the following speed limit changes be submitted to MTI for review and approval: the existing gradual speed zone on PR 206 for both northbound and southbound traffic north of the CPR rail lines in the Village of Oakbank, transitioning from 90 to 70 and then to 50 for southbound traffic, and transitioning from 50 to 70 and then to 90 for northbound traffic be readjusted. Be it further Resolved that the specific locations of signs and distance intervals are detailed on the attached Map.* **Mayor Therrien –** Thank you. Can I get a show of hands, those in support first? That is unanimous and it is carried.

11.3.2 PR 206 South of PTH 15 in Dugald- Mayor Therrien – Then we'll go to 11.3. uh 2, a mover and a seconder uh for this resolution uh PR 206 south of 15 in (coughs) in Dugald. **NOTE: More sharing of those germs!** Glen and Patrick (Fuhl/Therrien). **CAO Draper –** *Be it Resolved that*

Council of the RM of Springfield request the following speed limit changes be submitted to MTI for review and approval: the speed zone on Provincial Road 206 for both northbound and southbound traffic south of PTH 15 in the Village of Dugald be adjusted to include a gradual reduction in speed transitioning from 100 to 70, then to 50 for northbound traffic and transitioning from 50 to 70 and then to 100 for southbound traffic. Be it further resolved that the specific locations of signs and distance intervals are detailed on the attached Map. **Mayor Therrien** – Can I get a show of hands of those in support of that resolution, number 3 point uh ... 11.3.2? Unanimous and it is carried.

11.3.3 PR 206 North of PTH 15 in Dugald - Mayor Therrien – Then we'll get to 11.3.3 uh PR 206 north of PTH 15 in Dugald. A mover and a seconder for that uh as well. Uh Melinda and Andy (Warren/Kuczynski). **CAO Draper** – Be it Resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield request the following speed limit changes be submitted to MTI for review and approval: the speed zone on PR 206 for both northbound and southbound traffic north of PTH 15 in the Village of Dugald be adjusted to include a gradual reduction in speed transitioning from 100 to 70, then to 50 for southbound traffic and transitioning from 50 to 70 and then to 100 for northbound traffic. Be it further resolved that the specific locations of signs and distance intervals are detailed on the attached Map. **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you. Can I get a show of hands of those in support. That is unanimous and is carried.

11.3.4 Jaffray Street (30 kph) from PR 206 to eastern limit - Mayor Therrien – 11.3.4 Jaffray Street uh 30-kilometer zone from 206 eastern limit uh there. Uh a mover and a seconder for that uh too, please. Glen and Andy (Fuhl/Kuczynski). **CAO Draper** – Be it Resolved that the speed limit on Jaffray Street in Dugald from PR 206 to the most eastern limit be set at 30 kilometers an hour. **Mayor Therrien** – Um I'll ... uh can I get a show of hands, uh those in support? I just want to add that that is an exceptional idea and safety is paramount for our uh young kids cause that's a thoroughfare going uh to school. **NOTE: The Mayor did not mention the result of the "show of hands", i.e. was it carried?**

11.4 Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (improved crosswalks in Oakbank and Dugald) - Mayor Therrien – Ok, if we go to 11.4 uh there rectangular rapid flashing beacons, a mover and a seconder, please. **Patrick** and **Mark (Therrien/Miller)**. **NOTE: Again!** **CAO Draper** – Be it Resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield request the approval of MTI for the installation of Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon Crosswalk Signals at the following locations: Village of Oakbank, PR 206 at Almey Avenue at the existing painted crosswalk; Village of Oakbank PR 206 south of Oakwood Road at the existing painted crosswalk; Village of Dugald, PR 206 at Jaffray Street at the existing painted crosswalk; and Village of Dugald, PTH 15 at Gillespie Street on the east side of the intersection. Be it further resolved that the RM of Springfield will be responsible for all costs associated with the purchase and installation of all the proposed Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon Crosswalk Signals. **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you. Can I get a show of hands of those in support of the resolution, 11.4. That is unanimous and is carried.

