



Rural Municipality of St. Laurent
Regular Meeting
March 5th, 2025

MINUTES

A Regular Meeting of Council was held on Wednesday, March 5th, 2025, in the Council Chambers, located at 16 St. Laurent Veterans' Memorial Road, St. Laurent, Manitoba.

Present: Deputy Reeve Tom Johnson, Councilors Perry Gaudry, Yves Combot, Maurice Leclair and CAO, Billie Jean Oliver.

Regrets: Reeve Richard Chartrand

Call to Order

Deputy Reeve Tom Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Adoption of Agenda:

Res #85/2025 Leclair – Combot

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

...Carried

Confirmation of Minutes

Res #86/2025 Gaudry – Leclair

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Minutes from the meetings indicated below are hereby approved as circulated/amended.

- Council Regular Meeting Minutes – February 19th, 2025
- Council Special Meeting Minutes – February 25th, 2025

...Carried

Committee Reports

CAO (Billie Jean Oliver) Since the last meeting: - as attached

- Processing Payroll as Required
- Arranged Training for Ray and Roger regarding the Oil recycling regulation/processes.
- Finished year-end
- Worked with Taxervice and Bernice to get the Tax Sale Process moving forward
- Drafted a Request for Quotation package to request hourly rates on various equipment, a process I'd like to implement annually
- Attended the March 3rd Meeting with Minister Simard and Michael Kelly
- I received a phone call from Mr. Christopher Sanderson, Minister of Agriculture, I returned his phone call, however I was not able to reach him at this time
- Working with Bernice to get the TIPP program started
- Working with Ray and Roger to develop an Emergency Plan for the Waste Transfer Site

Councillor Maurice Leclair

- Attended the Special Meeting on February 25th
- Attended the meeting with Minister Simard on March 3rd
- The new Grader will be delivered by Friday
- Snow is currently under control and there's no need to proceed with renting additional machinery to clear it

Councillor Yves Combot

- Attended the Special Meeting on February 25th
- Attended the meeting with Minister Simard on March 3rd
- The is a controlled burn taking place on April 5th in Oak Point Manitoba on an old house

Based on the timeline the Public Hearing took place at this time

Res #87/2025 Gaudry – Leclair

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adjourned into the scheduled public hearing.

...Carried

At 10:20 am Deputy Reeve Tom Johnson read out the process and procedures of the Public Hearing.

10:20am – VSTL-02-25 – Darren Wuerch. Deputy Reeve Johnson had requested Cherie, Administrator for the West Interlake Planning District to read out the proposal and provide proof of notice.

Cherie read the proposal, provided proof of notice as well as indicated that 1 submission was received and presented no concerns about the Variation Order.

As there were no objections and/or comments made by attendees, this portion of the public hearing was closed.

Res #88/2025 Leclair – Combot

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the public hearing now close and that Council reconvene into the regular meeting agenda.

...Carried

Committee Reports

Councillor Tom Johnson

- Attended the Vet Board Meeting, everything is going smoothly, and they are looking for another veterinarian

Councillor Perry Gaudry

- Attended the PCH Meeting in Stonewall on February 21st
- The quote for a new tub/installation for the Neil Gaudry Centre is \$15,300.00. However, if they decide only to purchase a new seal for the existing tub, it will be significantly cheaper as the bathtub itself costs \$11,800.00 to replace
- There are no concerns about the Change in Use regarding properties surrounding Jimmy Lake

Reeve Richard Chartrand – as attached

Delegations

- None

Committee Reports

Fire Department (Melissa Buors) – as attached

Economic Development (Denise Allard) – as attached

By-law (Sophie Skierszkan) – as attached

MEC (Melissa Buors) – as attached

FINANCE & ACCOUNTS

Res #89/2025 Leclair – Combot

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

Payroll	Admin #5	\$20,679.20
Accounts Payable	35051 - 35062	\$75,185.79

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

...Carried

Res #90/2025 Combot – Gaudry

WHEREAS The General Operating Fund Balance Sheet (Financial Statement) as of January, 2025 has been provided to Council for review.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the General Operating Fund Balance Sheet (Financial Statement) as of January, 2025 be hereby approved.

