



Rural Municipality of St. Laurent
Regular Meeting
February 19, 2025

MINUTES

A Regular Meeting of Council was held on Wednesday, February 19, 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, Councillor Maurice Leclair and CAO, Billie Jean Oliver.

Call to Order

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

Adoption of Agenda:

Res # 56/2025 Johnson – Combot

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

...Carried

Confirmation of Minutes

Res # 57/2025 Gaudry – Leclair

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

- Council Meeting – February 5th, 2025

...Carried

Committee Reports

CAO (Billie Jean Oliver) Since the last meeting:

- Copy attached
- Processing payroll as required
- Year-end has been completed.
- Held a committee meeting with council regarding plans and direction for the Financial Plan 2025
 - o This discussion surrounded Asset Management; plans for Capital expenditures and the need to create a 10-year capital asset plan;
- Tax Sale notifications have been sent out. We have 9 active Tax Sale Agreements. Approximately 30 Properties are going into the Tax Sale process. They do have up to that morning to pay the outstanding amounts prior to them going to auction.
- Attended the Administrators virtual meeting; one of the new tasks is to upload an asset management policy and plan to MMO.
- Working with Katirina to prepare for the meeting
- Paul is anticipated to be returning mid-March.

Councillor Maurice Leclair

- Attended the budget meeting on February 10th to discuss Waste Transfer Site By-Laws
- Injectors have been replaced in the CAT Grader
- Excessive snow may require us to rent a dozer and/or excavator

Councillor Yves Combot

- Attended preparation for fire truck discussion on February 10th
- Visited Ellie to view another air compressor unit
- Visited Green Acres to tour the fire trucks

Councillor Tom Johnson

- Attended February 10th discussion of the Fire Truck
- Attended Grahamdale public hearing regarding joining WIPD
- Need to review the agreements of some properties on Twin Beach Rd allowance which should be paying rent

Councillor Perry Gaudry

- Attended February 10th discussion of the Fire Truck
- Attended public hearing in Grahamdale regarding joining WIPD
- Attended seniors resource meeting
 - o Maureen Tully is replacing Marion Colliou
 - o Lorna Hildebrandt has agreed to join the Senior Resource Board
 - o Received a plumbing quote for the renovation of the bathrooms

Reeve Richard Chartrand

- Copy attached
- Had a telephone meeting with La Liberte regarding us identifying as an indigenous community
- Had a telephone meeting with Ellice Archie regarding poor cell service in our area
- Emailed Jean Baptiste Gauthier regarding immigration in our community
- Attended By-Law meeting / Financial Plan February 10th
- Spoke with Christine regarding the proposed campsite agreement and discussed the condition of the Oxcart Trail
- Had a meeting with CBC Radio regarding ongoing projects in our community

Delegations

Based on the timeline delegations were held at this time.

- 10:20am – St. Laurent Sports Club – The delegates introduce their committee and provided some background information on the programming that they are doing and what their goals are. They also indicated that they would like to apply to the RM for grant funding for soccer nets as well as upgrades to the Zamboni room.

Council reconvened into the regular meeting

Committee Reports

Fire Department (Melissa Buors) – as attached;

- Contacted Valley Fiber to fix the FD sign at the edge of the yard site due to damages
- Future exercises are to be posted as to not worry the public

Economic Development (Denise Allard) – as attached

By-law (Sophie Skierszkan) – as attached

MEC (Melissa Buors)

- Discussions held regarding topics for tabletop exercises (will do some research and prepare a time and date)

FINANCE & ACCOUNTS

Res # 58/2025 Leclair – Gaudry

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

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Payroll	Admin #4	\$20,205.67
Accounts Payable	35026 - 35047	\$48,899.27
Payroll Remittances #2	35048 - 35050	\$8,997.26

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

...Carried

Res #59/2025 Gaudry – Comboto

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council Indemnities for February 2025 and Expenses for January 2025 be approved (electronically through Payworks) as follows:

	Richard Chartrand	Tom Johnson	Moe Leclair	Yves Comboto	Perry Gaudry
Indemnity	1000.00	900.00	800.00	800.00	800.00
Hourly	1022.00	126.00	0.00	756.00	483.00
Conference	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mileage	225.50	37.40	0.00	212.30	52.25
Phone	0.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Meals	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Blue Cross (BC)	-469.49	-469.49	-469.49	-469.49	-469.49
BC (paid by RM)	469.49	469.49	469.49	469.49	469.49
CPP Deduction	-102.96	-43.69	-32.25	0.00	-58.98
Fed/Prov Tax ded	-431.39	0.00	0.00	-37.73	-50.00
Totals	1713.15	1069.71	767.75	1730.57	1226.27

...Carried

ZONING AND SUBDIVISIONS

Notices:

- March 5th, 2025 @ 10:20am – VSTL-02-25 – Darren Wuerch

TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC WORKS

- Grader discussion were held and determined that an in-camera discussion is to be had.

