

**RM of Springfield Council Meeting  
September 5, 2023**

**WITHOUT PREJUDICE (E&OE)**

**LENGTH OF MEETING** 1 hour 40 minutes 19 seconds

**Mayor Therrien** - We will start the uh meeting uh now, we'll call it uh to order. Um good evening, I'm uh Patrick uh Therrien, the Mayor of the RM of Springfield and today's date is uh 9th. of or the 5th. of September 2023. Uh we're starting exactly at uh 6 p.m. I'd like to introduce uh Council to you, we will..starting from the far side, that is uh Ward 4 uh Councillor Melinda Warren, uh Ward 3 uh next to her is um Mark Miller, Ward 2 next to Mark is Andy Kuczynski, next to Ant..Andy is Deputy Mayor and Councillor Ward 1 uh Glen Fuhl.

**3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA - Mayor Therrien** - Um if I could get approval of the uh Agenda there, is there anything from Council uh a mover and a seconder please. Glen and uh Melinda (Fuhl/Warren). I see uh nothing. Then approval of the agenda is adopted. **Colleen Draper** - *Be it Resolved that the agenda be approved.* **Mayor Therrien** - And it is adopted. Thank you.

**4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES - August 15, 2023 - Mayor Therrien** - Adoption of the Minutes uh subject uh 4 or item 4 on the agenda, please uh and that..a mover and a seconder, please. That'd be Andy and uh Glen (Kuczynski/Fuhl). **Colleen Draper** - *Whereas the Minutes of the Council meeting held August 15th. 2023 have been previously distributed to Council, Be it Resolved that the same be and are and hereby approved.* **Mayor Therrien** - Thank you very much. Uh can I get a uh show of support, hands. That'll be unanimous.

**Mayor Therrien** - And before we get into uh uh any further, I'd like to make a comment that I want to congratulate uh Springfield on our 150th. Anniversary. Uh we have a rich history, starting off as a small uh uh community uh compared to what we are now. Uh initially started off as the RM of United Townships of Springfield and uh Sunnyside. Our 150th. Anniversary was a...I, I feel a great success and that was because of our 150th. Anniversary committee lead, uh by our CAO and uh uh the Committee itself uh and as well as our uh our staff of um in the RM of Springfield uh and a few volunteers as well. Uh also want to let the public uh know, obviously everybody with small kids uh and those that have grandkids, school year is beginning so let's uh drive careful and uh and remember all school zones are always 30 kilometers an hour due to our new By-law 22 uh 22. Uh with that uh said, that's all I have to say **with regards** to that.

**5. QUESTION PERIOD - Mayor Therrien** - Uh Question Period is item # uh 5 um we've left out "questions pertaining to the agenda". Uh that .. it doesn't ..it was thought error at this time, and that's errors on my uh um on my shoulders, um is there any questions pertaining to the uh agenda from the audience. Uh John, do you want to come up here? **John Wright, Springfield** - John Wright, Springfield. Um I have one question on the agenda. It's um under New Business, 11.1. I did see that there's a ..if we resign that lease, it would certainly bring a good revenue in. Uh the question I have is, is Glacier mining the gravel below the water table? **Mayor Therrien** - Um if that's the question, I was out there, we all were out there, I believe everybody took the tour um but uh they are dredging below the water, yes. **John Wright** - So they are taking out (ya) below the water then. **Mayor Therrien - talking at the same time as John** They have 2, 2 dredges uh uh on the north and south side of the, the pit area. **John Wright** - That was the question I wanted to know as water is one of the things that is heavy on the agenda. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** - Thanks very much **there** for the question **there** John. Uh who else had their hand up? Ted. Go ahead. **Ted Cole** - My name is Ted Cole. I am from the RM of Springfield and, as I understand it, the Procedural By-law governs the way that Council and Board Committee meetings run. The Procedural By-law is the governing body that applies to every meeting and every agenda or delegation. Please answer these questions of clarification on your time and not mine. Number one, If an individual uses vulgar language today in Chambers, are they guilty of disorderly conduct in your opinion? Number two, If an individual uses vulgar language in past meetings in Chambers, would they be guilty of disorderly conduct in your opinion? Number three, Who would be the judge? If the R.C.M.P. refused an individual of personal, criminal background check without a letter from an employer or organization, is that disorderly conduct in your opinion? Answer, NO. One has to be charged, convicted uh to have a criminal record. Number five, If an individual's rights to an opinion was dismissed, would that be disorderly conduct in our opinion? Number six, What would the maximum penalty be for disorderly conduct be by your definition? If an individual's or group of individuals rights were taken away, procedurally or not, such as Freedom of Speech, would that be disorderly conduct in your opinion? Would a lie be considered disorderly conduct in your opinion? If an individual resident felt that you and the CAO were guilty of disorderly conduct in their opinion, how would this individual resident arbitrarily pass judgment upon both of you? Number 10, If an individual councillor and/or others were to make statements as facts that were later found to be untrue, should these individuals plead guilty or not guilty to disorderly conduct based on their responsibilities, in your opinion. And there is one other... **Mayor Therrien** - Thank you, Ted. **Ted Cole** - There's one other question. Um if information is not passed forward uh within the 30 day requirement as per by-law, is that considered disorderly conduct? And last of all, I'd like to make one comment that there has been a lot of ...Oh, God...(sigh), there's been a lot of silencing of the people and that is in regards to delegations and also Question Periods. Now I'm surprised that we're having one today. Hopefully there will be a delegation today because I've put in my request for a delegation for the 15th. of last month. **NOTE: I requested to be a delegation on the 8th. and here is my reply from Colleen Draper: I was unable to book you on the August 8<sup>th</sup> meeting but suggested you could attend after the open house if you still had questions. I have not heard from you that you want to still come as a delegation. You can interpret that how you wish.** Now hopefully there will be an opportunity for me to have a delegation. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** - Thank you, Ted. And uh anybody else in the audience? Uh Darryl I think was next. **Darryl Speer, Oakbank** - Uh Darryl Speer, Oakbank. I want to speak to 11.1 is the Cordite and Hillside Lease Report. It indicates that in accordance with the Municipal Procurement as..and Disposal of Assets Policy NOA-01. In my view, this Report does not conf..conform to established practice for RM lease of our aggregate properties. Standard leases have been for a 3 year term, not 5 year plus 2 years for a total of 7. This is also for 2 non-connected properties that would require separate leases. There has been no report on the termination of aggregate value. This was requested a year ago of Council when Glacial proposed a 10 year lease and we wanted to determine the value of the aggregate there. Contracts involving expenditures over \$100,000. must be tendered and approved by Council and normally using a scoring method to award the most worthy bidder of the contract. This contract shows one million, two hundred thousand (\$1,200,000.) for a 5 year contract. It's also problematic, as John has hinted earlier, that the Hillside Dump Site is uh is going to be having major removal of material, material that is acting as a buffer, uh not only for the dump site itself but also for adjoining properties. There are wells in the area, the fact that there's dredging going on to remove further material to uh reduce the filtering capacity of the aquifer that's