...Carried

ZONING AND SUBDIVISIONS

Regular Matters:

- VSTL-02-25 – Darren Wuerch

Res #91/2025 Leclair - Gaudry

WHEREAS Variation Application No. VSTL-02-25 was received from Darren Wuerch, property owner at #9 Leost Dr N, Lot 4, Plan 20057, St Laurent, MB to vary the minimum front yard requirements from 20ft to 5ft to allow for the construction of a garage to comply with the Zoning By-law #5/05.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the said variation.

...Carried

Notices:

- March 19th, 2025 @ 10:20am – CUSTL-02-25 – James Ross

TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC WORKS

Res #92/2025 Gaudry – Combot

WHEREAS Resolution #78/2025 was passed at a regular meeting of Council on February 19, 2025 for the lease of a 2025 John Deere Grader; and

WHEREAS there was an error in the year of the equipment described in the above Resolution; and

WHEREAS the year of the grader is to have been identified as 2024 based on the quote provided by John Deere; and

WHEREAS it was determined that there is a requirement for an adaptation to the hitch packer required to install packer wheels to the new 2024 John Deere Grade; and

WHEREAS the cost for the addition is \$9,060.00 (including the PST).

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council acknowledge and agree that the John Deere Grader is a 2024 as per the quote provided; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council authorize the purchase of the addition for the adaptation to the hitch packer in the amount of \$9,060.00; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the cost for the addition be taken from the Machinery Replacement Reserve.

...Carried

FIRE DEPARTEMENT

- None

OTHER DEPARTMENTS, COMMITTEES, BOARDS

- None

NEW AND UNIFISHED BUISNESS

Res #93/2025 Leclair – Gaudry **RECORDED VOTE**

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 third reading.

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

...Carried

Res #94/2025 Combot – Leclair

WHEREAS Melissa Buors (MEC) was scheduled 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 we've received notice that the *Balancing the Needs & Wants during Response & Recovery Workshop* has been rescheduled to May 21st & May 22nd at the City of Winnipeg Training Room A, B & C – 1155 Pacific Avenue

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the attendance of Melissa Buors (MEC) at the *Balancing the Needs & Wants during Response & Recovery Workshop* on May 21st (7:30am – 4:30pm) and May 22nd (8:00am – 2:30pm), at the same cost of \$395.00.

...Carried

Res #95/2025 Gaudry – Leclair

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.

...Carried

Res #96/2025 Leclair – Combot

WHEREAS Reeves/Councillors and Emergency Coordinators are invited to attend the 2025 Spring Conditions Seminars hosted by Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure (MTI). These seminars are designed to provide local authorities, emergency service personnel and emergency management stakeholders with the latest spring Hydrologic conditions for Manitoba.

AND WHEREAS the 2025 Spring Conditions seminar is a (half-day) event taking place on March 6th, 2025 in Selkirk, Manitoba.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the attendance of Perry Gaudry and Yves Combot to the 2025 Spring Conditions Seminar.

...Carried

Res #97/2025 Gaudry – Leclair

WHEREAS the EDO, Denise Allard has reviewed the Rural Transit Solutions Fund; and
WHEREAS this funding aligns with the objectives of increasing the use of public transit relative to car travel as well as improving public transit options for all by requesting a 10 person van as well as a garage to be located at the Neil Gaudry Centre.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the EDO to submit an application to the Rural Transit Solutions Fund.

...Carried

Res # 98/2025 Leclair - Combob

WHEREAS the RM of St. Laurent anticipates the requirement to contract out various pieces of equipment throughout the year as it relates to public works and potential emergency mitigation; and
WHEREAS has been deemed necessary to put out a request for quotes requesting hour rates for various pieces of equipment; and
WHEREAS this request is to be advertised annually each year.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council authorize the CAO to advertise the tender on our website, in our newsletter, in the post office and in both the Tribune and the Express.

...Carried

Res # 99/2025 Gaudry - Combob

WHEREAS the RM of St. Laurent would like to advertise a Gravel Tender in the Tribune and Express;
AND WHEREAS the price for publication in the Tribune and Express would be \$398.52 + GST
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the said advertisement in the Tribune and Express for the amount of \$398.52 + GST.

