



Rural Municipality of St. Laurent
Regular Meeting
January 2, 2025

MINUTES

A Regular Meeting of Council was held on Thursday, January 2, 2025, in the Council Chambers, located at 16 St. Laurent Veterans' Memorial Road, St. Laurent, Manitoba.

Present: Reeve Richard Chartrand, Councillors, Tom Johnson, Perry Gaudry, Yves Combot and CAO, Billie Jean Oliver.

Regrets: Councillor Maurice Leclair

Call to Order

Reeve Richard Chartrand called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Adoption of Agenda:

Res # 1/2025 Johnson - Gaudry

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Agenda for today's date be hereby adopted as presented.

...Carried

Confirmation of Minutes

Res # 2/2025 Gaudry - Combot

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of listed below are hereby approved by Council as circulated:

- Council Meeting - December 18, 2024

- ...Carried

Committee Reports

CAO (Billie Jean Oliver) Since the last meeting:

- Not too much to report;
- I was in on Monday, December 23rd and had a meeting with Tammy (Recreation Director) We had discussions surrounding the By-laws and Shared Agreements as part of the Commission. We are going to sit and have a meeting with Ian Goodall-George regarding how other municipalities operate their Recreation Departments; there will be an update on this;
- I came in on December 30th to prepare for the meeting; we ended up with some technical difficulties which Munisoft was called to assist;
- Came in on the December 31st, was a ½ day;
- I have been working on cleaning up and processing old files;
- Will be working through the Year-end process
- Met with the PW Foreman. A request was made to bring forward to Council regarding the injectors in the 2011 Cat Grader. The cost requires Council approval. We will need to look at including the purchase of a grader in our 10-year capital plan.

ZONING AND SUBDIVISIONS

Public Hearing:

At this time (10:15 am) the scheduled Public Hearing was held.

Res #3/2025 Johnson – Combot
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adjourned into the scheduled public hearing.

...Carried

Cherie, Planning Administrator, read out the proposed changes and provided proof of Notice. There was no individuals present to provide representations.

The purpose of the Public Hearing was to hear representations from any person(s) who wish to make them in respect to the following matter:

The Rural Municipality of St. Laurent By-law No 22/2024 Being an AMENDMENT to the Rural Municipality of St. Laurent By-law 5/05, and amendments thereto.

The General intent of the amendments are:

- To change “vacant site” to “site without a main dwelling building” in the General Regulations for Travel Trailers/Recreational Vehicles
- To add the clause “All Communication Towers are federally regulated and are under the jurisdiction of Industry Canada” in the General Regulations;
- To remove “Special Events” and “Communication Installations and Facilities” from the use tables
- To remove “<4 acres 0 AU” from “5.9 Livestock and Livestock Production Operations”
- To add minimum setbacks for accessory buildings and structures in the “SR-M” zone
- To add maximum height and maximum site coverage for accessory buildings and structures in the “SR-M” zone

Res #4/2025 Combot – Gaudry
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the public hearing now close and that Council reconvene into the regular meeting agenda.

...Carried

Public hearing ended at 10:24 am.

Councillor Yves Combot

- Attended Community Futures meeting on December 11th;
- December 17th attended meeting with Fire Department and planning for 2025;
- Otherwise very quiet

Councillor Tom Johnson

- Not much to report due to the holiday season
- Received a phone call from a ratepayer regarding the grading on the south boundary road.

Councillor Perry Gaudry

- Not much to report due to holiday season;
- Will be working at helping find and installing a new tub at the Neil Gaudry Centre
- No other concerns were brought forward

Reeve Richard Chartrand

- Everything's been quiet;
- Left some catalogues at the front of the office with an article that highlights Kiteboarding in St. Laurent;

Public Works/WTS – Reeve Chartrand commented on the performance of the sanding truck and a request to be sent to the PW department to ensure that it is looked at.