11.5 Ward Appropriations - Mayor Therrien – 11.5 uh 5 uh Ward Appropriations uh there, a mover and a seconder. (sniff) Uh Melinda and **Patrick (Warren/Therrien)**. I'm not sure if you had your hand up there Melinda but it was just about to go up. **CAO Draper** – So at this point we had a few requests um from the Springfield Public Library, uh there's a request for the Mayor specifically but I guess that could be a shared uh contribution for \$400. um for additional prizes as added incentives to encourage kids to read and activities to get the kids into the library cause that's a \$400 request. **NOTE: So in short nowadays librarians and parents feel it necessary to employ BRIBERY to get the children to read. That is a sad commentary on society! Children should be encouraged to read in the schools, that is what teachers are being paid for, to teach children the necessities of life like reading and obeying the rules in their lives. I was reading before I went to school because my parents taught me to love books. Of course, there was no competition from television but we did have radio shows which were twice as exciting because it required imagination on the part of the listener.** Uh I think we've talked to Council about some electrical issues that the Cooks Creek Heritage Museum is having so we did receive a quote for some upgrades uh so if there's any consideration to help with those costs, uh I believe that's about \$12,000 dollars that ... for that project. **NOTE: I want to put in a plug for the Cooks Creek Heritage Museum. There is a dedicated core of people that work like Trojans to keep that museum going, holding various suppers and events, and the old house that is part of it came many decades ago from the old Eatons catalogue where you could purchase a house just like underwear or rubber boots, so I was given to understand. When I was a councillor, a friend of mine and I dressed up as witches at Halloween and hid in the various rooms of the old house and put a fright into any children that accompanied their parents on a tour of the house. Not one child cried! We were kindly witches and came armed with candies for those that dared to enter.** Um and then there's also a request for any contributions towards the crosswalk beacons that were just approved. **Mayor Therrien** – Sorry, I thought we, we had put money towards the crosswalk beacons already. **CAO Draper** – We have some in the Budget but not for all four so some would have to be separated then to the 2025 Budget but we would get the approvals uh through MTI. So we could probably do two, I think, in 2024 Budget and uh two would have to wait until 2025. **NOTE: This is always assuming that Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure is going to approve the beacons. Further, those are all on Provincial Trunk Highways so why is the RM having to pay for them? Should the Province not bear responsibility for keeping its highways safe for both pedestrians and motorists alike because no one driving would escape unscathed if they were to hit someone with their vehicle.** **Mayor Therrien** – Ok, so we're looking for money for the uh the beacons as well? **CAO Draper** – So those are about \$15,000 per crossing. **Mayor Therrien** – Wow. Um ok I knew that uh it was going to be expensive. Uh um so we've got the um library, the museum, then we've got the uh beacons uh as well. Now when does our ward appropriations end, in the new year. **CAO Draper** – Uh December 31st they have to be spent for 2024. **Mayor Therrien** – Ok, I'd uh why don't we go for the Museum...uh the Library first uh I was thinking if uh Council could put \$80 each uh towards that, it's a really good project uh where people bring their kids uh in there and uh they give them toys and so on, it's for young kids learning how to uh to read and uh get them familiar with the Library and our Library is exceptional. We have a very good Committee uh there and very good uh meetings uh there and we've um ... our, our Library stats are as ... as good or better than uh Steinbach's uh ... it's not a competition but for a small regional library like we have here, it's ... it's an exceptional uh Library uh so if anybody's good for \$80 bucks apiece. Uh ok I can see that's heads, a nod of heads for that. The Museum, um that's your ward, uh there **Mark**, what are we looking at for uh that, what do you think? **Councillor Miller** – Well, their bill is somewhere around \$13,000 if I remember. (ya) Well I would personally ... well, in my ward give a thousand towards but I don't necessarily know what the others would think. Um where would they come up with the other money...fundraising and things, I guess. **CAO Draper** – Uh fundraising, I'm not sure what their funds look like now. Um they could come to the RM and request additional money. I'm not sure what they plan to do. **Councillor Miller** – Ok, well I'll provide a thousand (\$1,000.) **Mayor Therrien** – And um because I'm getting really tight on uh on uh money here uh maybe I'll let Glen uh go first, what do you? **Councillor Fuhl** – I'll do \$80. for the library, I'll do \$500 for the beacons, and I'll do \$500 for the um Cooks Creek. **Mayor Therrien** – Um and I'll put \$750 to the ... to