...Carried

Res # 100/2025 Leclair – Gaudry

WHEREAS the AMBM, of which the Rural Municipality of St. Laurent is a member, is holding a Manitoba Bilingual Leadership Meeting Series on Thursday, March 20, 2025 at the Norwood Hotel in Winnipeg; and

WHEREAS this leadership meeting is a training and consensus-building session focusing on economic development and the municipal-provincial partnership.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council approve the attendance of Yves Combob, Richard Chartrand, and Maurice Leclair to the AMBM Leadership Meeting on March 20, 2025.

...Carried

Res# 101/2025 Leclair - Combob

WHEREAS the 2025 Leadership Summit Registration is now Open and being held at the Victoria Inn in Brandon on May 9th, 2025, from 9:00am – 5:00pm at a cost of \$275.00;

AND WHEREAS this leadership meeting is a dynamic 1-day event crafted to enhance leadership skills and deepen strategic understanding of Manitoba's evolving municipal landscape.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council approve the attendance of Billie Jean Oliver to the 2025 Leadership Summit.

...Carried

Res # 102/2025 Gaudry - Combob

WHEREAS Reeves/Councillors and senior administrators are invited to attend the Climate Resilience & Adaptation Plans Workshops, these workshops aim to move the broader discussion from repair to prevention.

AND WHEREAS the Climate Resilience & Adaptation Plans Workshop takes place on Tuesday, March 18th, 2025 at the Victoria Inn in Brandon from 9:00am – 3:00pm. Lunch and coffee are provided and there is no charge to attend.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the attendance of Billie Jean Oliver and Denise Allard to the Climate Resilience & Adaptation Workshop on March 18th, 2025.

...Carried

CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION/MINUTES FROM OTHERS

Correspondence/Information:

AMM Municipal General Insurance Renewal Meeting
AMM Annual MPI Reimbursement Rates for Firefighting Cost
AMM Convention Venue Locations Update
Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations By-Law Amendment 22/2024
RCMP Monthly Statistics Report
Ministre du Transport et de l'Infrastructure
2025 AMM June District Elections and Resolution Process
2025 Spring Road Restrictions Start and End Dates

Minutes:

- None

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE CAMERA

- Personnel Matters

Res # 103/2025 Leclair - Combot

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

...Carried

Res #104/2025 Combot – Gaudry

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

...Carried

ADJOURN

Res #105/2025 Gaudry – Leclair

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this meeting is now adjourned at 12:02 pm.

...Carried

Reeve

CAO

CAO Report – March 5, 2025

- Processing Payroll as required.
- Arranged training for Ray and Roger regarding the Oil Recycling regulations/processes.
- Finished year-end.
- Worked with Taxervice and Bernice to get the Tax Sale Process moving forward.
- Emails with Mr. Louis Tetrault regarding the implementation of Bilingual services; I have to review the strategic plan and then we can bring it before Council to adopt. This will be brought forward at the next Council meeting.
- Drafted the Request for Quotes package to request hourly rates for various equipment. This is a new process that I would like to do each year. We are reviewing the tender and procurement policy to see how they can best work together.
- Attended a meeting on March 3rd with Council and Minister Simard and Michael Kelly.
- I received a call from Mr. Christopher Sanderson, Minister of Agriculture. I have returned his call but was not able to reach him at this time.

COMING UP:

- March 6th will be attending the Northwest Interlake Health Advisory Committee in Ashern;
- March 8th will be attending the Museum Fundraiser;
- March 15th – we are holding a public meeting regarding the library services;

