

VILLAGE OF NEW MARYLAND
COUNCIL

21 December 2016

Present: Mayor Judy Wilson-Shee
Deputy Mayor Alex Scholten
Councillor Paul LeBlanc
Councillor Gisèle McCaie-Burke
Councillor Mike Pope
Councillor Tim Scammell

Also Present: Cynthia Geldart, Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk
Karen Taylor, Assistant Clerk

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
Mayor Wilson-Shee called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm and reminded all in attendance that the Council meeting is being video-recorded for broadcasting.
2. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**
MOVED BY Councillor Pope and **seconded by** Councillor Scammell to approve the agenda as distributed. **MOTION CARRIED.**
3. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**
MOVED BY Councillor McCaie-Burke and **seconded by** Deputy Mayor Scholten to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2016 regular session of Council as circulated. **MOTION CARRIED.**
4. **DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**
There were no disclosures of interest declared.
5. **PRESENTATIONS**
No presentations were made.
6. **PROCLAMATIONS**
No proclamations were read.
7. **CORRESPONDENCE**
The following correspondence was read into the record by the CAO/Clerk Cynthia Geldart, as per the request of Mayor Wilson-Shee:
 - information from the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick concerning the document entitled ‘*Overcoming Poverty Together: The Economic and Social Inclusion Plan*’ that was presented by the New Brunswick Economic and Social Inclusion Corporation at the UMNBC Annual meeting in October;
 - a newsletter from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities;

- the Fredericton Chamber of Commerce Connections newsletter;
- information from the Dept. of Environment and Local Government detailing the 2017 community funding and equalization grants for municipalities and rural communities;
- an email from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities concerning the Government of Canada's release of details on the new rural broadband program;
- the 2017 summer maintenance and winter maintenance rates from the Dept. of Transportation and Infrastructure; and
- a schedule of the 2017 training sessions and dates from New Brunswick Emergency Measures Organization.

8. MEETINGS AND/OR SPECIAL EVENTS

Mayor Wilson-Shee attended the following meetings and/or special events since the last formal Council meeting:

- Nov. 17th – site visit to the APEGNB (Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of New Brunswick) building to learn more about the technical and economic aspects of their solar panel installation, along with Deputy Mayor Scholten, Councillors Pope and Scammell, Building Inspector/Development Officer Rob Pero, and Solar Energy Research Ad-Hoc Committee members Chris Pelkey and Glen MacMullin;
- Nov. 17th – Fredericton's State of the City Address, along with Deputy Mayor Scholten and Councillors McCaie-Burke, Pope and Scammell;
- Nov. 24th – a meeting with D.A. Neville, Account Officer, Community Development for ACOA, along with Deputy Mayor Scholten and Building Inspector/Development Officer Rob Pero;
- Nov. 24th – at the Mayor's request and on her behalf, Councillor McCaie-Burke attended the 10th Annual Affordable Housing Day celebration as Deputy Mayor Scholten and Mayor Wilson-Shee were attending another meeting that day;
- Nov. 24th – Christmas Open House reception at the New Maryland Centre along with Councillors McCaie-Burke, LeBlanc, Pope and Scammell;
- Nov. 25th – a meeting with Don Fitzgerald, ED, RSC 11;
- Nov. 25th – a meeting with Archdeacon Pat Drummond, Jim Knight, Property Committee and Jane Timms, Committee member, to discuss the future of St. Mary the Virgin Church;
- Nov. 26th – attended the wreath making seminar along with Councillor McCaie-Burke;
- Nov. 27th – volunteered at the 3rd Annual Christmas House Tour along with Councillor McCaie-Burke;
- Nov. 28th – the public presentation of the Storm Water Management Master Plan which was presented by Rob Sharpe of Opus Consultants; all members of Council and several senior staff members attended;
- Dec. 1st – the Town of Oromocto's reception along with Deputy Mayor Scholten and Councillors LeBlanc and Scammell;
- Dec. 2nd – the Village Christmas Banquet along with all members of Council;
- Dec. 4th – the New Maryland Lions Club's breakfast along with Councillors LeBlanc, McCaie-Burke and Pope;
- Dec. 5th – the PNM Zoomers meeting along with Councillor McCaie-Burke;

