

RM of Springfield
Committee of the Whole Meeting
May 14, 2024:00 p.m.

WITHOUT PREJUDICE (E&OE)

LENGTH OF MEETING 1 hour 51 minutes 6 seconds

NOTE: In Item 6.1 you will find the following note: IT IS IMMEDIATELY APPARENT FROM MAYO THERRIEN'S OPENING COMMENTS THAT HE WISHES TO GET RID OF QUESTION PERIOD. I would urge you to read the remainder of my note. At one time, residents attending a Council Meeting could ask questions when an item on the agenda was being discussed by Council. That privilege was removed during Mayor Fell's term, I believe. Question period at the beginning of the agenda replaced that ability. Now the current Mayor, perturbed it would appear by opposition of any kind, is moving towards eliminating Question Period, thus removing any input from residents. IF THIS EROSION OF DEMOCRACY is concerning to you, I would urge you to e-mail, or telephone the Mayor and members of Council and express your opinion. NOW IS THE TIME TO DEFEND YOUR RIGHT TO HAVE YOUR SAY. Further, attached is a PDF of a full-page ad in the May 16th issue of the BeausejourClipper. **THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT. Ratepayers are being asked by the majority of Council to fund RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT. Aside from the financial implications of this proposal, excessive development in Dugald and Oakbank could ultimately result in that portion of the municipality being absorbed into Metropolitan Winnipeg, much like St. Boniface, St. Vital, St. James, Ft. Garry, Transcona have been in the last 40 years. AGAIN, IF YOU HAVE AN OPINION, GET IN TOUCH WITH ALL MEMBERS OF COUNCIL AND EXPRESS IT NOW. Later will be too late.**

2. CALL TO ORDER - Mayor Therrien – Thank you very much, uh Kristy. Uh today's uh date is uh May 14th of 2024. Uh this is a Committee of the

Whole for the RM of uh Springfield and the time is exactly uh 1 uh p.m. Um I would like to uh introduce Council to you, myself first. I'm uh Mayor Patrick uh Therrien um and in descending order to my right Deputy Mayor and Councillor Ward 1 is Glen Fuhl, the next is Councillor Ward 2 Andy Kuczynski uh next is Ward 3, uh Councillor Mark uh Miller, next is uh Ward 4 uh Melinda Warren.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA - Mayor Therrien – Um and if we can get Approval of the Agenda, let's get a mover and a seconder, uh please. Uh Melinda and Patrick (Warren/Therrien). Just go through ok then um are we supposed to do the mover and seconder and all that? Ok. Any uh uh additions uh is everybody good with the Approval of the Agenda? Ok.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES Committee of the Whole Minutes March 12, 2024 - Mayor Therrien – Then why don't we move on to the Approval of the uh Minutes, can I get a mover and a seconder? Uh Glen and uh Melinda (Fuhl/Warren). Any uh questions **with regards uh** to the Minutes at all? I see none. Uh we'll move on. Uh we'll go to Item 5.

5. QUESTION PERIOD—Mayor Therrien – Um that is the uh Question uh Period uh a mover and a seconder. Uh Melinda and Patrick (Warren/Therrien), Melinda and Andy I should say (Warren/Kuczynski). Ok. Question Period is uh 5 minutes, a total 15 so 3 uh questions uh **there** uh and only questions pertaining to the uh current agenda please. Uh we've got people on line. I don't see any hands uh up there. Uh in the audience? John? **John Wright** – John Wright, Springfield. **Mayor Therrien** – Hi, John. **John Wright** – Actually I had two questions but I've only got one now. I answered my own. **Mayor Therrien** – Laughing. **NOTE: He is the only one I can hear laughing on the recording or when I was actually watching the meeting on ZOOM.** **John Wright** – That was the vote on that ... that buying property. Um my question is on 6.2. **Mayor Therrien** – Ok. **John Wright** – Uh I read it over and it sounds like uh we've actually got a Plan for the Heatherdale uh not the He ... um for the Garven Road situation. Um it just stated that they're waiting for drawings. I guess the question is going to be, it took 12 years to get a Plan, I'm just...I'm not being facetious but do we have an idea of how long it takes for the drawings to come out? **Mayor Therrien** – I don't know. I'll refer it to our CAO. **John Wright** – Who does it, ya (laughing) ya who's it sent to? **Colleen Draper, CAO** – So we're waiting for the drawings to come from MTI (ok) so that we can make sure that our project is tying into what they're doing. So they've agreed to kind of uh provide that information to us so that we can just make sure it works together. **John Wright** – Ok, so they have a Plan too then and you're ...we have drawings, like the RM, do we have our drawings we're doing? **CAO Draper** -Uh, we have our basic scope that we're planning to do but uh we don't want to do anything until we see what MTI is doing to make sure we're not ... you know, not going to work well with what they're planning to do and I know on their Website they show it for a completion in 2025 so... **John Wright** – Completion by 2025? **CAO Draper** –Correct. **John Wright** – By 2025 or in 2025? **CAO Draper** – I think they're tendering in 2024 (ok) and the work will be, you know, undertaken in 2025. **John Wright** – Ok, thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – Uh they actually uh have a date now when we haven't had that before so it's long in the tooth uh **there** so I congratulate you for keeping on this, John, we'll ... we'll certainly keep on it as well. **John Wright** – Ok, thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you, John. On line, any other questions? I don't see any. Uh Karen? **Karen Lalonde** – Karen Lalonde, Oakbank. I'm ...I'm going to sound like uh probably a broken record but I want to address the Procedural Bylaw again. And uh my request is that when you get to that and you're considering uh where you're going uh that possibly you would look at putting it down towards the bottom of the agenda and I think uh hopefully you're not considering doing away with it altogether because I think it's very important that uh... I know that Council's elected by ... by ward but um according to the Municipal Act, you're representing all of Springfield so I think it's important for all Council to hear the concerns of the residents and if they wanted to, they could respond to any questions that's asked. So that is my broken record speech and I hope you'll consider it when it comes up. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you, M'am. Um I'm not sure who Big Hoss is **there** but I'm not sure if we should be uh having a name like Big Hoss. Um unless there's an appropriate name, I don't uh... I won't be answering uh a question from Big Hoss. I don't see the hands up at all uh ... somebody else.... Pat? **Pat Burbank** –I'm the only one left ... **Mayor Therrien** – I think so. It's the pink shirt. I ... my eyes are...**Pat Burbank** – You noticed me? Ok. Pat Burbank, Sunnyside. And my... I have 3 questions, they're very quick. Uh ... it refers to the Workplace Cultural Health Assessment Report, uh I believe this assessment cost the taxpayers \$14,000. Is that correct or was it more?**Mayor Therrien** – No, it was fourteen. **Pat Burbank** – Fourteen. Ok. Um is asking a question or two considered criticism because sometimes questions must be asked to drill down to the root of the problem. **Mayor Therrien** –UhI don't think it's criticism, no, it all depends on the, on the questions so I can't really answer that but no. **Pat Burbank** – Ok. And um the report stated there was a lack of direction from Council to the CAO. It seems to me from meetings I have attended in person and on ZOOM that the Mayor will very often ask the CAO for

direction because he is unsure of what to do or to say. That's a problem and how much direction does the CAO give Council? **Mayor Therrien** – You...you know, Pat, I don't, I disagree with you strongly with respect. Because I ask a question of the CAO just shows that uh uh that I know who is part of our uh staff that we can refer to for answers uh **there**. **I'm not going to blow smoke up people's arses** that they're think that I know something **there**, I don't know everything and I never did. As a Mountie for 35 years, you would think that I know everything, it's impossible. You learn every day so as a job, as a mayor, being in the job for a year and a half, asking a question of the CAO is uh prudent. Talking to the MLA and talking to our MP, people are criticizing me because I'm talking to them, God Forbid if I didn't talk to those people so **people have just got to ... inflating themselves???**uh uh you know, get their heads out of the sand and... and allow people to, to do their jobs without being critical of me asking a question. **Pat Burbank** – Well, I was just going by what the Report said and that's the way I see it when I come.... **Mayor Therrien – interrupting** Well, you can pick and choose little parts of any report and... and take it and choose to blend it in any way you want uh but there's far more to that Report than ... **Pat Burbank – interrupting** Oh, I read...I read it all ... **Mayor Therrien – interrupting** But, you know, I don't think that's ... that's.... I think it's a criticism of myself uh essentially you're saying because I ask questions uh it's, it's not doing my job, if I don't ask questions and I try to answer questions and I do it wrong, I guarantee you people are going to be critical and **some of the crap that's been out on there**uh I don't listen to the Facebook but people referring to me as Gestapo um **there** that's an absolute ignoramus **NOTE: An ignoramus is a human being so he should have said "they're an absolute ignoramus"**,that does stuff like that and anybody who does stuff like that are ignorant and cowards. Say it to my face! **NOTE: In my notes, I am commenting on actions, not persons. If you do something I don't think is appropriate, I make mention of it. Further, from home, it is difficult to talk to a face that deliberately sits leaning to the left, ostensibly to avoid the camera. All I see if the right ear and sometimes eye, not that I'm complaining.** I know I'm getting off track but people know who I'm talking about. **Pat Burbank** – Ok, that's my questions, I, I would have several more but I don't want to take up too much time. **Mayor Therrien – interrupting** You've still got time. **Pat Burbank** – No, that's ok. Thanks. **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you. Ok, I think that's it. I don't see other hands uh **there**. If we're prepared to close down the Question Period, and its...um constructive criticism, I guess uh we'll go to uh questions and answers uh 6. uh 1.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6.1 Questions and Answers from April 16 Question Period – Colleen Draper, CAO – So attached is the document. Um there were 20 questions posed to Council um at the April 16th uh Question Period at the Council meeting and so here are the responses being provided to the residents so I will make sure that uh that person is aware he can uh find those uh on ... attached to the agenda. **Mayor Therrien** – Um, ok uh any questions uh from Council **with regards to 6.1** because I have some comments. I don't see any. Um I'm going to read what I've got down here even though uh even though uh these questions uh 21 is demonstrative in how Question Period is dysfunctional. It does not work. It has been this way for quite some time, the same people every time, same questions every time. It'sit's it's a waste of our time. Uh you're allowed 5 minutes and these questions are a work in progress uh which is suited to a delegation. **NOTE: IT IS IMMEDIATELY APPARENT FROM MAYOR THERRIEN'S OPENING COMMENTS THAT HE WISHES TO GET RID OF QUESTION PERIOD. HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE A TON OF PEOPLE THAT HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY RELEGATED TO HAVING TO REQUEST TO APPEAR AT COUNCIL AS A DELEGATION and perhaps being denied the opportunity after their request being reviewed by the CAO who requires that those making such requests provide her with information on what the topic of their delegation is and what they are actually going to say, in other words, a copy of their presentation. Delegations are when someone comes to Council with a specific concern or issue and brings that to the attention of Council at the same time as informing the public. Question period was put in place to replace being able to ask questions during the meeting and specific items on the agenda.** The 21 is a prime example of that. Uh we as a Council felt and it was passed.... Uh it is a sound ... sorry, I got off topic here uh uh the land (laughs) sorry, I was thinking about uh something else here that.... the 21 questions uh that was asked by uh Mr. Giesbrecht uh **there** um I've answered in notes here but I'll uh. I'll do it as an ... as an in whole uh matter uh so we as Council had had it passed. It was sound and an excellent investment in our community. It feels ... it fits well with our objectives of our development in our Strategic Plan. We have allocated our last uh piece of uh for a much needed uh PCH uh on the land east of the Baptist uh Church and have no other land available to us within the Oakbank where, where we will need land for a school eventually, a daycare, high density uh housing or cluster housing, whatever the community feels that uh will fit and uh will not be the developers. Uh the land can be parceled off uh like I say as a daycare. We've had uh discussions uh with John Q **NOTE: Only the Mayor has had the opportunity.**uh **uhwith regards to** the daycare that's uh um uh patented uh method of uh building daycares that takes 5 months as opposed to uh a year of uh of uh construction. Uh a daycare at the east end of the Oakbank uh would be uh uh a need for Springfield uh which must uh be able to service the entire community and it would do that. Factors we considered were and are the daycare and the land acquisition is one, uh we need 2 acres of land uh for a daycare uh which we don't have. **NOTE: Am I wrong? Isn't it developers that should be concerned about land for development, not the RM?**Um our park... RM park is essentially not uh ours or was not ours at that time um and if it would have been sold, we would have been kindly asked uh to leave. We would have had no....uh really... in my uh ... what I understand of trying to expropriate land uh is there's a necessity for it but that was our error, the RM uh so I suspect that we probably wouldn't have much uh to uh to put our feet on **with regards to** trying to uh expropriate land that we made an error on 20 plus years ago. Uh this park is uh essentially uh an ingredient to our community, uh I've raised all my kids uh in journeys that uh to this park uh which is walking distance uh um and I'm sure people will start saying uh oh Therrien wants to get this uh park for his kids, his grandkids and **so on like that** um I'm just talking to the nasty people out there. **NOTE: I don't think it is a good political move to refer to some of your constituents as "nasty". A good Mayor would just let negative commentary roll off his back, not take it so personally. Perhaps he feels some of the commentary is justified and is sensitive to it as a result.**Um uh we can allocate land uh a pathway to our uh our old lagoon and rehab uh project which will be a gold standard of what communities can do for the future um not just another subdivision, a plan for the future and that of our uh kids, our grandkidsuh going forward. The rehabbed old lagoon uh will be an added extension to the value of this 39 acres. Uh the land uh,uh once our watermain uh reaches it will be greatly increased its value. I was going to say double the value but I'm sure somebody would criticize me that I'm acting as an assessor **NOTE: The Mayor really is on the defensive today,**uh but once the land is actually uh serviced uh with our sewer and water, it's uh... it's uh going to grow exponentially in value. **NOTE: And again, he is forcing ratepayers to take on the cost of that servicing to benefit developers, i.e. increase the value of their properties, when it should be the developers providing services to encourage people to purchase their lots. I've been asked by more than one whether I think the Mayor is simply bereft of knowledge or whether he has been bought off. I don't have an answer but I would tend to think he is taking bad advice from somewhere, especially if he has expectations of being re-elected in future.**Uh so this was an opportunity that we could not uh pass by. Uh the land uh the use of the land