there means that there's going to be risks to the adjoining properties, some that are very close on the east side. And I believe that we had mentioned uh a year ago when this came forward that there should be an Environmental Assessment of where things were at with the Hillside Dump, the remediation. I know there's been some clay cap repairs done, whether they were successful or not is yet to be determined because it's just been done recently, we know that there's been issues with uh wells failing that we're supposed to be monitoring this particular site, so I'm going to ask that we re-visit doing an Environmental Assessment on this site. I did hear, by the way, there was a proposal that if we mined out this property on the Hillside site, that we could re-locate the problematic uh dump site into that area. To me that's a manifestly bad idea uh without proper investigations and assessments. It's one thing to take uh ..heavy equipment and push that stuff into a depleted pit. To me, that's not the answer and I think I'm going to ask the Council on reviewing this thing, the proposal, resolution, that it uh be defeated as was done a year ago. That's my request. **Mayor Therrien** - Thank you, Mr. Speers. **NOTE: Mayor Therrien cannot seem to remember that it is Speer, not Speers. Everyone else calls Darryl Mr. Speer but not Mayor Therrien.** I can, I can address uh the 10 year uh Plan **there**. Um I gave uh I wasn't going to say testimony but I was present. Uh I felt the 10 years was too long um and now that I'm in office uh **there** uh this uh the middle of the road is far better. And uh I think uh you've uh alluded to the fact uh **there** that you were representing um um that day as well I think both you and I made representations **with regard to** that. Uh the contract does specify the uh the aggregate uh the amounts as well so that's been uh addressed. Um and we're going to be looking at that contract uh which I can't uh disclose to you at this time uh here um but uh we'll be looking at that as well. **Darryl Speer** - Well I would say what came up at the last uh review of this matter is that there was no determination of the aggregate value, uh no Report so that's ..we don't even know what's there so how we can determine what the pricing should be again is, I can't really give a comment on it except to say it's not adequate. And that applies for both the Cordite Pit and the Hillside Pit but to me the one of greater concern is the Hillside Pit because of its proximity to the uh the failing dump. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** - Thank you, Sir. Or thank you Sir. Uh, Mrs. Nysten? **Janet Nysten, Oakbank** - Thank you. Um I have just 2 questions. The first one is on Item 2.7.1, your Procedure By-law. Um at the last meeting the public Question Period ended abruptly and I was unable to raise my question. Uh I did send a note to you, Mayor Therrien, but maybe it wasn't understood. But my intent was that the By-law 22-22, I think in the preamble it says that it's a procedure of council meetings and committee meetings thereof, yet in the by-law there is no reference to committee meetings, in particular the Committee of the Whole. I seem to remember it used to be in a by-law at one time, especially setting the time, setting who would chair the meetings, that sort of thing, I can go way back when there were a number of different committees but now it seems there's primarily a Committee of the Whole. Why is there no reference in this by-law? **Mayor Therrien** - Um I'll let uh our CAO know that, or of course answer that. **Colleen Draper** - So you're asking why there's no reference to Committee of the Whole in this by-law? **Janet Nysten** - Well, in the beginning, at the top of the by-law it says "the procedures of Committees thereof" (right) but there's no reference in your by-law to committees. Either take it out of the procedure or pass a separate by-law for procedures for committees but it should be somewhere. **Colleen Draper** - So I guess under the definitions of committee, it means a committee or other body established under the Rural Municipality of Springfield Organizational By-law but does not include a Committee of the Whole, Council, or a Local Urban District. So uh there are other committees that can be formed by Council so this would uh include all the conduct for all of those committees that are formed in the future. **Janet Nysten** - But there's no procedures for a Committee of the Whole. **Colleen Draper** - Uh the Organizational By-law deals with the Committee of the Wholes but um.... **Janet Nysten** - Not the procedure. It, it deals with the content, the membership, that sort of thing. I, I, I just, I'm trying to make it just more sensible that Council will run their committees like they're running their council meetings and follow the same type of procedures only it won't be as restrictive I guess because of the nature of the items that are on the committee versus on the agendas, Council meeting agendas. **Colleen Draper** - I don't know how to answer that. I mean, these are the templates that the Province provides for procedural and as well for organizational so I, I'm not sure if we're maybe just overthinking it a little bit but um I would expect that Council meetings and Committee of the Wholes would follow the same procedures um with regards to delegations and question periods and any other items that are added to that agenda. **Janet Nysten** - Why wouldn't you just put a one-liner in, Committee of the Wholes will be conducted like Council meetings? I, I'm, I'd be satisfied with that. And that they occur on a Tuesday at 1 p.m. because I was caught off guard with the signing of that change but... **Colleen Draper** - Uh in the Organizational By-law it does lay out the timing and the dates of the Committee of the Whole so there are 2 by-laws. **Janet Nysten** - You and I may know that but the general public wouldn't know. I, I ..it's a comment, a suggestion, a recommendation, I would like you to consider it. My second point before my 5 minutes are up, is point 4 deals with the Minutes and it talks about the last meeting during the Question Period and 2 speakers got excessive time, were disruptive, were disrespectful pending on hostile at times uh towards 2 members of Council in particular and even derogatory to the Chair. One went on, I think it was over 14 minutes, the other one was slightly less, maybe around 10 minutes. In March when an individual was deemed to be disruptive, um Mayor Therrien, you took strong steps, changed Question Period and limited times for constituents to talk to Council, took action. My question is, what steps are you going to take about those 2 speakers who were disrespectful, ignored your several times "sit down", to stop, to end their comments, yet you do nothing like for example demand an apology from them, maybe even bar them from the room until an apology to the 2 Councillors, I'm not going to name the speakers but it was uh pretty disruptive in my opinion. Um if you don't take any action I think it makes the uh potential for that kind of behaviour to continue, it uh seems subjective somewhat that you take action against some for some staff and not for other people and uh, like I have often been at odds with Council and your decisions and projects etc. but I don't think I've ever been disrespectful yet I've been denied as a delegation more than once, I haven't been able to raise my questions during Question Period because other people have been given excessive time so I would just ask that you respond please how you're going to um follow up with those 2 speakers from the last meeting. **Mayor Therrien** - Um I haven't uh uh I don't plan on uh I will talk uh to them but if I had to uh to you know with all the people and all the uh, the uh the crazy antics that's gone on since I've been here in Council and it's not just because of this individual here, there's been many, many times where people have gotten off the charts with their responses, they've been rude, abusive and they've been pointing uh toward um um employee or employees uh or myself and um um shoot if I had to do that, I'd be doing it for everybody for the last 10 months uh especially so on the 7th. of February, the 7th. of March and April when we started doing this agenda pertaining to um uh items on the..for Question Period on the agenda, um that seemed to alleviate somewhat and it's only gotten the same way, we've gotten back to the same dysfunctionality with this RM uh we have to, we're going to discuss this uh in more detail coming up here so that would be my answer to you, I'm am here and as for the talking to the individual, I'd be talking to everybody that were being rude and disruptive uh throughout the time that I've been here. And that's a long list, not just a list of that one individual uh there and uh uh his was a unique issue and I won't expand more upon that. **NOTE: Unique because for years when this individual worked for the RM, his place of birth and status were not universally known.** He was very uh up front and I uh respect that uh but I do not respect being disruptive uh **there** and that said, that's uh uh that uh is in itself uh I won't talk further on right now. Mark, you've got your hand up. **Councillor Miller** - Yes, thank ..does that work, thank

you, Mr. Mayor. Um I felt very how can you say threatened uh, I felt uh aggression, I felt there was a double standard, I tried to ask for a Point of Order, I wasn't recognized in that meeting, I felt that uh there's an inequity in this Council and uh that's another example of it. And I'm disgusted, I'm actually very, very disappointed and it's had me reconsider what am I doing this Council if I don't get treated equally as well and not only that but the public, why do you get canned or other people get canned at 5 minutes and these people can rant on for, for it seems like forever and no defense. So that's just my thoughts. I didn't prime you, I didn't ask you (no) to bring this up, you know that but if you want my opinion, I felt very, very saddened and uh defenseless and uh it's a shame, it's an absolute shame. **Mayor Therrien** - Thank you, Mrs. Nylen... **Janet Nylen** - One more point... **Mayor Therrien** - Your time is up, ... **Janet Nylen** - But this is... **Mayor Therrien** - uh.. twice now M'am so no uh you can save it for another time. **Janet Nylen** - Well, I'm going to do what another speaker said, I'm going to finish because this is constructive, it's not meant to be.... **Mayor Therrien** - No, M'am please (and) ..please have a seat. Thank you, thank you M'am or Mrs. Nylen. **Councillor Miller** - Another example. **Mayor Therrien** - Ok, uh any other questions uh from the audience. I see none, on line I see none, at this point here I'll uh close uh .. Ted, if you've got things to hand out to Council, put it through uh Kristy, ok.