Dec. 5th – a meeting with MLA Jeff Carr;
Dec. 5th – volunteered at the New Maryland Lions Club’s Annual Food and Toy Drive;
Dec. 6th – RSC 11 meeting;
Dec. 6th – a reception at CFB Gagetown;
Dec. 7th - volunteered at the New Maryland Lions Club’s Annual Food and Toy Drive; Councillor McCaie-Burke volunteered all three evenings of the Food and Toy Drive;
Dec. 8th – the Planet Hatch reception along with Councillor McCaie-Burke;
Dec. 8th – the Village’s Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony along with Councillors LeBlanc, McCaie-Burke and Scammell;
Dec. 13th – volunteered at the NMES Christmas dinner;
Dec. 13th – RSC 11 meeting;
Dec. 14th – the Christmas concert at NMES along with Councillors McCaie- Burke and Pope;
Dec. 15th – the PNM Zoomers’ social time;
Dec. 15th – a reception at the home of Pauline and Gary Love along with Councillor McCaie- Burke;
Dec. 16th – as Chair of RSC 11 attended a telephone conference call with the Official Languages Commissioner Katherine d’Entremont at her request;
Dec. 16th – a meeting with local resident Ana Ziprick;
Dec. 16th – a portion of the Village staff’s potluck;
Dec. 17th – a briefing and media release concerning the future of the Mactaquac Dam; and
Dec. 18th – a special meeting of the RSC 11 to consider the Finance Committee’s recommendation for reserve transfers.

9. PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Councillor Paul LeBlanc reported the Planning Advisory Committee met on December 13th with one member absent.

- The committee reviewed the Application for Municipal Plan/Zoning By-Law Amendments for 346 New Maryland Highway.
- Building Inspector/Development Officer Rob Pero provided an update from the NB Planning and Assessment Appeal Board and reported that with respect of the Village’s review of the tentative subdivision plan, the Appeal Board recently ruled that the Village of New Maryland misapplied section 8(1) of the Subdivision By-Law. Rob explained that further to the Appeal Board’s ruling, staff investigated the definition of a “lot” in comparison to other municipalities’ definitions. It was concluded that the current definition of a “lot” is similar to those of numerous other municipalities, but the wording of section 8(1) of the Subdivision By-Law is slightly different due to the Village’s mention of the creation of “two or more lots”. Since it is the intent of the Village to acquire land for public purpose any time a subdivision is being proposed, staff intends to draft amendments to the wording of section 8(1) of the Subdivision By-Law to align with the Village’s true intentions. The committee questioned if the decision of the Appeal Board has any impact on decisions the committee has made in the past regarding subdividing property. Rob explained that, to his knowledge, the recent scenario was a unique situation.

- A tentative subdivision application was reviewed. Rob explained that the applicant was advised of the requirements and to date the applicant has not provided any further indication of his intent to continue with the proposed subdivision.
- Rob reported that at the November 16, 2016 Council meeting a motion was passed to reappoint Debbie Connors as a member of the Planning Advisory Committee for another 3-year term. Letters of notification have been sent to the other applicants to advise that, while they were not selected for appointment at this time, and subject to their approval, their Expression of Interest Forms will be retained for future consideration as current members' terms expire, or as vacancies on the PAC or other committees become available.
- The Building Permit Report for the month of November 2016 was reviewed. A total of 5 permits were issued for a total estimated construction value of \$426, 837, and total fees collected were \$3,089. For the year-to-date, a total of 123 permits have been issued for a total estimated construction value of \$3,161,294, and a total of \$22,520 was paid for fees.
- The committee reviewed the PAC Policy on Procedure and Protocol, Schedule "A", for the 2017 Meeting Schedule.

MOVED BY Councillor LeBlanc and **seconded by** Councillor McCaie-Burke the adoption of this report.
MOTION CARRIED.

► **MOVED BY** Councillor LeBlanc and **seconded by** Councillor Scammell the following resolution of Council:

Be It Resolved That in accordance with the terms of the Developer's Agreement entered into between the Village of New Maryland and Centennial Heights Development Ltd. for development of Centennial Gardens Subdivision 2014 – Phase 1A and Phase 1B (consisting of 19 residential building lots), on Alban Street, Sandcherry Lane, and Kimberley Street, which development, by agreement includes the construction/provision of: municipal services; roadway construction; concrete curb and gutters; foundation preparation and installation of concrete sidewalks; base and surface asphalt; boulevard construction and landscaping; and, construction of pathways sub-grade, drainage swales, ditches and storm water attenuation facilities ("works"), enumerated in the said Developer's Agreement, the Village Council, on the recommendation of the Village Engineer, agrees to Accept the sidewalks, boulevards and trail subgrade preparation portions of works completed to date; commence the one (1) year warranty period for these referenced portions of the works; and, authorize a reduction of \$60,500 (*sixty thousand five hundred dollars*) to the current \$72,500 (*seventy-two thousand five hundred dollars*) combined warranty and performance security as per the provisions in the Development Agreement.

MOTION CARRIED.

10. EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN COMMITTEE

No report was presented.

11. PROJECT REPORTS / UPDATES

(i) **Recreation Department Update:**

Councillor Pope presented the following update from the Recreation Department.

Christmas Events

The Wreath Making Seminar was held on Saturday, November 26th at the New Maryland Centre. Again this year, all three sessions were full. Overall, 68 wreaths were made and 78 people attended over the three sessions, which was the busiest event yet. Many thanks to George Bidlake for facilitating the seminar again this year. The participants were also very generous with their donations for the Toy and Food Drive. Thanks to Fire Chief Harry for picking up the donations after the event.

After postponing due to poor weather, the Christmas Tree Lighting was held on Thursday, December 8th and the weather was much better. Snow started to fall just prior to Santa's arrival and just over 100 people attended the event. The Mayor emceed the event and Councillors McCaie-Burke, LeBlanc and Scammell were in attendance as well as MLA Jeff Carr. Finn McMorrان, Grade 5 student from NMES assisted the Mayor with the tree lighting and helped Santa in the gazebo after he arrived.

A community skate is tentatively booked at the Grant Harvey Centre on Thursday, December 29th from 2:00 – 4:00 pm. Once confirmed, the information will be posted on the Village's social media sites.

Council will once again be hosting the New Year's Levee at Victoria Hall on January 1st from 12:00 – 1:30 pm.

PNM Zoomers' Activities

The quilting group meets every second Wednesday from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm and their next meeting will be on January 11th.

The next potluck social is on January 18th with guest speaker Himu Mukherjee, the Senior Goodwill Ambassador.

The Book Club meets every third Thursday at 11:00 am and the next meeting is January 19th. The Book Club is encouraging people who love to read to become "electronic" members of the group.

NMES

Pickleball, Adult Volleyball and Open Gym programs have concluded until January 2017 when the school re-opens.

A major YMCA Basketball tournament was held December 10th and 11th, and this was the last main event in December. The school will be closed over the school break from December 23rd to January 8th.

Parks & Playgrounds/Beautification

The Merry Christmas banner was installed on November 28th and is scheduled to be taken down on Monday, January 9th. The Christmas wreaths were decorated and installation completed just before the Christmas Tree Lighting event.

In addition to the wreaths, the modified (colourized) LED carolers were installed next to the Welcome sign at the Village entrance and the Village office outdoor lights were installed. All the lights/displays are on dusk to dawn timers.

There may be an opportunity to get started on the outdoor rinks earlier this year if the weather cooperates. Construction of the sliding hill in Athletic Park will begin as soon as there is enough snow. These activities are a great way to get out and enjoy the winter with your family.

MOVED BY Councillor Pope and **seconded by** Councillor McCaie-Burke the adoption of this report.

Discussion:

Councillor LeBlanc commented that he felt holding the Christmas Tree Lighting event the week of the Food and Toy Drive worked out very well and suggested that it be considered again for next year's event. The Mayor requested that this suggestion be passed on to the Recreation Coordinator.

The Mayor stated that she attended the Wreath Making seminar and it was a very popular activity. She stated that she was also pleased that the Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony was postponed due to bad weather, and the turnout on December 8th was very good.

MOTION CARRIED.

(ii) Public Works Department Update:

Councillor LeBlanc presented the following report from the Public Works Department.

Public Works

The first snow storm came in late November and unfortunately the ground did not have a chance to freeze resulting in some plow damage during the clearing of streets and sidewalks. Public Works staff will make any necessary repairs in the spring.

As a reminder to residents, the No Parking Ban between 12 midnight and 7 am on Village streets is in effect. Also, to help assist snow clearing crews, please refrain from parking on streets during a snow storm.

Council and staff would like to encourage residents to adopt a hydrant during the winter months by keeping it clear of snow. Any assistance is greatly appreciated.

Senior staff and Opus International presented the Storm Water Management Plan at a Public Open House on November 28th. The plan identifies areas which will need to be addressed to improve the Village's

storm water system. Priorities will be set for storm water system upgrades for the upcoming years.
MOVED BY Councillor LeBlanc and **seconded by** Councillor Pope the adoption of this report.
MOTION CARRIED.

► **MOVED BY** Councillor LeBlanc and **seconded by** Councillor Scammell the following resolution of Council:

Be It Resolved That the Council for the Village of New Maryland begin the necessary readings to enact By-Law Amendment No. 42-01-2016, an amendment to the By-law relating to the Water and Sewer Systems.

