

RM of Springfield
Council Meeting
January 16, 2024 6:00 p.m.

WITHOUT PREJUDICE (E&OE)

LENGTH OF MEETING: 1 hour 45 minutes

NOTE: Before proceeding with the transcript of the meeting minutes, the following is a letter that recently appeared in the Winnipeg Free Press Letters to the Editor.

Reform Environment Act

Re: Out-of-date legislation leaves environmental licensing to Manitoba's politicians (Jan. 17) I agree with Dan Lett. Since the '90s organizations have been calling for reform to our environmental policies. Commissions have written reports with advice that would strengthen legislation and truly protect the integrity of Manitoba's environment and thus our health. The clear and thoughtful recommendations in these reports have been ignored at our peril by the Filmon, Doer, Selinger, Pallister and Stefanson governments. Yes, the authors of the 2015 Manitoba Law Reform Commission report — Manitoba's Environmental Assessment and Licensing Regime Under the Environment Act — "could not have anticipated the arrival of Sio Silica in Manitoba" but what they did do was provide us with the tools that would protect us from such projects that push the boundaries of technology. These tools would "result in a more contemporary, certain, transparent and comprehensive framework for environmental assessment and licensing." Evidence-based analysis designed for real environmental protections, not political back-door sessions. Reform of our dangerously flawed Environment Act and licensing regime is seriously overdue. Licensing the Sio Silica project would be extremely negligent of our newly elected NDP government.

TANGI BELL

Anola

2. CALL TO ORDER & INVOCATION – Mayor Therrien – Thank you very much. We'll open up a call to order of the January 16th 2024 uh Council Meeting at exactly 6 p.m. Um my name is uh Mayor Patrick Therrien or just Patrick Therrien and then we're going to uh present uh the Council that are present, uh Deputy Mayor Councillor Ward 1 is to my right and descending is uh Councillor uh Ward 2 Andy Kuczynski, Councillor Ward 3 is Mark Flower uh sorry Mark Miller it's a buddy of mine that spoke the other day and then the other uh Councillor is unavailable and that's uh Councillor Ward 4 is Melinda uh Warren. We'll call for a convocation, uh Mark whenever you're ready. **Mark Miller** – Uh thank you, Mr. Mayor. And absolutely I would encourage any other member of Council to uh to do the invocation at any time but I would definitely be pleased to do it tonight so for those who wish to uh uh bow with me in prayer, Father God, we ask that you are in this Chamber tonight to guide us in our discussion, to give us wisdom, to give us hope, Lord that we represent the people who have elected us here and that we are conscientious of the Scriptures that you have given us and that uh we adhere to those and Lord, we ask that you uh uh continue to guide and protect and bless each one of us as we continue to deliberate and that we take every comment and every input we receive from the public as information and as vital to our decisions going forward and we pray all of these things in the name of the Prince of Peace, Jesus. Amen. **NOTE: Although the Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines "invocation" as the act or process of petitioning for help or support, specifically, often capitalized: a prayer of entreaty (as at the beginning of a service of worship), RM of Springfield meetings of Council are anything but religious in nature and therefore I feel we should view it more as the other definition in the same dictionary, an act of legal or moral implementation and leave religion out of it. Not everyone in the RM of Springfield follows the same religious beliefs and therefore I feel the Invocation should be more general in nature.** **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you Mark.

3. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT - Mayor Therrien – Uh we'll go to Item uh 3 and that's uh the Land Acknowledgement. Uh the RM of Springfield and I'll let you, Mark, uh we could uh place this uh anywhere else as well um to any other councillors. Um the RM of Springfield acknowledges that we are gathered on the ancestral lands, uh Treaty One territory, traditional territory of the Anishinaabe, uh Cree, OJ Cree, Dakota, Denes people and on the national homeland of the Red River Metis. **NOTE: I googled Land Acknowledgement and on November 29, 2021, Speaker Myrna Driedger delivered the first-ever land acknowledgement at the beginning of a sitting of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba and it stated that "We acknowledge we are gathered on Treaty 1 territory and that Manitoba is located on the treaty territories and ancestral lands of the Anishinaabeg, Anishinewuk, Dakota Oyate, Denesuline and Nehethowuk nations, the "Homeland of the Red River Metis" and "northern Manitoba includes lands that were and are the ancestral lands of the Inuit".**

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - Mayor Therrien – Can I get a mover and a seconder with approval of the agenda, please. Uh Glen and uh Andy (Fuhl/Kuczynski). Any questions, any additions, uh Mark. **Councillor Miller** – Uh just a question and a comment. I think to the CAO, in terms of Unfinished Business, I have one item but is there anywhere that we have New Business that we could discuss. Would it fit under there more appropriately as Unfinished Business even though it's kind of a New Business but **Colleen Draper, CAO** – Uh, I'm not sure what this topic is so.... **Councillor Miller** – Ya, it would have to do with numbered companies and discussion about uh how we get some information on those numbered companies so I'm not sure, again there's not really an agenda item or unfinished business uh, I don't want to take away from our agenda but uh unless we leave it for another time, I'm fine with that too. **Colleen Draper** – Uh, I'd prefer to maybe know what you're trying to achieve cause I'm not quite sure if that's a Council discussion item or just a staff discussion item with you so. **Councillor Miller** – Ok, maybe what I'll do is if it's appropriate, I'll e-mail you and the rest of Council and just give them a background on that and then we can perhaps raise it at a future meeting. So take that off ...the one item I have under Unfinished Business is John Q if that's uh, if that's appropriate to fit or are there other items under Unfinished Business on this particular meeting? **Colleen Draper** – Um, nothing Unfinished. Uh how is John Q Unfinished and not New Business, I guess ... **Councillor Miller** – Uh, how ...is it Unfinished Business. Just, I'm going to be requesting some information on it so it's some.... **Colleen Draper – interrupting** That would just be New Business then. **Councillor Miller** – New Business. So that would fit under 10, Item 10. **Mayor Therrien** – I'm not sure uh.... **Colleen Draper – interrupting** Uh item.... **Mayor Therrien – interrupting** Go ahead, Colleen. **Colleen Draper** – Sorry. It's just Item 12 on our ... **Councillor Miller** – Or 12 rather. **Colleen Draper** – Yep. **Mayor Therrien** – If, if this is under New Business, uh, um we should have been made aware of this in advance uh there. Um why weren't we made

aware of it. **Councillor Miller** – It's just a general question, I don't think it's anything in depth, it's just uh asking for information and then it can be deferred or you can perhaps respond to it cause you're our representative on that group. **Mayor Therrien** – Ya, I'm just thinking we should have a heads up uh for this uh um like anything else uh **there** um uh I, I would prefer and I'm just one vote here, is that we, we bring it back at another time where I could uh um get what you're trying to get uh the questions and **so on like that**. **Councillor Miller** – Ya it's just ... **Mayor Therrien** – If it's a discussion then it's a discussion we want points on or to make uh some discussions. Uh I don't know what those questions is ... **Councillor Miller** – Ya... I guess I can ask it now and you can see what you want to do with it. **Mayor Therrien** – Well, no, that wouldn't be called for, I'm just saying it's maybe just let us know what the question is uh then we could defer it to another time with uh the other question you had uh there. **Councillor Miller** – That's fine. We can defer it. I'm fine with that. Um the only other item I have in terms of the agenda is I have a concern under number ...uh delegations. There are no delegation reports, right, No. 9. I had a resident uh raise a concern with me that he was denied to be a delegation this evening. I don't ever use this term lightly but one would not want to use the term discrimination or bias but the person who was seeking to be a delegation was a rival candidate to our current Mayor who was denied the request. It appears that we continue to put up barriers, obstacles and even roadblocks for people to speak to us publicly. One person in our community was even issued a letter barring him from accessing RM owned buildings and was further issued a trespass fine of something like uh \$600 plus. **NOTE: The crime.... wearing a hat in the Council Chamber.** Why are um **why are we not people and public friendly?** Have a template or sample of what is required to be a delegation. It's simple to put up on our Web Site. Let's raise the bar, not continue to add restrictions. I've yet to see any other municipality have a uh you know a hat restriction and other things like that for instance but I think it's critical for us to open the door to uh give every individual who wants to be a delegation the opportunity to do that um and they don't need a formal presentation necessarily. If they want to speak for 10 minutes, I think we...obviously in an evening like this, we have ample time to do it. Uh so I just want to know why we would justify barring or restricting people uh going forward. **Mayor Therrien** – I guess I'll... **Colleen Draper** – Sorry, is that directed at me? **Councillor Miller** – Uh it can be both, really. **Mayor Therrien** – I think both of us uh if I do a proper job then uh Colleen we can say it at the end **there** but uh the subject in, in person uh um that you're referring to ...I know who it is uh **there** and I'm not at liberty to mention the uh the name uh **there** but uh this person and all other people uh are subject to our uh Procedural By-law and uh as far as I'm aware of the...that information it wasn't received in time. I think it's just the rules that have to be adhered to and they weren't adhered to. Um there's no discrimination uh transparency is, is, is...has been adhered to, it's just that you have to follow uh the procedures and you refer to other RMs, the other RMs have got the same uh same policies. Um now the other question **there** about the, this person being denied and so on, we've been through this many, many times uh and this person uh um was uh given quite a bit of latitude uh and didn't uh adhere uh to uh a final uh request uh to leave uh remove his hat uh at which point we had to uh uh call in the Police and I don't want to talk anymore about it just because we spent so much time on it uh **there** and I thought it was uh basically all done with so I'm not sure if anything new is result of permit uh and I'm confident that our CAO can advise otherwise but um we've, we've answered this question many times. **NOTE: The question that you have not answered is why the Police would be called to deal with a person in Council Chambers wearing a hat and refusing to take it off. I would think one would rather our RCMP be more gainfully occupied with true crime. I have never heard of such an incident in any other municipality in southern Manitoba.** Colleen, anything else here we're looking at? **Colleen Draper** – Uh no like you said, uh we were following the Procedural By-law regarding the delegation and there's a requirement to submit uh a copy of the presentation material um before we finalize the agenda um so that ...that direction was clearly given. Uh we did not receive the information by the deadline so um that's pretty straight forward I think. **NOTE: The Procedural Bylaw does say one must provide their presentation material prior to the meeting but often people requesting a delegation do not have material, they merely wish to express their views on a certain topic orally and off the top of their head. I have appeared as a delegation and not provided material and I have observed others doing the same. I feel this is some new provision of the by-law that did not previously exist.** The barring, uh I'm not really comfortable talking about the specifics in public but that barring has been lifted uh and if there was a ticket issued, I don't have the power to issue tickets so that would have come from the Police and I have no control over that so. **NOTE: The offense was deemed to be "trespass". How can one be charged with "trespass" in a public place?** **Mayor Therrien** – Any other...anything else, any other councillors have any questions? Mark? That's it? Then uh uh I've got no other questions **there** and I don't see any other hands up uh **with regards to** Item 4, can I get a show of hands uh those uh in support of approval of the agenda? That...that'll be unanimous.

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES Council Meeting December 19, 2023 - Mayor Therrien – Adoption of the Minutes, a mover and a seconder uh please **in regards to** that. Uh Glen and Mark (Fuhl/Miller). **Colleen Draper** – *Whereas the Minutes of the Council meeting held December 19 have been previously distributed to Council, Be it Resolved that the same be and are hereby approved.* **Mayor Therrien** – Any questions from Council **with regards to** Item 5, Council Minutes? And I see none. Can I get a show of support uh those in support of passing uh Item 5. That's unanimous and is carried.