## 6. REPORTS

**6.1 Elected Officials** - **Mayor Therrien** - Alright, we'll get to uh Reports, Item 6, can I get a mover and a seconder on that please, uh Mark and uh Glen, do we read these out uh or... **Colleen Draper** - So Elected Officials are just submitted for information. Uh only the Department Reports uh will have a resolution passed. **Mayor Therrien** - Oh, ok. Then we've got reports on **there** from our Elected Officials uh, uh, uh Glen, Andy, Mark and Melinda. Mine isn't in there. Uh I was sicker than a dog on, on the weekend **there** so um I uh I haven't got one on **there**, I'll have one next month or uh I may be doing every second month uh uh for that uh for that matter but uh uh for that uh reason I'm not um in on this one here. **NOTE: Why should the Mayor not be required to do the same as the remainder of Council? And sick on the weekend or not, if he kept a running list as he attended things, the list would have been ready to submit. What kind of equitable government is that?** **Mayor Therrien** - Right. Then we'll move to...uh Mark ... **Councillor Miller** - Uh thank you, Mr. Mayor. I submitted a Report as well and it's very brief. If I knew that we had to document and say everything we wanted to say in that Report, I guess I would have been more thorough but I do think that we should still be able to as Councillors and the Mayor, uh share other con..other things that we don't report on there and so I'm going to take my latitude to do that. I think under, under the By-law place that we have, we do have time to do this so I think I'll uh I'll use my latitude to, to do that so I just wanted to say, I, I uh attended as you know only ... **Mayor Therrien interrupting** - Well, I though Mark only we said that we're just going to do the Elected Reports, we wanted to streamline it so you have your elected report on there so what more can we, can we ask? **Councillor Miller** - So in other words, muzzle me, shut me up, whatever... **Mayor Therrien interrupting** - No, that's never been the case... **Councillor Miller** - What are you saying? **Mayor Therrien** - ..we, we agreed that we would have Elected Official reports submitted and that would be it. **Councillor Miller** - That would be it. **Mayor Therrien** - Well regards to this issue here, we agreed to that. You agreed to that. **Councillor Miller** - I didn't know you weren't going to allow us to make any statements or comments. **Mayor Therrien** - Well, well it's Elected Officials Reports and there's never been comments as far as I know. **Councillor Miller** - Sure there has. It always has been before. Ask uh previous members of Council. We've always had an opportunity to speak to the public. **Mayor Therrien** - Well they can, they can look on here for uh for the Reports. **Councillor Miller** - You know, you know Mr. Mayor, not everybody, if I asked in this cou..in this Chamber today and in the public, not everybody has access to the Internet, I'm not sure that you know about that. **Mayor Therrien** - Do you want to read your Report, is that what you're saying? **Councillor Miller** - No, I don't want to read the Report, it's there for people to peruse and I have made, I can make copies but what I do like to say is additional information which isn't on the Report. (umm) And where does it say I can't do that. **Mayor Therrien** - I don't know if it says that at all. **Councillor Miller** - You're right, it doesn't. **Mayor Therrien** - So now, so now you want to get rid of this part here or you want to add to it as an addendum? **Councillor Miller** - Supplemental information. **Mayor Therrien** - At, at every time, then otherwise why do we have an Elected uh Officials Reports... **Councillor Miller** - Because that's the documented piece that goes to the public but we can also add additional information that perhaps we didn't put on this Report or you didn't put on the Report. **Mayor Therrien** - Well, what does Council think? Uh Glen? **Councillor Fuhr** - Well, in my opinion, a report is a report and all the information should be on the report. If you missed some supplemental information, why wouldn't you put it on the report? **Councillor Miller** - Maybe it came in today, maybe it came uh.... **Councillor Fuhr** - So then you could add it to the next meeting, that'll be your next report. **Councillor Miller** - Wow, this is unbelievable. **Councillor Fuhr** - I've been on Council for 8 years and that's the way we've always done it, not to say that you can't change it but I think it's up to Council to decide. **NOTE: When I was on Council with Mr. Fuhr, to the best of my recollection, he never submitted Activity Reports. One could look back and see ...but no, one can't, because the previous year's reports have been taken off the Web Site. The CAO had some bogus reason why.** **Councillor Miller** - So doing things wrong all of the time makes it right because you've done it wrong all that time. You can't improve, you can't have more transparency, you can't have more public engagement, you can't provide more information to the public, is that what you're trying to say? **Councillor Fuhr** - You're assuming that it's wrong. **Councillor Miller** - No, that we can improve it. **Councillor Fuhr** - You just said, you're assuming that I was saying that you're assuming it is wrong. What's right? It's up to Council to decide what's right, not myself, not yourself, it's up to Council. **Mayor Therrien** - That's right. I agree. Melinda, did you have something or ..Andy, Andy, you had something to say? **Councillor Kuczynski** - I would like to allow Mark Miller if he wants to add something to it, so let him add it, like, maybe other Council doesn't have anything to add so we leave it as is. I don't think we're going to make a habit of that but if somebody asks, you know, for proving more information, so we should hear it. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** - Well, well we agreed before that it was getting out of hand **there** that the that you know it was taking up a lot of time and this is a way the Elected Officials reports is putting things down there, what you've done with your time so I don't know what more clarity we had uh than that um and if there's something you wanted to add, then add it to the next report if you'd like, uh I might do mine every second month uh **there** it's just I'm involved in just an outrageous amount of meetings uh **there** so for me to put it all down there uh, we talked in Chambers uh In Camera for any meetings that I have uh that are pertinent uh to In Camera criteria, so I, I don't know, we agreed on it at the last meeting so I'm not sure why you want to, to change it now. **NOTE: In one meeting, Mayor Therrien made a very long speech about his non-Council activities, primarily sports, and used the forum to give kudos to, I presume, more than just acquaintances of his, including one that was deceased.** **Councillor Miller** - So Mr. Mayor, at the uh start of this meeting, you went and discussed some issues about our 150th Anniversary, I don't know if that was in your Report which you didn't submit but you used your own discretion to add that in. So I mean, there's 2 rules here, your rules and it seems like there's other rules. So I just, I just find it very inequitable how you can square off and say your things, whenever, as you did, and I was going to say the same thing. I was going to say that Shawn Wilkinson did an extraordinary job at the 150th Anniversary, that the kids were enthused and I wanted to give

him commendation and say, what a great job he did, but no, I guess I can't say it. **Mayor Therrien** - Ok. Continue then, what else was there? **Councillor Miller** - I can't follow your rules, too complex, yes, no, maybe so. **Mayor Therrien** - Ok. Is that all you wanted to add? **Councillor Miller** - At this point, Mr. Mayor. **Mayor Therrien** - I was talking on behalf of all Council **there**, so uh I could have added Shawn and I could have added uh Jesse, I could have added a whole bunch of people but I thank you very much for that.

**6.2 Department Reports - Mayor Therrien** - Ok, then, we will continue on from 6.1 to 6.2 uh that will be the uh Department Reports. **NOTE: A quick review reveals the following calls where Springfield Police Service responded outside its jurisdiction: July 28 Birds Hill Park - Racing (assist other agency); July 29 Highway 59 Speeding - 2 calls; July 30 Birds Hill Park - Intoxicated; July 31 Birds Hill Park speeding; August 1 Beausejour Medical Call Mutual Aid; August 2 Medical Call Mass Casualty Birds Hill Park; August 4 Impaired Driving Birds Hill Park; August 7 Suspended Drivers License Highway 59 & Speeding Birds Hill Park; August 11 Traffic Complaint Winnipeg; August 17 Disturbance Beausejour; August 18 Breach Birds Hill Park. In addition, there were 2 Document Service, August 4 and 25th. which are definitely RCMP initiated. THE CONCERNS: 1) Springfield Police Service is funded from the taxes of Springfield ratepayers but the ratepayers are not being served during these calls. People not paying Springfield property taxes are. 2) Liability - If something untoward happens during these out of Springfield calls, because it is the Springfield Police responding, I am of the opinion the RM would be legally responsible and thus again Springfield ratepayers would be footing the legal expenses while not receiving the service for which they are paying directly through property taxes. IF YOU AS A RATEPAYER FIND THIS EGREGIOUS, I WOULD SUGGEST CONTACTING THE ADMINISTRATION AND POLICE SERVICE OF THE RM AND THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL.** Can I get a mover and a seconder uh please regards to that. Melinda and Andy (Warren/Kuczynski). **Colleen Draper** - *Be it Resolved that August Department Operating Reports be accepted as information.* **Mayor Therrien** - Any questions uh from Council with regards to the Springfield Fire, Asset Management, Public Works, Water as ..and Waste and Animal Control? I see uh none and at this point here uh can I get a show of hands, those in support of adopting these uh reports? That'll be unanimous.

## 7. BY-LAWS

**7.1 By-law 22-22 Procedural By-law (3rd. reading) - Mayor Therrien** - And we'll move on to 7.1 is the By-law 22-22, Procedural By-law, a mover and a seconder please. Uh Melinda and uh anybody else want to second that, uh Glen. (Warren/Fuhl) **Colleen Draper** - *Be it Resolved that Third and Final Reading be given to By-law Number 22-22 being a by-law of the RM of Springfield to regulate the proceedings and conduct of the Council of the RM of Springfield and the Committees thereof.* **Mayor Therrien** - Alright, does anybody want to start us off uh on that? **Andy Councillor Kuczynski** - Mr. Mayor, I want to point out that 7.4 Question Period, we still...I thought we never determined that we're going to have "pertaining to the current agenda items" and yet that appears here. **Mayor Therrien** - Well, that's what we're discussing. **Councillor Kuczynski** - Oh, we're going to discuss that now? **Mayor Therrien** - That's the 3rd., Third Reading **there**. I was wrong on that one, by the way, uh Andy. **Councillor Kuczynski** - 7.4. **Mayor Therrien** - Ya, uh um then maybe what I'll start off with then is uh um I think uh the way uh the Question Period has not worked here in this RM reading from what I've gotten written here for what I was uh able uh to do on this, uh it is uh dysfunctional, it's abused and abusive, it attempts to close down these uh uh speakers uh have been largely ignored at the jubilation of others. Question Period has shown itself in the 10 months that we have been here uh with uh you know uh issues that were bordering on workplace and safety issues, mental health, uh issues of health uh it just wasn't a very healthy environment. It seems very few people uh saw it differently and uh in that uh those uh very few uh um people that see it differently uh obviously there's a big difference in what is abuse and abusive tolerances are. I felt going to Question Period items that pertained to the agenda would be better, that soon uh uh was not the case. It appeared it certainly wasn't the case. These people continue and it came to a head in June when we had to adjourn or stop uh Council meeting requiring police to attend for safety reasons. **NOTE: The calling of the Springfield Police on people quietly sitting in their chairs or standing against the wall and taking turns talking was ridiculous. I am sure the officers that attended agreed. There was no risk to anyone's health or safety. It was like bring out the constabulary to control a group of Friday afternoon senior bingo players.** We closed Chambers and conducted the meeting by ZOOM uh in our foyer uh of the RM office. **NOTE: Here is an excerpt of my notes on that June Meeting: MAYOR THERRIEN'S PLOY TO PASS CONTRAVERSIAL LEGISLATION WITHOUT OPPOSITION BY EXCLUDING THE PUBLIC AND MEDIA FROM A PUBLIC R.M. BUILDING AND A PUBLIC COUNCIL CHAMBER "BACKFIRED" AND FRANKLY MADE HIM LOOK LIKE "DESPOT" TO THOSE WHO WILL NO DOUBT DETERMINE HIS FATE SHOULD HE RUN FOR ANOTHER TERM OF OFFICE. HERE IS A PICTURE OF HIM AND COUNCILLOR FUHL SNEAKING OUT THE SOUTHWEST DOOR OF THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AROUND THE SIDE OF THE BUILDING AND OVER TO THE FIREHALL after the meeting TO AVOID THE CROWD AT THE FRONT OF THE BUILDING, likely maybe the same way they snuck in. "COWARDLY"!!!!!! Firehall is to the right on the other side of the storage building where you see a little bit of a standby generator in the middle right of the picture.**



