

Rural Municipality of Stuartburn

Minutes of the regular council meeting of Tuesday, May 6th, 2025 at 7:00pm in the Municipal Council Chambers, Vita, Manitoba

Present: Reeve: Michelle Gawronsky

Councillors: Dylan Gurman, Jon Mellor and Michael Paciorka

CAO Brittany Fisher, CMMA

Regrets: Deputy Reeve, Dan Bodz

Reeve Gawronsky called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Adoption of Agenda:

122-25 Moved by Dylan Gurman

Seconded by Jon Mellor

Be it Resolved that the Council approve the following changes to the Council meeting agenda for May 6^{th} , 2025:

Addition of items

Communication & Correspondence: 10. h) NCC - Prescribed Fire Training Exchange Event

And Further be it Resolved that the Council hereby approves the May 6th, 2025 Council meeting agenda as amended. **Carried**

Adoption of Minutes:

123-25 Moved by Jon Mellor

Seconded by Dylan Gurman

WHEREAS the minutes of the regular meeting of April 23rd, 2025 and the special meeting of April 30th, 2025 are correctly recorded as presented,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes for the April 23rd, 2025 regular meeting and of the April 30th, 2025 special meeting be adopted as circulated. **Carried**

Conflict of Interest Declaration: Nil

Delegation:

<u>Manitoba Pork</u> – Grant Melnychuk from Manitoba Pork came to speak to Council to provide an update on the hog sector in Manitoba. Doug Larcombe from *Squeal on Pigs* spoke about wild pigs in Manitoba and sightings in our area, and the importance of raising awareness around wild pigs.

Reception of Petitions: Nil

Notice of Motions: Nil

By-Laws and Policies:

Centra Gas MB Franchise By-law 203-2025 1st Reading - Tabled

Accounts

124-25 Moved by Dylan Gurman

Seconded by Michael Paciorka

BE IT RESOLVED THAT regular cheques 20250089 – 20250102 and EFT cheques 25206 – 25223 in the amount of \$172,409.71 be approved and paid as presented. **Carried**

125-25 Moved by Michael Paciorka

Seconded by Dylan Gurman

BE IT RESOLVED THAT council hereby approves the financial statement for the period ending March 2025 as presented. **Carried**

Communications & Correspondence:

From Disposition Subject CAO Report from April 22nd - May 2nd, 2025 Resolution #126-25 CAO**PWM** PWM Report from April 22nd – May 2nd, 2025 Resolution #127-25 Canada Post Community Foundation 2025 Fundraising Campaign Information Community Futures Triple R **Economic Development Training Opportunity** Information Burns Maendel Consult. Eng. Proposed Resolution for June AMM District Meeting Resolution #128-25 Copy of 2024 Year End Financial Statements Information Minister for Municipal & Northern Relations Green Team Program Funding Information NCC Prescribed Fire Training Exchange Event Information

126-25 Moved by Michael Paciorka

Seconded by Jon Mellor

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council hereby accepts the CAO report dated April 22^{nd} – May 2^{nd} , 2025, as presented.

127-25 Moved by Dylan Gurman

Seconded by Michael Paciorka

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council hereby accepts the Public Works Manager's report dated April 22^{nd} – May 2^{nd} , 2025, as presented. **Carried**

128-25 Moved by Jon Mellor

Seconded by Michael Paciorka

WHEREAS in the Province of Manitoba, reconnaissance soil surveys were completed between 1926 and 1996 and detailed soil surveys were completed between 1972 and 2022, classifying surface soils by their agricultural capability in accordance with the Canada Land Inventory; and

WHEREAS the soil classifications from the Canada Land Inventory referenced in the Planning Regulation, the Water Rights Regulation, and the Nutrient Management Regulation are defined as: the mineral soils are grouped into seven classes according to their potentialities and limitations for agricultural use. Where Class 6 soils are capable only of producing perennial forage crops, and improvement practices are not feasible and Class 7 soils have no capability for arable culture or permanent pasture; and

WHEREAS Manitoba Environment and Climate Change through the Drainage and Water Rights Licensing Branch regulate drainage within the Province of Manitoba through the Water Rights Act; and

WHEREAS all persons including municipalities must obtain a valid and subsisting license as per the Water Rights Act; and

WHEREAS development of land cannot take place without obtaining a valid drainage license to construct pertinent development features such as roads and ditches; and

WHEREAS the Drainage and Water Rights Licensing Branch, as of 2019, has implemented an internal policy in which drainage licenses on Class 6 and 7 soils cannot be approved, for registrable or licensable projects; and

WHEREAS the term registerable project is defined, separately from other licensable projects for drainage works, in the Water Rights Act. These are typically minor or less impactful drainage projects, often involving surface or subsurface drains. Registration allows for a streamlined process compared to full licensing, but still ensures compliance with regulations; and