FIRE DEPARTEMENT

- Fire Truck discussions were had regarding what is needed, required and timeline as to when delivery of the truck would be held. It was determined that more information was needed.

OTHER DEPARTMENTS, COMMITTEES, BOARDS

- None

Res # 65/2025 Gaudry - Combot
BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law 06/2025, *The Waste Management By-Law* being a by-law of the Rural Municipality of St. Laurent to regulate the procedures and operations of waste management hereby be given first reading.

...Carried

Res # 66/2025 Johnson - Gaudry
BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law 06/2025, *The Waste Management By-Law* being a by-law of the Rural Municipality of St. Laurent to hereby be given second reading.

...Carried

Res # 67/2025 Johnson - Gaudry
BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law 05/2025, *Special Events By-Law* being a by-law of the Rural Municipality of St. Laurent to regulate special events held within the Municipality of St. Laurent hereby be given second reading.

...Carried

Res# 68/2025 Leclair - Combot **RECORDED VOTE**
BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law 05/2025, *Special Events By-Law* being a by-law of the Rural Municipality of St. Laurent to regulate special events held within the Municipality of St. Laurent hereby be given third reading.

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

...Carried

Res # 69/2025 Johnson - Combot
WHEREAS a scheduling conflict has arose for the Regular Council Meeting scheduled on April 16th, 2025 due to the AMM Spring Convention being held from April 14th -16th, 2025; and
WHEREAS the two alternate dates proposed are Thursday, April 17th or Wednesday, April 23rd, 2025.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council approve a change of date of the Council meeting from April 16th, 2025 to April 17th, 2025.

...Carried

Res # 70/2025 Johnson - Gaudry
WHEREAS Melissa Buors (MEC) would like to attend the *Balancing the Needs & Wants during Response & Recovery Workshop* at the City of Winnipeg Office – 1155 Pacific Avenue on February 27th (7:30am – 4:30pm) and 28th (8:00am – 2:30pm), at a cost of \$395.00
AND WHEREAS Melissa will only be able to attend if she is able to find someone to cover for her at the post office for one of the above-mentioned dates,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the attendance of Melissa Buors (MEC) at the *Balancing the Needs & Wants during Response & Recovery Workshop* on February 27th (7:30am – 4:30pm) and 28th (8:00am – 2:30pm), at a cost of \$395.00.

...Carried

Res #71/2025 Leclair – Combot **TABLED**

WHEREAS the Real Estate Services Branch under The Province of Manitoba has circulated a change in use application for a permit within the RM of St. Laurent for comments/concerns; and
WHEREAS the change in use is to include additional quarters to an existing lease; and
WHEREAS these quarters are marsh lands and will not be used for development.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council has no concerns and/or comments as it relates to this change in use application.

Res #72/2025 Johnson – Leclair

WHEREAS the Real Estate Services Branch under The Province of Manitoba has circulated an application for a change in use and assignment under a permit within the RM of St. Laurent requesting any written concerns/comments from those identified in the circular; and
WHEREAS the change in use and assignment is to include an existing shed under the permit as an approved structure.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council has no concerns regarding the shed be included as an approved structure on the permit.

...Carried

Res #73/2025 Johnson - Gaudry

WHEREAS Manitoba Good Roads Association is holding a two-day seminar on Managing and Maintaining Gravel Roads in St. Mitchell on March 3rd & 4th, 2025;
and **WHEREAS** this seminar will cover various topics such as road embankment structure, design elements (crown, slope, ditch and culvert), soil classification, materials specifications, draining and erosion control, dust control as well as many other topics; and
WHEREAS the cost of this seminar is \$430.00/person for MGRM Members and \$530.00/person for Non-Members

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council approve the attendance of _____ to the Managing and Maintaining Gravel Roads seminar in St. Mitchell on March 3rd and March 4th, 2025.

...Defeated

Res #74/2025 Johnson – Leclair

WHEREAS Section 365(2) of *The Municipal Act* provides that Council may in any year designate the immediate preceding year, or any earlier year, as the year for which properties (the taxes in respect of which are in arrears for the year) must be offered for sale by auction to recover the tax arrears and costs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the designated year for which properties in arrears be offered for sale by auction, be 2023, meaning all properties with outstanding taxes from the year 2023.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT in accordance with Sec. 363(1) of the Municipal Act, "costs" shall be the actual costs payable by the Municipality for each parcel listed for the tax sale of properties in arrears of 2023 taxes plus administration fees of \$50.00 as set forth in Regulation 50/97, and such costs are recoverable by the RM from the affected property owner;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the tax sale for properties with 2023 or prior years' arrears be held on Tuesday, October 27, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. in the R.M. of St. Laurent council chambers.