uh can be forever uh uh for whatever we need it for including not only a daycare but a school which uh we will eventually need uh in our discussions with the School Divisions uh in our past discussions, I should say. Uh we need to think uh ahead, not just the 4-year election cycle uh we are here to make the decision for our community. Um I've got some other stuff uh **there** but I think that uh essentially answers uh uh along with all the other uh answers that uh that our CAO provided uh with staff. Uh if there's no other questions uh then I'll uh I'll proceed to the next uh category. Andy? **Councillor Kuczynski** – Um Colleen, uh 2, an answer with senior staff discussed the opportunity to purchase land with Council. Which uh Senior Staff was discussing with us? I only know that Colleen Draper introduced to us but I never heard that anybody from...from Administration speaking to us about that. **CAO Draper** – Well, that is something that Senior Management have discussed so whether I relayed that information to Council but I thought that was discussed as a group with all senior management and Council present. And we talked about the the pros and cons of that piece of land and then we decided that if it ever came, you know, up that we were able to purchase it, we were to bring that information uh forward um and after we, you know, reviewed the surplus monies that we received, we brought it to Council and a decision was made. **NOTE: It has still not been explained the source of this "surplus monies". Every year financial plans are reviewed and audited by auditors that, one would hope, do not just overlook a large sum of non-allocated funds in ongoing financial statements and year-end reviews. Does the RM have some secret benefactor that bestowed upon us a large sum of extra monies?** **Councillor Kuczynski** – So since when then did Administration make the decision on behalf of the Council? **CAO Draper** – We don't. Council passed a resolution approving it. **Councillor Kuczynski** – I know but I understand but it was never presented to us as a Council that there was discussion with the senior management. And who, who was in the senior management, who was involved? **Mayor Therrien** – Um I'll answer that. Uh I, I remember sitting here and I don't know when, what date and **so on like that** but it was discussed as land being uh available. I've been looking at that land for many years um and when it came up for sale, I thought that was an excellent idea. And then uh senior staff uh had talked and I forget what it was around, it was probably budget uh uh discussions and so on, the CAO brought it to us and we as Council thought it was an excellent idea based on the stuff uh you know that I had said uh minutes before. Uh so it had nothing to with uh senior uh uh management or, or our CAO, this was our decision and **it's a hell of a good decision.** **Councillor Kuczynski** – I understand uh Mr. Mayor but it says "senior staff discussed the opportunity to purchase the land with Council". I never heard about that so this answer is there but it doesn't mean ... make any sense. **Mayor Therrien** – We had...we had some, you know, uh uh I was perfectly aware of that fact that this was coming up for sale, I saw the sign every time I went down the street uh **there** uh so we did have some discussions uh **there with regards** to that uh um and uh uh it, it became available, we ...we had discussed as a Council the price that we wanted uh to pay. We had dialogued back and forth, we didn't want to pay this..."x" amount of dollars, I don't want to get into the weeds of the pricing and **so on like that** uh but the final uh sale price was the 1.55 uh which was the uh the directions we gave our CAO and uh she's our only employee, she does not vote. Uh we're the ones that made the decision so we uh we stand up for that decision. **NOTE: The price they paid was well in excess of the going rate for land in that area at that time. Is the Mayor saying that was Council's direction to the CAO to pay whatever was necessary to obtain the land? Further developers are not in the habit of acquiring land at premium price. They buy low so they can maximize their profit margin. So I can't see us having to pay an outrageously high price to compete with developers.** **Councillor Kuczynski** – Ok, thank you Mr. Mayor. You still didn't answer my question, who in the senior management discussed this issue but uh I take your answer as you answer because you ...three times I asked the same thing and you didn't give me the proper answer so we leave it at that. **NOTE: I can probably surmise Mr. Mayor and the CAO. They are the ones that set the agendas etc.** **Mayor Therrien** – Well, no I'll...I'll answer...who are the ones on senior staff that asked...that talked about it, I ...you know, I can't remember who. I remember talking about it. **NOTE: There is not a whole bunch of senior staff. There would be Colleen, the CAO, Shawn Wilkinson from what is now Community Services but used to be Recreation, Blaine from Public Works, Dan Doucet from Planning & Development, Amram Bangura, Finance, Dustin Olsen from Facilities and Special Projects, Pawluk from Waste & Water and Martin Sandhurst, Economic Development, and the Fire and Police Chiefs could possibly be included, a total of 10. Surely the Mayor's memory is not so bad he can't remember 10 staff members.** And it was a short...it wasn't ... it wasn't on this date and so on, we've had little niblets about this land and uh **so on like that.** Uh I thought it was an excellent idea and we had discussed it as, as a Council. Uh we had all the history of it uh **there** and we as Council decided ... we gave direction uh to our CAO. Um she actually got it for the...the smaller price that we thought that there was a threshold at \$1.6, that we figured they wouldn't go down so we actually got it for \$50,000 uh cheaper. And uh you know the price uh uh the \$50,000 was uh the stuff that we had used for the uh the downpayment that we would have been using otherwise. **NOTE: So I figure they paid at least three times what that land was actually worth at what land had been selling for in the RM.** **Councillor Kuczynski** – Ok, thank you, Mr. **Mayor Therrien** – I hope that answers it, Andy. I uh don't know how better to describe it. **Councillor Kuczynski** – No, public will know, the public will know this and digest whatever you said so thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – Ya, it passed by resolution so I'm not sure what the secrecy uh **there**, I'm sure somebody is going to say that uh uh it was another backroom decision, it wasn't a back room because we were all in that room and we were discussing this, all Council here. **CAO Draper** – So when I refer to senior management, you are aware that we have a group of at least 8 department heads that meet regularly with Council so when I say senior management, I am referring to that group of 8 staff members. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Ok, Colleen, if that's what happened, then that Report should come to Council, who you discussed with, what was said, and then, then we make decision based on what the senior management was talking with you. **CAO Draper** – Well, I cannot ... **Councillor Kuczynski** – We're here, we're here to make the sound decisions and based on the best information we have provided and, and if you have discussions with the senior management, nothing wrong with that but we should have Report from that and, and present it to us so...so we can see that Report and then we make the decision based of that uh discussion with you. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – Glen? **Councillor Fuhl** – I'd just like to state that there was a verbal report from Colleen on the situation with the Administration giving their input that was said through Colleen. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – So um any other questions uh then. Ok then uh we will go to uh 6 point uh 2, Heatherdale uh Road uh Capital Project uh Description.

6.2 Heatherdale Road Capital Project Description- NOTE: May 15, 2024 when I click on what is provided in the agenda for this item, this is what comes up: Question regarding scope of Heatherdale Road 2025 capital project for \$1.5 million. Reconstruct and reshape existing road to establish new drainage along Heatherdale Road and reconstruction of any existing ditches along roadway. Installation of Geotextile and Rip Rap where necessary to prevent erosion and replacement and installation of culverts. Asphalt portion of Heatherdale and Garven to tie into MTI project. Figures and costs provided are based on a Class D estimate and shall be revisited upon receiving final design drawing.

Mayor Therrien – Everybody read that. Any questions at all with regards to that? This is yours uh **there** John. I don't see any questions uh **there**.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 WMR Plan 20-50 Update from Mayor – NOTE: Attached to this item on the agenda of the meeting is a schematic with a timeline for the Plan 20-50 adoption. The proposed public hearing outside the City of Winnipeg is scheduled for August 8, 2024. Mayor Therrien - Um then if we can go to 7 uh point 1 uh please. Let me get all this stuff out of the way here. That's the WMR Plan 20-50 Update from the Mayor uh uh obviously myself uh uh. We as the Board had met uh uh and had uh two important meetings in the last month uh. We have uh...we passed the, the bylaw of how meetings are posted uh and one attended uh by Councillor Andy Kuczynski and another councillor from another uh RM. Uh two important dates uh for the public hearings are noted below uh and those again are on the Website uh 25th of uh July in Winnipeg. Um the exact location I guess will be posted and then the other one's on the 8th of August uh in Niverville uh because they've got lots of areas to do that ... that... my suspicion is that it will be at the Rec Center. Um our financial uh Financial Reports in the independent audit uh uh the yearly audit has uh has been done and that can...that is shared on the uh Winnipeg Metropolitan Region uh website. **NOTE: There is a short video which repeats almost exactly what our Mayor had to say about the plan. It is a short spiel suggesting that the Capital Region will have a population of I believe 1.1 million by 2050 and that in order to plan for that, municipalities within their group have to coordinate their planning to ensure the overall Plan provides for the organized and functional future of the Region. In other words, Colleen Sklar, the founder of this organization who is now working in the Provincial Government, and probably has a lot of influence there, in my opinion, is micromanaging planning for the entire Capital region. The Province does have the power not to approve anything sent to it for approval by RMs in the Capital Region and elsewhere in the Province. I am not saying it is a bad thing for RMs to coordinate their plans for the future but I do have concern that people that were not elected by constituents, i.e. staff of the Provincial Government and those that influence them, are making these decisions and that means the populace has no direct or real control over their own destinies. A NOT SO PUBLIC LAYER OF INFLUENCE.** Um and we area region um we're not huge in the black but we're making uh some money **with regards to the decisions** that uh we have made uh. Again staff is the biggest portion of our uh the Budget. I've given you all a copy of the uh Winnipeg uh Metropolitan Region uh Plan, the timetable. Again that's all on, on the Website uh **there** so it's an intricate uh uh Plan, the dates are all included uh in there um and the uh Public Hearings uh um it notes here outside the City of Winnipeg so when this was done we hadn't yet confirmed that it was going to be in Niverville. And that's about it. **NOTE: And good luck on finding relevant things on that WMR Website.** Any questions from Council. Andy? Or uh Mark. **Councillor Miller** – Uh thank you, Mr. Mayor. Uh it's kind of unfortunate that the Public Hearings are just in the midst of summer break and not only for people in the House of Commons but the Manitoba Legislature and yet they put them in the midst of summer uh break for most Manitobans so I know you didn't have much influence on that but it's highly doubtful or highly unlikely that people would really participate in some of those meetings. I think some of us are even going to be away. Beyond that comment, uh as you know, the RM of Springfield paid something to the effect of \$17,000 for membership into the uh Winnipeg Metropolitan Region so of this Plan itself, Mr. Mayor, what benefit do we get for the \$17,000 invested in this quasi uh non-profit organization, what benefit, what direct benefit does the RM of Springfield gain from 20-50 or anything else, frankly ... broaden it, that WMR presents to us. Where is that \$17,000 yielding one penny of benefit to anybody in the RM of Springfield? **Mayor Therrien** – It...it started uh in that one time uh the amount and like everything else, uh like you're a businessman, you know that the ...it uh, it works on itself and Administration is the biggest uh part of that. Um the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region, if you look upon it as ... as a circle, that is the uh City of Winnipeg and all the peripheral RMs uh, the circle around that uh, that puts us all at the table. So the table if you figure uh the same shape, Winnipeg is in the middle uh there, the big uh brother uh on the block and we're the other ones that are surrounding neighbours. If Springfield was not to be part of that, uh this was a decision uh that was made before my time um and I have to go along with that decision because it was already well entrenched by the time I'd gotten to it. If somebody was going to ask me, would I, would I have gone through with it **there**, I certainly would have. Uh I'm not the uhuh the kind of guy to deke around and, and uh uh you know, I make a decision, I stick to the decision. This wasn't really my decision, it was already well entrenched by the time I'd gotten into it. If somebody were to ask and I guarantee somebody will, uh whether I'd be part of it still, YES uh I would be because if you're...if you're not part of that circle, it's better to be in that circle than looking from the outside looking in. Uh the benefits uh will be that we're all going to be working uh together uh for uh Transportation Plan. Uh we're all going to be looking at uh the fact that the ...globally we are going to be uh noted uh for the uh Metropolitan region um and people are going to look at uh not just Winnipeg, they're going to look at uh the fact that uh we've got a large uh consensus of, of land, uh variable land uh farming, ranching, uh high-density housing uh to the north, East St. Paul, West St. Paul, uh which is the largest, one of the largest, fastest growing RMs is the uh West St. Paul. **NOTE: Yes, and it has been on local newcasts of late, with long-time residents of that municipality not at all pleased with the amount of new residential development going on the other side of their road and removing the natural space that used to be their neighbourhood.** So I talked to the Mayor of the West St. Paul, I talked to the Mayor, all the other Mayors and uh Reeves of all the other RMs around that. Um if I wasn't there, then I wouldn't be able to establish rapport and uh there's projects that are in line that we have discussed uh **there** that might be beneficial uh to us coming down the pipes so it's not just the City of Winnipeg, it's everybody getting around that table, everybody conversing and rapporting and, and figuring out that what our needs are and I've had lots of discussions after meetings uh **there** where sit down having coffee uh **there** and uh discussing uh some of the uh the, the difficulties in RMs uh **there** and uh and some of the plans that have been uh uh and we've had a couple of plans, I've met with a, a councillor from the City of Winnipeg and not part of this Winnipeg Metropolitan Region but in other interactions **NOTE: Probably at a hockey game.** **there** and at the AMM uh **there** I discussed uh a project uh **there** that I'd like to bring to Council **there** uh as soon as I can get back with this uh councillor **there** and I think it's a good initiative uh **there**. Without this, being part of that, sitting down and talking to Mayor uh Gillingham uh **there** um you want to be in part of this circle as opposed to looking in um from the outside **there** so I hope that answers your question but.... **Councillor Miller** – Uh no it doesn't. But it...I'm glad to hear it's more than just a social club but beyond that, um you didn't really explain what the \$17,000 membership fee yielded for our RM. Ya, you can give a perspective but do you realize under legislation, under Provincial legislation, we'd be at the table anyways and I don't think we have to pay that \$17.... we do so then we ... **Mayor Therrien interrupting** – I explained that before. **Councillor Miller** – So we spent \$17,000 and yielded nothing. But beyond all that, have you looked at the uh history and the actual organization of the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region? Can you explain it right here and now. Who are the backbones of the Winnipeg Regional uh Metropolitan Region? **NOTE: I see someone named Hazel Borys seems to have taken over from Sklar.** **Mayor Therrien** – Who are the backbones? Metropolitan Region? **Councillor Miller** – Where did it originate and what was the main purpose? **Mayor Therrien** – Sue Thompson uh **there** and I'll get into the history of this as well, we're the last uh uh large city in the country uh that doesn't have a Metropolitan Region. Uh there's the large uh larger than the City of Winnipeg uh and we're the last ones to get in on that so we're behind the eight ball. **NOTE: At the time, I believe Sue Thompson was the Mayor of Winnipeg. If the City of Winnipeg incorporates**