WHEREAS licensable applications for water control works are not restricted on Class 6 and 7 soils, only registerable projects are restricted per the Water Rights Regulation; and

WHEREAS municipalities recognize the need to restrict development in environmentally sensitive areas and critical/significant wildlife habitats such as wetlands and habitats for migratory species; and

WHEREAS The Planning Act, The Planning Regulation, The Environment Act, The Water Protection Act, The Water Rights Act, The Water Rights Regulation, and The Nutrient Management Regulation do not restrict the issuance of Water Control Works Licenses on Class 6 and 7 soils; and

WHEREAS the municipalities recognize that some subclasses of Class 6 and 7 soils are strongly associated with the presence of wetlands, however development of wetlands is already limited per the Water Rights Regulation; and

WHEREAS many subclasses of Class 6 and 7 soils are often viewed as desirable for rural subdivisions, lakeside cottage developments, and campgrounds due to their lack of agricultural capability, including soils which:

- have a restricted rooting zone depth for crops,
- contain poisonous plants to farm animals,
- are heavily forested,
- are affected by drouthiness (sandy and gravely soils).
- have high salinity,

- have high groundwater table,
- are too stony to permit cultivation, and
- have a topographic slope of greater than 31%; and

WHEREAS the Canada Land Inventory soil classification system used in the reconnaissance and detailed soil surveys was published in 1965, this classification speaks only to agricultural uses, and predates current drainage practices and drainage regulations by 60 years; and

WHEREAS the Drainage and Water Rights Licensing Branch is applying this internal policy to all undeveloped lands on Class 6 and 7 soils, regardless of current zoning designations; and

WHEREAS many municipalities are experiencing significant loss of developable land, portions of which have already been designated/zoned for development, from the implementation of this internal policy; and

WHEREAS this internal policy is unnecessarily restricting development and the potential for increased tax-base of municipalities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to only enforce current limitations published in the Acts and Regulations, and remove the internal policy denying Water Control Works Licenses on Class 6 and 7 soils; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Province of Manitoba engage AMM to participate as stakeholders in the preparations of future internal policies within the Drainage and Water Rights Licensing Branch to adequately evaluate the impact of these internal policies on growth and future development.

Carried

Reports/Minutes from Committees:

129-25 Moved by Michael Paciorka

Seconded by Jon Mellor

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council accepts as information the reports/minutes from the following committees:

• Economic Development & Tourism Manager's Report for April 2025

Carried

General Business:

- > AMM June District Resolutions Resolution #130-25 & Resolution #131-25
- ➤ Signage on 40E CAO will include signage in upcoming sign order.

130-25 Moved by Michael Paciorka

Seconded by Jon Mellor

WHEREAS the Canadian and Manitoba Health Act states all Canadians have the right to basic and equal health care;

AND WHEREAS rural Manitobans in many areas throughout the province have had their health care services cut dramatically and are now forced to drive farther to access emergency care and basic health care due to these health cuts;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we request AMM to lobby the Provincial Government and FCM to lobby the federal government in restoring equal access to healthcare in all rural municipalities working in partnership with Council and local communities.

Carried

131-25 Moved by Michael Paciorka

Seconded by Dylan Gurman

WHEREAS rural Municipalities have Endangered Species and Noxious Weeds within their boundary lines;

WHEREAS both the Endangered Species and Ecosystems Act (ESEA) and the Noxious Weed Act (NWA) control the Municipalities on actions such as mowing/cleaning ditches and roadways, improvement to drainage, farming/use of land within the Municipality;

WHEREAS the restrictions and rules of the Acts cause major concerns and dangers within the Municipalities;

WHEREAS wildlife is endangered due to the restrictions and rules;

WHEREAS the results of the restrictions and rules have great cost to both Municipalities and the Province of Manitoba, MPI;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED we request the Association of Manitoba Municipalities to lobby the Provincial Government to cause a review of both Acts and implement amendments for a more harmonious relationship for all affected;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Association of Manitoba Municipalities be included in that review and amendments;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Reeve of any Municipality directly affected or that has Rate Payers directly affected be included in the review and amendments. **Carried**

Unfinished Business:

A. Gauthier - Approach Request NE 20-3-6E - Resolution #132-25

132-25 Moved by Michael Paciorka

Seconded by Jon Mellor

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council hereby approves Alain Gauthier's request for an approach, for recreational purposes, for accessing the east side of NE 20-3-6E as per the amended culvert and driveway policy, with work to be done under the supervision of the public works manager. **Carried**

In Camera: Nil

Adjournment:

133-25 Moved by Dylan Gurman

Seconded by Michael Paciorka

WHEREAS all matters pertinent to this meeting have been completed,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this meeting do now adjourn, and Council shall meet again in Regular Session May 20th, 2025, Time: _8:16_ P.M. Carried

	THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF STUARTBURN
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	Michelle Gawronsky, Reeve
	Brittany Fisher. Chief Administrative Officer