

CITY OF STEINBACH
Regular Council Meeting
October 21, 2025

MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of City of Steinbach Council held on Tuesday, October 21, 2025, at City of Steinbach Council Chambers.
2. Mayor Earl Funk called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., with the following members of Council present: Councillors Jake Hiebert, Susan Penner, Damian Penner, Michael Zwaagstra, Bill Hiebert & Jac Siemens. Also present: City Manager, Troy Warkentin, Senior Manager, Corporate Services, Adam Thiessen and City Clerk, Amanda Dubois.
3. Councillor Michael Zwaagstra opened the meeting.
- R25-194 4. Councillor S. Penner, Councillor B. Hiebert RESOLVED that the agenda be adopted.

-Un. Carried-
- R25-195 5. Councillor D. Penner, Councillor J. Hiebert RESOLVED that the minutes of October 7, 2025, Regular Council Meeting be approved.

-Un. Carried-
6. Delegation: Madeline Wieler & Tammy Beauregard of S.T.A.R.S. were present at the meeting to provide and update on the S.T.A.R.S organization and provided the following:
 - Ms. Wieler thanked the City for their continuing support.
 - The 2024/2025 year saw 1,233 missions flown in Manitoba, with 43 directly to the City of Steinbach and 41 to the area within 50 kms of Steinbach.
 - Since 2019 the City of Steinbach has:
 - helped over 3500 people and their families
 - allowed them to be innovative and on the cutting edge
 - provided medical equipment and supplies
 - supported maintenance on the helicopter
 - allowed STARS to give back to the community by providing reassurance and support to our fellow communities
 - STARS also provides clinical and community outreach training including mobile education program, landing zone training and human patient simulators.
- 6.1 Mayor Funk thanked Ms. Wieler and Ms. Beauregard for everything STARS does for the Steinbach community and surrounding area.
7. Delegation: Megan Robinson, 270 Golfview Crescent, was present at the meeting to discuss the rainstorm event on September 11 & 12, 2025 and provided the following:
 - She lives in Georgetown and was speaking on behalf of her neighbors who have suffered multiple sewage backup, causing serious health, financial and property impacts.
 - The neighborhood's sewer system, built in 1988 for about 150 lots, now handles many additional developments, including Clear Spring Greens, Granite Park, apartment buildings, and the Aquatic Centre. Each major addition has coincided with significant sewage backups.
 - 47% of homes were affected in 2024 and 69% in 2025, despite functioning backwater valves and pumps, showing a systemic problem.
 - Their key concerns are:
 1. Can the 1988 sewer line handle the current and growing load?
 2. Mixing low-pressure septic systems with high-pressure gravity sewers may be causing failures.
 3. Draining the Aquatic Centre and heavy rainfall may overwhelm the system.
 4. Lift Station 1 has been pumping four times normal capacity; infiltration or other issues may be contributing.

- The financial and emotional toll is significant as homeowners have spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on repeated basement repairs with insurance relief being limited or unavailable.
- The City response has been insufficient. Programs like disaster relief have been denied.
- They have done everything possible as residents to protect our homes. Despite their efforts the problem persists. They are asking for help, answers and concrete actions so they can feel safe and secure in the neighborhood and homes that they love.

7.1 Ms. Robinson was prepared to answer questions of council.

8. Mayor Funk thanked her for her thorough presentation and requested a copy of it be sent to administration.

9. Delegation: Michelle Neufeld of 250 Stonebridge Crossing, President of Steinbach & Area Animal Rescue, located at 39 Keating Road, was present at the meeting to discuss the rainstorm event on September 11 & 12, 2025 and provided the following:

- It with deep disappointment she is before council as their facility has flooded two years in a row.
- They are a 100% volunteer run not for profit organization with every dollar going towards animal care, medical, vaccinations and low cost spay & neuter clinics. Instead, funds needed to be diverted to pumps, clean up, repairs and a \$25,000.00 insurance deductible.
- The creek beside the property is too shallow & narrow and is blocked by brush, weeds and debris, which backs up during modest rains and overflows during heavy rains.
- They have hired an independent engineer at the City's direction, have invested thousands in grading plans and berms, have fully complied with City Engineering requirements.
- They are asking for the following:

1. Immediate Creek Clearing & Maintenance – Remove debris, brush and obstructions; inspect for culvert and bank issues; act on City's responsibility.
 2. Formal Engineering Reassessment – City-funded or coordinated assessment; address undersized creek with widening, regrading, culvert upgrades; use provincial processes.
 3. Clear Maintenance Schedule & Point of Contact – Ensure regular upkeep, not just post-storm cleanups, designate contact person.
- They are not asking for special treatment, only basic drainage maintenance. Municipalities already use programs to prevent flood damage. Proactive action is needed.
 - Their insurance renewal in November is at risk without a mitigation plan.
 - They need an action plan and commitment from City Council. The City must lead on maintain public drainage channels. No other nonprofit should have to beg for prevention after disaster strikes twice.