those municipalities in its periphery, as has already happened as we used to have the City of St. James, the City of St. Vital, the City of St. Boniface, Headingly, etc., Springfield along with all the others adjacent will disappear and there will just be one Council, not 17. But the Mayor is too busy discussing hockey to probably notice the obvious. Um now the history of it, I think it started with uh Sue Thompson and uh our Reeves preceding myself, Mayor Fell being the last one that was all part of this there. **NOTE: Yes, and she is now a City Manager of some city or town in one of the northern states that borders Canada. She maneuvered herself into a secure and probably very well-paid position, being not quite totally honest in her resume describing her former employment record.** Um that's the history. **Councillor Miller** – And...and thank you for that. And now it's on record. But having said that it was entrenched before you, you were elected here Mr. Mayor to make a difference and to change things and make things right. Um if you're going along with what's entrenched and continuing on with the status quo, that doesn't seem like a lot of change or a lot of difference and a lot of improvement, that's all I could say for the record, it's unfortunate. **Mayor Therrien** – Well, that sounds like you're pol...you're making this political. You're politicizing again. Uh this isn't that, uh this is one of those uh times where I said it, uh and I guess you're missing the fact that **there** uh if uh ...this was a decision already made. Now somebody's going to ask me, I think you asked me uh that uh I could have said no, we're not going to be part of that, that's not true because it's already part of the uh the Act that we were going to be part of that. **NOTE: Which Act?** But if I had the chance to pull out of it, I would not do that. I would stick to it because that's an absolute uh uh necessity for us to be part of that uh that circle. **That** answers your question, I know that. **Councillor Miller** – Ya excellent. **Mayor Therrien** – And I said, and I said that you were ... you were making this political and this isn't the time to be political, this is essentially a time to understand uh what this Winnipeg Metropolitan Region is. To say that I would uh uh you know that I was voted in to make the decisions, I did, I... the decision is that I am going with this and I had no other choice but given the choice, that ... of me pulling out of it, I wouldn't do that. That would just be stupid to pull out of that. Are you saying that we should pull out of it? Ya, ok. So you would say we have a circle there and then you would say, pull out of Springfield ... you won't have that but uh pull out of that so we could have am a circle with one void in there. Uh we would not be at the table with uh the City of uh Winnipeg and all the other RMs around the City of Winnipeg making these decisions uh or uh uh the Cedar Lake Corridor is uh part of the uh Transportation Master Plan uh **there**, that's allowing uh uh the perspective that it's going to alleviate the traffic, it's going to alleviate the uh uhthe burdensome **NOTE: He pronounced "burdensome" like "bird in some"**, traffic on 15 and on uh Garven Road, we would not be part of that discussion for ... for you to say you would pull out of it, I think that's uh that's a mistake, absolutely a mistake. **Councillor Miller** – Let's see where the Provincial Government takes us, Mr. Mayor. **Mayor Therrien** – Oh, I think they'll stick to this, absolutely they will because I know uh the Minister, I can't talk for the Minister uh **thereum there** but they ... they're on board with it...this...absolutely. You're smiling. **Councillor Miller** – Ya, I am. **Mayor Therrien** – Why (laughing)? **Councillor Miller** – I'm glad you know more than I do. **Mayor Therrien** – You know more than I do, then this is the time now to say it. **Councillor Miller** – *Verbatim!* I'm glad you know more than I do. **Mayor Therrien** – Oh, ok. Alright. Andy, you had a question? **Councillor Kuczynski** – Yes, I would like, Mr. Mayor, a question, we're going to get benefits. What is the time frame that we get any benefits? **Mayor Therrien** – You know, I ... **Councillor Kuczynski** – In my lifetime or your lifetime or we just ... like Mr. Schuler said that uh Cedar Corridor maybe going to be accessible for this community 40 years from now. **Mayor Therrien** – Four years ago? **Councillor Kuczynski** – 40 years from now I can quote it right... it was in the Clipper. **Mayor Therrien** – Good, I'm looking forward to that then. **Councillor Kuczynski** – laughing. Forty years from now. **Mayor Therrien** – Oh. Four zero. 40 years. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Yes, Ya. Forty years. **Mayor Therrien** – Well, I, I don't know, that's... **Councillor Kuczynski** – Well, that's what Mr. Schuler was quoted...ya... **Mayor Therrien** – Well, I, we don't know, we don't know but part of the uh uh I had discussions with uh Mayors and Reeves and I'm not going to mention any names uh **there**, their corridors are, are part of the Master Plan as well uh so we were discussing uh the Chief Peguis uh meeting up with Gunn Road and crossing at Springfield uh **there**. Another uh Reeve uh had had discussions uh with uh uh the Minister like I've had uh discussions with the Minister uh where I'm uh I don't want to mention any names nor will I because it was all in confidence uh **there** um so if this Minister, he or she or the Minister, the Reeve that he or she were, was to um get their plan going ahead of ours uh that would only be ... be an inducement to have ours done a little bit earlier as well uh because at one end it'd be completed at the next end, ours. If it's not, then it doesn't make any sense. **NOTE: I moved here over 40 years ago and was told Highway 15 was going to be twinned. STILL WAITING! And the population out here has grown exponentially since I moved here. Go figure.** So if he or she is making that commitment there to try to push it, uh then uh we'll certainly be pushing it as well. **Councillor Kuczynski** – So let's see how soon the Perimeter Highway is going to be done because that's going to be Project Number One probably for the City of Winnipeg and we, in discussion, like north side, south side and we see how many interchanges there is going to be on uh the Perimeter Highway and then maybe something is going to fall on us and probably that's going to be just the Perimeter Highway updated and upgraded, probably it's going to take them maybe 10 or 15 years. **Mayor Therrien** – Well in our... remember we had our discussions here with MTI **there** and they had \$300 million dollars that they were (ya) putting through to this. We had discussions when that was with the PC uh government and now it's with the NDP uh government uh **there** um I think they'll stick uh to that, I can't talk on behalf of the Government, all I can talk about is the local government here and us as Council will be making those decisions where and when we can. And being part of the Metropolitan Region is, is a good, is a good plan, absolutely a good plan, along with our purchase of land and our Water Treatment Plant. I figured I'd throw that in there as well. (Laughing but again, only he is heard laughing on the recording). **Councillor Kuczynski** – Time will tell. **Mayor Therrien** – laughing Sure, I can't argue that, Andy (laughing). Ok. Uh go ahead uh Colleen. **CAO Draper** – I, I just want to maybe state, you know we had Jennifer Freeman come and give a presentation on WMR (Winnipeg Metropolitan Region). Um it was quite clear that the Capital Planning Region is operating as WMR so perhaps since 1998 when it first was introduced as the Partnership of the Manitoba Capital Region, membership was voluntary uh but even since 1998 Springfield has been a member of it. Now it is legislated under the Planning Act so um it's not voluntary any more to be part of the Capital Planning Region for Springfield. So just wanted to remind Council of that. **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you. Um if there's any other questions. I see none. **NOTE: Those 3 sentences were all run together and spoken within the space of a few seconds.** Then why don't we move on to uh 7.2 uh that's the Workplace Cultural Health Assessment uh Report.

7.2 Workplace Cultural Health Assessment Report - Mayor Therrien – Um a mover and seconder for that, please. Melinda, Glen (Warren/Fuhl). Uh who wants to start off on that? Nobody. No questions? **CAO Draper** – Well, I think (laughing).... **Mayor Therrien** – It's whoever ... is this...we've got time, we've got time. Go ahead. I'll I know but then you can, you can interject but go ahead, Andy. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Again, let me put my glasses on here. Ok first item it's **"APPROACH, CAO and two members of the leader team were interviewed"**...**Mayor Therrien** – Sorry, Andy, not to ... **Councillor Kuczynski** – I got, I got this answer it's on the last page ... **Mayor Therrien** – Just wait, Andy. Uh these are some of the changes for the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region Version 3 uh so I'll have them here if somebody wants to look at them **there!** I have to say that in the record uh **there**. Sorry, Andy, go ahead. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Ya, so was uh Blaine