6. QUESTION PERIOD - Mayor Therrien – **At this point here**, we're into uh Question Period. Uh we're allowing 15 minutes **with regards to** that, **5 minutes per person**, uh. The Question Period only to questions pertaining to the current uh agenda items. Uh anybody in the audience. Edwin? **Edwin Giesbrecht** – It goes to By-laws which is on the agenda. And it's a fairly brief question. What I would state is um what actions uh do you Mr. Mayor and CAO as signatories to By-law 22-22 intend to take in response to concerns about its overreach on the rights of delegation and subversion of constitutional rights for not only Springfield residents but all Canadians, considering its role in any agenda and its impact on all council meetings? Further I express my concerns about the ethical considerations surrounding the criterium used in the amendments leading up to By-law 22-22. I question... **Mayor Therrien** – **rudely interrupting** Uh Edwin, what's 22-22? Procedural? **Edwin Giesbrecht** – Yes. ...and am troubled by the apparent historical oversight of buried issues which gives the impression of responsibilities being overlooked or dismissed by... **Mayor Therrien** – **rudely interrupting** Edwin, that's not even on our agenda. **Edwin Giesbrecht** – Yes it is. **Mayor Therrien** – Procedural By-law. **Edwin Giesbrecht** – By-laws. **Mayor Therrien** – Well, well that's by-laws in general. We're ... we're not discussing ... **Edwin Giesbrecht** – Well, it's a by-law, Sir. And so... **Mayor Therrien** – **rudely interrupting** That's a sub-category, Edwin. **Edwin Giesbrecht** – ... if you would allow me to complete, with respect Sir, **do not disrespect**, please. **Mayor Therrien** – Nobody's disrespecting you. **Edwin Giesbrecht** – And so which gives the impression of responsibilities being overlooked or dismissed by a publicly perceived figure such as yourself. My apprehension extends to any individuals within the Administration or any Council member who may wield their influence in a manner that obstructs transparency. The recent modifications to the Springfield Municipal Procedural By-law 22-22 have introduced questionable elements that appear to further restrict open discourse within our community. I urge you to carefully consider the implications of these changes and

take steps to address any potential hindrance to the democratic process. Thank you, Mr. Mayor. **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you, Edwin. Any other questions uh on line. Um, pardon me. Ok. Um we could go with uh Karen first. **Karen Lalonde** – Karen Lalonde, Oakbank, Manitoba. I just have a quick question. I see on the membership that the fee for Capital Planning Region is now \$18,000. It's really gone up over the years. I guess my question is, does this include fees for John Q Public Corporation and if not, how does this organization get funded? **Mayor Therrien** – Uh, no it doesn't. John Q is by itself. At one point it was together with that. Um like the uh the membering municipalities of the Capital Planning Region or WMR, like they're laid out in the uh Planning Act um and the Capital Planning Region regulations, I guess, uh. Uh the Capital Planning Region, they will benefit from the rural municipalities by providing the access to the central resources and infrastructure and funding opportunities that align around the uh the Winnipeg uh City of Winnipeg. So there's, there's a large collaboration ...a collaboration between the 14 municipalities. Uh um it allows for more efficient uh use of our resources, it improves the infrastructure uh um the better overall uh planning of the entire region so essentially it's a huge uh region now that instead of looking just at Winnipeg, the RM of Springfield uh Hanover and so on, now it's all the uh large uh 14 um uh municipalities around the um the City of Winnipeg so that the planning's on like a regional scale as opposed to just our own little uh area. So the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region um I guess with the other regions, uh even across Canada, there's, there's, this is I think uh Winnipeg Metropolitan Region was one of the last ones to be uh enacted into, into law or soon to be so working together it helps the competition of the neighbours and encourages the economic development throughout the entire area um so like I say, we're not working in a bubble in the RM of Springfield, we're now working together with them. Uh the price if it...I don't know if it's, it's gotten any higher but uh it's uh I think \$18,000. Essentially. What is it right now? **Colleen Draper** – Ya. **Mayor Therrien** – And uh has it... **Karen Lalonde** – The Capital Planning Region. I just wondered if John Q was part of the Capital Planning Region. **Mayor Therrien** – No it's not part of that. **Karen Lalonde** – There's no funding for this organization? **Mayor Therrien** – **once again interrupting** No uh no there isn't. There was a one initial cost that was incurred and we paid that and we haven't been asked for any cost in our...and anybody else that's involved with John Q. **Karen Lalonde** – And that cost was for your one share, vote I would imagine. **Mayor Therrien** – Uh sorry? **Karen Lalonde** – That cost was for the one share of it, each municipality has got... **Mayor Therrien** – Ya, you've got that right. **Karen Lalonde** – So this um this isn't a corporate or is it, corporate and government uh partnership, this organization? **Mayor Therrien** – Uh the Winnipeg the uh WMR, it's, it's not a corporate it's... **Karen Lalonde** – The John, the John Q. **Mayor Therrien** – Oh. Uh uh John Q is uh an investment uh component **there** and it's made up of uh RMs uh and there is other financial uh partnerships, I can't... **Karen Lalonde** – If corporation...I guess my question is, if corporations want to settle in your community, is this the organization that they go through to try to put forth their, their uh plan and um... **Mayor Therrien** – **interrupting** There's one of many but this is one that we represent and that this RM here, we have one share. I hope that answers your question. **Karen Lalonde** – Yes, sort of. But thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you very much. **NOTE: I will add what I know. The Metropolitan Capital Region was the brain child of a person named Colleen Sklar who has now left the organization. Frankly, in my experience, while it does draw municipalities together annually in a conference type forum with guest speakers, our RM has not benefitted from it in my opinion. It has blossomed into a huge entity with questionable value. The Mayor's lack of ready information says it all.** And I think uh we'll get somebody on line, Sir. And then we'll come to you. Uh, was there somebody on line? Uh Janet. **Janet Nysten** – Am I on line now? Can you hear me? (yep) Thank you. Um my question is on Item 7.2, Department Reports, uh specifically the Planning and Development, the 2023 Year in Review. And I thank you for this Report, I have been asking for these stats for a couple of years now. Um I think it's important data and I hope Council has had a close look at it. Um I'd make reference to Page 3 of the Report and if I read it correctly, permits for housing in Oakbank and Dugald for 2023 were 25 and for 2022 33. The permits for out side of these two uh locations were 19 and 31. As I recall, um development in Springfield used to be somewhat higher. I don't know if there's an explanation for the uh the decline in permits. Does anybody care to comment? **Mayor Therrien** – I, I would probably attest that it's mortgages, uh um would be a strong component in that but I can't uh tell you anything more than that. That's just my off the shoulder uh uh reasoning, I would think or part of it. **NOTE: I thought the expression was "off the top of my head" but it seems that the Mayor may know a little something specific about the reason.** There's probably a lot more to it. **Janet Nysten** – Ya and I might agree with, with that and I guess um at the Committee of the Whole meeting last week, um there was a Report and I kind of questioned some of the um stats that were provided by Water & Waste for consistency and accuracy and I guess the question I had ... have is that we have adequate uh lots approved for development that have been set aside with the current capacity for our water and sewer according to your, your employees so I'm wondering what the urgency is for this new Water Treatment Plant and the sizing of it. Can you explain on the statistics you're providing why we're expecting things to balloon? **Mayor Therrien** – Uh like I...once we have the water, we're...we're at our capacity for our Water Treatment Plant. Uh we are in old infrastructure and this has been deferred for many, many years, um, it's something that's sorely needed and once we get the water uh in place, uh to allow um the water uh expansion, we will be able to uh uh expand the uh infrastructure and allow more uh more housing. **Janet Nysten** – Ya I, I guess you're misunderstanding my question because we, we have capacity. Uh it was mentioned last week at the Committee of the Whole for a number of lots that have been approved but we're not getting building permits. People aren't coming because... **Mayor Therrien** – **interrupting** But we will. **Janet Nysten** – ... because of the ... **Mayor Therrien** – **interrupting** We will get building permits **NOTE: Does the Mayor know something we do not?** uh once the water is there cause the water isn't there right now. Uh they can't do any more building. We're on a very restrictive uh uh allotment for, for water. I say we've got no expansion room in our Water Treatment Plant now. This new Water Treatment Plant will allow us to have that expansion. **NOTE: It seems that the Mayor is implying that the RM approved more lots than they had the ability to provide with water as of right now. But Ms. Nysten is saying that their Report says they have sufficient capacity for the lots already approved. Which is correct?** And what you could foresee in the future uh uh the RM of Springfield is a very desirable uh location, I know two of my kids um want to come back here and they want to come back uh uh they're not in a position to buy the housing there so that way we can get our high density housing, our uh multi-housing units in there so allow us to have the extra generational uh component in our system that we can have younger couples and uh that are in uh a position to rent and then they, they can go forward. That's...it's, it's speculation uh and this is just what I understand, uh would be the case. **Janet Nysten** – Well, I ..you see, your, your own employees said that, ...I might be off on numbers but in the um Ventura Development and Wheatlands there are somewhere around 90 lots that have been approved, that the water has been applied for, it's approved for them, across the road there are 63 lots for Skylark that have been approved and the water has been set aside, there are a number of lots in Oakbank that have been approved and water has been set aside for them. So I'm thinking in my mind there's 200 lots than can be serviced now and if we're only building at a rate of between 33 or 25 homes in those areas, we've got some time to, to, to discuss this. I, I ...you know, you talk about you're approving the development where we don't necessarily ...like the supply and demand doesn't require it and our infrastructure and the schooling and the traffic and the police and the fire and all the other things that are related to development have not been put in place. So I thank you for the Report **Mayor Therrien** – **rudely interrupting** – Ok, M'am, your time ...your time is up. If you've got something for 30

seconds then.... **Janet Nysten** – Yes, I would also ask that in future this nice Report would include also um the amount of um contributions from development for Council’s um purview to see what the costs...or how much revenue is generated by uh the permits that are issued because it does come through the Planning Department so I would like that Report to be expanded to include that. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you. Sir? Just state your name, Sir, and.... **Gordon Mackie** - Sure. My name is Gord Mackie. I live in Cooks Creek district. And I would like your guidance as to which item on the agenda my question fits under and I guess I could relate it to the remarks that Janet has made because I think I want to ask a question about the Municipal Board and it’s quite clear that we’re going to be having more hearings with the Municipal Board about water treatment. That might be a bit too tangential for you, however here’s the point. This morning on the Web Site, the RM of Springfield Web Site, there was a note from the Municipal Board saying that the rulings on the hearings held uh in September had been delayed, would be postponed. And uh later I noticed that ...I’m going to come back to that later in the day and when I did at 4:15, that note had disappeared. I wonder if anyone here can say why? I realize that someone named Hailey is responsible for the Web Site but someone surely had to direct Hailey to remove that note. So I, I ask your forbearance, Mr. Mayor, I don’t where this belongs on the agenda but it has something to do with transparency and not a little to do with accountability and it’s a sincere question. **Mayor Therrien** – Ok, it’s not a part of the agenda, Sir, but we’ll answer it. What I understand uh that actually I’ll, I’ll leave it to uh to our CAO. **Colleen Draper** – Uh yep so Hailey is my direct report and she was not directed to remove it from the Web Site. Uh I know that when notices are put on, uh there’s a period of time that they’re removed because we can’t have every notice on forever. We only have limited notice space. Uh I can check with Hailey tomorrow but um I think it was just a matter that notice timed out and was automatically removed so I can send you what the note said, it really had nothing attached to it other than just public notice that we’ve received uh notice from the Municipal Board that the hearing uh decision is not available yet and we still don’t know when that will be available. **Gordon Mackie** – **And I take issue with what you said** but I point out a couple of things. Neither the Municipal Board nor the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Northern Relations have any notice on their sites. They have not issued press releases. This is something between the Board and the Municipality, it seems. Now you may not be familiar entirely with this section of the Web Site which does make provision for listing forever and ever, always, all notices that appear and it does not appear in the Archives. I don’t...I’m stating a fact, not making an argument but you might want to be more familiar with how that works because what you have said is quite contrary to what appears. **Colleen Draper** – Well, there’s no requirement for us to post that information. Uh that information came to us from the Municipal Board because we were a main party and it went to every other main party that spoke at the Hearing. Uh it was the Direction of Council to post that on the Web Site for public information because we knew that it was a sensitive item and people would want to know the outcome of that Hearing. So that was strictly why it was posted. I can repost it tomorrow. I don’t know why it was removed. I will look into it. **Gordon Mackie** – Thank you very much. **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you, Sir. Uh **at this point here** uh we’re past the amount of time for Question Period. I don’t see any other questions in any case **there**.