the beacons uhthere, that almost leaves me with zero or pretty close. And uh Andy uh and Melinda? **Councillor Kuczynski** – Ya I'll do \$80, \$500 and \$500 if I have enough money then. (laughing). **CAO Draper** –**NOTE: A sneeze is heard and it sounded female to me.** Oh sorry for the museum \$80 ...no.... **Councillor Kuczynski** –\$80, \$500, and \$500. **CAO Draper** –\$500 and \$500? **Councillor Kuczynski** –Yep. **Councillor Warren** – \$80 for the Library, \$500 and \$500. **Councillor Kuczynski** –Well, I just have \$695 left so **Councillor Warren** –laughing heartily.... **Councillor Kuczynski** –So I think I went **overboard** (laughing). **NOTE: Hopefully all the sharks have left on their winter vacations down south!****CAO Draper** – We've got a couple of meetings left so we can update these amounts and bring them back for Council and let you know ... at the meeting and then we can get those amounts spent before the end of the year. **Councillor Kuczynski** – So \$80 for the Library and split whatever I have left ... **CAO Draper** – Your remaining between the two. **NOTE: \$307.50 each to the Cooks Creek Museum and toward the beacons.****Councillor Kuczynski** – Yep. Thank you. **CAO Draper** –Ok. **Mayor Therrien** – Do you have to read that or just uh ... in a resolution. **CAO Draper** –Um *Be it Resolved that the following 2024 ward appropriations be approved: Springfield Public Library \$80 per Council member; Cooks Creek Heritage Museum uh Ward 1 - \$500, Ward 2 – we don't know yet, \$500 maybe plus (laughing) NOTE: \$307.50.* OK so we'll finalize that amount. *Ward 3 OK uh Ward 3 - \$1,000, Ward 4 - \$500., for the beacons, uh the Mayor \$750, Ward 1 - \$500, Ward 2 - \$500, and Ward 4 - \$500.* **Mayor Therrien** – Can I get a show of hands, those in support of those amounts? And it is carried, unanimous.