**Mayor Therrien** - Question Period with prior Council was uh pertaining to the agenda. When I got into office, I thought opening it up as well as other councillors uh uh would be good. **NOTE: Mayor Therrien, you campaigned for office promising to change the restrictive practices of Mayor Fell's Council and then feign surprise when you cancel the scheduled Council meeting of June 13 and replace it with a Special Meeting where the public is not allowed to comment, following by another Special Meeting which also precludes public participation. DON'T PRETEND TO BE SURPRISED BY THE RESPONSE OF THE PUBLIC TO BEHAVIOUR WORSE THAN THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL.** Well, it soon became apparent why it was like that um and I've had many discussions with many Mayors and Reeves and other councillors as well and the Question

Period uh uh for most the Mayors and Reeves that I spoke to is not even on as part of the agenda. Um and for the uh most part, most for the same difficulties that we're having, it's taken over by a few individuals or uh entities um and others just said that there was nobody coming forward there but uh our is an issue uh the Question Period is just not functional. It uh, it is not a functional means to get anything across, we have delegations uh we have uh many opportunities for people to contact me uh phone calls, e-mails, communications otherwise um that all Council answers all their e-mails and communications uh **there**, I'm uh on my phone continuously, I could shut it off at 8 o'clock uh just uh to get some peace on some days **there** and delegations have, have worked uh well and that's an opportunity for people to uh to attend to Council with uh with uh questions and concerns. Um and with that I'll leave it up to anybody else who wants to comment. Uh Mark? **Councillor Miller** - Thank you. I would echo what Council Kuczynski said, I would always want to encourage and include public input all the time, even if it isn't the same song you want to or any of us want to um dance to. I think it's important to be critiqued, I think it's important to be corrected, I think it's important to be called out and I think it's important to be an ear to citizens of this community going forward but one thing that actually uh really pinned me when you made your comments moments ago, and that's regarding delegations. Now I could give some latitude for the Question Period, what you're talking about because I know it's really ultimately **the Chair who has command and ultimately is responsible** for keeping orderly conduct within a Chamber, whether it be here or the Manitoba Legislature or any other organization or committee but you made the comment that everyone, everyone has an opportunity to be a delegation and if that's accurate, I want to know why a couple of people were denied "denied" an opportunity to be a delegation here tonight. Is that open, transparent, accessible government? If it is, I don't see it in this Chamber and I'm ashamed because I was elected here to ensure that people could have access to this building, could have access to us, to present, to provide information and you're saying it again. Your words are different than the actions that are taking place. And I just give you the opportunity to explain why were delegations denied tonight to speak to very pertinent projects that this Municipality is facing? The Water Treatment Plant for example, the Sio Silica issue and on and on so if they can't speak at the Question Period and they're denied as delegation, who are the gatekeepers to deny these people. This is where accountability hits the road. Who is denying residents of the RM of Springfield to, to be a delegation to this Council. That is the crux of the question and I'd love to hear your answer because I think it's, it's uh it's very shameful if people are being denied. **Mayor Therrien** - Ok, who's being denied, Mark? **Councillor Miller** - I think you can see one, I think Jennifer Lim was another person who .... **Mayor Therrien interrupting** - Let me answer uh... **Councillor Miller** - I think Janet Nysten was denied. I think there's just...so you asked me who. **Mayor Therrien** - I am. I'm just uh trying to figure out uh uh so is Ted and Janet and uh Ms. Lim. **Councillor Miller** - Heather ..Heather. **Mayor Therrien** - Now I uh uh Ted has come up as a delegation many, many times, uh we've allowed uh many uh um uh just allowed many times and then none of it was focussed uh my apologies uh Ted, I'm just being frank here. Uh it was at the time, the time wasn't utilized well. As for Mrs. uh Nysten **there**, there's nobody stopping Mrs. Nysten from after this Water Treatment Plant uh public uh meeting uh **there**, uh she can come back with any questions that she wanted at any time, we haven't received anything **with regards** to that that she was not and I, the time was deferred to after the uh the town ..how would you know, you weren't even at the Water Treatment Plant presentation **there** so I'm trying to... **Councillor Miller** - I wasn't there, I wasn't there... **Mayor Therrien** - I'm trying to explain...Mark... **Councillor Miller** - Answer the question, that's an allegation, that's an allegation Mr. Mayor and I don't... **Mayor Therrien** - Were you at the Water Treatment Plan Town House or not? **Councillor Miller** - I was at it up until a certain point and I will attend the next one. **Mayor Therrien** - Ok, so what I was saying is that Janet was there for the uh presentation as well so she ..if Mrs. Nysten had any questions, she can come up as a delegation any time that she wants so that's...she's not been denied. Uh as for Miss uh Kim uh I'll refer that to uh um our CAO and Miss Kim has been up here as well in the past. Uh so those three that you're talking about, like I answered the two, I'll allow uh uh our CAO to answer the third. **Colleen Draper** - So Miss Lim had requested on Thursday to be a delegation tonight um so I did request a copy of her presentation material and the scope of her delegation prior to her being uh scheduled. Uh she sent that to me on Sunday afternoon. So I just advised her that I was unable to schedule her tonight but offered her September 12th. or 19th. as further delegation dates and to provide her uh material in advance. **NOTE: Here is the answer to my request: We are unable to provide you a delegation time on the August 8<sup>th</sup> council meeting. At the time of your request, we already had 3 scheduled delegations on the agenda. The August 29<sup>th</sup> event is an open house to gather public feedback. I suspect a lot of your questions will be answered at the open house. If there are specific concerns that you have, could you provide them to Administration prior to August 29<sup>th</sup> so that we can ensure the information is available at the open house. I'm sure your questions will be the same as other residents and our best way forward is to ensure we know what the concerns are and how best to address them when our consultants are present. If you have outstanding concerns and questions following the August 29<sup>th</sup> open house, perhaps then a council delegation would be more beneficial. ALSO, why should one have to provide presentation material in advance. I MAY NOT PREPARE MY DISSERTATION IN ADVANCE. MAYBE I JUST AD LIB WHEN I APPEAR.** **Mayor Therrien** - The answer's right there uh Mark so it's all answered so nobody's been denied uh delegations. Andy, you have your hand up. **Councillor Kuczynski** - Yes, Mr. Mayor, we attended, Councillor Miller, we attend that uh Water Treatment Plant meeting but we had other commitments on that evening so we had to leave but when we were speaking and the CAO was saying to us there would be no question period when she addressed us so if there was no question period from the people being in that meeting, they could just kind of talk with the experts there and mingle with the Council but that's about it. So you know we... **NOTE: Correct, the format was not as advertised.** **Colleen Draper** - So to clarify, ya to clarify .. **Councillor Kuczynski** - We misunderstood what you said, ya, so that's why you know, if there would be no question period, then ..so we made the decision at that moment that you know, if people won't be able to question us, then we're going to leave and I thought that was our understanding what happened. **Colleen Draper** - So we did have a pre-meeting before that open house, I explained to Council how the agenda was going to be laid out, I had no comments from Council that you didn't want to hold the meeting that way or change it, I advised that it was going to be a presentation where we would give the information and then we would break, we would introduce who the experts were, Council would be there, staff would be there and they were welcome to talk to anybody about any questions they had and no, the public refused and said they wanted to have an open public question period and we allowed them to have that. Not everybody asked a question and nobody left a comment on the paperwork that we provided that said please leave any questions that you want more information on. We didn't have one submitted. **Councillor Kuczynski** - So situation changed because people asked for the question period and that might have changed our decision when we didn't attend the rest of the meeting but we were there. And we spoke with you as to why we were leaving so I just want to clarify that. **Colleen Draper** - Ya, I was not aware that you had a prior commitment that evening so that was a surprise to me but uh um ya we did change the format of the meeting based on what the residents wanted. So I'm not sure what else you wanted us to do. **Councillor Kuczynski** - No I didn't want you to do anything, I just said that we left on the assumption there would be no question period from the public. Ok. **Colleen Draper** - Well, ya, ok. **Councillor Kuczynski** - So that's what had changed. **Mayor Therrien** - Thank you, Andy. Um so we've, we've been through the entire, we went through line by line last Council meeting **there** and if Council agrees, uh that the stuff, I, I believe that's in red