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the administrators of the tax sale process will be Taxervice of Swan River, Manitoba, and that the CAO is authorized to sign the Engagement Letter for Taxervice's management of property tax arrears recovery for a three -year term.

...Carried

Res #75/2025 Johnson – Leclair

RECORDED VOTE

WHEREAS the St. Laurent Fire Department fire truck is due to expire based on guidelines from the Office of the Fire Commission; and

WHEREAS quotes for a replacement truck have been received through the Canoe Tendering and Procurement Process; and

WHEREAS it is deemed necessary to place the order for a new fire truck from Acres in the amount of \$ 954,000.00 to ensure that costs are kept down pending tariffs being implemented; and

WHEREAS the deposit for the fire truck be pulled from the Fire Equipment Reserve Fund with the balance due on delivery of the fire truck; and deposited of

WHEREAS it is realized that the delivery of the fire truck will take approximately 2 years to be delivered.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the order for the fire truck to be placed as soon as possible; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council authorize the CAO to sign any documentation as required to facilitate the order being placed.

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

...Defeated

CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION/MINUTES FROM OTHERS

Correspondence/Information:

RM Smithsonian Exhibit Event – March 8th, 2025

RM Library Project Open House – March 15th, 2025

Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure - 2025 Spring Conditions Seminar

52nd Annual Interlake Municipal Bonspiel

Epilepsy Awareness - Purple Day (Proclamation next meeting)

Prairie Rose School Division – Board of Trustees Meeting Highlights

Minutes:

None

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE CAMERA

- Legal
- Grader

Res #76/2025 Johnson – Gaudry

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole in Camera.

...Carried

Res #77/2025 Leclair – Combot

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Committee rise and that Council reconvene once again into the regular Agenda.

...Carried

NEW AND UNIFISHED BUISNESS

Res #78/2025 Leclair – Gaudry

RECORDED VOTE

WHEREAS the RM of St. Laurent currently owns a 2011 CAT Grader with approximately 8,000 hours; and

WHEREAS quotes for a replacement grader have been received through the Canoe Tendering and Procurement Process from both CAT and John Deere:

2025 CAT (\$510,715.84 including \$125,000.00 trade-in value)
 2025 John Deere (\$440,000.00 including \$150,000.00 trade-in value); and

WHEREAS one of the options for a new grader is a 5-year lease to be included as a monthly expense in our General Operating Budget with the option to buy out the lease at the end of the 60-month term. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the lease of the 2025 John Deere Grader through the Canoe Procurement Program;
 FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council authorize the CAO to sign any documentation as required to facilitate the lease.

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

...Carried

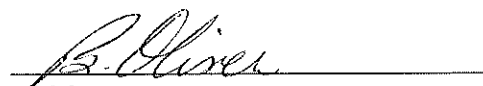
ADJOURN

Res #79/2025 Johnson - Combob
 BE IT RESOLVED THAT this meeting is now adjourn at 13:20 hrs.

...Carried



 Reeve (DEPUTY)



 CAO

CAO Report – February 19, 2025

- Processing payroll as required
- Year-end has been completed. If anyone has any questions about their T4's etc, please let me know as soon as possible;
- Held a committee meeting with council regarding plans and direction for the Financial Plan 2025
 - o This discussion surrounded Asset Management; plans for Capital expenditures and the need to create a 10-year capital asset plan;
- Tax Sale notifications have been sent out. We have 9 active Tax Sale Agreements. Approximately 30 Properties are going into the Tax Sale process. They do have up to that morning to pay the outstanding amounts prior to them going to auction.
- Attended the Administrators virtual meeting; one of the new tasks is to upload an asset management policy and plan to MMO. So, we will be diligently working to put this all on paper
- Working with Katirina to prepare for the meeting
- Paul is anticipated to be returning mid-March.

Review of activities since our last general meeting

- February 6- Telephone interview with Andre Boisjoli from La Liberte. This was regarding the RM passing a resolution identifying St. Laurent as an indigenous community. It was explained why this was done and the lack of response from the federal, provincial government as well as from the MMF.
- Telephone call from Councilor Angelo Fouillard from the RM of Ellice-Archie regarding our previous discussion at AMBM about the lack of cell service. We discussed the similarities between the two municipalities and what our council have been working on. This included council meeting with Minister Naylor and assisting local ratepayer in coordinating the possibility of setting up cell towers in St. Laurent.
- February 7- Email correspondence with Jean Baptiste Gauthier from AMBM. The topic of discussion was how the RM is dealing with immigration initiatives to promote and encourage expansion in our community.
- Telephone interview with J.B. Gauthier. Further follow up as to what council is doing and have assessed as goals and development projects for the betterment of our municipality.
- February 10- Council meeting to discuss WTS by-law and updates regarding fees and exemptions. There was also discussion as to current financial status and future budget goals and requirements.