Discussion:

Councillor LeBlanc explained that the purpose of the amendment is to ensure timely repairs are made to water laterals. Residents are responsible for repairs to the water laterals on their property, however repairs are not always conducted quickly and water is a precious commodity to our community. The amendment will allow Village staff to undertake repairs if not done so promptly by the homeowner, and submit the costs back to the property owner.

MOTION CARRIED.

(iii) Finance Department Update:

No report was presented.

► **MOVED BY** Councillor McCaie-Burke and **seconded by** Councillor Scammell the following resolution of Council:

Be It Resolved That the Council for the Village of New Maryland, transfer from the General Operating Fund (Account # 0626 1013-181) to the General Capital Fund (Account # 0626 1020-875) any surplus amount created at year-end from the General Operating Fund.

Discussion:

Councillor McCaie-Burke stated that each year at year-end any allocated surplus funds in the operating account are moved to the corresponding capital account. This allocation is performed by the auditors and reduces the impact of the second previous years' surplus on future budgets. As discussed and agreed by Council at the December 14, 2016 Council-In-Committee meeting, these resolutions allocate unused general operating funds and unused utility operating funds for continuing capital projects in subsequent years.

MOTION CARRIED.

► **MOVED BY** Councillor McCaie-Burke and **seconded by** Councillor Pope the following resolution of Council:

Be It Resolved That the Council for the Village of New Maryland, transfer from the Water and Sewer Operating Fund (Account# 0626 1014-176) to the Water and Sewer Capital Fund (Account #

0626 1020-867) any surplus amount created at year-end from the Water and Sewer Operating Fund.
MOTION CARRIED.

► **MOVED BY** Councillor McCaie-Burke and **seconded by** Councillor LeBlanc the following resolution of Council:

Be It Resolved That the Council for the Village of New Maryland transfer from the General Operating Fund (Acct # 0626 1013-181) to the General Capital Reserve Fund (Acct #0626 1015-021) the sum of \$52,000 (*fifty-two thousand dollars*) being the amount in the 2016 budget for sidewalk installations.

Discussion:

Councillor McCaie-Burke clarified that all allocations to or from reserve funds require motions of Council as per the New Brunswick Municipalities Act. As discussed and agreed by Council at the December 14, 2016 Council-In-Committee meeting, this resolution deals with unused sidewalk capital funds allocated for 2016 to be placed into reserve for future use. She also noted that Council made the decision late in the summer of 2016 to postpone the installation of a section of sidewalk on Cortland Street and a portion of MacIntosh Drive. The bids that were received for the project were higher than anticipated and Council felt that better bid prices will be received if the project is sent out to tender again in the early part of 2017.

MOTION CARRIED.

► **MOVED BY** Councillor McCaie-Burke and **seconded by** Councillor Scammell the following resolution of Council:

Be It Resolved That the Council for the Village of New Maryland transfer from the Utility Operating Fund (Acct #0626 1014-176) to the Utility Capital Reserve Fund (Acct #0626 1018-839) the sum of \$129,882 (*one hundred twenty-nine thousand eight hundred eighty-two dollars*) being the amount in the 2016 budget for utility capital.

Discussion:

Councillor McCaie-Burke stated that as discussed and agreed by Council at the December 14, 2016 Council- In-Committee meeting, this resolution deals with unused utility operating funds allocated for 2016 to be placed into reserve for future use. These funds were allocated for wellfield exploration. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(iv) Solar Energy Research Ad-Hoc Committee:

Deputy Mayor Scholten presented the following report from the Solar Energy Research Ad-Hoc Committee.

- In pursuit of climate change mitigation and in consideration of renewable energy sources for Village operations, in August 2016 Council adopted the Terms of Reference for the Solar Energy Research Ad-Hoc Committee. The Terms of Reference outline the mandate to research,

investigate, report findings and provide recommendations to Council on the feasibility of installing solar panels at various municipal facilities. The committee was formed and the first committee meeting was held on November 2, 2016.

- At that meeting the committee discussed the Terms of Reference and reference material that was available to the committee that can help meet the mandate of the committee. The committee also reviewed a detailed case study of APEGNB (Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of NB), which involved the installation of a solar panel array which the committee felt would be a good example for the Village to consider for replication. The committee also reviewed financial incentives that may be available through NB Power and ACOA - Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Programs. The committee also discussed a potential site visit to the APEGNB offices to view the solar panel installation.
- From that meeting, draft recommendations were made to Council. The committee felt that consideration should also be given to including other alternate energy sources as possible future projects such as small scale wind turbines. Other initiatives, either on their own or in conjunction with a particular project, should be implemented to capitalize on energy efficiencies such as the use of LED lighting or any other measure that could be quickly and easily undertaken.
- A committee member agreed to provide staff with key contact information for Siemens and NB Power in order to discuss and better understand the potential costs and savings for this potential project.