9.1 Ms. Neufeld was prepared to answer questions of council.

10. Mayor Funk thanked her for her presentation and requested a copy of it be sent to administration.

R25-196 11. Councillor J. Hiebert, Councillor J. Siemens RESOLVED that the following accounts be approved for payment:

Accounts Payable (October 15, 2025)	\$	912,823.55
Bi-Weekly Pay Period No. 21 (October 07, 2025)	\$	331,095.46
Monthly Pay Period No. 10 (October 09, 2025)	\$	66,532.10

-Un. Carried-

R25-197 12. Councillor M. Zwaagstra, Councillor J. Hiebert RESOLVED that the City of Steinbach approve application of subdivision 4451-2025-9144, as applied for by Gregory & Theresa Vogt, subject to the execution of a development agreement and a shared access agreement.

-Un. Carried-

R25-198 13. Councillor J. Siemens, Councillor S. Penner

WHEREAS Section 35(1) of The Municipal Assessment Act provides authority that a council shall each year by resolution appoint a board of revision consisting of not less than three members;

AND WHEREAS one of the appointed members of the board shall serve as the presiding officer of the board;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the following persons be appointed to the 2025 board of revision scheduled to be held on October 22, 2025, with the designated role, and the amount of honorarium, as follows:

Matt Wieler	Presiding Officer	\$300.00
Gerry Banman	Member	\$250.00
Chris Goertzen	Member	\$250.00

-Un. Carried-

R25-199 14. Councillor M. Zwaagstra, Councillor D. Penner RESOLVED that the City of Steinbach give first reading to By-Law 2266, being a rezoning by-law.

-Un. Carried-

R25-200 15. Councillor S. Penner, Councillor B. Hiebert RESOLVED that the City of Steinbach give first reading to By-Law 2269, being a road widening by-law.

-Un. Carried-

R25-201 16. Councillor J. Hiebert, Councillor D. Penner RESOLVED that the City of Steinbach accept the following approved Business Licences.

Lic No.	Business Name	Location of Event	Date of Event	Nature of Event
503	Stone Brook Artisan Market	Southeast Event Centre	Nov. 28/29, 2025	Market
504	Safe Families Steinbach Fundraiser	AD Penner Park	Sept. 13, 2025	Fundraiser

-Un. Carried-

17. Correspondence and a sponsorship request from Operation Red Nose 2025 were acknowledged.
Received as information.

18. Minutes of the Jake Epp Library of October 15, 2025 were acknowledged.
Received as information.

R25-202 19. Correspondence and a request for support for a Medical Campus at Brandon University from AMM Cities Caucus resulted in the following resolution:

Councillor S. Penner, Councillor J. Siemens

WHEREAS communities across Manitoba continue to experience significant physician shortages; and;

WHEREAS addressing these shortages requires a transformative, made-in-Manitoba approach that expands medical education and training opportunities beyond Winnipeg; and

WHEREAS establishing a four-year Medical Campus at Brandon University, in partnership with the University of Manitoba’s Max Rady College of Medicine, would strengthen Manitoba’s capacity to train, retain, and deploy physicians where they are needed most; and

WHEREAS this partnership should aim to develop a framework that prioritizes rural admissions, sustainable funding, and meaningful service commitments to ensure long-term success;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Steinbach expresses its full support for the establishment of a four-year Medical Campus at Brandon University in partnership with the University of Manitoba’s Max Rady College of Medicine;

-Un. Carried-

20. Correspondence and a 2025 Interim Operating Grant in the amount of (\$15,000.00) from the Minister of Municipal and Northern Relations, Minister responsible for Francophone Affairs and Minister responsible for the Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries Corporation, regarding the Mobility Disadvantaged Transportation Program were acknowledged.
Received as information.

21. Councillor D. Penner, Councillor S. Penner RESOLVED that the meeting be adjourned.

-Un. Carried-

Time of adjournment 8:34 p.m.
*ad

Mayor

City Manager