



Rural Municipality of St. Laurent  
Regular Meeting  
November 4, 2020

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**MINUTES**

A Regular Meeting of Council was held on Wednesday, November 4, 2020 in the Council Chambers, located at 16 St. Laurent Veterans' Memorial Road, St. Laurent, Manitoba.

Present: Reeve Cheryl Smith, Councillors Frank Bruce, Jerry Combot, Phil Mathews, and CAO Hilda Zotter

**Call to Order**

Reeve Cheryl Smith called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

**Adoption of Agenda**

Res #350/2020 Mathews – Combot

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

...Carried

Res #351/2020 Bruce - Combot

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of:

- Regular Meeting Minutes – October 21, 2020  
be hereby approved by Council as circulated.

...Carried

**Committee Reports:**

CAO (Hilda Zotter)

- The evaluation framework has been forwarded to our contact at CPAC along with a quarterly progress and financial report. In our information package you will see Elizabeth's report of her work for us.

- Board of Revisions had only 3 appeals which will take place on November 19, 2020 at 10:00 a.m., all council must be in attendance.
- We have received payment for the geotube removal.
- We have received a payment from the federal government through the Province in the amount of \$80,000 to be used against expenses to deal with COVID related matters.
- We had a training session with Ernie Epp yesterday, all five voting officials in attendance including Bernice and myself. Advanced polls on Sunday, November 8, 2020 and election is on Thursday, November 12, 2020.

#### MEC and ACAO (Paul Belair)

- None

#### EDO (Guy Dumont)

- **Manitoba Housing Lagoon**
- Nothing new to report here. We couldn't meet with them early in the Pandemic and it seems the issue has taken a back seat to other priorities. I will contact them and see if we can get the ball rolling again.
- **Cold storage Building, Goodon Industries:**
- Deficiencies were addressed and holdback paid out.
- **Heritage Conservation Grants**
- As we were approved for a \$17,500.00 matching grant to do some restoration work at the Old Town Hall, we would need to spend \$35,000.00 to be able to claim it fully. So far, we have committed \$24,000.00 for the window restorations. I met last week with the contractor and wrote up and executed a contract for same, with a completion date for that work of December 15. We will not be able to re-install the windows until the spring however, as the work will involve some painting.
- I am working on a plan for closing up the North wall of the hall with the remaining funds, which we can hopefully complete this fall yet, minus the new lap siding. In any event, program staff have assured me that they will allow time extensions to the work due to the pandemic, probably as long as next September.
- **Building Sustainable Communities Program**
- BSC granted the full \$75,000.00 matching grant to the Legion. Renovation work is well under way.
- **Assisted Living Centre**
- There have been a lot of issues to deal with at the Centre, partly owing to COVID-19 and the protocols around it. We are currently working on a strategy for shopping for groceries and supplies that doesn't require us to go to Winnipeg. Will also be sending all future water samples by express post as this used to be done during shopping trips.
- The departure of our full time cook/housekeeper on leave, and issues with other staff have caused a constant recurring staff shortage and looking for replacements/schedule changes, etc.
- I have obtained more details on quotes provided by Yurt suppliers and I am working with Jerry Combot on getting the order together. One problem is nailing down the shipping

costs. Depending on what they are, might be an idea to send someone to pick it up. (One supplier estimated \$3,000.00 for shipping.)

- I am also working on preparing an interim financial report as well as a budget for next year.
- **Seniors Resource Council**
- We met with the Seniors Resource Council to see how we could collaborate with the use of our yurt once we have it up. They have applied for a grant for patio furniture to furnish the space and for someone to help monitor its use.
- **Green Team**
- I am working on submitting the claim forms for our expenses under this program. We had been approved for \$20,630.00 for 4 positions but we had a late starter and an early quitter so it's a bit less.
- **Age-Friendly Manitoba**
- I met with and advised the Age-Friendly committee of Council's position on funding for this group and helped them with the wording for the terms of reference for their committee. It appears there was some expectation that I would submit the revised terms of reference to council for approval. I advised them that this wasn't so.
- **Community Futures**
- I have been attending regular board meetings and investment review committee meetings of Community Futures West Interlake, both in person and by teleconference.
- **CDEM**
- I have been attending CDEM board meetings, both in person and via Zoom.
- **Economic Development Training, Modules 8**
- I completed Module 8 more of the training modules offered through CDEM. I have one more module to complete for pre-certification.
- **Cell phone service**
- I have been doing preliminary research with regards to tasks arising from and assigned to me in the Strategic Planning Sessions. Currently will focus on cell phone service as time allows.
- Together with Paul Belair, we mapped out the signal strength at every square mile in the municipality that is accessible by road in order to update CRTC cell phone signal information in the RM. I will be in contact with Valley Fibre to obtain a quote for a tower to serve the more southern extremities of the municipality. A couple of potential sites have been identified.
- **Metis Heritage Centre**
- Still no word on the ICIP grant for this project that we applied for last year. The cost of the project is estimated at approximately \$1,900,000.00, and our application was for almost \$1,800,000.