Fire Department (Melissa Buors) – as attached
 Economic Development (Denise Allard) – as attached
 By-law (Sophie Skierszkan) – as attached
 MEC (Melissa Buors) - Not Currently
 Rec Commission (Tammy Hiebert) – Not Currently

FINANCE & ACCOUNTS

Res # 5/2025 Johnson – Combot

WHEREAS payroll processing for all departments is now done electronically through Payworks, which no longer requires physical cheques to be prepared.

Payroll	Admin #26	\$21,234.95
Accounts Payable	34751 - 34758	\$11,230.25

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Accounts Payable as listed above is hereby approved for payment.

...Carried

Res #6/2025 Johnson – Gaudry

WHEREAS the General Operating Fund Balance Sheet (Financial Statement) as at November 30, 2024 has been provided to Council for review.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the General Operating Fund Balance Sheet (Financial Statement) as at November 30, 2024 be hereby approved.

...Carried

Res #7/2025 Combot – Gaudry

BE IT RESOLVED THAT an Interim Operating Budget for 2025 be set as per Section 163 of *The Municipal Act*.

General Government Services	\$200,000.00
Protective Services	\$100,000.00
Transportation Services	\$190,000.00
Environmental Health	\$ 75,000.00
Public Health Services	\$ 10,000.00
Environmental Development Services	\$ 15,000.00
Economic Development Services	\$150,000.00
Recreation & cultural Services	\$ 30,000.00
Fiscal Service	<u>\$ 30,000.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$800,000.00

...Carried

Res #8/2025 Johnson – Combot

WHEREAS charitable donations having been received by the Rural Municipality of St. Laurent, as follows:

Christmas Hamper Drive 2024:

- a. From Ed and Deborah Lavallee in the amount of \$500.00 – Receipt #240105-013
- b. From Le Comité Culturel de Saint Laurent in the amount of \$363.68 - Receipt #240106-001

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approves the above amounts be granted as outlined above.

...Carried

ZONING AND SUBDIVISIONS

Res 9/2025 Gaudry – Combot
WHEREAS a public hearing was held on January 2, 2025 regarding the By-law 22/2024 being an amendment by-law to the Rural Municipality of St. Laurent Zoning By-law No. 5/05; and
WHEREAS there no significate objections were raised during the Public Hearing.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law 22/2024 being an Amendment to the Rural Municipality of St. Laurent By-Law No. 5/05 and amendments thereto hereby be given second reading.
...Carried

Res 10/2025 Johnson – Gaudry **RECORDED VOTE**
BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law 22/2024 being an Amendment to the Rural Municipality of St. Laurent By-Law No. 5/05 and amendments thereto hereby be given third reading.
...Carried

	RICHARD	TOM	YVES	MAURICE	PERRY
FOR	x	x	X		x
AGAINST					
ABSTAIN					
ABSENT				x	

TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC WORKS

Res #11/2025 Combot – Gaudry
WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba had previously provided conceptual plans to realign the curves of Provincial Truck Highway #6 that run through the Rural Municipality of St. Laurent; and
WHEREAS the Council of the RM of St. Laurent deems these changes as proposed by the Province of Manitoba to be in the best interest of the community; and
WHEREAS development plans for the RM of St. Laurent incorporate the realignment of the curves of PTH #6.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council directs the CAO to submit correspondence to the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure for the Province of Manitoba to request an update on the realignment of the curves of PTH #6 that run through the RM of St. Laurent.
...Carried

Res #12/2025 Johnson - Gaudry
WHEREAS the Council of the Rural Municipality (RM) of St. Laurent deems it beneficial to enter into a Service Agreement with the Province of Manitoba for the Provincial roads commonly known as Veteran’s Memorial Road in St. Laurent and Veteran’s Memorial Road in Oak Point both within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Rural Municipality of St. Laurent; and
WHEREAS this Service Agreement would allow for the RM of St. Laurent’s Public Works staff to conduct snow clearing during the winter season and grass cutting during the spring, summer and fall as required to ensure safe roads.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council directs the CAO to submit correspondence to the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure for the Province of Manitoba to request a Service Agreement be entered into between the RM of St. Laurent and the Province of Manitoba.
...Carried

Res #13/2025 Johnson – Gaudry
WHEREAS a noxious weed abatement program must be filed for the Rural Municipality of St. Laurent
...Carried

under *The Noxious Weed Act and The Environment Act*; and
WHEREAS Council deems it necessary to continue with the control of noxious weeds such as Leafy Spurge, Purple Loosestrife and Red Bartsia within the RM of St. Laurent.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve Interlake Weed Control District to deliver the RM's weed control program for 2025.