Fire Department Report to Council for February 19, 2025

Dispatched Calls

As of February 18, 2025 at call 04-25.

Drill Night

Pub ED attended St Laurent School on February 13, 2025.

Pub Ed will be attending Ecole Communautaire Aurele on March 3, 2025.

Mutual Aid Pub Ed Conference will be held on May 15, 2025 in Selkirk this year.

Went over SCBA (Self Contained Breathing Apparatus) slides.

Practical practise with SCBA mask on while mask was blacked out. Crawling in fire hall looking for victims and bring them to safety.

Pumper

Yves, Chad and Roger Gillis toured Acres fire trucks in Letellier, Carmen and Wawanesa.

Reached out to Fort Garry fire trucks for a revised quote amid Tariff threats.

CISM Training (Critical Incident Stress Management)

Matthew, Karly and Justine began this training this week, held in Winnipeg for 4 days.

EDO REPORT February 19th, 2025

- Rural Transit Solutions is open again to apply for a garage and van. Closing date is April 8th for Indigenous application.
[capital-immo-guide-eng.pdf](#)
- Collaborated and submitted Green Team applications on behalf of the Twin Lakes Beach Association for 2 employees, the Sandpiper Beach Association for 1 employee and the St. Laurent Recreation Centre for 2 employees.
- Collaborated and submitted with Raphael Cerezo an application for The Ground Up for 80% of \$100,000 for the planning and prints for the Neil Gaudry Centre expansion project. This is required immediately as the first step and depending which grant comes in first, can be put towards the plans.
- Collaborated and submitted with Raphael Cerezo an application for Seed Funding for the Neil Gaudry expansion project
- Gave a list to Cheryl at the Neil Gaudry centre to take names of people who may be interested in putting their name on the list to move into the suites once the expansion is complete. Maybe Seniors' Resources and/or Age Friendly could get behind the project and see who may be interested. ***Maybe a topic to discuss with them at their next Birthday club meeting?***

(PRELIMINARY) Neil Gaudry Centre Expansion Project

An additional 10 suites containing a kitchenette and 1 bedroom where you can prepare your own meals and have use of the common spaces for visiting with family. A common dining room where the community can come and purchase a meal and sit with loved ones is in the plans too. The option to "age in place" and convert your suite to Supportive Housing where meals and health care will be provided, as is the current mandate for the existing 4 suites. Seven of the ten suites will be considered "affordable housing" with the rent approximately \$790/month. The remaining suites will be market value of approximately \$1,100/month. Maximum 2 people/suite. The option to pay for meals is in addition to the rental fee. The suites will be for 55+ and those living with disabilities. These suites will not require someone to be "paneled" to qualify to live there. In the event that an existing tenant does have health deterioration, the option of receiving supportive housing exists.

By-Law Report

February 19, 2025

By-Law	Number of active files
Zoning By-Law	4
Unnecessary and Harmful Noise By-Law	1
Domestic Animal By-law	0
Parks and Beaches	3
Unightly Property and Derelict Vehicle By-Law	7
Derelict Building By-Law	3
Licensing By-Law	2
Fire Prevention and Emergency Response By-Law	0

- 1) Zoning By-law: The first active file will be issued a Municipal Enforcement Order. 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) Parks and Beaches: All active files have been issued penalty notices, which have been filed past due.
- 4) Unightly Property By-law: The first active 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 has been issued a Notice of Inspection scheduled for May 14, 2025. The following file has been issued a Notice of Inspection scheduled for May 14, 2025.
- 5) Derelict Building By-law: The first active file's property owner has been working on rectifying the infractions has been scheduled for April 9, 2025, as a deadline to comply. The following active file will be issued a Secondary Preliminary Derelict Building Order. The following active file has been sent to legal for a warrant.
- 6) Licensing By-Law: The first active file has been a penalty notice. The following active file has been issued 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, which may be presented today for first reading.
2. Speed Road Signs: A follow-up meeting has taken place with Harald Larsen from Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation to discuss applicable by-laws. A draft is underway. A follow-up committee meeting will be required to discuss planning of a speed limit by-law in accordance with suggestions made by the Province.
3. Special Events By-Law: To be presented today final reading(s).

4. Fees, Fines and Charges By-Law: Upcoming amendments to be made to the By-Law to reflect the new by-laws and any applicable amendments.
5. Finance Policy to be presented to Council today.
6. Land Acquisition Policy draft is waiting on legal's review.

Miscellaneous Updates:

- I will be on holidays from March 24, 2025, to April 4, 2025. Ratepayers should address concerns to admin@rmstlaurent.com or may send me complaints through our website; however, they will only be responded to upon my return. Emergencies should (always) be directed to the RCMP- non urgent at 204-762-5088, while urgent should be directed to 204-762-5678.

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.