7. REPORTS

7.1 Elected Officials - Mayor Therrien – Uh then why don’t we go on to Reports, that’s Item 7 on our Agenda. Uh Elected Reports, a mover and a seconder for that please. Patrick and uh Mark (Therrien, Miller). **Colleen Draper** – *Be it Resolved that Council Activity Reports for the month of December be received as information.* **Mayor Therrien** – Mark? **Councillor Miller** – Mr. Mayor, I have some supplemental information to provide under my Report if uh if I’m given leave to do that and it’s quite short. First, I’d like to start out to say that uh Councillor Kuczynski and I issued a press release on January the 5th calling for an Ethics Commission investigation into the Sio Silica, Jeff Wharton affair and I am thrilled to announce that in fact the NDP caucus uh leader, uh Mike Moyes, has set that in motion and uh absolutely uh a huge step forward for the citizens of this of this Province uh for those involved in this particular issue. We need to get to the bottom of uh this. We need transparency. We need openness and I think with this new Government, I know Premier Kinew is uh absolutely uh willing to open the chamber for this and uh let’s move forward. Supplement to that, uh I would like to table for Council’s information, today hot off the press, Form 425 Sio Silica Incorporated filed by Pyrophyte Acquisition Corporation, with the United States uh Securities and Exchange Commission out of Washington, D.C. uh the Pyrophyte Acquisition company uh is based out of the Caymen Islands... **Mayor Therrien** – **interrupting** Ok, I, I, what is it you... what do you want to do with that? **Councillor Miller** – This is supplemental information for our Council and for the public and... **Mayor Therrien** – **interrupting** Well what do you want to do with the public for that? **Councillor Miller** – That could be attached to our Minutes so it’s disclosed that this is what’s happening today. **Mayor Therrien** – You know what, ... **Councillor Miller** – I’d say... **Mayor Therrien** – I think we’re on ...this is a political issue and that’s not part of the Procedural ... **Councillor Miller** – How is that political? **Mayor Therrien** – ... Bylaw ... **Councillor Miller** – It’s information. **Mayor Therrien** – You’re making ... **Councillor Miller** – From the Securities Commission... **Mayor Therrien** – You’re making.... **Councillor Miller** – Mr. Mayor... **Mayor Therrien** – That’s not that’s not an issue for us, that’s is for the Provincial Government. This is, this is part of a political **Councillor Miller** – Do you realize that we were involved in this.... **Mayor Therrien** – stance there and this, this shouldn’t be **Councillor Miller** – Argumentative... **Mayor Therrien** – adding ... **Councillor Miller** – Closed door, exactly the same kind of nonsense we put up with last time, I’m tabling this information for the public and for Council’s benefit so they can understand what’s going on. In today’s Free Press, headline news, Sifting Through Sio Silica Sands for Answers. **Mayor Therrien** – What does this have to dothis is political, what you’re trying to say here, you, you had a chance ... **Councillor Miller** – You call it political. Everything is political. **Mayor Therrien** – Just, just give me a second, you had a chance in your Reports and now you’re **Councillor Miller** – Come on... Point of Order. **Mayor Therrien** – now you’re trying.... **Councillor Miller** – **interrupting** Mr. Mayor, you’re out of order.... **Mayor Therrien** – I am talking here. **Councillor Miller** – Ya, you are. **Mayor Therrien** – So now what you’re trying.... **Councillor Miller** – and now you won’t give me a chance and you’re overriding what I said was not in my Report. **Mayor Therrien** – I’m trying to talk and you’re trying to interrupt me. **Councillor Miller** – And you’re trying to domineer. Again. Domineering. **Mayor Therrien** – So are you.... How is it that anybody has anything to say apart from you.... is, is domineering. **Councillor Miller** – Was it in my Report. How do you get into my Report? Can’t you just give the... **Mayor Therrien** – I can, I can see your Report any time. Anybody else can. But to add this as part of the uh.... **Councillor Miller** – Oh, my goodness. **Mayor Therrien** –the Minutes and so on like that, that’s political, that’s not has anything to do **Councillor Miller** – Has nothing to do political ... **Mayor Therrien** – A newspaper clipping ...the newspaper clipping, people can read it but it’s not going to go on to our Minutes, like are you asking that to add it to the Web Site? **Councillor Miller** – No. **Mayor Therrien** – You don’t want it on the Web Site so what are we going to do with that? **Councillor Miller** – I said, add it to the Minutes and to my Report. I, as Councillor, am representing the people in Ward 3, they need to know this information, they would like to know this information where their Councillor is working hard to find out the facts about Sio Silica. You know, the Ethics Commission press report that we did, that we issued January 5th made a difference in this Province and it could make a difference to this whole project so again, Dan Lett, Winnipeg Free Press, today dated indicating that there are red

flags with Pyrophyte Chairman and Chief Executive Officer with fines over \$250 million dollars from the CEC for violations of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and this is the company that you kind of authored and wanted to portray...wait... **Mayor Therrien** – I authored ... **Councillor Miller** – ...portrayed in the Development Agreement, you were willing to put...to go forward in the Development Agreement.... **Mayor Therrien** – that, that you know, you're stepping out of line.... **Councillor Miller** – Number two, number 2, Mr. Mayor ... **Mayor Therrien** – interrupting I, I want to comment on that **Councillor Miller** – We have to ask why? Winnipeg Sun, Winnipeg Sun – Councillor Kuczynski and myself ... Springfield politicians clash...that's you and me.... You, you went to this either **Mayor Therrien** – interrupting Is this going to be newspaper day or what? **Councillor Miller** – It's supplemental information that helps people decide.... **Colleen Draper** – I just...I'm going to interrupt. Um any information can be provided to the Secretary. We will review it and see if it's to be posted on the Agenda or not. Um I don't even know how to respond to what's going on right now. It seems to be the norm and I really don't know what bylaw this falls under, how to **NOTE: The CAOs statement makes my blood boil. If someone goes to the RM Office and provides information, whatever that is, to the Receptionist and then "we" reviews it to see if it is suitable for the Agenda or not is A BIG RED FLAG. The CAO is responsible for managing staff and accommodating Council. The CAO is not a decision maker. That is Council. Any information provided to the CAO that is relevant to the workings of the Municipality should be provided to Council immediately, not screened for suitability.** **Councillor Miller** – It's under Reports. My Report also a constituent, Mr. Hugh Arklie, editor uh Letter to the Editor today. I want to submit that as information for a constituent in Ward 3 and there's nothing wrong with him having information that can go to Council and to Administration. You want to block my people in my Ward now too? **Mayor Therrien** – So where, where do we go from here? You're going ... **Councillor Miller** – It's supplemental information. **Mayor Therrien** – You're going to beyou're going to be throwing out newspaper clippings here and this is going to be part of the Reports...is everything you put down in writing and every time there's ...you have a report, you come up with a supplemental stuff you want to add. Like there's a time and a place for that. **NOTE: Mayor Therrien is getting more and more agitated and sounding less and less like a bona fide head of a rural Council. By the way, he was the only one on Council that did not submit an Activity Report. That is not good role modeling.** And for us to start using newspaper clippings uh as supplemental to your, your report here is ridiculous. This is something that people can read so, so for what purpose are you doing this except for grandstanding, that's all this seems to be. This, this is nothing to do with your Reports. Your Reports are showing what you did during that time. If you notice, I haven't got my Report in there. **Councillor Miller** –Opinion and argumentative. Mr. Mayor, when we first did this in the Procedure Bylaw, we said Reports would indicate anything of breadth. Do you know in Parliamentary procedure, there's statements by Ministers, statements by Members of the Legislature, statements by Members of uh of Committees, and you want to now ban me.... **Mayor Therrien** – Visibly agitated, interrupting Who's banning you, you're dramatic. You're one very dramatic guy. You, you start saying here, you start saying uh uh putting this out there that we were the ones that went for the Development Agreement, I think I take...that's, that's conduct unbecoming a Councillor. **Councillor Miller** – Is that a lie? Is that a lie? Is that a lie? Is that a lie?**Mayor Therrien** –It doesn't matter cause as Council we, we go for one voice. And you're not the one person who seems to adhere to that. **Councillor Miller** – You are, Mr. Mayor. We voted against the Development Agreement if you don't remember. **Mayor Therrien** – It doesn't matter but as a Council... **Councillor Miller** – It sure does matter cause you're supposed to be for it. **Mayor Therrien** – As a Council, we have to go with what the decision is made.... **Councillor Miller** – Exactly. **Mayor Therrien** – And you always go out there about how we vote. Ok this is always between the ones who voted against it and yourselves. You're supposed to be part of the Council and that should be it. **Councillor Miller** – And so should you. And you don't represent the people, you don't represent the people who are against the Development Agreement... **Mayor Therrien** – You're all over the place, you're just dramatic, that's all you want. **Councillor Miller** – And what are you? **Mayor Therrien** – You want to grandstand. **Councillor Miller** – And what are you? **Mayor Therrien** – Why don't we report ...put Reports under Grandstanding. Ok, I think **Councillor Miller** – interrupting Hyperbole, you use the word and you know what he calls it, a Gong Show because that's exactly what we get with your lack of leadership. **Mayor Therrien** – Lack of leadership. You're trying to throw all this stuff in here. **Councillor Miller** – It's information from ... **Mayor Therrien** – interrupting Why don't you just do it like everybody else. We have a Report that we follow.... **Councillor Miller** – Calm down, calm down, Mr. Mayor, calm down, Mr. Mayor. **Mayor Therrien** – andto come up with all this stuff there, it's always a, a ... **Councillor Miller** – Calm down, calm down. **Mayor Therrien** – A Report by you and then you throw in other stuff. Go ahead, Glen. **CouncillorFuhl** – Let's get on with business, please. **NOTE: I must compliment CouncillorFuhl on his calm composure in making that announcement.** (Here, here) **Mayor Therrien** –Ok so I think we're done with uh Reports uh we're going to need a vote uh **Councillor Miller** – Wait. **Mayor Therrien** – RELAX. I didn't see Andy's hand. RELAX. **Councillor Miller** – I'm relaxed. **Mayor Therrien** – Go ahead, Andy. **Councillor Kuczynski** –When are we going to see your reports? **Mayor Therrien** – I just said**Councillor Kuczynski** – Ya, we don't see your report in there. **Mayor Therrien** –I just said that I didn't put a Report in there, there wasn't much to add apart from what every other councillor has got down there. **NOTE: The point of the reports is to advise the electors the activities in which each member of Council is engaged. Simply because other members of Council have reported what they took part in does not inform the public on what the Mayor took part in. They are Activity Reports. No report is indicative of no activity.** Go ahead, Mark. **Councillor Miller** – Just one other uh question, Mr. Mayor. Um we know that other municipalities have a CAO report. Just wondering if that's something that we should get in the habit of doing, whether it be East St. Paul or Rockwood or whatever. I'm just not trying to put Colleen on the spot, I've asked her before but is it not uh of value for us to have a CAO Report. I know we have Department Reports but if there's anything she wants to extract from those or supplementary uh provide to us that's helpful to Council. So I'm not trying to make work for her but I'm just suggesting other RMs do it. Look on their Minutes. You can see it's, it's very much uh there. I'm not misleading. I'm not but I think absolutely the CAO Report. You know, I'm the Executive Director of some organizations. I provide an Executive Director summary for about 40 directors, not anything different, highlights and all the rest of it. So just my suggestion if you want to raise the bar, it's another thing we can do. **Mayor Therrien** – Any comments, Andy? Ya. **Colleen Draper** – Andy, your You need to unmute yourself. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Yes, I agree. Everybody should put their reports to the public to, to see what we're actually doing. **Mayor Therrien** – Including the CAO? **Councillor Kuczynski** – Yes, yep. **Mayor Therrien** – Glen? Have you got any comments about that? **CouncillorFuhl** – I, I believe we get all these public, or these Department Reports, it's her job to make sure the Departments are working and getting things done and the CAO is making sure that that's happening so I'm good with it the way it is. **Mayor Therrien** – See, that is disrespectful. **Colleen Draper** – So if I've reviewed the other CAO reports, there's generally a paragraph on each Department that they oversee uh so at this point we have Department Reports that are quite substantial, the information they're being provided. If there's at any time there's supplemental information I'll want to provide to Council, I will put in a report going forward. **Mayor Therrien** – And I don't believe there's any reason to have our CAO report because we have reports from our...every department here. I think this is another thing that we want uh our CAO to do and she's busy enough as it is. Uh you're referring to probably a small uh RM. Uh to add another thing is, for what purpose, I have no idea. Our CAO is busy enough