...Carried

Res #14/2025 Johnson – Combot

WHEREAS the Rural Municipality of St. Laurent has submitted applications to the Province of Manitoba (Crown Lands Department) for the purchase of the property which contains our operating lagoon together with the adjoining property to allow for an expansion; and

WHEREAS the Crown Lands Department has provided a two-year timeline in which the process is to take place; and

WHEREAS the current state of the lagoon impacts the municipality's ability to grow and allow for housing to be constructed.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council directs the CAO to submit correspondence to the Minister of Agriculture for the Province of Manitoba to determine a more expedited process.

...Carried

FIRE DEPARTMENT

- None

OTHER DEPARTMENTS, COMMITTEES, BOARDS

- None

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Res #15/2025 Gaudry – Combot

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law 1/2025 being a by-law of the Rural Municipality of St. Laurent to regulate the proceedings of a meeting and conduct of Council and Committees thereof, also known as the Procedures By-law hereby be given first reading.

...Carried

Res #16/2025 Johnson – Combot

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law 2/2025 being a by-law of the Rural Municipality of St. Laurent to regulate the proceedings of a meeting and conduct of Council and Committees thereof, also known as the Procedures By-law hereby be given second reading.

...Carried

Res #17/2025 Combot – Gaudry

WHEREAS the Tax Sale Policy has been reviewed, updated to reflect current processes and procedures and provided to Council.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approves the Tax Sale Policy as written.

...Carried

Res #18/2025 Johnson – Combot

WHEREAS the RM of St. Laurent has advertised for the position of a full-time Office Clerk; and

WHEREAS applications have been received, and interviews conducted by the Hiring Committee; and

WHEREAS the Hiring Committee recommends the hiring of Katirina Zotter.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the hiring of Katirina Zotter as the RM's full-time Office Clerk with a commencement date of January 6, 2025, with wages reflecting the consensus of council as discussed in-camera.

...Carried

Res #19/2025 Combot – Gaudry

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law 2/2025 being a by-law of the Rural Municipality of St. Laurent to negotiate and execute and agreement to join an established Regional Library, also known as the Regional Library By-law hereby be given first reading.

...Carried

Res #20/2025 Johnson – Combot

WHEREAS the AMM Executive and the Interlake Director are requesting a meeting with Reeve and Council members on Monday, January 13, 2025, at 4:00 pm for an in-person visit in our council chambers.

AND WHEREAS the purpose of the meeting is to allow our council to discuss the issues that specifically affect our municipality.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Reeve and Council agrees to the January 13th meeting with the AMM Executive and the Interlake Director at 4:00 p.m. located in the council chambers.

...Carried

Res #21/2025 Gaudry – Combot

WHEREAS the 2011 Cat Grader requires all 6 injectors to be replaced; and

WHEREAS the anticipated cost are \$11,469.18 based on labour quotes and pricing received from the CAT dealership; and

WHEREAS this pricing is above the spending threshold allowed for in the finance policy.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the above noted expenditure and that this expenditure is to be incorporated into the 2025 General Operating Budget.

...Carried

ADJOURN

Res #22/2025 Johnson - Combot

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this meeting now adjourn at 12:00 hrs.

...Carried



Reeve



CAO

Fire Department Report to Council for January 2, 2025

Wishing everyone a joyful, healthy, and prosperous new year. May 2025 bring happiness and success to all!

Dispatched Calls

As of January 1, 2025 the FD is at call 48-24.