stuff or the uh um articles pertaining uh to the item numbers, we've looked through all that. Um the 7.4, the one that's in red is the Question Period. Um and that's 7.4 um and I'm scrolling through if everybody wants to scroll through at the same time uh **there** what's in red uh seems to be the items that we could, that we could look at uh this is the Third Reading um and then we could uh make our votes known at that uh time **there** and so just at 12.6 um 11.3 sorry that's 11.2 um and we're at 12.2, uh 14.2 I'm sorry and uh 16.4 and that seems to be the uh um last 4 or 5 items **there**. If we can start from the top with regards to Question Period, I think uh 5 uh I was long winded there but essentially it comes down uh to Question Period. **NOTE: Mayor Therrien seems to have difficulty expressing himself coherently at times and, he said it, "long winded". He monopolizes most discussions.** I, I find that it's uh dysfunctional uh in the RM here. We are spending vast amounts of times uh, we're trying to focus it when we put down the "pertaining to the agenda" items um and that just got out of hand uh **there** and I know you've commented **there** about the Chair having the power and so on like that, Mark. Um ya, the Chair has the power if somebody listens so it's not uh um you know and I uh people get heated and I understand that. Uh people have a right uh to be uh upset at some things and what people, some of the people are upset at uh you know a lot of people aren't as well, it's just, it got to the point that I've had people come up to me and saying that I didn't want to put up my hand, I did not want to say anything at these uh these meetings uh **there** because of some of uh uh the antics that's the common trait, the common terminology used for the antics uh **there** uh and they didn't feel uh safe to do so. And I said, you should never feel unsafe no matter what you do in life and in general. Um even as, as a policeman **there** that was my job. I just wanted to make sure everybody uh was, was safe and uh you know I uh, that should be the same in, in life **there**. I'm not naive by any means **there** but uh it wasn't a safe environment uh for our employees, uh it wasn't uh, it culminated in June **there** where we had to shut down the Council Chambers uh **there**. **NOTE: That was his decision. He did not ask for a vote of Council.** Um we got negative uh publicity for uh for that uh **there** uh..and I don't call the police lightly, it's just um as a, as a policeman **there** uh that many, many um Council uh town hall meetings uh band meetings uh **there** and uh um I was present in uniform so it really didn't require the police to be there but I've never had to interject at any point **there** so it was uh um it was a sad day for the uh RM of Springfield where such a few could actually dictate um the event. And uh there was people in there, I know there was 4 people that left uh **there** uh I know the one person **there** and they were quite upset and they said I didn't uh I didn't feel safe in there, um I uh we had to leave so uh and the people left and there was other people that left and I know there was a lot of people that wanted to uh to make some, some comments and so on like that um and when safety is an issue and it's a safety towards our employees uh health and safety uh trump that moment **there** so I've got no reservations whatsoever what we did on that **there** at that day um and uh Question Period uh short and sweet it's..it was dysfunctional and in my opinion we should get rid of Question Period altogether. **NOTE: I totally agree but also we should go back to the way it used to be before Mayor Fell when residents attending meetings could hold up their hands at any time during the meeting and speak. If there is no return to the old way of communicating one's thoughts, then DEMOCRACY IS DEAD in the RM of Springfield and we have a Dictator named Therrien. And the foregoing was a good example of how the Mayor monopolizes Council meetings with his blather.** Any comments from Council? Glen? **Councillor Fuhl** - Yep, I, I can support Question Period pertaining to current items or get rid of it period. Um I'm on side with either one. Thank you. **NOTE: As usual, agreement but nothing added.** **Mayor Therrien** - Anybody else have their hand up? **Councillor Kuczynski** - Mr. Mayor, I think we should leave the Question Period, just not pertaining to the current agenda. I...a good example is tonight. People were respectful, well behaved, nobody abused anybody, and that's the way it's supposed to be but from time to time if there's going to be heated discussion and a very, you know, heated issue, how do you want people to react and you said 4 people left our last meeting. Ok, more, you said 10 people left but 120 stayed here so that means they weren't threatened but 4 people was threatened, you know, so we have to have balance because if we get rid of the Question Period, then we limit the delegations, nobody will be coming to this Chamber. **NOTE: Precisely, in my opinion, what the Mayor would like to see...no one in the Chamber.** They're just going to say, we don't have any chance to speak, to raise our opinion here and how do, how do we as a Council are we going to look in the eyes of the people. And, and tonight is a good example, you know, that if we conduct the meeting, we conduct the meeting in the proper manner and everything is ok. Thank you, Mr. Mayor. **Mayor Therrien** - Thank you, Andy. Melinda? **Councillor Warren** - So I'm pretty sure at the last meeting I said that we have a lot of residents that have questions um I'd like to keep it with "pertaining to the current agenda items". Uh Andy I think, we all had this conversation last time too and there was a bit of let's just get rid of it so if we stick with "pertaining" then at least people have a say. Um if we get rid of it, it's strictly delegation and we've already changed the delegations to 4 for 15 minutes. So I'm ok with whatever but it, it should stay with "pertaining" or it's gone. That's my opinion. **Mayor Therrien** - Uh Glen. **Councillor Fuhl** - Ya. I can make a recommendation here that we leave this as "pertaining to current agenda items" and see how it goes for 6 months and if it goes well, we continue, if not we review again and make another decision. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** - Well, I, I would think that 6 months, uh if it's, if it's uh that's a long 6 months they..if everybody keeps in the way that they're going there. And that would be the only caveat that I, I would, would suggest. This has been going on um for many years now and I understand uh during the COVID period, obviously it wouldn't have been that much of an issue. Um I don't um I don't want to uh uh think that, that COVID you know helped out the last Administration because it didn't have as many uh volatile uh people uh that might be coming up **there** but it's been going on for, for many, many years and that's why I would say get rid of the uh the Question Period cause there's no uh there's very few RMs that have Question Period. There's uh there's a reason for that uh and I, I'm thinking the Question Period in my, my understanding is when we came into office here um that it's items pertaining to agenda, that was what was on there so uh we, we all talked about that and what we wanted to see **there** so we felt that basically an open mike and that it, it was just, it was terrible, you know, the people um and uh I, I don't see that that would change but uh um it's uh uh why do we keep on going around in circles uh when this has been demonstrated with last uh Council **there** uh um I was part of one of those uh Council meetings when I was in the public and I gave a uh my uh my comments **with regards to** the shall or should shall um I uh um and uh I couldn't get out of there quick enough, I thought this was, this was kind of **bombardment there** but uh on a actually a kind of a softer level than what we've had to endure here like on the 7th. of February and the 7th. of uh March was just uh ridiculous. I uh if we could of got rid of Question Period, we would have got rid of it on that day **there** because of the amount of, of uh of uh abuse uh and direct uh uh um um comments uh to one of our employees **there** and it hasn't been uh you know a walk in a park for myself, people calling me uh names that I've never uh I've never had to endure even when I arrested people, this is the kind of comments where people leave their adult hats when they come into the door and figure they can start making comments about uh Council **there** I find that's uh um reprehensible that people are uh I use the uh comment uh **there** that if my mother, if I was in the audience making this kind of comments, my mother would grab me by the ear, all 5 ft. 2 of her and take me out **there**, out of the room and people kind of forget that's..I would hope uh the majority of the people uh weren't raised that they could be rude like that. If they have a have comments, they want to make comments, then please be respectful. Uh I would uh I would go for the uh "pertaining" uh "to the agenda" items **there** myself so uh that said, uh if it doesn't work, then uh you know then we can re-evaluate it but the 6 months kind of ..it goes by pretty quick, 6 months. Um but that's, that's kind of in, in the middle so I'd be for