MOVED BY Deputy Mayor Scholten and **seconded by Councillor LeBlanc** the adoption of this report. **MOTION CARRIED.**

► **MOVED BY** Deputy Mayor Scholten and **seconded by Councillor McCaie-Burke** the following resolution of Council:

Be It Resolved That the Council for the Village of New Maryland approves of the proposed New Maryland Centre Photovoltaic Solar Panel Array Installation Project; directs staff to submit to the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA) a financial assistance application under the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program; that the estimated project value is \$30,000.00 (*thirty thousand dollars*); and, that Council has allocated funds toward the execution of this project.

Discussion:

Deputy Mayor Scholten stated that based on recent discussions at the Solar Energy Research Committee, a site visit to view a nearby solar energy installation by certain members of the Committee and Council, and in conjunction with recent deliberations regarding 2017 Capital Project priorities, Council has indicated that funds would be reserved in the 2017 budget in the amount of \$15,000 to be dedicated toward a solar panel array installation at the New Maryland Centre. The estimated cost of a 10 kilowatt (40-panel array) solar energy system is \$30,000.

MOTION CARRIED.

► **MOVED BY** Deputy Mayor Scholten and **seconded by** Councillor Scammell the following resolution of Council:

Be It Resolved That the Council for the Village of New Maryland requests the New Maryland Community Support Group research funding opportunities for the proposed Solar Panel Project.

Discussion:

Deputy Mayor Scholten explained that during the November 30, 2016 Budget meeting, Council agreed to submit a funding application to ACOA for the proposed solar panel installation project. The funding application requires a cost-share commitment from the municipality and during budget deliberations Council agreed to commit \$15,000 as the municipal portion for the project. Council agreed to request that the New Maryland Community Support Group research grant opportunities in order to source additional funding.

MOTION CARRIED.

(v) **Administration Department:**

► **MOVED BY** Councillor Scammell and **seconded by** Councillor Pope the following resolution of Council:

Be It Resolved That the Council for the Village of New Maryland approves the establishment of an Age-Friendly Community Ad-Hoc Committee with Terms of Reference as follows:

Pursuant to Section 17(c) of the Village of New Maryland Procedural By-law No. 50, A By-law Respecting the Proceedings of Council and Administration, the following terms of reference shall be made:

1. Creation and Disposition

1.1 An Ad-Hoc Committee shall be established by a resolution of Council and shall be referred to as the “Age-Friendly Community Ad-Hoc Committee”, or the “AFC Ad-Hoc Committee”.

1.2 The AFC Ad-Hoc Committee shall dissolve following their recommendations to Council regarding the implementation of age-friendly initiatives, provided that no further recommendations are required.

2. Composition and Membership

2.1 The members of the AFC Ad-Hoc Committee shall consist of a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson who shall be members of Council, a maximum of six (6) members of the community, a Senior Staff member, and a consultant (if deemed necessary) as follows:

- A) Chairperson: Councillor Gisèle McCaie-Burke;
- B) Vice-Chairperson: Deputy Mayor Alex Scholten;
- C) Members of the community: *to be determined*;
- D) Senior Staff member: Assistant Clerk Karen Taylor; and
- E) Consultant: *to be determined*.

2.2 The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall be appointed to the AFC Ad-Hoc committee by a resolution of Council.

2.3 The Mayor shall be an ex-officio member of the AFC Ad-Hoc committee and may take part in the committee's discussions but shall not be entitled to vote.

2.4 Members of the community interested in serving on the committee must complete an "Application to Serve on a Village of New Maryland Committee" form, which shall be reviewed by Council for consideration and approval.

3. Operations and Governance

3.1 The AFC Ad-Hoc committee will provide input and recommendations to Council regarding the development of an Age-Friendly approach to Village of New Maryland living leading to an action plan, shaped by the community's reality, that will improve the quality of life for Village seniors and for the well-being of all Village of New Maryland residents.

3.2 Each AFC Ad-Hoc committee member shall sign a Confidentiality Agreement and abide by its terms; failure to do so may result in dismissal from the committee.

4. Mandate

The mandate of the AFC Ad-Hoc Committee shall be to:

- 1) engage with the residents of the Village of New Maryland to identify means by which Village of New Maryland seniors can be assisted in living safe, healthy lives and participating fully in society;
- 2) conduct an age-friendly assessment of the community which will include a statistical profile of the Village of New Maryland, a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) analysis of Village of New Maryland support mechanisms for seniors living in the community, identification of issues and opportunities by which the Village of New Maryland may improve the quality of life for seniors living in the community, and a summary of the assessment; and
- 3) provide recommendations to Council on how the Village of New Maryland may improve upon services and offerings to community seniors to make their lives more safe, healthy and involved/participatory while focusing on the feasibility of applying such measures through the implementation of an action plan.