#### Public Works (Donovan Boudreau)

- Grader has been fixed, and grading roads once again.
- Will work on signs after grading is complete.

#### Waste Transfer Site (Ron Colliou)

- All cleaned up and organized
- Organized small building for now, putting together some quotes for the 2021 budget
- Purchased a MARRC subscription for \$200 year which will assist with professional development, consulting, and networking with other municipalities.
- Looking at mulching the wood pile, this will assist with less loads when transporting. Will obtain some quotes for the 2021 budget.

#### Fire Department (Roger Leclerc)

- None

#### Rec Commission (Tammy Hiebert)

- None

#### Councillor Phil Mathews

- Spoke with Fire Department regarding the dry hydrant testing, will follow-up
- Handivan – due to COVID and the restrictions, having a van in St. Laurent is not feasible at this time.

#### Councillor Jerry Combot

- Finished with the Waste Transfer and Public Works maintenance repairs.
- Will look at what is required for the mower over the winter.
- Will meet with Guy after the Council meeting to review the Yurt options
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#### Councillor Frank Bruce

- Received concerns from TBLA regarding people coming from Winnipeg to their cottages. It is noted that the RM has no jurisdiction and has no authority in this matter, this is stickily provincially regulated. Concerned citizens can write to their MLA.

#### Reeve Cheryl Smith

- Completed the evaluation framework and has been sent to our contact with CPAC, along with quarterly progress and financial report.
- Attended the special meeting in regards to COVID code orange protocols, the coffee shop at the post office and Laurentia playground will be closed.
- Met with CAO on a number of files
- Working with WIPDB and CAO regarding a by-law on fifth wheels trailers

Media Report (Reeve Smith)

- None

**Finance & Accounts**

Res #352/2020 Mathews – Bruce

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Accounts Payable to November 4, 2020, written under cheque numbers 29320 to 28364 and totaling \$112,448.94 be hereby approved for payment.

.....Carried

Res #353/2020 Mathews - Combot

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Financial Statements dated November 4, 2020, be adopted as presented.

.....Carried

Res #354/2020 Mathew - Combot

WHEREAS Loretta Sigurdson is organizing the 2020 Christmas Hamper collection and distribution.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve that monetary donations for the purchase of food for the Christmas Hampers be accepted by the R.M. with charitable donation receipts issued to the donor.

AND FUTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council authorize the payment of these funds to Loretta Sigurdson for purchases towards the Christmas Hampers.

.....Carried

Res #355/2020 Bruce - Mathews

WHEREAS charitable donations have been received by the R.M. of St. Laurent to be paid out as follows:

- a. From anonymous donor in the amount of \$300.00 towards the Christmas Hamper Drive for 2020.
- b. From the St. Goddard Family in the amount of \$2,522.97 to the CDC – Economic Development Project.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approves the above payments be made.

....Carried

**New and Unfinished Business**

Res #356/2020 Bruce - Combot

BE IT RESOLVED THAT due to Provincial Code Orange response, effective immediately, the R.M. Coffee House at the post office, and Laurentia Beach Playground will be closed.

....Carried

Res #357/2020 Mathews - Bruce

WHEREAS the AMBM Virtual Annual General Meeting is being held on the November 26, 2020 between 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Zoom platform.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the attendance of Frank Bruce, Phil Mathews, Cheryl Smith, and CAO, Hilda Zotter at 5:30 p.m.

....Carried

**Zoning and Subdivisions**

- None

**Regular Matters:**

- None

**Notices:**

- None

**DELEGATIONS**

- None

**TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC WORKS**

- None

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

- None

## **Correspondence/Information/Minutes from Others**

### **Correspondence/Information:**

- Manitoba Infrastructure – Geo Tube Removal Payment
- Manitoba Municipal Relations – Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program
- Minister of Municipal Relations – Manitoba Restart Program/Federal Safe Restart Funding
- Community Connector Pilot Project Consultant – Monthly Report
- Manitoba Municipal Relations – AMM Annual Convention
- Municipal Relations Learning Portal
- News Release – Manitoba Authorizes Municipal By-Law Officers to issue tickets for breaches of public health emergency orders
- Prairie Rose School Division – Meeting Highlights – October 26, 2020

### **Minutes:**

- Lundar Veterinary Services District Board Meeting Minutes:
  - January 6, 2020
  - February 18, 2020
  - June 5, 2020
  - July 29, 2020
  - September 30, 2020
- Western Interlake Planning District Minutes – October 20, 2020

## **Adjourn**

Res #358/2020

Combot – Bruce

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this meeting now adjourn at 11:22 a.m.

.....Carried

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Reeve

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CAO