that. Any other comments. **NOTE: Another extremely long commentary without saying much of anything.** So how are we doing this, do I just going through each item that we would agree to and so on with that or just ... **Colleen Draper** - Well, Council can accept the by-law with the recommended changed that are outlined in red uh so that would include uh 7.4, the Question Period pertaining to current agenda items, uh the next change that Council agreed to at the last meeting was 11.2, a maximum of 4 delegations will generally be included on the agenda of the Council meeting but the CAO is granted authority to schedule delegations as deemed appropriate, uh 12.6 there was a request to add in support, in opposition, plus or in abstention, uh 14.2 was just reworded a little bit um based on a suggestion that we received so we just added the Chair can do so without leaving the Chair, I think it was his previous to that, uh 16.4 uh Council was going to consider that responses will be provided within 30 days of the Question Period and recorded as Old Business on the agenda, uh and I think um Council will have to decide if you want to add in for 16.2 um d) only questions pertaining to current agenda items. **Mayor Therrien** - Ok. Um is that clear to all of Council then, the changes and the 16, is that d) you said uh. **Colleen Draper** - Uh we would add 16.2 d) only questions pertaining to current agenda items. **Mayor Therrien** - I see, I see what that would be added. Ok. Uh any other comments **with regards to** what uh our CAO has stated here that we're going to be looking at. Anybody want to add any other questions or highlight or comment any of the other uh uh red ones **there**. Go ahead, Mark. **Councillor Miller** - Uh, thank you, Mr. Mayor. The only comment is to do with the committees that Ms. Nylen presented. Is it of value to put something in there with the uh with the COW or not? I just want your expertise. **Colleen Draper** - Uh like I mentioned, we do outline that in our Organizational By-law so um just trying to think where I could add that in... **Councillor Miller** - If it helps, I can suggest to you that I have seen other RMs where they do have it in their Procedure By-law um I can't dig them up here instantly but if you wanted to reference those or I guess at a future time we could perhaps amend it if that's easier but ... **Mayor Therrien** - But, but that would simply be just that to put down Committee of the Whole only, like it's just to add uh uh COW on there, um meetings by definition would include COW I would think uh um that's the way I interpret it as. Anybody else uh have any uh comments **with regard to** uh to that? So I'm thinking um are you looking for anything now, Colleen? **Colleen Draper** - I'm just, sorry I'm reading the uh By-law quickly just to see where I can add in a clause cause it just says that all committees including Committee of the Whole will follow the same procedures and conduct as outlined in this by-law. So I could just find a spot to put a clause like that in there. Is that what's Council's intending? **Mayor Therrien** - Now, I didn't...like e) here, the committee meetings, committee or other bodies to have under the Rural Municipality of Springfield Organizational By-law but does not include a Committee of the Whole, Council or Local Urban District. Why, why does it not include the Committee of the Whole um for that cause if we put that clause down there, would that not uh ... **Colleen Draper** - That was my only concern, I want to read the Organizational By-law to see why the two are separated like that, I... **Mayor Therrien** - Ya, like it's, it's a, it might be just a tweak of the words uh **there**, I would say why don't we re-visit it like Glen was suggesting, uh uh after uh um some time and should it, should it be uh should it **encumber upon** the uh our Organizational By-law, I'd rather be on top of it as opposed to granting uh that and seeing that it might be uh a hindrance in our uh Organizational By-law so if we uh agree to look at it later on uh then I think that would be a prudent move. **Colleen Draper** - And I think like Councillor Miller suggested, I've seen RMs that have one by-law but it includes Procedural and Organizational all in one document. So it's quite a large document um and maybe that's the way we can go in the future but at this point I'm just not comfortable really saying whether we should add that clause into the Procedural when we have a separate Organizational By-law without reviewing it closer. **Mayor Therrien** - I would agree. Uh Glen. **Councillor Fuhl** - Ya I would suggest we make a review of that and then bring it back at a later date. **Mayor Therrien** - But everything else here, anybody else have any questions before we uh we vote on it? **Colleen Draper** - So I guess I had uh kind of committed to doing some research so I'm not sure if Council is able to read through my shared notes or have any comments on that? I know audio, video and media was discussed at length so with my research with other municipalities, there seems to be a good mix of municipalities that allow audio/video recording of meetings by the media with advanced notice but not the general public. So most mentioned that they record their own meetings and post them on the Web Site or use something like a U-Tube Channel uh so they don't see the value in others needing to record on their own. Others have never had the request or had anyone come to record so others said, No, strictly they do not allow anyone to record their meetings so not quite helpful for Council because there's such a wide mix but at this point right now we audio record our meetings and post those on the Web Site and we do allow the media to record with advance notice so nothing's been suggested to change with that. **Mayor Therrien** - Ok that I, I do recall that we had the discussions with regards to media uh **there**, um there was some dialogue uh **there** between us as Council when in fact we do have uh um people that uh do come here when a particular uh **there** um that uh what is the proper definition of media. Um I, I would say it's an accredited uh news agencies, uh um and accredited uh whoever the CRTC uh or something along that line um we're, we're um having um uh the public has, has access to us via the audio and uh by ZOOM um and uh I guess the uh what portion uh would that be under Colleen for uh the media **there**. **Colleen Draper** - Uh, sorry...so 15.10... **Mayor Therrien** - If Council wants to go to 15 (10) um it says the media audio/video tape uh meeting proceedings including public hearings **providing arrangements are made with the CAO at least 2 days (48 hours) prior to the meeting or public hearing**. Um I uh, I just have a problem if somebody's doing something that's not uh media um I think putting the words accredited media um the ..and we can't put an example down there because somebody that's accredited I would say is like Reuters (he pronounces it Routers), um um you know CTV, all those CBC and so on like that. Um I think that's what it is. Should be put something down there that's a little bit more specific uh with regards to that uh um to define what media is or put our more implicit uh of the criteria of what the media is, uh go ahead Mark. **NOTE: May I say I find all this discussion amusing. When the meetings are broadcast on ZOOM, anybody can access the meeting from the link on the agenda and in the comfort of their own home, record it, both video and audio if they have the capability, and there is nothing to stop them from doing so. Further it is a public meeting and therefore the public has already had access to it. What then is the problem with the recording of it. Council does it themselves and posts the audio file on their Web Site.** **Councillor Miller** - Uh thank you, Mr. Mayor. I'm personally opposed to it. I think anybody who wants to record it should have the ability to do it and frankly if they're zooming into the meeting tonight or any meeting, they can record uh this remotely. So I don't know if we're fooling ourselves uh (laughing), we would be banning and/or potentially being discriminatory between the accredited media uh or not so I guess that's the question, right. I'd hate to be, you know, um the use of the word discriminatory of who you determine is going to come, again you know and I, I know you've uh uh cautioned me on this before but frankly there's certain states and governments around the world that do uh give credentials to certain media sources and others aren't so I would hate (laughing) to have the State of Springfield have the same kind of situation where all of a sudden we're um checking off who can come and who can't come, uh you'd have to have a whole series of criteria, you mentioned CRTC and stuff like that but you have to also back that up, why that would be the case, uh what's the threat of somebody else recording it so you have to justify why you want to have that discriminatory approach, right, if one would call it that. **Mayor Therrien** - Well, I agree with you, Mark, uh in some parts uh **there**, it's just that referring to somebody uh an individual or that's uh taking videos all the time of our proceedings uh **there** um and my understanding uh what I understand the civil law, when somebody's taking our, our uh images uh **there**

and using it for another purpose other than uh to get monetary use out of that uh and, and they, they should have a release from us. **NOTE: Where is Mayor Therrien coming from? Nowadays there are cameras in every mall, every public space, most people have some kind of recording device on their mobile phones including video, THERE IS NOWHERE ONE CAN HIDE FROM BEING VIDEO RECORDED. And frankly, I really don't care. If someone can get money by taking my picture, I wish they would let me in on it and I would video myself and sell it to the highest bidder.** Um if uh the they're going to be uh doing a..or doing that and releasing my image has never been um my uh how I like to do things uh when I was with the police, uh **there** I did uh uh interviews uh in person uh I did not like having uh my image uh um uh audioed or I mean videoed uh **there**, I have no problems with the audio uh I'm just saying that if uh, we have to have consent for uh the release of uh our image uh there uh for these events where somebody is possibly going to use it for uh um um any other purpose uh than just for the public's uh use, I have no problem **there** uh maybe I'm off camera here because I'm off to the left there but I've got uh no, no issues **with uh regards to** that uh anybody at home can videotape me but I'm just saying if somebody's doing that and they're doing it for somebody else and getting a monetary uh gain from that, that's not what the Chambers are for. My opinion here, everybody has access to us. **NOTE: On September 10th, I e-mailed Mayor Therrien and asked that he henceforth sit in front of the camera instead of leaning to one side to avoid being videotaped. As Mayor of the community, he is expected not to be paranoid about having his picture taken. The office of Mayor is a public one. He should not have run for office if he wanted to keep his identity secret. And who on earth would pay for a video that is public, particularly of the Mayor of Springfield.** Somebody who's going to get a monetary gain from that has to have my release uh or our release uh for that, uh. There, there's a fine line, I think, between my privacy uh all Council's privacy plus the people in the audience. They expect that this is a public Chamber, mind you, but they don't expect that their image could be uh released in whatever uh um you know uh proceedings uh these tapes are released to so that's, that's my issue **with regards to** that. No problem with uh somebody uh looking to uh taking my image uh from **ZOOM**, no issues at all. **NOTE: What is the difference between me taking a picture of the Council meeting on my computer or going to the meeting and taking a picture of Council in the Chamber? Just one...in the Chamber they would not let me do it. Here at home I have no restrictions.** Any other questions? Andy? **Councillor Kuczynski** - Mr. Mayor, you're saying those individuals are going to make monetary gains. So is the CBC, CBC maybe not but all the private medias, they go for ratings and (laughing) the better they get, the more money they get so you know that doesn't stick. (Therrien can be heard laughing.) CBC getting funds from our government, you know, they make a good reporting or bad, it's reporting. But you know, everybody, everything is about money .. you know. **Mayor Therrien** - I'm not laughing uh it's very..you're right, Andy, I'm sorry, I'm glad you brought that up. You're right, you are very right on that. Um so uh maybe that's for another time, you guys. Uh Mark? **Councillor Miller** - I would just like to add that as publicly elected officials, I think you left your image at the door when you entered into this new realm. Uh I don't know any Premier or Mayor or any other elected official who (laughing) actually frankly get uh what you call clearance or gives that waiver for the media or anybody else to use that, whether it be in a documentary or anywhere else so I think you're absolutely right, you'd have to uh research that more because you left that private life in October of last year. **Mayor Therrien** - Again, Mark, uh I agree and Andy, I agree. Um but that said, I ..I've been to Ministers uh announcements and I have signed a release for my image. So that's what I'm referring to. No, Ted, so I guess, I, I very good points uh from Mark and Andy with regards to that so I think we can carry on. If uh we are prepared to vote uh on this uh um if I can get the resolution read uh.. then we, Andy? **Councillor Kuczynski** - So we didn't determine how long that is going to be Question Period of 6 months or whatever was suggested I mean but we didn't determine it. If that's real or not. I think that 6 months is a very long period of time so I would suggest that 2 and we see, how about tonight, if it's something you know that works, then why change it. **Mayor Therrien** - Well, I, I gave the response to that, Andy. We went to uh questions pertaining uh uh **there** and uh take 2 months for them to uh for it to get out of hand. I, I like the 6 months. One year is too long, uh 6 months is ideal. Um Mark, uh .. Melinda, do you guys think the same thing? **Councillor Warren** - If we did 2, I mean that's Christmas and we don't really have ...if you make it 6, that's fine. **Mayor Therrien** - Ya, well that will take us to November right and ... well, we're not, it's not a hard uh date, the date that we'll look at trying to uh look at it again as a Council. Uh and, and, and keeping it to uh to the issue to **there** uh sure um is everybody good with 6 months then uh Andy. I think 2 is too short and 6 I think is ideal. **Councillor Kuczynski** - Ok, make it 3. (laughing) Because I tell you, we're always going to have ..those heated issues are going to always be here. We can't get away from them. Like, unless we're going to just discuss like you know issues that you know people are not involved in too much then everything works but if it's going to be heated issue, people are going to be here. And they're going to, you know, state their side, whatever, they're for or against it and it's going to happen, like, no matter how much you want to control it...I don't know, it's ...it's beyond your control, our control, beyond everyone's control so you know..people are people. **Mayor Therrien** - Well, I agree **there** but uh we have to come up with you know something ..we, we..it's not going to be part of our uh part of the By-law uh it's something that we're going to agree on to review it again. Um I just think it has taken us 6 months uh **there** and if it really gets uh ..6 months I uh it's, it's going to be past Christmas, uh **there** uh um and then we'll have uh it reviewed in March uh April. Glen? **Councillor Fuhl** - Ya, I'm in support of the 6 months and review it in 6 months. **Mayor Therrien** - So what we'll do ..if everybody's in agreement with the 6 months, it's ..it will be like a **soft vote???** uh. We'll look at it again in 6 months um and then go from there. And then we'll vote on the uh items uh for the Third Reading. Is that everybody in agreement with that? Mark? **Councillor Miller** - Ya, as you know, I've stated it many times, I ..I'm not comfortable with having that so I mean we can definitely vote but I don't want you to ever say that there's consensus because I'm not uh I'm not willing to give that up. **Mayor Therrien** - Well, ok, it'll be a soft vote, correct me if I'm wrong here, Colleen. It'll be a soft vote to review this in, in 6 months uh then. Um but as for the vote itself, the vote that we're going to do uh now um will be on the uh on the resolution, the changes to our, the Third Reading of the Procedural By-law. Uh but for the reviewing it in 6 months, our soft vote, those that would be in support of that for reviewing it in 6 months, could I get a show of hands. That would be Melinda, Glen and Pat and those that would be in disagreement with regards to that. That would be uh Mark and Andy, Uh so we'll review this is 6 months and see how it goes **there** and I just hope everybody is uh going to be behaving themselves and uh I would..it would be wonderful if that in fact uh does occur. Um so now uh let's us vote **with regards to** the uh, to the uh uh I forget what the item number is **with regards to this**. **Colleen Draper** - I'll read the resolution. *Be it resolved that Third and Final Reading be given to By-law No. 22-22 being a By-law of the RM of Springfield to regulate the proceedings and conduct of the Council of the RM of Springfield and the committees thereof as amended and to include add 16.2 (d) only questions pertaining to current agenda items.* **Mayor Therrien** - And that's it (yep). Um then if we're ready to vote, Council, **with regards to** that, those in support of uh CAO's reading of the uh Third uh and Final Procedural By-law 22-22, show of hands, please. Those in support. Myself, Glen and Melinda. (Therrien, Fuhl, Warren) And those in opposition uh to it'd be Mark and Andy. (Miller, Kuczynski) At this point here, it is passed uh Third Reading.