Discussion:

Councillor Scammell stated that following the establishment of the Age-Friendly Community Ad-Hoc Committee and the appointment of the roles of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson at the November 16th Council meeting, the committee drafted Terms of Reference which were presented to Council at the December 14th Council-In-Committee meeting. Council agreed to proceed with the approval of the Terms of Reference as presented and that the motion to approve be brought forward at the December 21st Council meeting.

(Mayor Wilson-Shee left her role as Chair to read the following statement, and Deputy Mayor Scholten assumed the position of Chair). "In response to the provincial government's launch in September 2016 of the 'Age-Friendly Community Recognition Program', the Council for the Village of New Maryland agreed to established an Age-Friendly Community Ad-Hoc Committee that will engage their residents in helping to create age-friendly initiatives and promote healthy and secure environments where seniors in the community can live and thrive. We realized the importance of providing our seniors with a good quality of life and the need to involve the members of our community to assist in identifying ways in which we can accomplish that goal. The first step was to establish our Age-Friendly Community Ad-Hoc Committee, which was done recently by a resolution

of Council. Now, the committee will be approaching local organizations as well as individual members of the community about becoming members of the committee. In the new year, the committee will meet and begin the process of conducting an age-friendly assessment of the community and identifying opportunities to assist seniors in living safe, healthy and fully engaged lives in New Maryland. From those meetings, recommendations will be made to Council on how we can improve services for seniors, and an action plan will be developed that will focus on the viability of carrying out these strategies. Based on statistics from the 2011 census, 27% of the New Maryland population was 55 years of age or older. The implementation of an age-friendly approach for our Village will strengthen the way the community grows and builds for the future. We are looking forward to working with the community and seeing this committee take a leadership role in this very worthwhile initiative.” *(Mayor Wilson-Shee resumed the position of Chair).*

Councillor McCaie-Burke commented that there is a lot of discussion taking place that New Brunswick is beginning to experience the effect and challenges associated with population aging. She stated that the demand for services to support older adults will continue to grow, but noted that the impact can have a positive impact. Seniors have important functions as community members in contributing to the social and economic vitality of our communities through their roles as family members, leaders, mentors, volunteers, caregivers, and even municipal elected officials. Councillor McCaie-Burke stated that as the Chair of the Age-Friendly Community Ad-Hoc Committee, she is looking forward to working with members of the committee in the new year. She thanked senior staff member Karen Taylor for compiling much of the information during the drafting of the Terms of Reference and providing other pertinent information to the committee. She also thanked the committee’s Vice-Chair Deputy Mayor Scholten for his input and support of the committee. Councillor McCaie-Burke expressed her gratitude to the Mayor and Council members for their support of the age-friendly community concept.

Deputy Mayor Scholten remarked that the committee has identified several seniors and experts in the Village who may be potential committee members. He added that the committee is very encouraged by the abundance of resources in the community and the accomplishments of many of our seniors is truly impressive. The committee is looking forward to working with those who will be appointed to the committee in the new year.

Councillor Pope commended everyone involved in this wonderful initiative and offered his assistance to the committee in any manner needed.

MOTION CARRIED.

► **MOVED BY** Councillor Scammell and **seconded by** Deputy Mayor Scholten the following resolution of Council:

Whereas the Village of New Maryland has been searching for a viable municipal water source for a number of years; and

Whereas the Village of New Maryland has identified lands located within the municipality as a potential municipal water source location; and

Whereas those lands have been identified as PID75062174 and PID 75260539; and

Whereas four test sites have been identified on PID 75062174 for the purpose of testing for potable water; and

Whereas the municipality, as an Expropriating Authority under the *Expropriations Act*, has authority pursuant to section 5 of the Act to enter upon the lands to ascertain the suitability of the land;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That the Village of New Maryland hereby confirms its intention to:

- ❖ notify the property owner of its intent to enter upon the lands to conduct testing pursuant to section 5 of the Act;
- ❖ move forward with the access including the construction of a temporary access road, test the existing drilled wells, and test well drilling;
- ❖ conduct testing that is necessary to determine the suitability of the land as a municipal water source; and
- ❖ make full repair and/or compensation for any damages to the land or to other property caused by anything done pursuant to section 5 of the Act.

MOTION CARRIED.