Reeve report for the period of February 20-28

- February 20 Attended the Max Brady Forum at the St. Laurent School. The purpose of this forum was to discuss various challenges that students face regarding entry to medicine at various universities. Some of these challenges include lodging, transportation, jobs and being able to comprehend the huge scope of these complexes.
- February 21 Attended the PCH working group in Stonewall. Very positive and productive even with what appears to be ongoing delays from current provincial government to move forward with this project.
- February 25 Attended the special meeting to discuss and move forward with the possible purchase of a new fire truck. Had another interview with CBC French.
- February 25 Phone conversation with Reeve Craig Howes from the RM of Grahamdale. Topics of discussion consisted of, the benefits of having a By-law officer, questions regarding Valley Fibre, and how to better streamline future meetings of the NWIA group.
- February 26 Submitted an article to Stonewall Tribune regarding the upcoming open house for the library. CAO Billie Jean Oliver also provided additional information regarding this project.
- February 27 Review and response of construction policy and the Ducks Unlimited proposal and final review of library article. Submitted video recording for the upcoming Smithsonian fundraiser for the Metis Heritage Centre.

Fire Department Report to Council for March 5, 2025

Dispatched Calls

As of March 4, 2025 at call 06-25.

Incident 05-25, MVC on Hwy 6 and 415. 4 members attended.

Incident 06-25, MVC on Hwy 6 and Ranch Rd. 6 members attended.

Drill Night

Debriefing of MVC due to near miss during traffic control.

Combing of fire attack, incident command, pump operations, driver operator, ladders, hose deployment and fire ground management.

Fire Extinguisher

10 from mutual aid picked up from Selkirk fire hall.

Fire Hall

Painted the floor in first bay.

Fire Gound Management

1 member attended at Winnipeg Airport Hall.

Maintenance

Installed tire rack in second fire hall for quad tires.

Repaired portable pump.

Moved doorway to accommodate new compressor.

EDO REPORT March 5th, 2025

- Rural Transit Solutions is open again to apply for a garage and van. Closing date is April 8th for Indigenous application. Resolution [capital-immo-guide-eng.pdf](#)
- Update on **March 8th fundraiser:**
 1. Prématernelle of ÉCAL donating bowls, cutlery, serviettes
 2. Sharon Delorme and Marcy Bruce are donating the cooking and prep of the meal
 3. 4 fishers – Perry Gaudry, Alan Gaudry, Julien Chartrand and Paul Allard are donating fish for chowder
 4. Comité culturel is preparing the slideshow, has produced and provided the posters and the event tickets, liquor tickets, prices of liquor sheet, providing the wine glasses and beer mugs, some existing decorations, tablecloths, keeping at the door, providing the float, paying for fiddlers Brad Moggie, Cameron Ducharme and Jason Appleyard.
 5. CDC has taken out the liquor license, paid for license, picking up and paying for alcohol, paying for Rec. Centre, MC, Gaudry Boys and some decorations, selling tickets at RM office, providing posters of the St. Laurent Michif French Heritage Centre for the evening of,
 6. Jay Lambert has sent out the invitations and updating the list, setting up the Then and Now display of 2004 and 2024 Smithsonian for the evening of, providing interviews of the event with various media.
 7. Denise and Jay are putting together the evening agenda and notes for the MC. Guest speakers still coming in.
 8. Firefighters donating to keep the bar.
- Have requested letter of partnership and support from Interlake Metis Association for the CHIF lagoon grant application I am working on and for an **upcoming grant coming in April through Manitoba Water Services Branch. Trevor Parsons**, through RMED, will be holding an information webinar on this grant on March 13th. I have registered the CAO and myself to attend. Only members of the RMED portal can access this webinar and Deanna Fridfinnson has made me a member.
- **Deanna Fridfinnson of RMED** has reached out to come visit our community and discuss in greater detail the projects we are working on. She is the one who had provided valuable information regarding the Dunnottar lagoon project and various other ideas on helping us with economic development. We will be meeting on a Friday in the next few months to tour the community projects and golf course dining.

By-Law Report

March 5, 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
Unsightly 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. 1 active file has a Notice of Violation scheduled for May 6, 2025. 2 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) Unsightly Property By-law: The first active file has a Municipal Enforcement Order due December 30, 2024, remedial action to take place when ground has thawed. 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 has been 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 second and third 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. 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.
4. A review of the Tendering and Procurement Policy is underway.
5. 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.

MEC Report to Council for March 5, 2025

Public Works and Emergency Management Conference

Scheduled for February 27-28, 2025 was cancelled and rescheduled for May 21-22, 2025.