**Mayor Therrien** - Uh, we have no Delegations, uh Unfinished Business, uh Consent Agenda.

**10. CONSENT AGENDA - Mayor Therrien** - Um, if Council's prepared uh...is there any questions uh actually could I get a mover and a seconder **with regards to** mover to the uh the Consent Agenda please. Oh.. **Councillor Miller** - Point of Order, Mr. Mayor. (ya) I think you skipped uh 7.1 Land Acknowledgement. **NOTE: Well obviously Council has a different agenda than the one given to attendees and on their Web Site because there is nothing on it about Land Acknowledgement.** **Mayor Therrien** - My apologies, I did. **Colleen Draper** - Uh so that's just, I did some research on Land Acknowledgement um for Council to consider um so I know that was something that Council wanted to and I don't think it has to be approved tonight but I just wanted to put some suggestions out there, one is what the Sunrise School Division um and others are just from within Manitoba that I thought kind of covered what you were hoping to say so I think at this point uh when you decide to start making that Land Acknowledgement, you would have to eventually vote on one of these or bring your own to the table for Council to consider. **Mayor Therrien** - Um ya, any questions **in regards to** that? **Mark?** **Councillor Miller** - So at some point uh Colleen we would need a resolution right to move forward and have this as an Acknowledgement. I, I appreciate your doing this effort and I think we should reflect on this and you know, take it under advisement and consideration before we actually embrace it and endorse it but thank you for doing the leg work on it. **Colleen Draper** - Yes, I think the only items, like we added the Invocation that we haven't started doing yet and then the Land Acknowledgement as well should be in if you agreed on a phrase. **Mayor Therrien** - Ya, I did a little bit of research **with regards to** the opening statement **there** on the 150th. Anniversary and I used one that's very close to 1, 2 or 3, more so towards number 3 um but it'll, it'll I think putting our own spin on it if we had to, I think, and uh there's the Federal one, there's the Provincial ones that apply so I agree with Mark, we'll look at that and come up with what we think is the best. Thanks for bringing that up **there** Mark, I went by that. Any other questions **with regards to** Land Acknowledgements uh Council? Then we can go to the Consent Agenda uh **there**, can I get a mover and a seconder **with regards to** Consent Agenda? Uh Glen and Melinda (Fuhl/Warren). **Colleen Draper** - *Whereas a Consent Agenda has been submitted consisting of four items, Be it Resolved that the said Consent Agenda be received as information.* **Mayor Therrien** - Any issues or concerns from Council? Then we'll carry on. Oh, can I get a show of hands, those in support of the Consent Agenda for all items? That's unanimous. And 10.4 a mover and a seconder, please. **NOTE: That is congratulations from the RM of Rosser and part of the Consent Agenda. Mayor Therrien is a slow learner, it would appear.** Oh, I'm sorry, ya.

## 11. NEW BUSINESS

**11.1 Cordite and Hillside Pit Lease - Mayor Therrien** - Then we'll get to uh 11.1, a mover and a seconder **with regards to** the Cordite and Hillside Pit Lease uh Melinda and uh Glen (Warren/Fuhl). **Colleen Draper** - *Be it Resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield approve the 5 year lease agreement with a 2 year mutually agreed extension for the Cordite Pit located in the southeast 1/4 7-12-5 east and for the Hillside Pit located in northeast 1/4 5-12-5 east with Glacial Aggregates Limited.* **Mayor Therrien** - Any issues uh Glen, go ahead. **Councillor Fuhl** - I just wanted to make a note that Blaine had made a comment through ZOOM that they're not dredging below water under this new lease on the RM property so there is no dredging happening. **Mayor Therrien** - Alright. Thank you very much, uh Blaine got a hold of you **with regards to** that. **Councillor Fuhl** - He sent it in our Chat. **Mayor Therrien** - Oh, ok, that's good clarification uh **there**. Any other questions uh Mark? **Councillor Miller** - Uh just a quick question and I think Blaine might be On Line but if he isn't, uh I guess Colleen can answer, the proper and responsible tendering process I guess was entertained or was uh action was taken to ensure that the uh that we're following the proper procedure for entertaining any and all bids uh for this Lease Agreement? I guess that's the question. Was an open tender process done in this circumstance specifically? **Blaine Moffat** - Ya, I could speak to that uh Mark. Particularly right where we're looking at a tender for purchase was brought out depending on the uh criteria of that tender, in this case it was more of a um the proposed I guess kind of the reverse tender so we kind of uh individuals seeking the proposal back to us. The only ones that had any interest were Glacial Aggregates at the time so we didn't uh we didn't uh invite uh anybody else cause there was nobody else kind of relaying us terms, knocking at the door on our behalf. I don't know if that answers your question, Mark or? **Councillor Miller** - Uh thanks Blaine uh so were we not obligated and I guess what I'm trying to do is safeguard the Municipality, are we obligated to go to a tender process or is it legitimate the way that...and I know there's not a lot of interest, I'm not trying to challenge you on that but... (yep) I just want to safeguard our RM um to ensure that somebody doesn't come back and say hey, you didn't do a tendering process, uh um you know, what's up with that? And I guess the second question is, as was raised earlier tonight by one of the uh people in the audience, I believe Mr. Speer, an Environmental Assessment, is this something that's ever been done or should be done, again it's paramount that we protect our aquifer as well as the general environment and so what's your position, is that something that's part of the agreement uh going forward? **Blaine Moffat** - We've never done that uh Environmental Assessment on the aggregate uh for lease RM properties in the past. I think Mr. Speer when he spoke about that, that was a much bigger um project that was being looked at at the time um but it never went anywhere, it was uh an idea uh proposed plan but again it never went anywhere but it was on a much larger scale that involved more than the properties that are involved on this lease here so.. **Councillor Miller** - I guess just following up on that, I have indication from Mr. Speer that maybe in fact it was specific to this site but beyond that, would there be any drawback to require environmental assessment, I mean it's done with much smaller properties and ones that are perceived to have much less environmental impact and uh again we want to make sure we're taking every extraordinary effort to protect our water and the environment and so would that be something that you think Glacial would be opposed to uh as a good corporate citizen? **Blaine Moffat** - Well, uh I guess that would be a direction of Council if that's what they would like to see. We're not mining below the water table, as a matter of fact we're not mining below the um the actual elevation as it is now in both those uh aggregate pits there so uh I'm not sure what else environmental assessment is going to tell us from what's already you know been going on and they are active pits and have been for many years but uh if that's the direction of Council, we can certainly look into it uh further and there would be costs associated to that as well. **Councillor Miller** - Just one more follow up, sorry Blaine, um is um the remedial plan, is there a remedial plan I guess, just say that they decided you know that they're out of business or you know, we've seen other situations in gravel pits where they're abandoned or left in arrears or what do we call abeyance until the cows come home, there's one on Deacon Road that..I don't know who owns that but, you know, it's used as a swimming hole and a whole bunch of other things but obviously there's been no mining activities or no gravel industry in there for many, many years and so it's unfortunate but I just don't want to be caught in the same scenario under my watch if there's something better we can do. **Blaine Moffat** - Ya, there's definitely remedial plans uh for all of our uh municipal owned pits uh once they become inactive then we uh uh we switch gears to uh, you know, to put them back as best we can back to nature, that's why we save our, we save our topsoils, we soak our banks and put that topsoil back and try to get the vegetation back uh as best we can so ya there's definitely uh remedial plans. Um these pits here will probably be active pits for many years yet so um but we have done some of our own, other pits we've uh kind of closed them off when they become inactive and again go back and do