and I'd be totally against uh something like a CAOs report and it is, of course you're going to say that we're not transparent and so on. The Reports are right here. We get our Reports, we get our Financial Reports, what more do you want. She's just going to cut and paste these Reports and that'll be it so I don't see any purpose in it whatsoever. **NOTE: The purpose of a CAO Report is to inform Council and the public in the manner in which the CAO performs her duties and what those duties are. It does not have to be lengthy, but it does justify the need for a CAO and the rather large expenditure. A good CAO would automatically provide such a report without reservation.** So um unless there's any other questions, why don't we carry on. Did we do a mover and a seconder on the Departmental Reports? **Colleen Draper** – We have a mover and a seconder, just need the vote. **Mayor Therrien** – Could I get a vote uh adopting 7.2 ... that was unanimous. **Colleen Draper** – Sorry, I apologize. I thought you were still talking 7.1. We just need a vote on 7.1. **Mayor Therrien** – Sorry, why don't we do 7.1 then. Can I get a vote uh on that? **Andy?** **Councillor Miller** – Point of order, Mr. Mayor. I just, in a ...it's just a correction, that's all on me. Um last meeting we talked about "social welfare" came out of my mouth wrongly. I take responsibility. It was an error. I meant "corporate welfare", not "social welfare" so I just, just want to make sure that that's corrected for the ...for the record, it's on me again why it came out as "social", it should have been "corporate welfare". I had it in front of me. That's all. **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you very much. Then I guess if we're not ...uh any other questions **with regards to 7.1**, can I get a show of hands, those in support? It's unanimous and it's passed.

7.2 Department Reports - Mayor Therrien – Then let's go to 7.2, that's departmental reports, a mover and a seconder uh please. Glen and Andy (Fuhl/Kuczynski). **Colleen Draper** – *Be it Resolved that December Department Operating Reports be accepted as information.* **Mayor Therrien** – Um ok. Any questions from Council. **Councillor Fuhl** – Um nope. **Mayor Therrien** – Uh Mark? **Councillor Miller** – Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Uh I want to commend the Public Works Report. I think it's uh it's good detail, I love to see the pictures so just a commendation uh and a good work uh ethic. In terms of Planning Report, we note that there's only about 30 new buildings and we anticipate this ...we anticipate a wave of uh 200 per year. Uh this is something that uh Ms. Nylen uh referred to, Water Treatment Plan consideration, so you know uh I know there's a lot of work that we have to do and we'll discuss further but it has far to do with how much developers are paying for off site services. Uh we don't want uh people in Ward 3 and others to have to bear the burden of uh extensive water treatment. **NOTE: Years ago ratepayers at large all paid over 20 years or so for the extension of Main Street in Oakbank to accommodate Crystal Lakes which was not well received.** We need to come up with a formula that's fair and just and we can look at other options including confirm the original terms with the City of Winnipeg in terms of the aqueduct as you know, we have the water storage compounds for the City of Winnipeg. Um there were some elements within that agreement that perhaps could extend to us. Uh is there any opportunity to consider twinning the water lines with the RM of Tache to Dugald um with grant funds at no cost, in other words a tie in to the Tache water uh, water uh availability as well? And you know there's lots of issues with the new Water Treatment Plant including the amount of water ...high water solids that are going to Cooks Creek uh which would go into of course the Floodway so there's environmental concerns and so forth. You know, there's other sources of the water as well, maybe from the Birds Hill Park area or to tie into the Heatherdale wells. I'm just very concerned with my constituents and I'm sure we'll see as we have the Open Houses, the financial burden that'll be put on the tax rate...taxpayers of this uh whole community. In my area, for instance, the average home is somewhere in around 5 to 6 hundred thousand dollars. Uh you're looking at a tax bill increase per year of uh correct me if I'm wrong, um Madam CAO but somewhere around \$300. or so. Uh so I'm not sure that uh people would be receptive to that. If it's a one time shot, it might be one thing but it's over a period of many years at that rate and with the high interest rate, the climate that we're in uh we're spending enormous amounts on debt servicing. And it's something that I as a If I was a business owner, I sure wouldn't want to take on the high debt load for that as well. So I guess my questions uh just kind of supplement with uh with what Ms. Nylen said, that if we have an average of 30 some homes being built in Dugald and Oakbank today, do we really need to service upwards of 200 per year going forward. I'm certainly not against development, I want to state that clearly. But I want to make sure it's a fair and equitable uh water cost to those including mostly to the developer. Those are the ones who are going to benefit most by millions and millions of dollars going forward. As you know, we have infrastructure costs, clearing of streets, policing, and a whole bunch of things that aren't taken into consideration when we're developing these new lots and so again we have to be conscientious of the actual costs, not just the direct costs of any Water Treatment Plant. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – Any other questions? **Andy?** **Councillor Kuczynski** – Ya, I would like to add to that...like um I asked the Planning Department to tell us how many lots we're going to have or we have that are available but are not developed yet and uh so I'm going to be provided that so if we have Wheatlands that is Phase 4, it's not fully developed yet and then we have Phase 5 and 6 plus Skylark, we have some lots available in Oakbank too, so if we're developing 30 houses, so we probably have capacity maybe for another 10 years. Cause we have meeting of ARM meeting with other municipalities and they said that in Headingly municipality, they just built 14 houses this year. So there is not a high demand for the, for the houses to be developed in the areas. So if we have the capacity for another 7, 8 years in our Municipality, so I don't know if we should proceed with the development of the Water Treatment Plant or at least we should defer that to farther and not put the burden on people ya with the high interest rates today and Media Market Watch, they said that interest rates are not going to come down in 2024 because inflation in December went up and Christmas shopping wasn't as good as everybody expected. So it looks like people have no money and maybe the party is over for, for a while. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – Well, the only thing I can add is that there's subdivisions that are waiting, there's developers that are waiting and they're waiting for our water. Interest rates, that's, that's speculative. We've got experts **there** for that. Uh nobody knows. If I knew, then I'd be a multi-millionaire able to make all these decisions uh **there** so interest rates from one article in the paper or several articles, I have, I have to base it on more information than that. Unless there's any other questions, can we finish with 7.2 with a vote uh, those in support of uh 7.2 Departmental Reports, show of hands. And that's unanimous and carried. **Colleen Draper** – Just before you proceed on, I do find it kind of distracting and disrespectful when we have people logging on our ZOOM that are using inappropriate names on their ZOOM IDs and I am just going to give Council fair warning that if they do not change their names on their ZOOM IDs, they will be put into the waiting room until the can rename themselves properly. It's disrespectful and it's not ...it should not be allowed. **NOTE: I think there should be some room for anonymity. Some people do not like everyone knowing their personal opinions on issues. I don't really see why it is disrespectful or to whom it is disrespectful.** **Mayor Therrien** – That's immature and cowardly. Ok uh... **Colleen Draper** – Does anyone else have anything to say to that or am I putting that person in the waiting room until they can change their name? **Mayor Therrien** –Glen? **Councillor Fuhl** – I am in **total** agreement with this, I've said this for ...for myself. Anybody that's putting their name should be respectful and put a name, I don't care if it's not your name or somebody else's name as long as it is respectful and that's all we ask for. Thank you. **NOTE: Just a comment. Not since I started attending Council meetings in 2008 have I seen this level of discontent from the electorate. It is apparent this Council does not have widespread support in the community.** **Mayor Therrien** – Uh Mark and Andy? **Colleen Draper** – You find it respectful and should be allowed? **Councillor Kuczynski** – I think that's freedom of,

of ...for people, what they want to do so it's up to the people, whatever they do. It's ...why should we control everything that people do, we want to control it in this Municipality? How long are we going to do that? If, if that's going to continue, then we don't have anybody coming here or anybody trying to even do anything with us? **Mayor Therrien** – I, I, I don't... I don't understand, Andy, what you just said **there**. It makes no sense. If this, if this person the coward that he is **there** that puts that comment uh on there, you guys saw the comment uh **there** uh um of course his name is David uh sure, probably just like Fred last time **there**, um where's the respect and the decorum. Uh you know, we're adults, we're adults uh um some guy that's sitting in the basement uh **there** eating bon bons is on his computer uh **there** uh I'm just tired of all that **bullshit** **there** from, from some of these people. They put this comment up here and uh um it's, it's just astounding to me, I was a Mountie for 35 years and I've been involved in all kind of different things **there** and the rude and obnoxious behaviour from some people, and this comment, I've heard a lot worse, I've seen a lot worse, uh gestures uh **there** towards me and so on like that. You know, I'm a thick skinned uh **there** but when it comes down to making comments towards uh our CAO uh **there** um you know it's just...uh people just smarten up and, and start acting like adults. Um and as far as I'm concerned, I'm not answering anything from this individual um at all **there** but that said, I'm uh uh well we can carry on. Are you finished with ... and I want to thank Colleen for bringing that up, uh as well, our CAO.