Moffat and uh Joy Janz that was part of that interview so that was answered. Um **OVERVIEW** "The Administration works well together and has full confidence and support from ... CAO" ... "Day to day operations being managed to maintain required services." That sounds very good. Um then "political climate in the RM of Springfield has been heightened over the past year due to the high-profile proposals". What high-profile proposals was done? Who's going to answer that question? **Councillor Warren** – I can answer that question. (ok) Well for the last...well since we've been elected, even before we were elected, there was the SIO Silica high profile going on in Springfield. **Councillor Kuczynski** –What's the proposal...so what was the other one? **Councillor Warren** – The other one? **Mayor Therrien** –Because there's people on line, Andy, then refer to a page or paragraph if you can as well. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Well, page 2 **OVERVIEW**, I stated in the beginning **OVERVIEW**. **Councillor Warren** – Everybody has their own view, like, you know, we have... we did our thing at the ...with our statement saying that, you know, we wanted to protect the water, right and the SIO Silica thing was under the direction of ...well under the ... answering to the Province so I mean that's a high profile.... **Councillor Kuczynski** – Ok but that's number one. **Councillor Warren** – But that's our ... **Councillor Kuczynski** – What's number two? **Councillor Warren** – Where's number two? **NOTE: Councillor Kuczynski thought it stated "proposals" when in fact it said "proposal"**. **Mayor Therrien** – Where does it say number two here? **Councillor Kuczynski** – I would say twenty-one twenty-five (21-25), our Zoning By-law. **Councillor Warren** – Where? Is it in here? **Councillor Kuczynski** – No, it's not there, it doesn't have to be there, that's ... I'm asking that question, high-profile proposals. **Mayor Therrien** – Well, that or the Water Treatment Plant uh.... **Councillor Kuczynski** – Ya, they had the "become major topic for the residents of Springfield". **Councillor Warren** – Well, there's a lot of "different views on what should happen" so ya uh we had discussions about Bylaw 21-25. We had discussions about the Water Treatment Plant. Everybody has their own view on how the costs should be divided, who should be paying for what so... **Councillor Kuczynski** – So what's another one, WWS or those... what is the next one. **Councillor Warren** – I don't know. **Mayor Therrien** – Water Treatment Plant. **Councillor Warren** – I said that. **Councillor Kuczynski** – That's, that's the one. **Councillor Warren** – I said that one. The Rec Center. **Councillor Kuczynski** – So next one, we havethe lagoonya. **Councillor Warren** – The lagoon, the Rec Center. **Councillor Kuczynski** – That's right. **Councillor Warren** – I mean, that's what.... **Mayor Therrien** – Ya, the Rec Center.**Councillor Warren** – ... the residents are putting in front of us??? to ... to discuss the pros and cons of everything. I mean, we... **Councillor Kuczynski** – I understand thatMelinda. I just want to know, what's next? What high profile proposals are there? **Councillor Warren** – Hopefully none. (laughing) **Councillor Kuczynski** – Well, no, they ... we already identified one, two, three, four, five (Councillor Warren laughing in the background) and I think the last one, it's going to be Budget. **Councillor Warren** – Sure, that's Budget every year is a high profile. **Mayor Therrien** – And I have to, I have to include as part of all those, infrastructure... **Councillor Kuczynski** – Yes, ok. **Mayor Therrien** – That's all part of infrastructure. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Ok, so we have, we defined that. Um it says "tension within the community and the Council". Who's going to tackle that? **Mayor Therrien** – Where are you here, the tension within the community and the Council? **Councillor Kuczynski** – Ya paragraph second, Overview, paragraph second, ya right down there, "tension within the community and the Council". Who's going to tackle that and answer? **Mayor Therrien** – So what's the question, then, Andy. Like, if you're going to go line by line here, we have to have an idea of what...what, you know, I... **Councillor Kuczynski** –It, it says that... if anybody read this uh Report, then it's there. I just want to clarify, like, you know, it has to be asked ... the question has to be asked... how this person came up with those.... those answers to us and we have to understand ourselves what it's all about. **Mayor Therrien** – Well then I think you got all those four... **Councillor Kuczynski** – Because if it's so general that nobody knows what it's all about. **Mayor Therrien** – That comment.... ya it is... is general but uh on a whole, we're looking at the document now on the whole. **Councillor Kuczynski** – I understand but I asked you if I can present them all, that we're going to clean the laundry here and you want to do it in public or are we going to do it as a Council first and then we define the major issues, otherwise I have all these ... all these outlined points that I want to understand what what's happening. **Mayor Therrien** – Ok, well go ahead then. Like the increased tension within the community and the Council, I would say uh it's all those uh 4 or 5 that we had mentioned **NOTE: That "he" had mentioned**.plus the infrastructure being the.... the uh uh the larger macro picture of those 5, that's all part of infrastructure. (ok) That's...that's what I would say as to that. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Ok, but why ... why is it happening and how are we going to correct it. What is the answer to correct it? If we defined the problem, how are we going to tackle and correct all these problems? **Mayor Therrien** – sighing It's ...ya ... well, that's for sure, just keep on asking the ... the questions there if.... you've got a whole bunch of pages there, I... I can't really answer with just one ... we're only on paragraph 2 now so what's the next one? I answered that one, if anybody else wants to answer it but... **Councillor Kuczynski** – Ok so paragraph three, "However, when this conflict escalates and becomes negative, it creates a very difficult working environment. People no longer trust each other". How are we going to change that, how are we going to correct that? **NOTE: I googled Achieve Centre for Leadership. It states "Our facilitators are located in major cities across Canada and several US regions, and we work with both small and large clients worldwide."** There is a local telephone contact number 204-452-0180 or Toll Free: 877-270-9776 and Email: info@achievecentre.com. I read the entire report which is very well organized and contains mainly, to me, obvious observations and ultimate vague recommendations. Very professional but I wonder, how much did that cost and was it really necessary? I could name several people in this RM, ordinary citizens, that could have told anyone and everyone the same thing for free. Our current Council is dysfunctional, but the everyday product of staff goes on regardless. There is not that much contact between most staff, with the exception of the CAO, and members of Council. It has always been thus!**CAO Draper** – So I mean, I read the Report as well. I concentrated more on the recommendations and the questions for reflection so when I met with Council and provided this Report, I had done my own answers to those questions for reflection. And I thought about the Report and each section and I answered them how I thought and I encouraged you all to do the same. And then when we had answered those questions, we could have come up with solutions how to move forward. So... **Councillor Kuczynski** – I thought that this company was hired to give us solutions, not just criticizing the Council and **CAO Draper** – interrupting That would have been a \$50,000 report to provide solutions so.... **Councillor Kuczynski** – But then...but then we have a report that doesn't have solutions so the Report is useless to us. We need.... we need a Report with a solution because otherwise there will be no...no outcome, positive outcome on anything that we do. **CAO Draper** – I mean I... I would concentrate on Page 7 of the Report and forward where it talks about recommendations. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Ok. **Mayor Therrien** – If you want to give us uh the.... your questions there, we can look at that... we can come back.... **Councillor Kuczynski** – I thought.... I thought.... I thought this fellow who came here, who wrote this Report, he should be sitting in front of us... he should answer those questions to ...**Mayor Therrien** – Well, the very last ... the very last meeting that we had, that's when we asked these questions uh there and you and Mark weren't there, you could have asked those questions at that time too. We had questions and we were asking those questions. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Did you see this Report at that time? (no) Ok, so how can we ask questions if you can't see the Report. **Mayor Therrien** – He had he had an idea and this is the time where we finished things off uh therehe was asking uh you know how we see things going forward and this is the time that we were all together in that room minus you and Mark and that was the time then that we could have been throwing it out there and then this Report followed after. You're

shaking your head, Mark, but uh don't just shake your head. **Councillor Miller** – How do you ask, how do you ask questions just randomly out of the wind? **Mayor Therrien** – He's ... **Councillor Miller** – The Report wasn't ... **CAO Draper** – Well, the last...ya... **Councillor Miller** – ... the report wasn't there, we can't refer to it, we can't know what the recommendations are, **this is fairy dust**. Come on. **CAO Draper** – So like the last... **Councillor Miller** – I hear what you're saying... **CAO Draper** – ... the last meeting that we had with him and Council and senior managers were there, he reviewed the key themes and recommendations with us and then we had an opportunity to say, like did we agree with those, was there anything that was glaringly missing um and then he said, when you see my final report, it will not be a surprise to you, it's everything we've reviewed today and he answered a lot of those questions at that last meeting so the Report came afterwards but he provided those key themes and recommendations at that meeting. **Councillor Kuczynski** – So if he provided all these answers, why... why can nobody answer those questions right now if he provided those answers? **CAO Draper** – I don't know what answers you're asking, like, or looking for. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Well... **CAO Draper** – The tension in the community, if you look at social media, there's clearly tension in the community. **NOTE: Well, that has nothing to do with this particular report. That tension is due to the fact that residents last year were prohibited from attending their own Council meetings, ostensibly a decision of only the CAO but Council was aware of it. In fact, two councillors actually met with the people assembled outside the building, locked out.** You have residents fighting on line about Council decisions. That's not normal so ... **Councillor Kuczynski** – Why... why are they fighting. He's supposed to come here and define that. **Mayor Therrien** – Well, we had that at the very last... **Councillor Kuczynski** – ... it seems like we couldn't fix that so it's supposed to be this fellow who we hired, we paid him \$14,000. to have solutions for that. **CAO Draper** – No, we didn't hire him for solutions, we hired him to... **Councillor Kuczynski** – So we hired the wrong person, obviously. **Councillor Miller** - \$14,000. We could have hired Joe Blow down the street. It's pretty ... pretty evident this Council is dysfunctional, there's a lot of tension, I mean for \$14,000, again I was opposed to it because frankly I didn't think he would come up with any recommendations as Councillor Kuczynski is saying. **NOTE: The recommendations are very boilerplate ... no specifics. They could apply to anywhere and any situation.** So obviously we're still in the same boat we were three months ago, maybe even worse. **Mayor Therrien – trying to interject** Where do then ...well what do we do? Do we not do anything about it? We hired this consultant to try to help us out **with regards to** this. **Councillor Miller** – To tell us we're dysfunctional that we already know. You could have told us that for \$14,000. **Mayor Therrien** – I have been saying that. **Councillor Miller** – And so have I. For free, exactly. So here...bill the taxpayer another \$14,000. down the toilet. **Mayor Therrien** – Like, you can't just.... you can't just look in the background and say I told you so, I told you so. What part of this did you, did you not understand that we were doing? You knew, in fact, that we were part of this, you attended uh **there**, Andy attended the very first one there, you did your interview, did I... did you do your interview? **Councillor Miller** – Yes. **Mayor Therrien** – Did you do your interview, Andy? **Councillor Kuczynski** – No. **Mayor Therrien** – Ok, well, if you're not participating as part of the interview.... **Councillor Kuczynski** – Because I didn't interview because I understood at that time that it's not going to work. **Mayor Therrien** – No, you.... **Councillor Kuczynski** – And it doesn't work now when I'm reading this Report. **Mayor Therrien** – I'm not... **Councillor Kuczynski** – And I could see it, I could see it right ... twice in my life I went through the same process and there was no results so I understood that right from the beginning that it was not going to work. **Mayor Therrien** – We had to do something. We made the decision uh **there** and uh if you choose not to participate, then you choose not to try to help. **NOTE: Interesting that a Mayor that chose to take a neutral position on the Silica/Sandilands Aquifer hearings would have that opinion.** **Councillor Miller** – That's not true. There's no recommendations ... **Mayor Therrien** – It is. **Councillor Miller** – No, that's your perspective again which proves to be not only **Mayor Therrien – interrupting** It's your perspective as well so why am I wrong and you're right? **Councillor Miller – laughing** Let the voters decide. **Councillor Kuczynski** – You know what, I'm.... I'm willing to do it right now and...and make copy of this and send to every councillor so they can read this and my...my remarks here, whatever I highlighted and...and we're going to go further maybe as a... as a Council.... sit down by the round table and discuss those issues. **Mayor Therrien** – I...I...I, I agree with you, Andy. But uh... Glen had his hand up. **Councillor Fuhl** – Ya, I'd just like to make a comment. You know, this was dealt...everybody worked together and you choose not to come and that's your choice, but having said that, to start nit picking it apart and asking questions without being there and not having the dialogue, that takes a lot of you know what and having said that, you know what, this was to help and we can work together to try to make that work and how we do it is by talking and working with one another, not by picking apart a Report. The Report, the Report was to help us get together and work on things. That's what the Report is about. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – And I uh I, I commend our uh Deputy Mayor for.... he's thinking uh uh for the betterment and we almost need a mediator **with regards to** this uh **there** cause uh uh Mark and I have strong uh disagreements uh **there** ... uh opinions and **so on like that** and we have to go forward. You know, what was done in the past was done in the past. I don't agree with it but every day is a new day so change ... I used to do this uh in uh interviews **there**, I used to use the analogy, it's like a book, um you've done something wrong, uh this uh just one chapter in a large book of life that...the life that you had before, that got you in trouble, he or she uh **there**, let's throw that chapter aside. Let's start going forward so that's essentially what I did at interviews, different themes, analogies. And going forward, you have to establish the rapport and, and going forward. We cannot be uh always uh I was ... ya, we cannot always be bickering uh **there**, we have to look forward uh in sight **there** and look at the long uh the bigger picture uh **there** going forward, not just in the 4 years uh of our uh of our mandate uh **there** but looking forward to the uh future uh and decades and decades going forward. Uh uh we have to uh make the decisions and make the decisions uh that are best for the uh community, the I took an oath to that and Melinda took an oath to that, uh Mark took an oath to that, Andy took an oath to that, uh Glen took an oath to that. We all took the same oath and I ... I take my oaths extremely seriously. It's uh um we have to do the betterment for the RM of Springfield. **NOTE: And if the community is telling you they are strongly against something, why do you ignore their opinion and do what you think is appropriate?** I ... I ... I was going to say I don't care about the other RMs but they all affect each other so that's on another scale uh **there**. We all have to do the right thing for the RM and this was uh uhuhmoney uh that we had spent looking to try to resolve that **there**. This isn't a political tool to say that we spent \$14,000 um erroneously. Uh it was an attempt to try to make things better. Absolutely uh a large amount of money, I'm not going to uh say otherwise uh **there** but our CAO saw the difficulty uh **there**. Uh she went out and got a uh a person that uh you know, albeit uh I, I have some uh weaknesses in the Report uh **there** but uh I've handled reports uh you know for 35 years uh **there** and you're never going to get the right report um but it is just a report in itself. It gives a picture and we have to look forward. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Ok. One more question I'm going to ask. "Council is not able to provide clear direction to the Administration". Who's going to tackle this? So we asked, since Day 1 we was elected that we should have a direction to the Administration and to the CAO how we are going to run this Municipality. Why wasn't this thing done since day... the first week on, on our job? **Mayor Therrien** – Well, we're looking at our Strategic uh Plan **Councillor Kuczynski – interrupting** No the Strategic Plan wasn't done by us, the Strategic Plan was done by the other administration that was run away from this town. **Mayor Therrien – interrupting** Ya but we're looking at ... **Councillor Kuczynski** – On election, we're supposed to be new direction and we never had the meeting and we never give direction to the