Incident # 48-24, MVC on Twin Beach Rd & Veterans Memorial Rd. 6 members attended.

Side by Side

Switched over from summer use to winter use.

EDO REPORT January 2nd, 2025

- Sent the IMA land proposal for their review
- Was contacted by Vanessa Stiles regarding her interest to set up a small, natural, chemical-free retail store in the Wellness Room at the Welcome Center. These would be products such as laundry, dish detergent, etc.
- Big Interlake Mechanical would like to possibly fundraise for the PCH in Stonewall.
- Had a meeting with Sophie, Cherie and Billie-Jean regarding zoning for housing, business and industrial. There is a need to meet with Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure to clarify a few things.
- Follow up with Deanna of RMED was productive, with valuable information we may want to review.

Rural Manitoba Economic Development Corp. RECOMMENDATIONS

November 26, 2024

Hi Denise, it was a pleasure meeting. Thank you for the chat. You have so much to offer in your community. Let me know if I missed something. Still looking for the wind energy map. Your need to know your wind speed before developing.

I hope this message finds you well. I wanted to follow up on our previous discussion regarding lagoon upgrades and water and sewer infrastructure.

1. Village of Dunnottar Passive Filtration System <https://info.gmf-fmv.ca/en-US/projectdetails/?id=39861c61-17dd-ec11-bb3c-0022486da190>

The Village of Dunnottar has successfully implemented a passive filtration lagoon system that minimizes operational costs and environmental impact. This could be a model worth exploring for St. Laurent or surrounding communities to address lagoon upgrades while optimizing long-term sustainability.

2. Water and Sewer Infrastructure Grants in Manitoba

Currently, several grant programs are available to support water and sewer infrastructure development in Manitoba. These include:

- **Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP):** Supports water, wastewater, and other infrastructure projects with significant federal and provincial contributions.
- **Manitoba GRO Program:** Offers funding for rural infrastructure projects aimed at community development and economic growth.
- **Green Municipal Fund (GMF):** Focuses on sustainable municipal infrastructure, including water and wastewater treatment projects.

3. Business Opportunity: Vendor Space Along the Lakefront

St. Laurent could offer an incredible opportunity to rent out an 10x10 building along the lakefront. These spaces are perfect for vendors offering kayak and recreation rentals or food services, catering to both locals and tourists.

4. Tourism & Remote Work Promotion

St. Laurent is uniquely positioned as a remote work and lifestyle destination:

- **Broadband Internet:** Excellent connectivity makes it ideal for remote work.
- **Lifestyle Amenities:** Residents and visitors enjoy access to Lake Manitoba, a new golf course, and camping facilities.
- **Cultural & Educational Resources:** With 65% Métis population, St. Laurent is culturally rich, offering both French immersion (K-12) and English (K-12) schooling.
- **Affordable Living:** The cost of living remains very reasonable, making it an attractive location for young families, retirees, and remote workers alike.

5. Hotel Development on Municipally Owned Land

The proposal involves the municipality retaining ownership of select land and inviting a hotel developer to build and operate a hotel under a long-term lease agreement. Key features include:

- **Land Ownership:** St. Laurent remains the owner of the land, preserving long-term municipal control.
 - **Lease Agreement:** The hotel developer leases the land for 25 years, ensuring a steady income stream for the municipality.
 - **Revenue Allocation:** Lease fees contribute directly to the community development budget, covering operational costs, wages, and funding for future projects.
- 6. Benefits for the Community and Stakeholders**
- **Tourism Boost:** A hotel enhances St. Laurent's appeal to tourists seeking accommodations near Lake Manitoba, the new golf course, and camping facilities.
 - **Local Economy Growth:** The hotel would create jobs, encourage local spending, and attract additional visitors to the area.
 - **Sustainable Funding:** Lease revenues provide a sustainable source of funding for municipal operations and development projects, reducing reliance on external grants or increased taxes.
 - **Stakeholder Value:** The arrangement benefits the developer with a cost-effective way to establish a presence in a high-potential location, while the municipality retains a valuable asset.
- 7. Next Steps**
- To move forward, the following actions are recommended:
- **Market Feasibility Study:** Assess demand for hotel accommodations in the area.
 - **Developer Engagement:** Identify and approach developers specializing in boutique, eco-friendly, or resort-style hotels that align with St. Laurent's character.
 - **Community Input:** Engage residents and stakeholders to ensure the project aligns with local interests.
 - **Draft Agreement:** Develop a lease agreement framework to present to potential developers.