11. CONSENT AGENDA – 11.1 Seine Rat Roseau Watershed District 11.2 AMM News Bulletin - Mayor Therrien – Uh Consent Agenda, it's Item 11 uh if we could do it all as a uh um at one, one lump sum, 11.1 uh and 11.2, um that's Seine Rat Roseau Watershed District um and AMM uh News. Does everybody consent for that, all of them together? Can I get a mover and a seconder for that please. Uh Andy and Mark (Kuczynski/Therrien). **Colleen Draper** – *Whereas a Consent Agenda has been submitted consisting of 2 items, Be it Resolved that the said Consent Agenda be received as information.* **Mayor Therrien** – Can I get a vote, those in support of 11.1 and 2? That's unanimous.

12. NEW BUSINESS

12.1 Eco-West Canada – Municipal Climate Adaptation and Disaster Mitigation Workshops - Mayor Therrien – Then 12.1 that's the Eco-West Canada – Municipal Climate Adaptation and Disaster Mitigation Workshops, uh a mover and a seconder, please. Uh Pat and Mark (Therrien/Miller). **Colleen Draper** – *Be it Resolved that all of Council be delegated to attend the Eco-West Canada – Municipal Climate Adaptation and Disaster Mitigation Workshops at one of the dates and locations at their discretion.* **Mayor Therrien** – Anybody have a preference uh for that? I thought the Morden and Winkler one is better for myself. I think we could ... or we could just wait **there** until we get a reply from everybody but uh does anybody have a preference uh to what uh the dates are? **Colleen Draper** – And I can tell you staff are attending the February 14th Gimli session so uh it's not mandatory Council goes. This is just, you know, if you're wanting to and you're able to, you can let us know uh but I think we thought the Gimli location was the closest. **Mayor Therrien** – Alright, well why don't we just uh if we can reply back to Colleen **with regards to** that uh um and uh as soon as possible so that way we can uh get this organized. Um unless there's any questions, can I get a mover or I mean a hands uh in support of 12.1? That is unanimous and is passed.

12.2 Eastern Regional Municipal Committee 2024 Membership - Mayor Therrien – Uh let's go to 12.2 East...uh Eastern Regional Municipal Committee uh 2024 membership, a mover and a seconder, please. Uh Glen and Pat (Fuhl/Therrien). **Colleen Draper** – *Be it Resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield approve the 2024 Eastern Region Municipal Committee Membership fees in the amount of \$500.* **Mayor Therrien** – Any questions uh from Council and I see none. Uh why don't we put it to a vote, uh those in support? Unanimous and carried.

12.3 Winnipeg Metropolitan Region Inc. 2024 Membership - Mayor Therrien – Uh Winnipeg Metropolitan Region uh 2024 membership, a mover and a seconder for that, please. Uh Glen and Andy (Fuhl/Kuczynski). Any questions from Council? Oh, Andy? **Councillor Kuczynski** – Yes, can somebody explain to me what benefits we have to belong to that uh organization. **Mayor Therrien** – Um like I explained to Mrs. Lalonde **there**, the membership in the Municipalities of the Capital Planning Region, uh they're laid out in the Planning Act uh and the Capital Planning uh Region Regulations. **NOTE: I googled Regional Land Use Planning and this is what came up: Canada's provinces have different legislative and organizational frameworks to manage theirs of land and development on a sub-regional or regional scale.** Uh they're part of the Capital Planning Region and will benefit the rural municipalities by providing access to centralized resources for infrastructure development, funding opportunities, and coordinated planning uh efforts. Um that's...it's stopping the overlapping so we're working as a large area with all the uh 14 municipalities around the City of Winnipeg so there's a collaboration that leads to our more efficient use of our resources, uh improve infrastructure and better overall development planning for the entire region. **NOTE: If all 14 paid the same amount, that would total \$252,000. but I don't think they do. That probably pays for the facility and one facilitator and support staff. I am just not sure over the years that we have derived any particular direct benefit from it. I know we attend the once-a-year convention which includes a luncheon. Other than that and listening to guest speakers talk on a variety of planning issues at the event, I am unsure what the \$18,000, which is this year's contribution from us, does for us.** So the planning on a regional scale is ... is what we're, we're getting with the Winnipeg Region. It aligns with all the other planning regions across Canada like uh Edmonton, Calgary, uh Vancouver uh Montreal, uh all the larger uh centers and of course, Toronto um so they all work together, just uh you know that it stops the ...the uh competition with other neighbours and encourages everybody to uh to uh work together, have an open dialogue, economic development collaboration that benefits all the communities together. Glen? **Councillor Fuhl** – Ya, I would ask that we defer this um one, just because Melinda is not here. Um that way she could be part of this because it is a pretty big bill of \$18,000. and uh I'd like to hear her say on it. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – Sir. **Councillor Kuczynski** – I would like to get uh what are we actually getting in the Municipality of Springfield, like you said that other cities are getting, like Edmonton, Calgary and what are we getting as a Municipality? What benefits do we get so far? How many years have we belonged to that organization? **Mayor Therrien** – Um...**Colleen Draper** – We've belonged since it started in 1998. **Councillor Kuczynski** – So what did they provide for us, what benefits we get all those years and we're paying annually how many dollars for so many years? What have they actually provided to us? **Colleen Draper** – So it's a Regional Planning Board so without us having to put all the costs up front, they can work with all the Capital Region municipalities. We've had transportation uh plans created, master plans created for water and sewer for the region so that we can look at sharing opportunities so that's the benefit is we have a cost-sharing opportunity with all the Capital region, municipalities. **NOTE: This organization would provide structure for such opportunities but I am sure if two adjacent municipalities or municipalities with similar needs collaborated, they could independently bargain to achieve the same result.** **Mayor Therrien** – Glen? **Councillor Fuhl** – Ya, I'd like to speak to that a little bit too. Um there's a Transportation Master Plan that was done through the Province and for example is, we're trying to get another thoroughfare here for

Oakbank and Dugald um so that is to be on um uh Cedar Lake Road so we, again you guys weren't here at that time but we went to sessions on that and we were part of that to really push that we would get that eventually. So that's...that's just one example. Thank you. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Ya, but Mr. Schuler in the paper, I think this summer, said that that's going to be maybe developed 20 years from now so how long we're going to plan until we get something done. We need that you know corridor there. **Councillor Fuhl** – Ya I didn't say it was going to happen today, it was a master...Transportation Master Plan. It just ... it would, allowed us to speak to it though. If we weren't at the table, then we wouldn't be there to speak to it so we might not even have been part of the Plan. So at least we got it in the Plan being part of it versus not being there at the table at all. That's one example. **Councillor Kuczynski** – I know but from 98 and nothing is done, that's almost like 40 years. **Colleen Draper** – Well I said it started in 98... **Councillor Kuczynski** – By the time we maybe get a corridor on Cedar Road, like you know. **Colleen Draper** – The Municipality joined, I think it was a different name at that time under Mayor Susan Thompson of the City of Winnipeg that created this group. I didn't say we didn't have anything done but I... **Councillor Kuczynski** – Ok, so tell me specifically what was done because that's what I'm asking beside the Cedar Lake Road uh project that is maybe going to be done within 20 years. So what we did until now? **Mayor Therrien** – Well, when I'm at these meetings there, there's a lot of collaboration between the other RMs uh and the City of Winnipeg. Um I'm not one to mention any names and I'm not going to start now but uh the Mayors and the Reeves uh large centers and uh the large RMs uh **there**, uh we, we meet for lots of uh um planning and trying to get some things done for the...for our RMs and that will include uh the larger center of Winnipeg **there**. Um and we've had uh access to the councillors that are present from, from Winnipeg and then we kind of work uh **there** and trying to get some things uh that are moving forward um, the uh what was exactly done, I, I can't tell you off the top of my head uh some of the things in the last 40 years, uh but um ...but it's kind of an open dialogue where we're all sitting around at the table and trying to get the efficiencies uh worked out and having it uh move forward so that one RM is not doing something that is going to hinder uh you know, maybe the Winnipeg uh to have a corridor coming out of Winnipeg and to their RM. Um um it's ...we want to make sure everybody's on the same table uh there and all the 14 RMs uh, we work quite well uh together. Mark? **NOTE: So it took the Mayor almost 9 full lines to say absolutely nothing. In short, he did not cite one example of something that has been accomplished by belonging to this organization over 20 years. And actually, considering the amount of money spent on endless meetings of nothing but discussion and the annual luncheon event, there IS NOTHING THAT HAS BENEFITTED SPRINGFIELD.** **Councillor Kuczynski** – Well I would say we're just supporting a bureaucracy, that's about it. **Mayor Therrien** – Well, I don't think it's a bureaucracy, it's a dialogue with everybody together, if we're not.... **Councillor Kuczynski** – I know but you can't even mention one thing that we've got ... **Mayor Therrien** – Not going back 40 years, no. **NOTE: I can.** **NOTHING.** **Councillor Kuczynski** – Twenty years, we cannot even mention one thing? Since 98? **Mayor Therrien** – Well, the Cedar Lake Corridor is part of their Master Plan from Winnipeg and it's part of our Master Plan as well um so we're working together uh for that. Uh they've got a plan uh when we had uh those three options that MTI is ... they brought to us. Uh that's all part of the uh planning through Winnipeg and Metropolitan Region and MTI. Mark? **Councillor Miller** – Thank you, Mr. Mayor. You know, building on what Councillor Kuczynski said, I put you on the spot because I asked specifically the last year, fourteen months, you've been on this Committee, what have you brought back to Springfield. There's a significant amount of dollars that are being invested in this, seventeen thousand or close to \$18,000. per year of hard-earned tax-payers money and to have a social club and consider options and all the rest, I know the importance of networking. I've done it internationally, I do it locally and all the rest of that but quite frankly, what did you yield for us for the last 14 months for \$18,000.? That's what I'd like to know. And I'm not in support of deferring this, not because Councillor Warren is not here but because I know the strategy uh of what's coming back. The question is specific to you. What did we yield in the last 14 months with your representation on the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region for \$18,000.? **Mayor Therrien** – Uh I, I'm not taking offense to the term "social club". It's not a social club. We meet and we interact uh you know, it's um it's uh well, the results, I, I can't tell you the results uh. Uh we're, we're getting Ifuh we're meeting with all the RMs together, we're dialoguing and trying to uh uh get uh other plans together. There's a few plans that I've... we've discussed uh myself with the City of Winnipeg uh **there** and um so when you're at the table, you're at the one table, ...I can't tell you about it...when we're at the one table, we're able to uh you know see how everybody is, is working in collaboration and coordinated planning. Go ahead. **Councillor Miller** – Thank you, Mr. Mayor. So not once in the last 14 months have you yielded or consulted with any member on this Council what you are to bring to the Eastern ... to the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region. In other words, I'm not sure that you're taking our concerns to this organization for 17, 18 thousand dollars a year. I'm not really uh you're not twisting my arm or you're not really selling (laughing) the goods here on why we should spend another \$18,000. for another year just because you can meet and hear what's going on. Uh we can probably get that information off the Web Site. I know other representation or Minutes that are available. I don't know. **Mayor Therrien** – I, I disagree. Being, being around a table is a lot better than reading it, a newspaper article in the paper. You've got to assume everything is correct in the paper and I never do. Um what we uh ...going around a table and having these uh, these meetings, we have lots of uh uh people that are coming through that are able to uh tell us about initiatives and planning uh sessions uh there, there's quite a bit and to say that I haven't talked about the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region would be totally wrong. I uh I've talked about it with Council before um John Q Public I've talked about that uh with Council as well so I can't tell you exactly uh you know the uh what has transpired in the last uh 14 months apart from that we're trying to get at this Act uh through uh **there** and uh it's uh uh it's, it's well under, uh under way. **NOTE: So after all that, he has told us nothing of their goals, and how close to achieving any such goals they are.** Go ahead. **Councillor Miller** – As you know, we also belong to the AMM which is an absolute critical advocacy, advocacy group for the Provincial Government and others. I see more of a value perhaps in the AMM and other affiliated uh organizations... like I say, if you could yield results in the last 14 months, I would say, hey, hey, hey, let's invest the \$18,000. But you know, again, we can't just ...again I use the term loosely but willy, nilly throw, throw out \$18,000. of our hard-earned tax-payers money and then go to them in a couple of months and say, by the way, we need another increase. We need to nick...we need to nickel and dime and scrutinize and we need to protect every single dollar that's going through this Chamber and this is just one more example that I can't yield to another \$18,000., yielding no results in the past 14 months. Am I going to expect that if I ask you the same question in a year, what are the results...oh well, we dialogued and we talked and I met a bunch of people and all the rest of it for \$18,000. It doesn't really turn my crank. **Mayor Therrien** – Go ahead, Glen. **Councillor Fuhl** – Uh I'm going to ask the CAO and the Mayor plus maybe get the Executive Director from the WMR uh to do a kind of a Report or synopsis to us and then hopefully that will answer Mr. Miller's questions and um then they can see what fruition is out of this. **Colleen Draper** – So I mean you're asking what has been accomplished. I think you're ...everyone's fully aware WMRs responsible for the creation of Plan 2050. Uh we're now legislated to be part of a Planning Region so whether you want to be part of it or not, we're legislated to be part of a Planning Region which constitutes the WMR Capital Region Municipality. So this membership is based on legislated formulas that we have to pay. So I'm a little concerned that we waited till the agenda that you raise these questions because I could have had the Executive Director provide me with information on what you were looking for um