12. APPROVAL OF THE TREASURER'S REPORT

MOVED BY Councillor LeBlanc and **seconded by** Councillor Pope to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of November 2016 as follows:

- from the General Operating account by cheques and direct payments \$271,146.93;
- from the Water & Sewer Operating account \$105,449.42;
- from the General Capital account \$594.55; and
- from the Water & Sewer Capital account \$7,657.86.

MOTION CARRIED.

14. PUBLIC INPUT / INQUIRIES

There were no members of the public in attendance.

15. NEW BUSINESS

Third and Final Readings of By-Law No. 50-02-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Pope and **seconded by** Councillor Scammell to read By-law Amendment No.50-02-2016, an amendment to the Procedural By-law, for the third time, this reading in its entirety.

Discussion:

Councillor Pope explained that Council passed the motions for first and second reading of the Procedural By-law amendment at the November Council meeting. After a final review of the wording of

the amendment at the CIC meeting on December 14, 2016, Council agreed to move forward with third and final readings of the by-law amendment.

MOTION CARRIED.

Councillor Pope read By-law Amendment No. 50-02-2016 for the third time, this reading in its entirety.

MOVED BY Councillor Pope and **seconded by** Councillor Scammell to read By-law Amendment No. 50-02-2016, an amendment to the Procedural By-law, for the final time, this reading by title only, thereby enacting the by-law amendment. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Councillor Pope read By-law Amendment No. 50-02-2016 for the final time by title only.

First and Second Readings of By-law Amendment No. 42-01-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Pope and **seconded by** Councillor LeBlanc to read By-law Amendment No. 42-01-2016, an amendment to the By-law Relating to the Water and Sewer Systems, for the first time, this reading by title only. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Councillor Pope read By-law Amendment No. 42-01-2016 for the first time by title only.

MOVED BY Councillor Pope and **seconded by** Councillor McCaie-Burke to read By-law Amendment No. 42-01-2016, an amendment to the By-law Relating to the Water and Sewer Systems, for the second time, this reading by title only. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Councillor Pope read By-law Amendment No. 42-01-2016 for the second time by title only.

Presentation of the 2017 Budgets

Deputy Mayor Scholten presented the following budget speech:

“Your Worship, fellow Councillors and residents it is my privilege to present to you the 2017 General Operating, Utility and Capital Budgets for the Village of New Maryland.

In the 2017 General Operating Fund Non-Tax Revenue Budget we were able to generate a total Non-Tax Revenue of \$317,083. Our tax base only increased at a rate of 0.0027%, resulting in a new tax base of \$341,991,050. This represents an increase in revenue of only \$113 from the base.

The 2017 General Operating and Capital Fund Expenditure Budget will be \$4,536,859 which is an increase of \$114,259 over the 2016 amount.

General Government Services will only increase by \$967 to \$889,094.

Protective Services expenditures will be \$1,027,220, an increase of \$15,695 over 2016, which includes the R.C.M.P. increase of \$13,982, Emergency Measure, Building Inspection and Fire Department costs.

Transportation Services expenditures will be \$594,941, an increase of \$4,566, of which the snow removal contract was the main driver.

Environmental Health Services expenditures will be \$256,500, a reduction of \$1,900 for garbage collection tonnage.

Environmental Development Services expenditures will be \$157,332, a reduction of \$346.

Recreation and Cultural Services expenditures will be \$619,949, a reduction of \$15,592. The main drivers were personnel cost reductions and a reduction in grounds maintenance costs at the New Maryland Centre.

Fiscal Services expenditures for debts will be \$396,910 a reduction of \$1,904. This section includes Interest on Long Term Debt and Principal Instalments. This expenditure includes the capital costs for the Gravenstein culvert and the paving project in Castle Acres debentures being issued.

For 2017 the General Capital Fund will be \$594,913, an increase of \$112,773. Of the total Capital \$198,580 has been allocated to Transportation projects, \$76,000 has been allocated to Recreation projects, \$130,000 has been allocated to the Fire Department and EMO, \$7,500 has been allocated to General Government, \$142,833 has been allocated for Infrastructure Replacement Reserve, \$21,000 has been allocated to a Municipal Plan Review Reserve and Solar Panel project, and \$19,000 has been allocated to a site restoration and Specification for Developers review.

In response to the infrastructure deficit, as made apparent through PSAB (Public Sector Accounting Board), Council has again stepped up to the plate in terms of continuing to address this deficit in order to protect the longevity and sustainability of the municipality by setting aside additional funding of \$142,833 which equates to just over 4¢ on the rate. This funding will be placed into a reserve for future infrastructure replacement.

This being said, the overall General Operating Budget increased by a total of \$1,486 or 0.04% while the General Capital Budget increased by \$112,773 or 23.39%, which is reflective of the ever-increasing capital demands on the municipality.