CAO how we're supposed to run this Municipality. **Mayor Therrien** – We're we have a ... on June 12th, do we not have a Strategic Plan uh **there** a meeting, we're going to...we've started the process already. **Councillor Kuczynski** – That's a month now, a year and a half too late. We were supposed to have done we were supposed to have done it from the Colleen, can you please answer to me, how do you run this Municipality when, when we didn't give you direction to run it. You just run it on what.... on the free air or, or how do you run this Municipality. **CAO Draper** – You know, you're not the first Council that's been at this table so the policies.... **Councillor Kuczynski** – Can you, can you I ask a direct question to our CAO, please. **CAO Draper** – I have policies and procedures I follow. I don't need your direction for every, everything that we do as a staff member. We follow those policies and procedures that are set. Our strategic **Councillor Kuczynski** – Set...set by whom? **CAO Draper** – By the Council of the day. If you don't like the policies and procedures, that's up to Council to change them. **Councillor Kuczynski** – But this is... **CAO Draper** – That's how we operate. **Councillor Kuczynski** – But we didn't say anything to you, how we run it. Who said the direction to you ... from the October of last year? **CAO Draper** – We reviewed the Strat Plan first thing in your session. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Who? **CAO Draper** – Council and myself. **Mayor Therrien** – We were supposed to review that in the first month. We reviewed it. I reviewed it before I even got into office **there**. I based a lot of my uh campaigning on the Strategic Plan, uh the Recreational Plan, the Traffic Master Plan, the City of Winnipeg Master Plan, uh and our Developmental Plan so we've had that Plan the whole time and I ... you see, I don't ... find a big problem with the... the Strategic Plan uh **there** but we're going to review it. We want to put our stamp on it so this is the time to do it, now, is on June the 12th uh **there**. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Why didn't we do it on 22 in October, November. Why are we doing it now in 2024 ... **Mayor Therrien** – Because ... like what's the big problem with the Strategic Plan that you have, like what is it that is so bad in it that uh it's...it's...it's a Plan of conception ... conceptualize what uh we want to see in the RM. ... so you're both going into your ...your briefcases at the same time (laughing) (laughter). Fairy dust...what the hell does that have to do with this. No, no, I'm just joking that you're both going **Councillor Kuczynski** – (faintly) I have brochure that I'm saying on and that's what people elected me on. And everyone of us did the same thing. **Mayor Therrien** – Ya. **Councillor Kuczynski** – So why should I change now because I've got some kind of a Strategic Plan. ... The thing that we run... that we run on to change the Municipality and nobody followed that except me and Mark. **Mayor Therrien** – Well, I don't...I don't agree with that whatsoever. Melinda had the things that she wanted changed and we all had that. **Councillor Kuczynski** – I've noticed that water is our most precious resource and that we continue to ensure the safety of our drinking water. If it wasn't for me and Mark, we wouldn't have today safe drinking water because the SIO is here and we damage our whole aquifer. **Mayor Therrien** – Oh, listen ...like I think you guys uh we ... no we're not arguing. Can I not make a ... you didn't save the Municipality. You guys got a god complex here. **NOTE: Councillor Kuczynski is speaking without benefit of his microphone and I can't always hear clearly what he is saying. The Mayor is responding to his comments.**No, no we had a letter of neutrality. We gave two ... we gave two uh ... I read into the record about our uh... the RM's um that we're against any project that does not guarantee our water safety. **NOTE: That was on the last day of the hearings and this RM should not have taken a neutral position to the SIO proposal to mine silica sand from the Sandilands Aquifer. Any disruption to an aquifer is bound to have some consequences and those could not be identified. Therefore if there is doubt as to whether an action could or could not contaminate the water supply of the southeastern quadrant of Manitoba, you do not proceed with it. But our Council decided not to have a position but to remain neutral. Neutral is not a position.... It is a pass.** Likewhat part of that do you not I've said it a million times. **Councillor Kuczynski** – You voted twice. You voted for a zoning change and you voted for.... **Mayor Therrien** – You know, I'm not here to say what I voted for or what I voted against. We vote as a Council. We vote as a Council. Uh go ahead, uh Mark. **Councillor Miller** – That shameful comment.... Councillor Kuczynski and I voted, and Melinda voted against the uh Development Agreement. You voted for it. That would have fast-tracked SIO, don't pretend to sugar coat anything on this. You abstained yes but that defeated that resolution which if it didn't get ...it would be a different day in this. Do you want us to go to your commitments in your election brochure. I don't know that you you've shown one. You were going to change everything from protect our water to change um budget property, save before you spend, I think you ... we can quote you in this (ya) be honest ya exactly but yet we're going to go into debt like we've never seen before. Beyond that, remember we were going to change the positions of Council ... the Deputy.... Deputy Mayor. We're going to change the Mayor to Reeve. All this ...what was it you're ...you're electioneering and then you get elected and oh, by the way... let's cast that aside cause I'm not going to follow one thing of it. Boy, when we come to the election next time, Mr. Mayor **NOTE: The Mayor is trying to interrupt Councillor Miller.** I'd love to see you hold your commitments and look people in the face and call it electioneering. You're a politician just like I am and ya, shrug your shoulders but you're going to be held accountable. Your record is going to be held accountable and boy oh boy, are we going to be happy to show that record. **Mayor Therrien** – Boy oh boy, thank you Mark. Boy oh boy. Boy oh boy. Go ahead, Melinda. **NOTE: Councillor Kuczynski was talking in the background without his microphone.****Councillor Kuczynski** - ... before borrowing before borrowing uh a hundred million dollars, ya. **Councillor Warren** – Can I see that? Can I see that. **Councillor Kuczynski** - How are you protecting that. **Councillor Warren** – We're not borrowing a hundred million dollars right now, no? **Mayor Therrien** – No. Absolutely not. **NOTE: But they are advocating for borrowing \$100,000 or more for a pool and senior center in Dugald and for allowing exponential residential development which will require Municipal services which existing ratepayers will fund.****Councillor Kuczynski** – No, it's in the Budget, proposed budget for, for ... within 3 years we're going to borrow a hundred million dollars. **Mayor Therrien** – Ok, let me answer Mark's there before we get on ... give Melinda a second **there**. Um let's just say the Reeve ... the Mayor thing, I've answered all these questions before **NOTE: Yes, his answer was that it would be too costly to change Mayor to Reeve in all the records but when it changed from Reeve to Mayor, no change was made to previous records so that is not a legitimate reason and the only one he gave besides everyone being used to Mayor. People had been used to Reeve for 100 years or more when it was changed to Mayor and that was only a few years ago.**and it seems like every day is another day. What is that, 50 days uh **there**, it's the same question **there** but the Mayor to the Reeve, for us the change back to Reeve would just be stupid. We've got lots of contracts, we've got lots of uh of uh history, you've got 5 years of the Mayor. Ya, of course, this is stuff before I came ... this is... this is stuff before I came into the office here so once I'm in the office, I make these sound decisions. Apart from you, you do a sensationalism and you're a drama, you're a drama ... **Councillor Miller** – Politician, politician. **Mayor Therrien** – ... you're a drama queen ... **Councillor Miller** – Your lies ... **Mayor Therrien** – You're a drama queen. **Councillor Miller** – You're a politician who lies ... **Mayor Therrien** – No, You're a drama queen. **Councillor Miller** – You're a politician who lies. **Mayor Therrien** – The reason I didn't change it back to, to Reeve is because the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region has already adopted the term uh Mayor, there's been several contracts where it has uh Mayor uh down there. **NOTE: It would be a simple matter for the WMR to simply record future meetings using the term Reeve for Therrien instead of Mayor. Their world would not end on a title.** Would I...do I want to charge the taxpayer hundreds of thousands of dollars to change it to, from a name. **NOTE: There would be NO COST to simply carrying on recording Municipal business using the term "Reeve". There was no cost when the term Mayor started being used. Past records cannot be changed or pardon me, should not be changed. The current CAO seems to think that is**

acceptable to alter past council meeting records. It, it has been done. It has been done for 5 years before I got down there so that's absolutely dumb to, to change it back uh to Reeve. **Councillor Miller** – Sowhat do you say it to the people you've... **Mayor Therrien** – Because I wasn't in Council at that time. Now... now.... **Councillor Miller** – So then how, how do you say commitment.... **Mayor Therrien** – Now that I'm in here, and it's....**Councillor Miller** – It's a lie. **Mayor Therrien** – No it's not. Now that I'm in here ... **Councillor Miller** –No it's not a lie to tell the people you're not going to change it ... **Mayor Therrien** – Can I talk, can I talk... (ya) ... so now.... **Councillor Miller** –... tell them why you lie. **Mayor Therrien** – Like... calling me a liar, that's like calling me a Nazi or something. **NOTE: Calling him a Nazi would not be factual.... calling him a liar is perhaps a bit harsh but saying that he did not keep his word would be accurate. When you make campaign promises and don't keep them, that is misleading the very people who elected you based on those promises.****Councillor Miller** –Isn't it on social media. **Mayor Therrien** – Well, let's not go there, Mark. Ok. So let me answer this question. So to change it back to uh to Reeve is not a financial move, a...a ... fiscal responsibility. We would be charged ... there'd be lawyer fees ... **Councillor Miller** –It's not true. **Mayor Therrien** – ... uh hundreds of thousands dollars for us to change it. **NOTE: That is not true unless he is suggesting going back and changing the records from when he was elected which is ridiculous and would not be an accurate history of what transpired during that time.**We've got 5 years under the Reeve **NOTE: And Mayor Fell had a hundred years under the Reeve and it cost nothing when she decided to call herself Mayor. If the CAO has told him there would be a cost, that is incorrect.**uh or under Mayor **NOTE: Freudian slip?**so why would I change it back and I made this ... I made that promise there that I would change it but now that I'm in and I see all the different contracts, to change it back... we, I discussed this a year and a half ago. Go ahead, Mark. **Councillor Miller** –So I'll ask the CAO. When Tiffany Fell was Reeve, did it cost us hundreds of thousands of dollars to change it to Mayor? **Mayor Therrien** – No, it's to change it back, to change everything that says.... **Councillor Miller** –Ok, can we get ... can we get.... she can answer ... I asked her a specific question. Now let her speak.... **NOTE: Mayor Therrien while he is talking is trying to drown him out.** **Mayor Therrien** – Ok but to change everything back uh uh to Reeve... **Councillor Miller** –Then why did you tell people ... **Mayor Therrien** – ...is... it makes us, it makes us.... Because I wasn't in office yet, Mark. **Councillor Miller** –So then why do you speak things **Mayor Therrien** – What part of that don't you understand? **Councillor Miller** –Don't you understand when you go door to door canvassing (yes) asking for people's vote (right on) and say.... and I was with you. **NOTE: The Mayor keeps trying to interrupt him.**I was with you in Pineridge **Mayor Therrien** – You weren't with me at any time. We are not alike. **Councillor Miller** –So was I. I can go door to door where we met people in Pineridge when I was.... **Mayor Therrien** – You were you were campaigning with Springfield Taxpayers. I was not campaigning with Springfield Taxpayers. **Councillor Miller** –I was with you at the door, the man asked a question.... **Mayor Therrien** – Well, we crossed paths if that's what you're referring to. **Councillor Miller** –Yes, yes ... I can call it "cross paths" if you want to reword it, that's fine. You.... the person indicated are you going to change it from Mayor, oh ya'd love to do that ... **Mayor Therrien** – Ya, ya, I said it many times. **Councillor Miller** –On the record, you said it many times. (yes) He comes into Council and no, no, we're not going to do that. We're not going to do that **Mayor Therrien** – interrupting No because it's going to cost us hundreds ... **Councillor Miller** –... of thousands of dollars (yes) so why, that... that person may have voted for you for that particular reason. **Mayor Therrien** – Because I didn't change it. **Councillor Miller** –One reason. **Mayor Therrien** – You don't understand. They're not thinking uh.... **Councillor Miller** – They're not thinking.... **Mayor Therrien** – They're thinking at the time there, I made that ... that uh.... that campaign, once I got into office there it would be prudently stupid **NOTE: An oxymoron – a figure of speech in which apparently contradictory statements appear in conjunction.** for me to change it back. **Councillor Miller** –Boy, this guy's a politician. We've got a Mayor that's a politician. **Mayor Therrien** – interrupting Absolutely I don't want to be a politician. I just want to be the Mayor for the RM of Springfield. The Mayor ... the Mayor of the RM of Springfield (laughing). **NOTE: In the background, you can hear Councillor Warren laughing.** Go ahead, Melinda. No, no, no, Melinda next. **Councillor Warren** – Thank you, Mr. Mayor. This is the first time I've ever said it. (laughing) Just saying. Um so when we all ran with our platforms and what not, and thank you, Andy for holding my next one, yes I had two. I had two campaign papers, one I started myself and then the next one I had somebody make it up for me. Um so when you ... you have a goal, you have a goal when you run that you're running for the betterment of the Municipality, you're running to um hold the Municipality accountable for everything, right, budget, safe drinking water, you know, ditching, drainage, you name it, we hold...everybody holds us responsible to make sure that ... it's about getting their concerns and we have three people in the gallery today, thank you very much for coming, and we have a few more on ZOOM, thank you very much for listening and watching but when you....once you sit in this seat, you get... you learn more the Municipal Act, you learn the Planning Act, you learn what ... why things are done the way they're done. **NOTE: I am of the opinion that no one should put their name on the ballot if they are not already familiar with the Municipal Act and the Planning Act. Both are well written and in a very understandable way. They are intended for communication, not to baffle the uninitiated.**You look at ... you get given.... what did we get, 3, 4 huge binders and we have to learn. It's like going back to school to learn everything. Yes, we still have where we...(laughing) ... we still have our grounding, we still know what we stand for um but hey, I, I was like, you know, like the Mayor here, ya get rid of the word Mayor and put it back to Reeve but we didn't understand why they changed it, right. And you can't say it was to make her head bigger, **NOTE: My observation ... that would be impossible.**It wasn't. Um (laughing), it was the communication, right. It was when you're talking to other municipalities, other provinces, other provinces don't have a reeve **NOTE: And when you are talking to officials from other provinces, you don't refer to one another by your titles, you use names like everyone does when they are communicating with one another.**uh and so like you ... there's always an explanation for something and it's up for us to give the public the proper information. So ... and if we're going to talk about the (laughing), the assessment of how well we work together, apparently everybody got to see it for the last 15 minutes on ZOOM and in the gallery here. But what he said to me is, it starts with yourself. It's almost like we all need to look in the mirror and how do you want to project yourself out there. It's not about maybe saying he did, she did back and forth, it's about looking at yourself for seeing where you're grounded and where you want to go with this Municipality and listening to the people. I mean, I have residents that call me, I have residents that e-mail me and that's great. I have residents that want to visit and, and see each other and actually have a cup of tea. That's wonderful. But at the end of the day, we still have the Municipal Act to follow, we still have the Planning Act to follow, and we still need to listen to the residents so yes, you know what that, that paper that you're holding, Andy, can I have it? Can I have my brochure? Oh, you want it back? Why? Uh, ya, I guess so. *My name is Melinda Warren. I have lived in Springfield ...no, no...no, this is the first page. I am married for the last...well, now, 20, almost 26 years. I have 2 children. My children graduated from SCI. My husband and I operate a construction business and over the past number of years, there has been many concerns that have been brought to Council's attention, only to be dismissed, in my opinion. I am running for a position as Councillor for the people of Springfield that they may have a voice in zoning, water issues, drainage, and development. I am running so that the ratepayer will be protected when issues arise. This is a beautiful RM that we live in um and this beautiful RM that we live in can be developed but not at the cost of the ratepayers and our water source. Water is a precious resource and needs to be protected. That's the front page and vote for honest,*