instead of waiting til today, when there's a vote on the table, with such an important decision. **Mayor Therrien** – And the Executive Director basically gave me this 2 paragraphs what I just explained to everybody here what the Planning Region does but she can give you a more detailed one if it's necessary to do so and Andy had a hand...uh Mark? **NOTE: Oh great. Our Mayor could not independently explain what the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region was without "crib notes" from the Executive Director, yet he is the one that attends the meetings.** **Councillor Miller** – Mr. Mayor, Colleen, that's a little bit unfair. As a Council member, we receive the Agenda on Friday. Uh that information should be attached or uh pertinent to that meeting. You know that this decision is coming to Council. Why should I have to ask for it when it should be provided so we can make a thorough decision. I think I take a little bit of offense to that. **Colleen Draper** – Well, we brought in the Executive Director early in Council's term to talk about WMR so there was lots of opportunity to ask what they're doing and what.... **Councillor Miller** – Well, we're asking our representative on that, our Mayor, to yield and to tell us what results, what did we benefit from the last year and he...I don't know, I could go through the notes and the audio? I'm not sure Councillor Kuczynski, if you heard anything of any value other than it's a networking opportunity. **Councillor Kuczynski** – I didn't hear anything, that's why we're asking question today. Because if we have the answers, then we'd probably go for it but we didn't know anything about it so just show on the agenda, we have to make the decision. So there we go. You have our response to it. **Colleen Draper** – Well, then, defer it so I can get the information for you that you're requesting because there are important things that this group is doing and it'd be unfortunate for you to vote on the lack of information then.... **Councillor Kuczynski** – Ya but important to who? On what basis do you make that assumption, it's important to who? To, to our Municipality? **Colleen Draper** – Well, I would think having a say in Plan 2050 and our say that we had in Bill 37 which they've just announced is being looked at by the new government, that was all important information that Springfield brought to the table and those decisions were made and looked at so if you don't think your citizens are benefitting from being part of Plan 2050, I would beg to differ. **NOTE: Two things of note: Who decided what we would contribute to Plan 2050 and if you try to download it, you can't as of Jan. 21, 2024 11:03 p.m. Bill 37 has to do with alimony and child support.** **Mayor Therrien** – This has been going on since, I think, Susan Thompson, like Colleen was saying, was the first uh Mayor to bring it up and it's exceptional because we're all working differently uh **there**. She saw back in 98 that we should all be working for the same means so that we're not duplicating everything that's in uh Winnipeg uh and that's uh you know and a fact's a fact that they're going to be coming out, the City of Winnipeg uh **there** east and west and to suit our citizens better uh **there** we have to have our input into that and the Cedar Lake corridor is, is part of that input and that, that's been a long plan uh discussion that's been brought up at the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region uh and the Master Plan from uh the City of uh Winnipeg, the uh the transit uh plan, their Transportation Plan, uh shows that quite clearly, there's a lot of money that's involved in that uh but if we were doing something differently in our ...in the RM um and that...it would cut off the access for this uh you know Cedar Lake corridor, then we wouldn't have that, so that's part of the um them working together um all the other RMs inside uh uh the uh Winnipeg Metropolitan Region and that goes uh to Headingley **there**, there's a corridor coming uh through Headingley that was planned through the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region **there** so uh when everybody is at the table, you can understand that the problems that are in your RM uh could be uh you know, facilitated and, and, and worsened by not having a dialogue with uh the City of Winnipeg um and other uh uh you know corporations that are looking to invest. Uh they come to, to the uh Capital Planning Region or the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region um and seeing how we're working together and we've had uh um you know, doctors **there** of planning that are coming in and telling us how things are going, the 2050 uh Plan is exceptional, it's showing, uh you've had that presentation. That's part of the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region. Uh that's you know an exhaustive plan that uh allows for all that collaboration of all the RMs. What is so funny, **there**, Mark? You want to share the joke here? **Councillor Miller** – There's no joke. The joke is that 2050 is a Plan that actually has impact. Do we have really have any say in it? Very little. By the way, is this going to be... **Mayor Therrien** – We did have say in it. **Councillor Miller** – We did. What did you present at the ... of course you didn't have anything. I know. **Mayor Therrien** – This was planned before I even got in uh **Councillor Miller** – So what do you bring to the table for the RM of Springfield as well as my people in Ward 3 as well as the whole Municipality, what do you bring to the table? What do you specifically ... how do you influence Winnipeg Metropolitan Region going forward? What are the benefits? **Mayor Therrien** – I'm representing the RM of Springfield ... **Councillor Miller** – On what issue? **Mayor Therrien** – ... and uh all the other RMs are doing the same thing. **Councillor Miller** – Well, everybody can ...I can represent them. I mean, we can send uh **Mayor Therrien** – It's the Mayors and the Reeves that are there. **Councillor Miller** – Correct but what do you ...what value is our participation is what I'm trying to say? **Mayor Therrien** – I think it's, it's ... **Councillor Miller** – Are you there to have a luncheon or meet Joe Blow or whoever, is that.... **Mayor Therrien** – There's no luncheon uh **there** or anything like that, it's a working sessions uh **there** ... **Councillor Miller** – And you're represent...you haven't consulted once with any of our Council. **Mayor Therrien** – **Voice raised.** Yes, I have. I brought back what the ...what, you're going to ask me when... I have. **Councillor Miller** – ...not the information back. I said you're not consulting with us what to bring to the table to these meetings. You could share the agenda and we could collectively come up and say, hey, Mr. Mayor, it would be great for you to reflect these concerns. Um is this issue going to be on the ZenCity? We have that platform, we invested in the Municipality as well for the public to be engaged and be aware of what's going on because I know some people who are not absolutely sold on this. **Colleen Draper** – Well, we don't hold the Open Houses. The WMR does them. We do post those on our social media for the public to be aware when there's public open houses. Um I know they meet with our Asset Management staff, they've met with our Planning Staff, I provided Council with the document that we provided just before Christmas and there was 3 pages of suggestions that we put into Plan 2050 based on what Springfield needs so I can resend that document to you if you'd like but yes, we have put vital input into Plan 2050 and we brought up some areas that, you know, they realize that they had missed or needed to work on. So we felt very good after our meeting that we had brought these issues to light and they will be looking at them. So yes we do provide that effect to it. **Mayor Therrien** – Andy? **Councillor Kuczynski** – Mr. Mayor, you said that you're talking so we don't duplicate whatever the City does. What do you have in mind, like what can we duplicate, we have no money to, to duplicate anything with the City. What can we do? **Mayor Therrien** – I didn't...I don't think I said there was duplication uh... **Councillor Kuczynski** – Yes, you did. **Mayor Therrien** – Well, I'm talking about the Cedar Lake corridor and uh... **Councillor Kuczynski** – No, you were talking about the meetings that you want to...whatever the City does, we don't want to duplicate here. And what do you mean by that? **Mayor Therrien** – Well if we're putting in a road uh there that's going to hinder uh on a large-scale um um of a road like the highways, Cedar Lake corridor, we have to keep that in mind uh when we're doing our planning and when we're doing our Water Treatment Plant. We had that as part of that **there**um that we couldn't be uh developing uh land that's not going to allow for the uh the Cedar Lake Corridor to, to cross. Uh we have to make sure that we have to keep that in mind and MTI has that Plan and every time we've met with uh MTI who is a strong component is the uh the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region uh **there**to make sure that everybody is on the same line that if we had these corridors coming east and west and south as well, uh and, and going north and to the, the Interlake uh **there** that all the, all the RMs, everybody is talking uh and they understand, they talk with uh Planning and then understand the uh you know the long term goals uh nothing takes uh uh is done in 14 months