This initiative has tremendous potential to transform St. Laurent into a stronger tourism destination while providing sustainable funding for its future growth.

St. Laurent has successfully adapted to economic shifts, embracing its potential as a remote work hub and a tourism-friendly community.

If you want to discuss these opportunities in more detail or assist with more resource please let me know your thoughts or if you'd like to schedule a meeting.

Take care,
Deanna

Deanna Fridfinnson CMMA
Economic Development Advisor
In the Interlake and Eastern region
Rural Manitoba Economic Development Corp.
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Unit I, 1043 Rosser Avenue – West Entrance
Brandon, MB R7A 4J2
[Book an appointment](#)

By-Law Report

January 2, 2025

By-Law	Number of active files
Zoning By-Law	7
Unnecessary and Harmful Noise By-Law	1
Domestic Animal By-law	1
Parks and Beaches	4
Unsightly Property and Derelict Vehicle By-Law	8
Derelict Building By-Law	3
Licensing By-Law	1
Fire Prevention and Emergency Response By-Law	0

- 1) Zoning By-law: The first file has been issued a Notice of Violation scheduled for March 5, 2025. The following active file will be issued a Municipal Enforcement Order. The following active file will be issued a Notice of Violation. The following file will be issued a Final Notice for a Penalty Notice. 3 active files have been issued a Penalty Notice, which have been filed Past Due.
- 2) Unnecessary and Harmful Noise By-Law: The active file has been filed Past Due.
- 3) Domestic Animal By-Law: The active file is being issued a Notice of Inspection.
- 4) Parks and Beaches: All active files have been issued penalty notices, which have been filed past due.
- 5) Unsightly Property By-law: The first active file will be issued a Notice of Violation. The following file has a Municipal Enforcement Order due December 30, 2024. The following file has a Municipal Enforcement Order. The following file has a final Notice of Violation scheduled for May 8, 2025. The following file has a Notice of Violation scheduled for June 5, 2025. The following file has a pending Municipal Enforcement Order. The following file will be issued a Notice of Inspection. The following file will be issued a Notice of Inspection.
- 6) Derelict Building By-law: The first active file's property owner has been working on rectifying the infractions and will be provided a spring 2025, deadline to comply. The following active file has been issued a Preliminary Derelict Building Order. The following active file has been sent to legal for a warrant.
- 7) Licensing By-Law: The active file has a Final Notice issued for a Penalty Notice.

Current by-laws/projects we are working on reviewing and revising are the following:

1. WTS By-Law: Waste Management By-Law additional research to be done.
2. Speed Road Signs: Draft by-law presented at our by-law committee meeting. Discussions related to implementation and transitions have begun with Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure. A request for a meeting with MTI for guidance has been made.
3. Special Events By-Law: Amendments to be reviewed and presented at the next committee meeting.
4. Fees, Fines and Charges By-Law: Amendments to be made upon passing of upcoming by-laws.
5. Zoning By-Law: Public Hearing scheduled for today's meeting and presented by WIPD for minor housekeeping amendments.
6. Finance Policy has been drafted and sent to auditor.
7. Land Acquisition Policy draft under review.

With the on-going Canada Post strike, notices are being held (unless they require personal service, under an Act) or relate to an urgent safety concern.

The Manitoba Act- Regulation 53/97

Under the Regulation, municipalities are required to retain documents for a certain period of time, after which, municipalities must archive certain documents and may destroy others.

All boxes have been brought to the Old Town Hall, which have been labelled to be reviewed by department heads.