transparent, fiscally responsible and I didn't lie in here. I have my concerns about the water. I have concerns about the development. We all do and you have to see what fits, like you have to go with what the Development Plan says. You have to go with what the Zoning Bylaw says. You have to go with what the rules are. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Mr. **Councillor Warren** – What! Mr. Mr. **Councillor Kuczynski** – No! Madam, Madam Warren. Who... who created...who created the Development Plan? **Councillor Warren** – Council and they **Councillor Kuczynski** – What input did you have in that Development Plan? **Councillor Warren** – As a resident?**Councillor Kuczynski** – No, as a councillor. **Councillor Warren** – As a ... for the Development Plan? (yes) I wasn't on Council then so I would have gone to some of these Open Houses and... **Councillor Kuczynski** – But what...what you're saying is that you're supposed to be part of it and you are not. **NOTE: HISTORY: Everyone in the Municipality had the opportunity to participate and express their opinions on the Development Plan at the Open Houses. Then the RM hired a contractor, I forget her name, a specialist in that particular area of municipal expertise, to actually put together the Plan. Once completed, Council attended a cloistered workshop, along with staff, and reviewed the draft, made any changes deemed advisable, and voted to accept the amended document which was then passed by resolution at the Council table. The document really is quite boilerplate as development agreements go, in my opinion.** Because you didn't participate in it, like I said, somebody else did it for us. And we, as a Council, we want a change, we want our input in that Development Agreement. Or that Development Plan. **Councillor Warren** – So every so many years the Development Plan gets revisited. **CAO Draper** – Every Planning Meeting you're approving variances, conditional uses, subdivisions, development agreements, that's development in a nutshell so I don't think you have to just talk about the Development Plan when you're talking about concerns with development. **Councillor Kuczynski** – But... but we ... the other Council whatever it is previous, I'm not saying it's the last one, maybe previous one even before that, they didn't do things right, the way it's supposed to be. Now residents are asking us...now residents are asking us for something else, something different. The times changing within 8 years or, or 4 years. We cannot stay in the same place and say, we feel good about it because we've got development, no, we were put here to lead and lead, that means we put our efforts to, to change the Municipality the way that we want it to run the Municipality, what residents are asking us to run this Municipality. And Mr. Mayor ... **Councillor Warren** – Thank you. **CAO Draper** – You're unmuted. **Councillor Kuczynski** – And Mr. Mayor, I would like to ask you, you said it's going to cost you thousands of dollars to change from Mayor to Reeve. Can you please provide us documentation, how much it's going to cost? No. Why not? You're saying...you're making a statement and you're not...you cannot back it up. **Mayor Therrien** – Ya, frivolous, fairy dust eh. Boy oh boy. **CAO Draper** – Well, I thought we were talking about the Workplace Health, Culture Assessment, I'm not sure of the direction I'm taking on this but I was asked... **Mayor Therrien** – interrupting All I see is Andy and Mark uh trying to uh get something for nothing here and at my expense. So let's carry on with something that's tangible that we could actually and look forward to as opposed to you guys uh wanting to make a big deal out of nothing. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Every...everything started when I said Council is not able to provide clear direction to the Administration and we don't and we didn't. **Mayor Therrien** – Every time we make ... every time we make a decision, there's uh direction there. So the Strategic Plan on June the 12th, that's our chance to, to inter... to put into that the, the direction that we want to see in our Strategic Plan so what ... I don't know what more you want. We're going to do it on June the twelfth. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Why did this individual put this in this Report? **Mayor Therrien** – What page? **Councillor Kuczynski** – Page OVERVIEW page 2, it's in the third paragraph. It was just done two months ago or a month ago. And then we still didn't find it...so the CAO didn't have clear direction how to run the Administration. **Mayor Therrien** – sounding completely frustrated Well, no, it's ... it's a huge ... that's a huge uh comment uh, uh it's not so much a question, it's a huge comment. But the whole...and the totality, there's 20 some odd pages here and, and you're nickel ... you're nickel and diming it, a little bit of this and a little bit of that, like I ... let us, let us have uh your, your papers there and then uh why don't we, why don't we finish off some of these uh questions at the very end uhthere, fill them in there and let's...let's bring it back uh some other time there with uh those answers cause this is just ... I, I don't see it going anywhere but this is dialogue that we're trying to get but if you start making it personal, then of course I'm going to be combative. Why, when I've got...when I've got you guys making these accusations towards me, this, this isn't just ahhhhhhh you guys ... then let's, let's have a coffee. Well then uh Mark is making all these things about me, the Mayor and the Reeve and so on like that, **Christ**, we did that a year and a half ago, but what, what more do you want, accountable, come on, you're just campaign...you're just campaigning... you're just campaigning, you're just fairy dust is all you want. **CAO Draper** – So I refer to Page 5.3 ?c. to answer your questions. If you want to read it after, that's where you're going to find your answer, **Councillor Kuczynski**. **Mayor Therrien** – And Glen wants to talk here. **Councillor Fuhl** – I think it's time to move forward. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – I (laughing), I totally agree with you, Glen. Um well maybe you should have been there at the very last meeting, then you would have had some more insight on this as opposed to coming in late into the class and trying to ...look back... **Councillor Kuczynski** – Mr., Mr. Mayor **Mayor Therrien** – Personal attacks ... **Councillor Miller (without mike)** ... personal attacks on me, you want me to stand by like somebody that's deaf, trying to score on me ... **Mayor Therrien** – Oh my **Christ**, you're kidding me. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Ok, Mr. Mayor, here is ACHIEVE'S RECOMMENDATIONS on Page 7, Revisit and update strategic plan and guiding principles (values), it says in this Report that's what we're supposed to do, we're supposed to do that two weeks on our job, not now year and a half later and we're still arguing about things that we have to do. **Mayor Therrien** – Well ya because we're talking about Mayor to Reeve still and a year and a half away, I've already answered the question a million times. There's questions down here. Why don't we answer those questions and bring it back as this isn't going anywhere as Glen, the Deputy Mayor, has mentioned uh, there's questions on uh 13, uh 14 I believe uh there, answer these questions and let's bring them back. I don't know if we want to do it In Camera but again you guys don't like the In Camera **NOTE: Councillors Miller and Kuczynski are not islands, they are not the only ones that take offense at Council making so many decisions In Camera and then presenting them after the fact in public. The residents have brought these concerns to those councillors and maybe others as well who did not act.** so we'll do it, we'll do it in the public. I got no problems with that. **NOTE: Again Councillor Miller is speaking without his mike.** Exactly and like, you know, you're so full of it uh Mark, like you're...you're pandering to an audience uh here you know and there's only 3 in the audience uh uh what was it like uh in June uh when we had this uh choreographed uh lock...ya, we're you here ahhhhhhhhh ... no, no well, it was a decision I made and it was made on safety absolutely. **NOTE: Really, Mr. Mayor, a Mountie of 35 years believes a group of senior citizens are going to "storm the Bastille" and rough up the gatekeepers...their neighbours. Slap them with their fanny packs full of Advil and Myoflex for sore muscles, perhaps a candy bar or two for sustenance. I DON'T THINK SO!!! The safety of the staff was never in question unless talking their ears off is a safety concern.** But why don't we answer these questions and uh bring them back uh ... uh when do you figure you want to get uh what's that, Karen? Oh, ya, ya, right Karen. Sure, that's exactly it. Ok so why don't we answer these questions uh there and uh let's uh bring back uh uh some other time when...the next Committee of the Whole. Um so what's the next on the agenda here?

7.3 Procedural By-Law Review and Discussion – Mayor Therrien – Procedural Bylaw. Ok. Who wants to start that? Um Melinda? **Councillor Warren –** Thank you, Mr. Mayor for the second time in a year and a half. **NOTE: She is once again referring to the fact that until this evening, she never aloud referred to Therrien as Mr. Mayor.** **Mayor Therrien –** laughing What? Calling me Mr. Mayor? (yes) **More laughter.Councillor Warren –** Um so for Council, I don't know if you keep all your notes, so Margaret Marion Akins notes from May 16th uh 2023 um they presented uh some of their thoughts on the Procedural Bylaw back then and um Ms. Erickson had with us ...well this is, don't you keep, keep all your notes, this is what I received uh from Mrs. uh Erickson uh when she submitted them and uh this is also from Ms. Marion Akins and it was given to all of us while she stood there and she presented in front of all of us, saying what her points were. So.... **Councillor Kuczynski –** We... **Mayor Therrien –** Well, let Melinda, let Melinda ... **Councillor Kuczynski –** Well, we don't know... **Mayor Therrien –** Well, let Melinda finish. **Councillor Kuczynski –** Why... why are we going to Procedure Bylaw. What was the reason for that? **Mayor Therrien –** We wanted to discuss it. **Councillor Kuczynski –** Can somebody answer that question? **NOTE: At this juncture I would like to say that as a transcriber, I do not appreciate everyone trying to talk at once. The Mayor, as facilitator, should have better control of the meeting. He should interject and politely ask anyone wishing to speak to raise their hand and await his acknowledgement before they commence.** **Mayor Therrien –** Melinda's talking so let her talk. **Councillor Warren –** Me. Because we said we would revisit the Procedural Bylaw after so many months as like Ms. Lalonde said about the Question Period and what not. Like we said we would bring this back. We said that we would try this um with just what appears on the agenda. I know Ms. Nysten uh has said a few times that she wanted to see Question Period at the end because...only because we go through a whole agenda and the Question Period is up here and the presentation from everybody, even the Department Heads, uh some residents, some Council members uh is in the beginning right so ya this....um it's...it's ... but it's about, you know, we have certain things that we went through on that so um Miss um... I'll just cause none of you guys have it unless you um I don't know if it would be on our...actually it might be on our notes from the main meeting, I'm sure Heather's was actually an email that we all got cause I wouldn't be the only one that would have gotten it. **CAO Draper –** Council was provided that uh back on June 6th, 2023. **Councillor Warren –** Ok. So um she had a few...well, Ms. Akins had a few things and um she talked about um you know, healthy debates in this Chamber, she talked about certain points. Uh she talked about disorderly conduct, we, we dealt with that already, um and then she also talked about the agenda and she talked about those...the agenda notices um and she talked about ... well, she figured that we muzzled the public which um we go by what our policies and what our bylaws say. Um she also talked um about First and Second reading and about 21-25, she had that in there um and then Ms. Erickson also talked about uh improper conduct or disorderly conduct, she talked about quorum, um she talked about the agenda draft and she also talked about, uh let's see uh she has a few notes here. (Laughing) She talks about again how we had that discussion about the media, about um audio/video in this Chamber and uh what else did she talk about, she talked about special meetings um that's it. So I mean I went through her notes because I kept them. Um there's only, in my opinion, there's only a few things, one or two things that we need to look at in this whole thing, that's my opinion. Um anybody else now...now that I've said my piece? Thank you. **Councillor Kuczynski –** So who brought this forward to, to have this Procedural Bylaw. **Councillor Warren –** We said that we would bring this forward in a few months, I mean ...

Councillor Kuczynski – So, so ... **Councillor Warren –** But I want, I want to do it before summer. **Councillor Kuczynski –** No, no I want to know who...who put this on the agenda? **Mayor Therrien –** I did ... I approved it with uh Colleen. **Councillor Kuczynski –** Ok so if you did, Colleen, why don't we have it prepared by the CAO, all the notice that we're supposed to have it, now Melinda have some, I don't, Mark doesn't have it, Glen, do you have these notes with you? I have only 2 but Melinda has different... **CAO Draper –** I did not provide those ... **Councillor Warren –** No, I brought ... **CAO Draper –** ... those notes to Councillor Warren...she had... **Councillor Kuczynski –** ... but nobody keep the notes so we could...if we ... **CAO Draper –** I provided you the current bylaw ... **Councillor Kuczynski –** No, if we want to make changes, we should know, we should know what it is now and you know what changes we want to put in there and that should be provided to us because right now it's a guessing game. **CAO Draper –** It's not for me to provide the changes, it's for Council to discuss and see if there is any changes that are required. **Councillor Kuczynski –** Ok, so we're going to go point by point now? **CAO Draper –** You do what you want. I provided you the current bylaw ... **Mayor Therrien –** This is just a discussion, this is just a discussion and now we're discussing the uh Procedural Bylaw. Melinda started it off there, I've got some uh points I can go point by point uh there but I'm uh ... are you finished, Melinda? (yes) Ok. But uh this is just for discussions so what's your uh your take on the Procedural Bylaw? **Councillor Kuczynski –** I don't think there is any problems with it so why are we even discussing that thing? **Mayor Therrien –** Well, like anything else, we're discussing because I think some of us have, have some points we want to discuss and this is the discussion. **Councillor Kuczynski –** Ok, that's fine, ya, ok, that's fine. **Mayor Therrien –** Anybody else, uh Mark? **NOTE: Councillor Miller is talking without benefit of mike so I can't quite hear what he is saying, at least not clearly enough to transcribe with any accuracy.** **CAO Draper –** And they've all been provided the reason why they were denied. **NOTE: This sounds like something to do with people requesting to appear as a delegation and being denied by the CAO after she reviewed their material and the subject of the delegation.** **Councillor Miller –** That's right. So it's your reason but myself as Councillor for Ward 3 and for the RM of Springfield would love to have people if they have an opportunity to speak to us to uh to you know come to us in a public forum and to explain what their concerns are. I would never ever ever want to uh limit or exclude people. If they have an opinion and if they have a voice, they ought to be heard. I think that's the way it should be. The other point is number 16, it is so absolutely critical for this Chamber and each one of us as councillors to allow the continuation of Question Period and to broaden it and to enhance it and to improve it. Um you know we've seen from time and time again month to month to month the Mayor or the Chair trying to limit people, trying to exclude people, call it, you know, we have 5 minutes and come down to that point, you know, I'm not asking for people to be ignorant and to uh abuse this but you know, we've given a little bit of latitude here and there but you know, the people take the effort to come on line and people take effort to come to our Chamber, they're our voice and we should listen, we have ears, we don't need to have tea with them privately or go to a hockey team that expresses concerns on the rink or in a, in a dressing room, you know we need to hear them collectively here and why would we ever, ever want to be and have a legacy and a footprint to say no. You can't speak to us, you have no right to speak to us. These are the people who are paying the taxes, paying your wage or paying your salary, these are the people who entrusted us with their vote, you know, these are the people we should be looking...they're our bosses, right and here we're saying, no, no you have 5 minutes and boy, we can't go over this 15 minutes because if we do all hell is going to break loose but yet, you know, we have tons of time left over at the end and uh as uh um resident, Karen Lalonde has suggested, maybe we should move it on the agenda because people don't capture the thrust and the um themes of a lot of the discussion that's on the agenda so moving it somewhere in the agenda would also make sense but you know, Mr. Mayor, I heard at 1:13 today you called people "nasty" in our community and it's unfortunate. You know, people who call me a whole bunch of names and I've been called things from, you know, like you probably have. I want to hear what their concerns are. They're not nasty people, those are people that have