and nothing is done in 14 years it seems. These are all long-term projects. **NOTE: In 2014 I seem to remember we were advised that no development was to be allowed on a certain stretch of Cedar Lake Road to accommodate a future corridor to the Industrial area, I believe.** **Councillor Kuczynski** – And, and how are they going to be done when Munic...Province, they are like deficit of \$1.6 billion dollars. How are they going to create any project for the foreseeable future? **Mayor Therrien** – I don't think that's something that we are going to be able to uh discuss here.... **Councillor Kuczynski** – Well, but we're talking about and, and that's what's gonna be spending the money, no matter where they're going to spend this money so it's, if they, if they can provide the health care for people never mind building extra roads in the near future. **Mayor Therrien** – Ok, Glen? **Councillor Fuhl** – I want to share that you know the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region I'm sure is very much in line with the Province because the Province wouldn't approve this if this was not to be in the place and I can tell you right now is, yes, we know that everybody, especially the Province, has money owing, look the Federal government, everybody has money owing so we all have to work together to try to figure out how that works within our own budgets but at the same time, you can't stop and shut everything down and stop economic development with roads going in or anything else that nature is to grow and have to grow on as sustainable basis. That's what's important. **Mayor Therrien** – And all the other RMs are paying uh the uh their portion of I don't know what their costs are and **there** and everybody has to contribute uh to this, it's uh a um money in my opinion very well spent uh it's not uh um you know um beyond uh the norm here, everything costs uh a lot of money and uh uh the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region allows uh uh for the transfer of information uh you know from across uh the table. Um but that said, I think we've discussed this. Uh I'd like uh Melinda to uh be involved in this and then we can defer this for more information to uh to get some of these questions answered. **Colleen Draper** – Would Council like the Executive Director to meet and you can ask these questions directly to them? **Mayor Therrien** – We can bring in Jennifer uh, we can bring in the other team uh **there** Rob and they have presentations uh **there** uh Colleen uh was here uh um I guess I don't know, how many months back and she gave the uh presentation **NOTE: He is talking about Colleen Sklar who is no longer with WMR apparently.** to the 2050 and that was an exhaustive plan, part of the Winnipeg Metropolitan uh Region uh **there** and this has been something that has been going on for, for years. Um for to put me on the spot, say what was done in the 14 months uh **there** uh we've been working out, the uh Capital Planning Region and the ...laying out the uh the new Act uh so there's lots of discussions **with regards to** that with our lawyers and trying to get the Act in place. Uh they've had public hearings uh throughout uh and uh all of that was quite exhaustive. And we attended all those public hearings. So I'm thinking we could talk about this all night **there** I think we'd do well to have uh the Executive here, Jennifer depending what her schedule's like and come here and do a presentation uh to uh to Council um and having Melinda here at the same time would uh uh allow us to, to make that uh conscious uh decision. We, we are part of the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region uh no matter what. So we're talking about the bill here so I, I say defer this until we can get uh uh Jennifer and her team in here. Is everybody in agreement with that? Uh Glen. **Councillor Fuhl** – I agree with that. **Mayor Therrien** – Well do we vote on that or **Colleen Draper** – Well, we can just defer and if you want me to bring in someone to speak and answer your questions, I can contact them tomorrow and see what they're available for. **Mayor Therrien** – Well, they can, depending on what their schedule is like, we can get them uh to come uh to come in. Is everybody good with that? Mark? Andy? Well, I just...I, I think uh I ... we are part of the Met...the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region uh um to ask me what I've done in the last 14 uh months uh **there**, all I can tell you is what I told you without going around in circles here. Uh Jennifer is going to be the one that's uh can tell us uh, uh all the details and you can ask uh those uh questions. We are part of the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region **there** uh, we want to make it better for ourselves uh and for all the other communities. I'm, I'm all for this, I was uh you know going to the meetings **there**, there's uh a large uh majority of the people have been there for quite some time um and uh everybody's invested in it and, and we're invested as, as part of that um the system. If we're not part of that and we are compelled in any case, then we're, we're uh you know, we're not hearing what's, what's going on in all the other RMs at the one table. So why don't we defer this for, for Jennifer and her team to, to uh come in and whatever dates that uh will work for them uh then we could have that with Melinda here at the same time. Everybody good with that? No. Well, I, I think, I got no other uh thing to say. I, I think that's the best course of action. **Colleen Draper** – Well you complained about a lack of information so I'm offering to bring someone in to give you the information you're wanting so if you're not willing to do that, then I don't know how else to bring the information to you. **Councillor Miller** – Well we, I've asked the Mayor multiple times now what were the benefits of him representing us, the RM of Springfield, at the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region. He can't come up with **Colleen Draper** – Input Plan 2050 and the legislation that we're going to have to follow. **Councillor Miller** – You've hit it on the head, we're going to have to follow so what influence do we really have? We know it's coming. We could probably get that off the Internet, right. **Mayor Therrien** – No, I, I.... **Colleen Draper** – We've shown the influence we have. Changes have been made. And they're actually reviewing Bill 37 because there was so much concern from the municipalities with Bill 37 that it caused them to relook at it. So if that's not having an impact ... **Councillor Miller** – That's not entirely true. Bill 37 and others, as you know the new Government is receptive to hearing from municipalities and it's uh a whole new uh shade of colour and so they're looking at things much differently than the previous government. **Colleen Draper** – But it was a collective effort from the Capital Region municipalities that had concerns with Bill 37 and went through AMM and that's what's caused this relooking, whether it's new government or not, they're relooking at it and that's what we wanted. **Mayor Therrien** – And that's part of the dialogue that we were discussing. We, we discuss uh Bill uh 37 uh **there** uh most RMs uh Mayors and Reeves had uh you know strong uh uh opposition to it and that was part of that uh uh these discussions. Again to put me on the spot and say what is done for us, uh Colleen said it uh exceptionally well, we got the 2050 and I've been part of this uh the transition uh **there** with the legal teams um having our uh uh Board uh discuss with our planners and uh legal to uh to make the uh document uh **there** and that requires a lot of work uh and doing all that stuff so there's an exceptional amount of work uh about details and administration. So I'm not sure what more we can discuss uh here. I think we have to defer this for uh for more information and then let uh Jennifer say her uh her point and uh then this is the person that has all the answers. **Councillor Kuczynski** – How many municipalities in the Metropolitan Capital Region? **Mayor Therrien** – 14, I believe. **Councillor Kuczynski** – 14 so 14 municipalities have power over the government to, to give the Bill 37 a voice. I...we have 127 or 37 municipalities in this Province so 8 votes doesn't have that big leverage on the decision-making. **Colleen Draper** – No but AMM does. **Councillor Kuczynski** – AMM does so that's right, but not the 8 municipalities involved in that. **Colleen Draper** – Well, the RM of Springfield **Councillor Kuczynski** – Winnipeg Metropolitan Region, we're part of it but not ...the decision is made by other municipalities than just those 8. **Colleen Draper** – So legislation says the RM of Springfield is part of this Planning Region so we can either be at the table setting those rules or not be at the table and just be told what we have to do so that's really their decision. **NOTE: The rules were set long before now and the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region organization is telling us what we have to do.** **Councillor Kuczynski** – But you said it's coming from top down so how are we setting anything? Do they even listen? **Colleen Draper** – The Capital Planning Region is made up of the WMR municipalities. That's how the legislation is written. So if we're part of WMR, we're part of that Planning Region and we will have a say at the table. **Mayor Therrien** – We've been part of that region for quite some time. Uh we've been uh

and we've been uh input into the uh to the uh to the Act uh there uh um and we have a vote at the table. If we don't have that vote at the table, then we've got nothing. I tell you, there is RMs that didn't go for this from quite some time back and they'd love to be part of this uh **there**. Uh we are far better off to be in that room as opposed to be out of that room. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Did we, did we talk with our residents about the Plan 2050 ever? **Colleen Draper** – Well, the Open Houses, like I said, were advertised and the Open Houses were open to the public so we let people know and we put a blurb that these are important discussions that will affect the development and how we can you know run our Municipality so it's important you attend and put your input. And I know people have attended so we were just told in November, there was 3 Open Houses that we let Council know about and WMR said there was a lot of Springfield residents there that they heard from. **Mayor Therrien** – I met a few uh.... **Councillor Kuczynski** – But did we as a Municipality have meetings with our residents about 2050. **Colleen Draper** – We didn't hold Open Houses, we just directed them to the proper Open Houses where they could get the information. **Mayor Therrien** – Like not all 14 RMs had that, it just wouldn't work out. It was advertised uh **thereto** certain centers and uh Tache and the other RMs that could be there, they were all there and I met people so from Springfield. They, they knew about it. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Well me and Mark went to one of those um in which hotel in St. Boniface, the Norwood Hotel and we just saw the people from uh Administration, we didn't see any residents going to that meeting, that was when we were there because we met a lot of people that...from you know, we know them from ARM or, and you know, AMM. But I didn't see **Colleen Draper** – **interrupting!** I think they had 6 sessions over 3 days so I was told residents from Springfield were there so I don't know what session but ... **Councillor Kuczynski** – But you couldn't say because we were there so... **Colleen Draper** – No they provided the input... **Mayor Therrien** – Go ahead, Mark. **Councillor Miller** – Councillor Kuczynski and I actually did speak to a couple of residents who were actually attending and they were absolutely adamant and we remember a number of residents, in fact I'm not sure there was any public there that was actually in support and if you can show me it, I'd be glad to take that in but uh ... **Mayor Therrien** – Jennifer Freeman can tell you the stats, uh **there**, the people had a chance to uh put down what the want to add and delete uh **thereso** I ...I'm not sure if she talked to one or two people, whether that's a consensus of all the people. **Councillor Miller** – Mr. Mayor, I was relating to one instance. We talked to many other people and there weren't that many people as Councillor Kuczynski said. There was mostly bureaucrats and others who were involved in the Plan but Joe Public was not there in droves. For instance, that was 12:30 in the afternoon, I mean people are working uh uh you know on jobs and all the rest of it, there was an evening session but I'm not sure...but again that's debatable. What I'm trying to say is I'm not entirely sure that you're gauging this properly, that 2050 isn't really a plan that's absolutely endorsed by all of our residents, I know people in Cooks Creek have a concern and Pine Ridge and Hazelridge. They may not understand it entirely but uh just to embrace it, uh I know we're going off track so I don't want to debate it.**Mayor Therrien** – Ok, well my, my position is that we wait for uh wait for uh for uh Melinda to, to come **uh at which point** we can have all your questions answered uh by Jennifer and her team. Now that's the best I can say if we want to get the information that uh you're requesting uh there um Jennifer will, will have that um and then she'll be able to uh answer all the uh questions. Otherwise I don't see why we're going to, you know, what we're going to resolve, by just asking the same questions and going in circles **there**. Melinda isn't here and so we have to give her a chance for her input as well. Uh she represents uh a large area uh as well. We need her uh uh her dialogue in this. **Councillor Kuczynski** – I would suggest we put that Plan 2050 on our Municipal Web Site and let people view that and decide which way they want to go and then you know maybe they're going to come and say we want it or we don't want it. **Mayor Therrien** – It's a huge document and they can, they can go on to the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region and get that on there. Like I'm not sure why we...we could put a link to, to the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region and they can link into that, sure. **Councillor Kuczynski** – It doesn't matter how big it is, people are either going to view it or they're not going to view it. **Mayor Therrien** – Well, I'm saying, they can link into that uh, to the Web Site, and have a look at the 2050. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Ok, let people ... advise them that there is such a thing as Plan 2050. I don't know how many people, you know, I even know have heard about 2050. **Mayor Therrien** – They trust their governments, I guess, that's all I can say. Mark? **Councillor Kuczynski** – It's up to us to...we're representing the people. **Mayor Therrien** – It's up to us, yes. **Councillor Kuczynski** – We have to let them know what's going on. **Mayor Therrien** – Mark?**Councillor Miller** – So I think, Mr. Mayor, we can do a better job of portraying, as Councillor Kuczynski says, what 2050 is and our representation on The Winnipeg Metropolitan Region. I know everybody doesn't want to get into the weeds and information and they have to trust us to do some things for sure and that's truthful but uh uh you know, there's a lot of people in Cooks Creek and you'd find a lot of resistance to people embracing 2050. Um and you ought to be going in the community and judging that. I talked to people at Cooks Creek, I talked to people at other events, I know uh we have the Anola supper on Saturday, I'll be sharing that with people there as well, trying to gauge people outside of my ward, and so on and so on. So we need to reach stronger ... all I'm trying to say is we've got to do a better job in trying to say that uh you know, we can have impact which is positive, I agree with Colleen on that, but really do we have impact as Councillor Kuczynski says, we're just going along with the ride. And I'm not sure, there's 17 or 18 thousand dollars-worth of benefits, you know. **Mayor Therrien** – Ok so here ... it's out there, we can defer this uh till Melinda gets back and she can uh have her point of view representing her Ward 4, uh we could have Jennifer here at the same time and uh give you all the nuts and bolts that you're asking for. That's, that's my uh uh resolution uh to that and I think uh we can defer this uh for whatever time it is, a couple of weeks or whenever Jennifer is uh her schedule is uh available and we could uh have her uh answer your questions. Uh vote now or... **Colleen Draper** – If Council agrees to defer, we'll just defer and bring it back at a later date but look at uh um bringing a delegation forward to provide more information to the public and Council. **Mayor Therrien** – Then I think it's fair that we do that because Melinda's not here and it's um turning out to be a uh point of discussion that she has to be part of. Everybody in agreement uh for deferring it when Jennifer can come in and answer your questions. Andy and Mark? **Councillor Kuczynski** – No, not with me. **Councillor Miller** – I'm with Councillor Kuczynski on this issue. **Mayor Therrien** – Ok um I'm really not sure, uh ... it's not very fair, to be honest with you guys, uh Melinda's not here, you're well aware of that, uh I think it's not good governance on your part uh that uh you're aware, you're aware ... just, let me just finish and then you can go. So just, Melinda's not here, uh there's been times where you haven't been here uh Mark **there** um and we deferred um matters because you hadn't, you couldn't participate in it. Uh so why you want to uh do a vote without the information present here uh is beyond me. Go ahead. I'm not...ok go ahead. **Councillor Miller** – Mr. Mayor, I don't believe what you're saying for the simple reason, were you not author or co-author to this agenda? You're the one that put it on the agenda. You knew that Melinda was not going to be here and then all of a sudden now that the vote's....**Mayor Therrien** – **interrupting** I never, I never knew that she wasn't going to be here. **Councillor Miller** – Is that true? **Mayor Therrien** – Well why would I say it otherwise. Uh she's not able to, she's not able to ZOOM in here at all. **Councillor Miller** – Is she on ... I understand and I don't know, I'm asking the question, is she on vacation somewhere? Did she not provide uh information to Council or to the CAO that she was on vacation? **Colleen Draper** –Yes, she let me know. I put it on the Council calendar so I assumed you all saw it but apparently you can't view those things unless you're invited to see them so ... **Councillor Miller** – So you didn't at any time.... **Colleen Draper** – I knew but Council did not. **Councillor Miller** – You didn't advise the Mayor at