11.6 List of Accounts – **NOTE: I queried some payments and received replies as follows: The Disaster Assistance Fund - 161079 Accurate Excavating Ltd. 102,722.81 HSR-Saunders, DFA repairs; 161162 Tri-M Truckin Ltd. 215,831.83 DFA site work, gravel grading; 161249 Graham Schlag 44,446.50 DFA repairs. What particular disaster are these works related to, i.e. does it have to do with spring flooding or lack of snow cover in the winter? These DFA expenses are related to the flooding that took place in 2022. The repairs are ongoing. If the work is just regular road maintenance, should the Disaster Assistance Fund be being accessed for such repairs? Is that legal? 161275 Pinewood Lodge 3,324.12 - Is this the total cost of the retreat in which members of Council and staff participated in? Chq #160961 – Pinewood Lodge - \$2773.16 If not, what is the total amount of any other expenses such as mileage, per diems, catering etc.? In short, I would like to know the total cost of this retreat? No other costs have been reported at this time. 161116 Force Excavating Company 5,415.38; 161251 Springfield Earthworks Ltd 41,103.30 Excavator-Briercliff, Melrose. This is, presumably, more road repair work. Can you explain why there seems to be so much extensive road repair when we had such a short winter? Rural roads had extensive damage due to the short/mild winter. Was the work covered by cheque 161130 Mike Kologie \$16,133.77 for roadwork as well? If not, what service did he provide? Haul mud on Briercliff & Melrose. Also cheque #161209 Gazee Construction Inc. \$11,992.99, is that for roadwork and if not, what? Gravel shoulders on mud roads. 161245 Ricoh Canada Inc \$5,503.68; Laserfische annual agreement (prepaid for 2025) 161187 Charles Bednar Investments Ltd \$19,785.55 Haul gravel to rural roads; 161091 Canadian Arena Services 8,896.28 Hockey nets for Hazelridge sports complex (funds will be transferred from their maintenance reserve to cover cost)– What type of services were provided by these companies? 161083 Allstar Toilet Rentals Ltd. \$3,475.50 Aug 2024 pump outs at municipal parks and 161255 Taste of Thyme Catering & Events \$1,497.31 Annual staff appreciation lunch– Are these payments for a related event or are they two separate events and what are the events? They are two separate matters. We place port-a-potties at all of our municipal parks, and they need to be emptied. As mentioned, the other cost was associated for our staff appreciation lunch.****Mayor Therrien** –Um then we'll go to uh List of Accounts, uh 11.6, a mover and a seconder for that. **Patrick and Glen (Therrien/Fuhl).** **NOTE: Again!****CAO Draper** –*WHEREAS disbursements have been reviewed for the period of Sept 14, 2024 to Oct 8, 2024; BE IT RESOLVED THAT all accounts listed on the attached printout from cheque # 161075 to 161280 totaling \$ 2,222,350.30 be approved for payment, as well as the following EFT entries: 5 payments to Red River Co-op equaling \$40, 911.82, Western Financial \$15,121.12, Amilia \$182.66, Petro Pass \$55.52, 4 payments to John Deere equaling \$26,146.86, RBC Visa \$21,979.61, Manitoba Hydro \$29,255.52, Bell Mobility \$2,147.24, Bell Canada \$6,264.13, and Volvo 2 payments equaling \$20,898.98 AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT September payroll in the amount of \$332,878.97 be approved.***Councillor Miller** – Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I have a couple of items I'd like for clarity and one is 161083, Allstar Toilet. **NOTE: See above. Great minds think alike.** Um any explanation what that might be. **CAO Draper** –Um that would be pumping out our Port-a-Potties at the Municipal parks. **NOTE: Now maybe I am just the epitome of an old codger but I recall visiting what it now known as Assiniboine Park in Winnipeg which we used to call City Park and I believe the only toilets were in the Conservatory Building and the building where the offices and food vendor was where there was that lovely latticed structure with vines at the Portage Avenue side of the building and that looked like a castle to my young self, which, if you were at the Duck Pond, or the Cricket Pitch, or the Zoo, it was a regular marathon to reach. In Ft. Rouge I visited Dudley Park and Peanut Park (close to River Avenue) and I don't recall them having public washrooms. There was a washroom in the Community Club building by the skating rink on Garwood between Coburn and Anslay which is now Arbuthnot. We must have a lot of parks in Springfield to amass a \$3,475.50 pumping fee.****Councillor Miller** –161091, that's for Canadian Arena Services for about \$8,900. **NOTE: Great minds..... see above in red.****CAO Draper** –Uh I believe that was the hockey nets that Hazelridge Sports Complex purchased and they'll be coming out of the Reserves that they have. **NOTE: Related to the Recreation Master Plan.****Councillor Miller** –Thank you. 161096, that's Clear Concepts for \$3,772. **CAO Draper** –Ya, that's our external IT company. **NOTE: What does an external IT Company do for the RM? We all know it has to do with Information Technology, but what sort of IT are they providing? Do they manage some type of Cloud cache, or do they service RM computers from afar, or do they do programming?****Councillor Miller** –Ok, uh 161110, D D West. **NOTE: Again! MY QUESTION: There are three cheques to 3 different law firms: 161110 DD West LLP 2,083.20 (development officer advice); 161256 Thompson Dorfman Sweatman 4,888.80 (labour matter); 161277 Trippier Law 27,724.87 (general matters & Sio Sands App amendment final billing) totaling \$34,696.87. That seems excessive for one month. Can you please tell me what type of issues these lawyers were dealing with, i.e. lawsuit, expropriation, etc. and the projects with which the charges were related? Further, in times past we dealt with one law firm, now you are dealing with several. Why is that? They specialize in different legal areas. I have since inquired if it has something to do with the expropriation of land and the opposition to it? I don't believe I have received an answer to that yet but I do know that one land owner being expropriated did hire a lawyer.****CAO Draper** –I believe that one is for the Development Officer um bills or invoices. **Councillor Miller** –So Planning-related, right. **CAO Draper** – Yes. **NOTE: But what does that mean? What type of service for the Planning department? Are they checking land titles, are they expropriating land, what exactly type of legal service related to Planning are they providing? Is it to do with a lawsuit?****Councillor Miller** –161130 that is Mike Kologie \$16,133.77 I don't know who Mike is but uh **CAO Draper** – He's a contractor so it's just under his name so he, I believe it was gravel hauling or mud. **NOTE: Great minds ... see above.****Councillor Miller** – Ok. That's why I'm asking for clarity. 161187, that one is **NOTE: Great minds ... see above.** Charles Bednar Investments Ltd. \$19,785, I was just wondering what investments. **CAO Draper** – Ya, that's another contractor so that's going to be gravel and mudhauling and road work. **NOTE: What are they doing, hauling the east side of Springfield over to the west side? Just being facetious. Is that the only kind of business**