legitimate, real concerns that I ought to be spending time with, that I ought to be reflecting on, that I ought to be understanding why they are upset at what is happening. **NOTE: It is a "nasty" person that takes enough of an interest in her local politics that is spending tons of time doing these written notes to make it easier for busy people in the community to be able to sit down at any time of the day or night and read to inform themselves of what is going on. I am also a member of that dastardly group, the Springfield Taxpayers or whatever we are currently called.** And yet you want to call them nasty and cut them off. That's a total different approach and I agree with you 100% on this, Mr. Mayor, you and I are a hundred percent different. I embrace the public, you like to close them out and I can give example after example after example and that's unfortunate. **Mayor Therrien** – Ok uh I'm not sure where to start here but uh we have a bylaw **there**, the Procedural Bylaw and we're following that. The 5 minutes uh for Question Period is part of the bylaw. It's not up to me to say uh uh and I ... we've been very loose with that 5 minutes. And to say otherwise is totally wrong, misinformation altogether. Uh 5 minutes is, is an arbitrary number that hasn't been adhered to because um we've got one individual there to come up with 21 questions uh **there** within a 5-minute period so what are we going to have, a word race here and have 41 questions next time **there**? That, that leading into uh I'm going to be all over the place here but uh Question Period uh does not work, it absolutely does not work and again this is for discussions **there**. This is my opinion, it was my opinion before. Uh um to say that people were denied for uh for delegation ... they probably were um and there is a basis for that and like our CAO says, we, we advised them what the, the basis for refusal was, it's in our Procedural Bylaw. Like if we don't have a bylaw **there**, then where ... we've got to have some guidelines and direction, bylaws or laws in general have to be down **there**. For me to call the people "nasty", I don't take that back whatsoever. Uh **there**, not everybody's nasty. I respect people that come up here uh with a legitimate criticism and so on but there's been a lot of nasty people that made some nasty comments uh **there** I, I'm hoping that it's, it's getting better. Uh if you had to do it by the numbers, uh the numbers are showing some ... somewhat of an improvement. The first 4 months this year was just uh uh disgusting the way the people treated other people, our CAO included, myself uh people are just nasty and my job as a Mountie for 35 years, trust me, I know a lot of nasty people. **NOTE: I believe "nasty" could be replaced with the words "people with opposing viewpoints". A resident pointing out to the CAO that they did not perform their duty in the prescribed manner is not being "nasty". It is pointing out a shortcoming. That is our right as those paying their salaries.** But even nasty people aren't saying the kind of nasty stuff that they think they can get away with. I got an email **there** two weeks ago uh where somebody tells me ... uh refers, refers to me "you f...ing stupid" and then says we'd better not ... I'd better not see you out in the public uh **there**. Well, the problem being is that I'm out in the public all the time. I'm talking to people all the time. I'm ... I'm in Dugald uh I'm in Oakbank and I'm in Anola **there** and I'm talking to people all the time and I talked to this individual, I have reported it to the police, I haven't decided whether I will or not but I kind of went to the next step. I told this individual I am with my grandkids all the time uh **there**. Should this individual approach me uh with my grandkids, there will be trouble. I'm extremely protective of my family. As a policeman, there's certain things that, that even the criminals knew not to cross. You never discuss family uh with myself. Uh there's been disgusting things ... a couple of days ago where somebody was sending an email uh uh with a link about the Gestapo and saying that Therrien, he's a like that uh **there** and a lot of these people won't even look me in the face after that comment **there**. Uh like how bizarre can somebody be **NOTE: Bizarre means 'very strange or unusual, especially as to cause interest or amusement'.** I think the Mayor probably should have used "disgusting" or "inappropriate" or "ignorant" instead. And how do this "lot of" people that won't look him in the face know what was said in his email? where they're linking me to the Gestapo and I've had it said to me and, and shown to me these Nazi disgusting comments or gestures. And uh people know full well and I guess ... I'm not going to apologize for nothing. **NOTE: Double negative.** Uh people know my family has a long history uh in World War I and World War II specifically, **NOTE: As do the families of most people, including myself, Army, Navy and Air Force.** Uh for somebody to make this kind of comment is disgusting and let them have the, no I won't go there. Just ... people are just plain rude and obnoxious for me to call them nasty, they're lucky that's all I'm talking about them **there**. Um so listen, we listen to people all the time. I, I'm constantly ... in Question Period people are coming up here and it's the same four or five uh if it was a showing progression where people are, are coming up here and, and asking the same uh uh question **there** then I love that idea but it's always the same people with the same questions. Question Period does not work. We're probably one of the few RMs that still have it uh in my discussions with mayors and reeves. Most don't have it uh and it's not the matter of them having some nasty people coming up there, they handled that but for the most part, people just uh they, they relied on their Council, they relied on uh their decisions and uh that's essentially what we're doing, we're making these uh hard decisions or trying to. So uh I'm going to get to this some of the notes here. Anybody can uh speak to Council and I bring it up uh if there's a concern uh **there**, to say that Question Period is going to deny people the right to uh talk and so on, that's not true, I think that's just fear-mongering uh **there**. Uh without Question Period uh we're going to have far...far more time uh to get uh more things done. Question Period is, is overly uh abused. It's absolutely dysfunctional, I mentioned this month and months ago, uh that as Council, we... we agreed that we would uh look at this again uh so my stance hasn't uh... it's only been solidified on the uh uh the characters that uh ... that seem to come up here and seem to uh throw caution to the winds and figure that they can uh make uh personal attacks uh **there** um. Uh people that have legitimate concerns uh can still do that through delegation. **NOTE: To appear as a delegation, you have to request to be a delegation through the CAO well in advance of the meeting at which you are eventually scheduled. It would never be the very next one. By then, the concern is no longer tied to the particular agenda item to which in all likelihood the delegation was targeted and the cause for the concern may possibly have exacerbated exponentially. Further the CAO and the Mayor could well deny the delegation.** Delegations will work. They've got the 15 minutes and then we can answer those within that time or get back to them on it **there** so um the invocation, I have a um a not a problem with uh the invocation, obviously, the priority is fine but does it require it to be uh in Council uh chambers at the beginning uh I don't think so. I uh find Council chambers should be a separation, to use an American uh uh term uh between the church and state. Um I don't think we should have uh invocation. I don't think we should have Question Period. Uh I think these are the tweaks that we should be uh we should be uh making uh. We should uh keep the land acknowledgement because in my discussions with uh with uh **Grand Chiefs** uh **there** uh they uh they respect the fact that we're doing that. **NOTE: There is only ONE grand chief of the Assembly of First Nations but evidently our Mayor found more than one to discuss our Question Period with.** Now they don't do it for voting or anything like that, I just think it's...it's a sensible uh thing in respect to our uh indigenous uh brothers and sisters. Um and uh that's uh I'm not going to say that's about it ... I'm just going to see if I've got some more notes here. Fifteen minutes for delegation is uh I think more than enough time. Again using the 5 minute uh **there**, to... to stop people mid drive, I don't do that uh ... we had a lady up here uh that we had 5 minutes and in fact it was closer to uh 20 minutes uh that we had given her so I, I don't remember too many times where I've said, oops, you're at 4 minutes 55 seconds, you've got 5 seconds, stop... sit down uh that just doesn't happen. Uh to say otherwise is uh... we're in a different chamber then. Uh it hasn't worked for years and years here and we're uh voted to make changes uh **there** in the RM of Springfield. Uh we have a long history of uh you know, the Question Period uh and a long history of it not working and uh it doesn't show any progression whatsoever **NOTE: How would he know? I have**

been attending meetings since 2008 and never did I see Patrick Therrien at any of those meetings. Further Question Period started, I believe, during the reign of Mayor Fell when people were no longer allowed to interject during the discussion of certain items on the agenda. Uh and we allowed this time to reevaluate it and it's quite apparent it's ... it's not working. Uh that's about it for my sermon. Andy? Councillor Kuczynski – So Mr. Mayor, that's why you're calling this thing. I asked right from the beginning what's the reason to put this thing on and now we hear you for 15 minutes stating that **NOTE: Mayor Therrien is heard on the audio file laughing.**... Question Period doesn't work and you couldn't answer let Melinda talk, let Melinda talk. Now we know the real truth that you don't want Question Period here. **NOTE: Councillor Kuczynski is still trying to talk and the Mayor is blabbering on over top of him so I am not even going to try and sort out what is being said.** And Mr. Mayor, we have Question Period at the last meeting, I remember, and then you start talking with the RCMP officer for 25 minutes and we had to listen to that about nothing and yet you were limiting people and you were making people nervous yet because some people tell us, when I'm talking, my 5 minutes for Question Period, you're interrupting...oh you have 2 more minutes, oh you have 1 more minute, **NOTE: The Mayor is trying to interrupt but Councillor Kuczynski just carries on.** And you get Mayor Therrien – I have, I probably have ... Councillor Kuczynski – ...ting them out of track, leave them alone and let them talk for 5 minutes if they have that time allocation for them because people have lots of issues and they want to, you know, talking fast, they're not the best speakers like me but they want to talk on their own terms and ... and then not being rushed to the, you know, whatever they have to say ... **NOTE: Again the Mayor is talking over him.** ... and again these Question Period when they should be ...5 minutes for the people to speak. When you're answering and you take 2 minutes of their time, that should be ... no 5 minute Question Period, they only have 3 minutes then and you're asking 2 questions, that's 4 minutes of their time so they have only 1 minute to talk. Mayor Therrien –No, I totally disagree with that. I've never If somebody's got 5 minutes and I'm answering a question in that 4 minutes there, that's not true. I let people long past 5 minutes. **NOTE: It depends who the "people" is. That's what I have observed.** Absolutely. The last lady here, she was up almost 20 minutes. Councillor Kuczynski – I have one ...one stop watch. Glen can tell you, I was measuring you on the stopwatch and you talked a lot longer than the person who, who was questioning ... Mayor Therrien – Am I long of wind, ya probably. (laughter) Councillor Kuczynski – Well, ya, but it shouldn't work that way. Mayor Therrien – Well, they...they get their 5 minutes and then I'm trying to answer their questions there. Anybody can, can dive in there and answer the question too but I don't see a lot of that so I answer the questions. No ya but you... you can put your hand up like Melinda is right now and then I can talk, like there's nobody stopping Council. Go ahead, Melinda. Councillor Warren – I would like to hear from Councillor Fuhl.... oh, sorry Andy, I thought you were finished with it. Councillor Kuczynski – Well, so first time I hear that because you said you talk to the Chair. Just look at me and talk to the Chair. I remember previous uh Mayor who was doing the same thing. Just talk to me. Like you know I was speaking once, and you said just talk to me, like look at me, ok I said what I'm in a Grade First here or what? That was Tiffany Fell. I, I was talking about uh uh the problem with the uh White Shepherd uh development behind my house and she said, don't talk to anybody, just talk to me. You're doing ... almost the same thing for doing to people, like talk to me, look at me. Like people want to talk ... they, they look back to the audience or something like this, why are you interrupting them and making them nervous that they speak and they look to the audience or something like that. That's, that's should be no place for that. If they talk, let them talk. It's... it's lots of effort for people to come here to this Chamber and, and state their opinion, what they want to do or and ask maybe one question at the end. (ok) And, and you know, and Edwin came here with 21 questions, but he was the reasonable because he said, OK, I won't finish them, I'll give you the questions and with your time, you can answer those questions. And then he, he was reasonable, even Edwin was reasonable. He didn't take more than 5 minutes, he just thanked you for the time allowed to him and he went back to his chair. Mayor Therrien – Twenty-one questions. Uh that's ... he could have he could have done a delegation is what I'm saying. Delegations do not stop...I said you can do it in a delegation. He can, he can make ... Councillor Miller – He wasn't allowed.... Ask him. He was denied ... not ... on previous... CAO Draper - He did not request to be a delegation, I've already said that. Councillor Miller – But in previous times he was... CAO Draper – And he was provided a reason why he was denied. Mayor Therrien – Well, he was denied so that was the answer. **NOTE: Again, everyone talking at once.** CAO Draper – That one time... it has nothing to do with these questions. Mayor Therrien – He was not denied, Mark. Absolutely not. **NOTE: The CAO just said he was, "one time".** Mayor Therrien – She just said... Mayor Therrien – No, not these 21 questions, you're trying to infer that it was the 21 questions. He was not denied. Councillor Kuczynski – So what, we have limit 5 questions now.... Mayor Therrien –No that was to get rid of Question Period altogether and then.... Councillor Miller – Holy Moly, that's what you're proposing? Mayor Therrien – Why are you surprised? I've been saying for 15 minutes towards Andy there, I said that a million times now. Councillor Miller – I had to give my head a shake, I had to give a shake if that's reality Mayor Therrien – Well, then you better give your head a shake another Councillor Miller – ... Not only do you want to lock down the doors, you want to close the people to come in to our Chamber to speak... that... boy, that's a legacy to live up to. (yep) Unbelievable. Close the doors to everyone, let's, let's get rid of ZOOM too, why don't we, Mr. Mayor so people can't see what you want to scheme and dream. Mayor Therrien – Well, what have you been doing for the last 15 minutes I was talking. How many times did I say I want to get rid of Question Period. Now all of a sudden you're, you're, you're drama here. I've been saying it for 15 minutes there Mark. Why now... Councillor Miller – And I think it's disgusting, I think it's disgusting ... Mayor Therrien –Now I say it again and now all of a sudden, you clue into that. Like where were you 15 minutes ago? Councillor Miller – Because I let you speak, I don't interrupt. Mayor Therrien –Sounding disgusted Oh, c'mon. Councillor Miller – Well, you know that's true. I let you speak. I didn't interrupt. If I did, I would have. Mayor Therrien – Ok uh Melinda. Let's...let's.... Councillor Warren – I would like to hear from Councillor Fuhl. ... (laughter) Please stop arguing. (Mayor Therrien laughing) We're not getting anywhere so..... Mayor Therrien – We're not arguing. This is a discussion. **NOTE: Debatable!** Councillor Warren – ... Ya, this is not healthy debates here and I want to hear from ... somebody else's opinion. Mayor Therrien – Ok uh Glen. Councillor Fuhl – Ya, I'd like to carry forward with this. Um I think we could do a lot better job. Um with the Question Period, I believe that every resident has a right to speak ummm but you know what, when we have Question Period, it always gets diverted into other questions. Uh it doesn't stick to the agenda so I do have concerns with that. Having said that, in a delegation they can come forward at any time and bring forward their delegation of any questions they would like. It doesn't have to stick to the agenda. **NOTE: What is he talking about? A delegation is part of the agenda and specifies topic. "They" can't come forward at any time, it is on the agenda for a specific time and only if the CAO and supposedly the Mayor, approve it to be on the agenda.** Um I do have concerns. You know, again, uh um I hear very clearly that we denied uh delegations so I think there's a solution to that. I think the solution is that if the CAO denies a delegation, then it should come to Council to decide whether the delegation should proceed forward or not. Um that's my opinion and it allows then everybody to make the decision as Council. We are in charge of what we do here and if the delegation is denied, then let us have that chance to vote privately in amongst ourselves whether to hear that delegation or not. **NOTE: Hey. Isn't making the decision "privately" or In Camera contrary to the democratic process? The public should be privy to why delegations are not being allowed and what is the reason for the denial. That is not**