any specific time that Councillor Warren was not going to be available for this meeting? **Colleen Draper** – I think he found out yesterday. **Councillor Miller** – So then couldn't we have amended the agenda right off the top and pulled it off? **Mayor Therrien** – Well **Councillor Miller** – I'm just saying there's motive here. You see that you're not going to get what you want in this vote. It's going to be defeated if we were to make a resolution to have this membership, that's a fact. So then let's defer it so we can see what Councillor Warren will do and I'm supportive to having her vote at every opportunity including every person here on this Council. But I'm just saying the optics and the strategy are very evident and I'm really upset at how you manipulate **Mayor Therrien** – There's nothing manipulating about this. She can't ZOOM in. She's not in a position where she's able to ZOOM in. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Pass, that's the only thing. **Mayor Therrien** – We're talking about... **Councillor Kuczynski** – You're only got to pass because you let Melinda be here and we know Melinda is going to vote with you so you want to pass it. Ya. **Mayor Therrien** – Go ahead. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Ya, so you want to pass this, this whatever you know we're voting on here and that's why you're looking for the third vote and Melinda is not here, Melinda is going to come and Melinda is going to vote with you and then it's going to go through. **Councillor Miller** – Uh Glen. **Councillor Fuhl** – I don't know how anybody could say how Melinda's going to vote because none of us are Melinda. So I just, that's a fact. Thank you. **Councillor Miller** – Come on. Look at the record, look at the track record. **Colleen Draper** – Well, there's two choices I see. You can either vote on this right now and whatever the vote is, I think, I think I would still bring someone in from WMR because you obviously think there's questions you have and the public has not heard enough about it so we can proceed with a delegation even after the vote and however it ends up. Um if you decide you want to have a seat at the table, then there's options going forward. So you can either defer or you can vote. So that's...those are your options. **Councillor Miller** – I like the CAOs suggestion of us doing the vote and then revisiting it because we want the public to be engaged, have input, and for them to reach out to the Mayor and Councillor Fuhl and myself and Melinda and Councillor Kuczynski and say, hey, you know, this is the value of \$18,000. going forward but we ought to be there. I'm not saying that we're right. We could be absolutely wrong and maybe we absolutely need to be there but I don't want to spend another \$18,000. just because uh it's presented in front of us. **Colleen Draper** – And deferring is an option. **Councillor Miller** – No, I'm saying let's uh, let's vote on it. **Mayor Therrien** – Then you're not getting the right information then Mark. **Councillor Miller** – We can opt into it again, as the CAO said. **Mayor Therrien** – Well, why, why would we do that when we have a proper vote when we get all the information. You were complaining **there** that the transparency in the vote has to be done on all the information and that's all I can say but I think we've wasted, you know, an hour or more on the one thing here. Uh Glen? **Councillor Fuhl** – You know I recommended to defer it but let's take it to a vote if that's the way we all want it. Or if it's a 2-2, it goes to a vote anyhow so there we go. **Colleen Draper** – Ya, we're just going in circles here. **Mayor Therrien** – Then we can bring this back? **Colleen Draper** – You're not going to have a majority on anything so just vote and we'll look at bringing in a delegation um when Councillor Warren is back and the public can hear the information. You can ask any questions you want and if you decide you've made the wrong choice, you can bring it back. **Mayor Therrien** – Well then my vote is to go ...to defer this. Glen are you for deferring? **NOTE: Loud voices can be heard on the audio file for a brief moment.** Then I think what's the uh resolution. **Councillor Miller** – Point of order. I thought I heard Councillor Fuhl say let's go for a vote so how does he now.... **Mayor Therrien** – No, we're just going to read the resolution **there** and then we'll do the vote. **Colleen Draper** – The resolution to defer or the resolution to vote on the membership? Sorry, I'm confused. **Mayor Therrien** – There's going to be 2 then, that's for the deferring and then uh the membership? **Councillor Fuhl** – So, I have a question. If 2 are saying deferring and 2 are saying to vote, what happens in that case? **Colleen Draper** – Well, you're defeated both ways, right. **Councillor Fuhl** – Yes, so that's the vote. **Mayor Therrien** – Do it all in one resolution? **Councillor Fuhl** – Ya, it's done. **Colleen Draper** – The resolution on the table is *Be it Resolved the Council of the RM of Springfield approve the 2024 Winnipeg Metropolitan Region Inc. membership fees in the amount of \$17,955.* **Mayor Therrien** – Those in uh support uh of that? Uh Glen and Patrick (Fuhl, Therrien). Uh those opposed? Andy and Mark (Kuczynski/Miller). And we'll put down Melinda as not available. Thank you. **NOTE: Wow! A lot of talk that really tells us nothing at all about the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region organization and what their mandate is.** Google provides not a lot more. In fact, it almost sounds like a version of what the Mayor and CAO said about it except that the Mayor wasn't even accurate about the number of municipalities involved in it. Counting the City of Winnipeg, there are 18. [The Winnipeg Metropolitan Region is a metropolitan area in the Canadian province of Manitoba. It is located in the Red River Valley in the southeast portion of the province of Manitoba, Canada. The region contains the provincial capital of Winnipeg and 17 surrounding rural municipalities, cities, and towns. The Winnipeg Metropolitan Region is the fastest-growing area of Manitoba and the province's economic hub. Today, two-thirds of Manitobans call the Metro Region home, and the region accounts for 70% of provincial GDP. The Winnipeg Metropolitan Region is currently developing a long-term regional growth plan called Plan20-50. This plan aims to maintain and build a strong economy and strong communities while being good stewards of the land and water.](#)

12.4 Red River North Trail 2024 Membership – **Mayor Therrien** – And where are we at now? **Colleen Draper** – The tax sale date. I'll just give some information before I.... sorry no. We missed, sorry, Red River North Trail. **Mayor Therrien** – Red River Trail uh 2024 Membership uh **there**, a mover and a seconder. Pat and uh Glen (Therrien/Fuhl). **Colleen Draper** – *Be it Resolved that the 2024 Red River North Trail membership be approved in the amount of \$320.* **Mayor Therrien** – Those in support with a show of uh hands for the resolution. That is uh passed uh.

12.5 Tax Sale Date – **Mayor Therrien** – Uh 12.5 is the sales tax uh Tax Sale Date. **Colleen Draper** – Uh so every year uh we provide notice to those residents that are in tax sale. 198 Tax Sale notices were mailed out um so to start the process for tax sale, we are required to set a tax sale date uh and we're recommending that that date be November 18th, 2024. So just need a resolution from Council. **Mayor Therrien** – Uh with that resolution, 12.5 uh Tax Sale Date, can I get a show of hands in support? **Colleen Draper** – Uh just a mover and a seconder. **Mayor Therrien** – **interrupting** A mover and a seconder, then. Say Glen and Pat (Fuhl/Therrien). **Colleen Draper** – Do you have a question? **Councillor Miller** – Ya, just a quick question. Um 198 notices you sent out, is that again pretty consistent with previous years? **Colleen Draper** – Yes. **Councillor Miller** – And what's the impact for these residents uh if they don't uh ante up, if that's the word, to their taxes? What happens? **Colleen Draper** – Uh so they have until November 18th at 10:00 a.m. to pay their taxes or make other arrangements with a bank or financial institution um but these are properties that are in arrears from 2022. **Councillor Miller** – And generally you're... I know you don't have a crystal ball but do a majority or percentage of people pay or.... **Colleen Draper** – We've cancelled the last 3 years' tax sales because we were able to work with them and remove them all from tax sale. **Councillor Miller** – Excellent. And I think those people in Finance are doing a fantastic job of tracking these people down.... **Colleen Draper** – They are. **Councillor Miller** – ... and I'm thankful to them that we don't have to displace or cause people social anguish in uh... **Colleen Draper** – Like I say, every year, we do not pay our tax clerk enough for the amount of

work she does getting these people out of tax sale. **Councillor Miller** – Ya and I agree 100%. **Councillor Fuhl** – Hear, hear. **Mayor Therrien** – Any other questions? Is this for a vote uh for this? **Colleen Draper** – I think you have another question? **Mayor Therrien** – Andy? **Councillor Kuczynski** – Are these people paying penalties, like if they don't pay their taxes? **Colleen Draper** – Yep, monthly penalties. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Like a percent every month? **Colleen Draper** – Monthly penalties are applied to any outstanding taxes. *Be it Resolved that Council of the RM of Springfield designate 2023 as a tax sale year in order to clear 2022 arrears and earlier. Be it Resolved that should a tax sale be required, the date will be Monday, November 18th, 2024 at 10 a.m. in the RM of Springfield Council Chamber and Be it Further Resolved that in accordance with Section 363(1) of the Municipal Act, costs shall be the actual costs incurred by the Municipality for each parcel listed for the Tax Sale plus an administration fee of \$50.00 per roll as set forth in Manitoba regulation 50/97.* **Mayor Therrien** – Those in support with a show of hands? It's unanimous and It is carried.

13. CLOSED MEETING - Mayor Therrien – Uh last item is uh closing the uh meeting. Can I get a mover and a seconder **with regards to that?**

14. RETURN FROM CLOSED MEETING

15. ADJOURNMENT - Mayor Therrien – Uh then we'll adjournment **there**. Can I get a mover and a seconder for adjournment. Uh Mark and Glen (Miller/Fuhl). And we are adjourned at 7:45 uh p.m. Thank you.