the remedial. **Councillor Miller** - And just, I'm sorry, I don't want to dictate but and when we do do the remedial actions, is that the taxpayer who's on the hook or was it the company, uh who abandoned or uh tended to not do any more activities so... **Blaine Moffat** - Uhhh, again, in this case being it's a municipal owned pit, I mean if they went on the land left and done their you know 3 years or 5 years uh it's not we're deeming them inactive, we've put it as part of that lease, then they're not on the hook for the remedial, uh however we work through the Province and the Mines and uh Resources Department and there is a, I guess, a like a grant opportunity that you show them your remedial plans and there's monies there through the Province that we can, that we can use to remedy these inactive pits back so and it's quite a lot more money nowadays, it only used to be upwards of \$25,000., now it's more based on how much the projects is actually going to cost you uh so we haven't exercised that Program yet, based on we just haven't had inactive pits, the challenges yet but from what we've seen uh and it's changed just in the last 3 years and so I'm not you know yet applied for it, not everybody gets it so having a proper plan in place before you go forward with uh the action to Revenue. So basically hopefully there's, there's really not a whole lot of cost to the taxpayer. Um I know when we've done it in the past when it was \$25,000., one year we'd do your 25, the next year you'd do another 25 and so on so I think this way is a little bit more structured that you can get a lot more done uh in that, in that pit and it doesn't necessarily have to be a complete closure, it could be a certain area within that aggregate lands that you would close off to further mining. **Councillor Fuhl** - Ya, this question's for Blaine just to reconfirm that the next 5 years we're sure they're not dredging below water in the next 5 years. **Blaine Moffat** - That is correct, there is no dredging, the only way they could, they'd have to come uh they'd have to come back to the Municipality for permission. So and we give them actual elevations, existing floor elevations that they're not to uh to go uh below so uh we keep a very close watch on them. **Councillor Fuhl** - Ok, thank you. **Mayor Therrien** - I was thinking of another pit, another pit that I'd uh visited uh Andy? **Councillor Kuczynski** - Yes, Mr. Mayor, I would like to ask Glen maybe, last meeting of Council you guys defeated this project. **Councillor Fuhl** - We didn't... **Councillor Kuczynski** - Do you remember that, ya... **Councillor Fuhl** - We defeated it, the 10 year lease, yes. **Councillor Kuczynski** - Ok, so you did. Ya so it didn't go forward. **Councillor Fuhl** - Correct. **Councillor Kuczynski** - So now we have 5 years and do you know the reason you defeated it, because it was so long or ... **Councillor Fuhl** - Yep, because it was a 10 year lease, it was too long and there was objection from the public that didn't want us to sign a 10 year lease. **Councillor Kuczynski** - And there was no other concern, just the length of the lease? **Councillor Fuhl** - At the time, yes. **Councillor Kuczynski** - Ok, Blaine, I would like to ask, thank you, Glen, I would like to ask a question and that Hillside, Hillside pit, are they going to be mining in our old uh garbage disposal. Are they going to mine underneath that garbage disposal, how is that going to happen? **Blaine Moffat** - No, no there'll be no mining of the existing uh landfill site. Uh anything that they're going to mine, so maybe I'll just back up a bit, in each of the pits, we give them a map that outlines a survey of the mined area so they can't go outside of that mined area so we have that as a survey to stay within the boundaries of that. of that survey of that mined area but ya in this case here, they're really going to be mining uh you know strictly to the east uh, uh for the most part. They can't really come west any further, they might go a little bit to the north um so ya we got no concerns that..and again for them to be able to get underneath that old landfill, they would have to go uh below the elevation that we've set uh again we will be monitoring that as we normally do so. **Councillor Kuczynski** - And what distance, what distance do they have to keep from, from that old uh refuse disposal to their dredging or not dredging but you know, mining that gravel. **Blaine Moffat** - Uh hum. Well again in the demised area I don't have uh the actual numbers but there..they can't physically...there is no gravel too around that uh..around that uh land fill area that they would mine. That's all landscaped back now and so it's ..it's quite obvious that uh where they can and cannot go and that landfill site is outside the mud demised area so. **Councillor Kuczynski** - Ok, thank you. (yep) **Mayor Therrien** - Thank you. Any other questions from Council in regards to that. If there's no further questions, then I'll get the resolution read. **Colleen Draper** - *Be it Resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield approves the 5 year lease agreement with a 2 year mutually agreed extension for the Cordite Pit and the Hillside Pit uh with Glacial Aggregate Limited.* **Mayor Therrien** - Uh if we're prepared to vote, uh on this matter now, can I get a show of hands, those in support of the uh uh 11.1 Cordite and Hillside Pit leases, those in support. That's unanimous and is passed.

**11.2 Municipal Fire Protection Agreement Renewal - Birds Hill Park - Mayor Therrien** - Uh 11 point uh 2, Municipal Fire Protection Agreement Renewal - Bird Hill uh Park uh a mover and a seconder please. Uh Pat and Glen (Therrien/Fuhl). **Colleen Draper** - *Be it Resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield approves the Municipal Fire Protection Agreement with the Government of Manitoba for the supply of Fire Protection and Rescue Services within all areas of Birds Hill Provincial Park.* **Mayor Therrien** - Any questions uh from Council at all in regards to that. I see none. Can I get uh uh a show of hands uh those in support of 11.2 Municipal Fire Protection Agreement uh Renewal? That'll be unanimous and it's passed.

**11.3 2023 Supplemental Taxes Due Date - Mayor Therrien** - Uh 11.3 uh 2023 Supplemental Taxes uh Due Date, a mover and a seconder please. Uh Melinda uh and Andy (Warren/Kuczynski). **Colleen Draper** - *Be it Resolved that the List of Assessment changes dated September 29, 2023 be accepted and that supplemental taxes be authorized with a due date of January 31st, 2024.* **Mayor Therrien** - Issues in terms of from Council at all? I see none. If we're prepared uh to vote in regards to 11. uh 3 2023 Supplemental Taxes Due Date, uh a show of hands please, those in support. That'll be unanimous.

**12. CLOSED MEETING - Mayor Therrien** - Uh next one will be uh Closed Meeting. Can I get a mover and a seconder to put the Council into uh In Camera uh session? Andy? You're in support of that. Ok, that'll be unanimous. Oh sorry, let's get a mover and seconder, uh sorry, sorry who's the mover and seconder **with regards to** that? That'd be Glen and Melinda (Fuhl/Warren). All those in support to go In Camera? That'll be unanimous. We're closing it, closing it to the meeting uh now.

**12.1 Award of Engineering Services - Negotiations - Mayor Therrien** - Thank you very much uh it's uh 9:03 uh same date. Um can I get a mover and a seconder to come out of Camera, uh Council? Uh Glen and Melinda (Fuhl/Warren). **Colleen Draper** - *Be it Resolved that this meeting reconvenes from In Camera.* **Mayor Therrien** - Uh vote in regards to support of coming out of In Camera. That's unanimous. And uh we'll get to uh 12 uh point 1, that's Award of Engineering Services negotiations uh a mover and a seconder, please. That'll be Melinda and Andy (Warren/Kuczynski) or sorry, uh Mark. (Warren/Miller) **Colleen Draper** - *Be it Resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield authorize the Water and Waste Department to award the Engineering Services Contract for the Detailed Design phase of the Dugald Lift Station Upgrades and Forcemain Project to Associated Engineering Limited for the base cost of \$53,438. plus applicable taxes and Be it Further Resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield authorize the Water and Waste Department to spend up to \$27,000. plus applicable taxes for the geo-technical investigation work and associated permit fees related to the Detailed Design Phase of the proposed Dugald Lift Station Upgrades project in*

coordination with Associated Engineering Limited. **Mayor Therrien** - Would you say that again..uh just kidding (laughing) ..couldn't avoid that one (laughing). **NOTE: The Mayor was the only one laughing.** Um if everybody is prepared to vote **in regards to 12.1, Awarding of Engineering Services there** as per the uh resolution **there**, a show of hands in support. That'll be unanimous. And there's nothing else uh on the oh sorry...ya there's one more. Um how do we do that?

**12.2 Council Code of Conduct and -13. RETURN FROM CLOSED MEETING - Mayor Therrien** - A mover and a seconder for a resolution? (yes) Can I get a mover and a seconder for the next resolution, uh please. Uh Melinda and uh Pat (Warren/Therrien). **Colleen Draper** - *Whereas two Code of Conduct complaints were filed under By-law Number 20-17, Be it Resolved that Council accept the Third Party Reviewers recommendation to dismiss the complaint and close the file.* **Mayor Therrien** - With that resolution, all those uh uh this is the funny part **there** that the uh can I just review the uh it again. **Colleen Draper** - *Whereas two Code of Conduct complaints were filed under By-law Number 20-17, Be it Resolved that Council accept the Third Party Reviewers recommendation to dismiss the complaints and close the file.* **Mayor Therrien** - Can I get a show of hands uh those in support uh of this uh uh resolution. That'll be unanimous.

**ADJOURNMENT**