TOP SECRETdebate! **CouncillorFuhl should be ashamed to even suggest the discussion be In Camera.** Having said that, majority rules like democracy. Um so that is what I think that should happen um and again, it allows everybody to speak, it doesn't have to stick to the agenda, if they want their 15 minutes of **fame???** to talk about anything they wish, let them have that because that's what we're here for. You're right, Mark. We are here to hear the public of the residents and know what their concerns are, no doubt. I totally agree with that but it has to be controlled in a manner that is more respectful and is more time-sensitive to our agendas because I've sat on councils where we've been here until 11:30 at night. We're fortunate here we still haven't gone into that one but at the same time, and so is John as he's saying he's been here before and I know you have been, John. Um so again is I think just in the controlled manner, that we could run everything with delegations. That way, there's a set time and they can speak about any type of situation they are concerned about. And uh that's what I propose. The invocation...I'm not totally against it. At the same time, you know, it's ... it's ... I truly believe and I think that with that situation is just whatever Council decides as a whole. Um the land acknowledgement I'm good with um and ya, that's, that's where I sit on the ... on this QuestionPeriod, that I think it should be all transformed into delegations. Thank you. **Councillor Miller** – If I could just speak to 7.4 too, specifically to Invocation. Um I, I would want to uphold it but I would encourage other people to speak to their faiths. I would not want to people know that I'm Christian and that's what I'll speak to but if anybody has any other faith or, or prefers to opt out, I mean I'm respectful and I think that should also be allowed. I do not, by no means and attempt, would I narrow that to uh to any uh denomination or any particular faith. I think that should be open to what people believe. Again, you'll only hear the Christian faith from me but others will have others so that's just my perception. **Mayor Therrien** – And, and I agree with you uh **there** but I just don't think it's the right place uh here um in, in Council. I uh I'm Roman Catholic uh **there** but this isn't a uh you know, a religion thing, I think this is just some things just don't have to be uh part of it uh**there**. And I just think uh invocation is that. Uh you're ... you're free to practice your religion uh but this isn't a religious institution uh, this is us uh doing the best for the RM uh so that's ... that's what I'm saying with regards to invocation uh **there**. Feel free, I'm... you should never talk about religion or politics uh **there** uh so this is just one of those events, I think, invocation is not for this. Go ahead. **Councillor Kuczynski** – I would suggest that we allocate time, maybe 15 minutes ... I mean 30 seconds to 1 minute that everybody, whoever wants to pray in their own fashion or religion he belongs to, just allocate the time and, and we don't do anything. **Mayor Therrien** – Like silently, you mean? **Councillor Kuczynski** – Just silence and people can pray or whatever they can do. **NOTE: I know what I'm going to pray for. I'm going to pray that the RM of Springfield, in October 2026, finally elects a Council that is responsible, thoughtful, intelligent, committed to the betterment of Springfield, one that is not there just to collect the monthly stipend, in short, nirvana, "a transcendent state in which there is neither ...desire, nor sense of self".****Mayor Therrien** – I, I think that's excellent. I, I think that's an excellent thing uh so allow 30 seconds for uh silence and uh it doesn't have to come from uh Council uh then I ...I think that's an excellent, an excellent idea. **NOTE: I think an even better one would be to eliminate Invocation from the Agenda. It is not really a necessary thing for a Municipal Government meeting.****Councillor Kuczynski** – Because we have so many different uh cultures coming to this Chamber and we should allow them to pray whatever they want in their culture, ... I uh changing ... changing the fabric of our nation here and uh we should allow to everybody respect their religion. **Mayor Therrien** – I want to give you an absolute "atta boy" for that, Andy. I think that's good uh...this is how dialogue works and that suggestion, I, I think it's an excellent suggestion. But that's just me, I'm one vote. Uh Glen. **CouncillorFuhl** – Uh ya, I just want to re...regard to 11.3, Delegation Requests may be denied under the following circumstances. Like when I read a, b, and c, those make common sense to me, that they would be denied because of certain issues so I would hope, again I still think it should come to Council to make the final decision but if the CAO is denying under those basis, then I think those are reasons enough to be denied. **Mayor Therrien** – And again, "atta boy" to Andy for that 30 seconds of silence. I think that's excellent and "atta boy" to our Deputy Mayor **with regards** to uh the suggestion of having it, if it's denied by our uh CAO, that it comes to Council In Camera uh to uh discuss uh **there** so uh this is...this is how it works, you know, uh and that we were all discussing the uh uh that Report uh so we, we resolved these issues. We'll have a discussion uh later on, I guess, in the contentious point of uh delegation versus Question Period uh and or. Uh so I with that said, I think we're uh... **CAO Draper** – So I have concerns with a couple of things. Uh the delegations, I mean I'm not out there denying people like you think I do it for fun. Um typically they're supposed to request it 5 days in advance. Most people wait until 4 o'clock on a Friday afternoon when our office closes at 4:30 and we're trying to get the agenda out. If they don't provide a scope of what they're wanting to talk about, I'm not accepting their delegation so it's plain and simple. It's pretty clear why I'm denying them. I'm not asking for a 5-page Report and a Powerpoint and professional document, I've asked them for bullet points of what are you discussing and they can't even do that so if I decide to, you know, deny it under that, what am I going to tell Council and when are you going to decide. The next meeting and then they come back as a delegation the next time. All they have to do is provide their scope of what their delegation is so... **Councillor Miller** – I think that I just want to say **Mayor Therrien** – Just one minute, there, Mark, like uh what Glen had said **there** uh there is...uh your ... you still do your job. It doesn't fit in that and it fits at that for the eleventh hour, uh Mark, then that's reasonableness for denying them. It's not denying them but it's deferring them ... get this stuff uh done ... not just say no we're not going to talk to you blah blah blah and that's, that's the uh uh you know, it's not going to be the norm, the exception **there** where somebody is an absolute, for whatever reason, is, is denied uh **there** uh then maybe that's something that can be brought to uh Council and then we can, we can discuss that but that should, that should not be the norm, that should be the exception uh to the rule and they should be very few and far between cause there is rules for the Procedural Bylaw uh to deny these people and if they're denied on, on those uh there um then that, that's kind of what we're saying and again, this is discussions uh **there** so, uh Mark. **Councillor Miller** – Ya, I think where the rubber is hitting the road is that people...the public don't have access to that agenda until Friday so how can they be a delegation if something's coming up on Tuesday or Thursday. In other words, Tuesday is too late but there's a very sensitive and important issue to them, pertinent to them. There's no way on the green Earth that they could speak to it because they didn't even know it was going to be on the agenda until uh basically less than 5 days in advance, that's right so. **CAO Draper** –And that was the point of Council adding Question Period. **NOTE: CAO Draper and my recollections differ. Question Period was added because Mayor Fell did away with residents being able to ask questions during the discussion of items on the agenda as they formerly could.****Councillor Miller** – Sometimes... **CAO Draper** –They don't have to come as a delegation, they talk on Question Period because it's on the agenda. **NOTE: But the Mayor is advocating for eliminating Question Period. Then what?****Councillor Miller** – Ya, but sometimes it's broader than that, they need 15 minutes to give their point of view and their strategy and their ideas but ... **Mayor Therrien** – Well, there is something in the Procedural Bylaw for emergencies uh **there** that's time sensitive and so on, the emergency...this uh allows them through Council, the majority uh that we can allow that if it's a time sensitive and it's and urgent imminent uh matter. We can still do that for delegations. **Councillor Miller** – Not...no, you're talking about Special Meetings of Council, emergencies... **Mayor Therrien** – No, no, no I'm not. I'm talking about uh delegations uh **there**. **CAO Draper** – Council can allow a delegation at any time if you all agree. **Councillor Miller** – Oh, ok, well then that's ... **CAO Draper** –At that meeting.**Mayor Therrien** – It's in the Procedural Bylaw.

Councillor Miller – Then we ought to do that. **Mayor Therrien** – Well, we are. It's in there. Andy? **Councillor Kuczynski** – I would say we have discussion almost like there is no point to it because only I think you deny twice in the one year, twice you denied delegations so it's not a major issue. **CAO Draper** – I denied... one, because they didn't provide me the scope of the information. I denied another because you know the person came back three or four meetings in a row and said, I want a delegation about this issue and every time they spoke, they didn't even talk about that issue so I just stopped accepting it because you have to talk about what you're asking to talk about. **Councillor Kuczynski** – So it only happened twice and then we have discussion like would you know be happening on every Council meeting. **CAO Draper** – It's not. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Ya, it's not so it's like not a big issue, it's, it's you know like and now when Glen Fuhl suggests, Councillor Glen Fuhl suggests that you know it's going to come to Council and we're going to discuss and approve it or disapprove it, then you know it's going to work only that if people that have delegation and they want to specifically be on that meeting, on that day that was on the agenda, then we take the thunder away from them because they want to speak on this specific day and not when they talk about it a week later, it's already you know, air from the balloon. **Mayor Therrien** – Uh Glen. **Councillor Fuhl** – We just said that within the bylaw that they...we could have them have a delegation that same day if Council agrees to it so they do have that opportunity. **Mayor Therrien** – Ok then uh no, then uh I think uh we're...we can proceed uh **with regards to** ...we'll have further discussions **with regards uh to** the uh Procedural uh uh Bylaw and uh I would suggest to have the Bylaw in front of you and make the notes uh **there**. Uh we've got a good candid discussion **with regards to** that uh. Uh unless there's other questions uh from Council, I don't see anything, if we're prepared to uh uh to adjourn uh there, can I get a, a mover and a seconder. Uh Glen and Melinda (Fuhl/Warren). Uh and then we uh Council should stay behind cause we have uh a discussion uh in Council later on. So uh there's uh ... did we get a mover and a seconder. **NOTE: My goodness, two sentences back and he already has forgotten?** Melinda and uh Glen (Warren/Fuhl). **NOTE: Now he reverses the order.** Ok, then **at this point here** I'm going to conclude the uh um the meeting at uh 2:51 uh p.m. Thank you.

ADJOURNED