that can flourish in this Municipality? I would not call that very environmentally friendly. I excavated soil when I put in my foundation and basement but the soil that was excavated was used to fill in the open gaps left after the foundation work was done and build up a yard that was higher than the surrounding marshy land. It was not suitable for the road into the property. That soil came from a large excavated fish pond where the soil was of better quality and then it was augmented with 30 years of annual or biennial droppings of truckloads of gravel from a pit in Springfield. Councillor Miller – Oh, I see. Not what I'm thinking in terms of investments. Ok, 161250 that is um 161256, sorry, Thompson, Dorfman, Sweatman, \$4,888. CAO Draper – Uh that's a labour matter that we have ongoing. NOTE: Well, what does that mean? Did a member of staff get injured and there is some type of lawsuit, is a contractor pursuing the RM for labour services that were not provided, I think, especially as a Councillor, that they have just as much right to know as the CAO, even if it may not be appropriate to discuss it in public. And I questioned that one and got the same vague response. Councillor Miller – And the final one is 161275 and that's Pinewood Lodge \$3,324.12. CAO Draper – Ya, that was for our Planning Session that Council and staff attended. NOTE: The retreat at the lodge in the Whiteshell. Councillor Miller – Ok, great, thank you. NOTE: After this, there is a lengthy silence, followed by the resolution to go In Camera shown under item 12. And it is abrupt, just the CAO reading the resolution. No discussion, no prior explanation. It seems obvious to me that the recording device was shut off for a time.

12. CLOSED MEETING – CAO Draper – *Be it Resolved that this meeting recess to In Camera to discuss personnel issues and Be It Further Resolved that all matters shall remain confidential until a report is made public.* I just need a vote.

12.1 Council Code of Conduct

13. RETURN FROM CLOSED MEETING - Mayor Therrien – Ok, uh um we're returning from uh Closed Meeting. Can I get a mover and a seconder to return uh from the Closed Meeting? Uh Melinda and Glen (Warren/Fuhl). CAO Draper – *Be it Resolved that this meeting reconvenes from In Camera.* Mayor Therrien – Show of hands, those in support? Unanimous and carried.

14. ADJOURNMENT - Mayor Therrien – And uh at this point here, at 7:01 p.m. I'll adjourn the meeting and thank you very much uh for your time uh Council and all the people on line and in the audience. Thank you.

NOTE: I HAVE TO APOLOGIZE. The RM did provide me with an explanation for the straightening of the Donaldson Drain which will cost at least \$10.3 million dollars. On February 6, 2024 in an email to Colleen Draper I stated: I have still not received a legitimate answer to the question: OF WHAT BENEFIT TO SPRINGFIELD RATEPAYERS IS STRAIGHTENING THE DONALDSON DRAIN? In reply I received the following explanation: *The original intent of the Donaldson drain project was to divert water away from the lower Donaldson Drain where flooding has occurred during major runoff events, in addition the works were also intended to divert water from Cooks Creek downstream of the Cooks Creek Diversion in order to assist in reducing downstream flooding. The District has already completed downstream works along Corbett Road, as well as crossing upgrades on Poplar Road as part of the Cooks Creek Diversion in order to handle the increased flows as part of this project. In addition to the above-mentioned benefits of this project, time has brought forward a new benefit for this project. With future potential residential development in Anola, the only suitable lands will be north of PTH 15. For potential subdivisions to come to fruition, improvements to the Donaldson Drain will likely become necessary. While there is a minor ridge between Stoneridge Road and Briercliffe Road, there is more than enough change in elevation in order to successfully complete the project with the change in elevation being over 5 metres (16 feet). The RM and the District have applied for funding under the ICIP grant funding program in the amount of \$225,000.00 towards the construction of this project. In addition, the RM and the District are cost sharing the remaining portion.* While this is an explanation, it makes no sense. We already know that the Cooks Creek Diversion is flooding the property belonging to Joyce Vaags, on the north side of PTH 15 and the east side of the Diversion, who came to Council complete with pictures to ask for this to be rectified. Diverting more water directly into the Diversion just north of PTH 15 by straightening the Donaldson Drain to run directly west of Anola about ¼ mile north of the highway will only serve to make Ms. Vaag's situation worse, as I see it. A longtime resident of the area advised me there has never been any flooding in the lower Donaldson Drain and there have not been any major runoff events in at least in the last over 20 years that I can recall. Further, show me where the residents of Anola and surrounding acreages are desirous of continued residential development of Anola? Most of us moved out here to be away from urban life. A couple of years ago, a developer contacted me, although I was no longer on Council, came to my place with 2 bottles of wine, one of which his female companion, he and myself drank while talking, the other which is still sitting on my kitchen counter, to try and talk me into being in favour of a large residential development about a mile north of the Petrocan. He thought he convinced me and left but I followed up with an e-mail advising I was not in favour of it. His name was Buhr, I believe. A resident reported to me that the owner of the property on the Northeast corner of Dundee Garson and Cedar Lake Roads recently created a berm of freshly piled manure compost which they would not be doing if there was the potential for flooding in that location. It would be interesting to know just who owns substantial amounts of developable lands around Anola.