At this juncture I would like to point out that since 2011 the Village has lost \$194,966 in revenues through reductions in Unconditional Grant funding from the Province of New Brunswick. In fact, since 2011 the Village has lost \$219,966 through reductions in the Unconditional Grant, Provincial and Federal Student

funding, as well as Fine Sharing Revenue. This represents a significant reduction in the Village's revenue, one that neither staff nor Council have any control over. Each cent of the rate represents \$34,199 of revenue for the Village. Therefore, the combined reductions since 2011 equates to 6.43¢ on the rate, and if you add in the negative impact of the base reduction for 2016 of \$20,457 this equates to 7.03¢ on the rate that has been lost, a loss the Village has to contend with. Faced with this challenge, Council and staff have worked diligently to control costs and reduce where they could without impacting services. We will continue to vigorously review program costs and services throughout 2017 to identify various options available for consideration.

In 2017, as a result of the comprehensive study on the Village's storm water system, we identified potential flood areas that could pose risks to people, property and public health and safety. As a result, residents will see increased capital spending earmarked for new or upgraded storm water infrastructure. With increased demands on the Village to deal with these deficiencies, we want to be transparent about the associated costs and where those funds will come from. Because of the nature and scope of such projects, each will involve substantial borrowing and the additional costs from this borrowing will need to be reflected in future tax increases as we cannot afford to expand or upgrade this infrastructure without doing so.

Over the past several months, staff and Council have worked diligently together in order to bring forward a budget that not only addresses the sustainability of the Village but also affordability for our residents and I believe that this budget has managed to do both.

Therefore, with a total expenditure of \$4,536,859 less the Non-Tax Revenue of \$317,083 and less the Unconditional Transfer of \$6,163 and a Municipal Tax Base of \$341,991,050 we are left with a Tax Rate for 2017 of \$1.2321 per \$100 of assessment. This represents an increase of 2.49¢ on the rate or a 2% increase. To put that into perspective, for every \$100,000 of assessed value this increase would represent \$24.90 for the year compared to 2016 assessments. On an average home value of \$250,000, residents would see an annual increase of \$62.25 in their property tax bill or an increase of \$5.19 per month.

The Village of New Maryland's 2017 Utility Operating and Capital Expenditure Budget will be \$1,191,585 which represents an increase of \$35,302.

Water supply and Treatment costs will be \$250,822 which represents an increase of \$531 over the 2016 amount. This increase is due mainly to increases in power and pumping costs.

Sewage Collection and Treatment costs will be \$319,527, which represents a reduction of \$22,376 over the 2016 amount. This reduction is primarily due to decreases experienced in sewage treatment and disposal costs.

Fiscal Services costs equal \$347,742, which is a reduction of \$2,586 over the 2016 amount.

The following reserves will be made: \$50,000 for future maintenance of the Waste Water Treatment Plant; \$13,420 for replacement of water meters; and \$20,000 for future maintenance of the Water Tower.

The Utility Capital requirements for 2017 are \$189,474, representing an increase of \$59,593 over the 2016 amount.

On the utility revenue side, under the heading Other Revenues from Own Sources results in a total of \$126,771. This leaves a balance of \$1,064,814 to generate from user fees. Water service will be charged at \$1.38 per cubic meter (an increase of 4¢ per cubic meter), plus a flat fee of \$37 (an increase of \$1 per quarter) and a meter fee of \$5 per quarter (no change). Sewerage service will increase to \$512 per year which represents an increase of \$16. This is the second increase to the user fees which were identified previously as part of the Village of New Maryland's 5 Year sustainability program. For the average household with both water and sewer services this will amount to an annual increase of \$28.00 or \$2.33 per month.

In conclusion I would like to acknowledge the hard work of our Treasurer (Scott Sparks) for being patient in helping to finalize the numbers on Council's behalf. I would also like to thank our Chief Administrative Officer (Cynthia Geldart), Department Heads, and my fellow Councillors and Mayor for their dedication in helping to prepare this budget.

Staff and Council have worked diligently for several months on this budget and it comes as a result of numerous meetings, debates and studies being completed. I believe this budget reflects recognition of the burden taxes and fees have on residents but at the same time, seeks to balance the need to ensure the long-term viability of the Village, the value of resident's property and the public health, safety and enjoyment of residents who live and work here.

It is an honour to submit the Village of New Maryland's 2017 Operating and Utility Budgets for your consideration and approval."

► **MOVED BY** Deputy Mayor Scholten and **seconded by** Councillor Pope the following resolution of Council:

Be It Resolved That the sum of **\$4,536,859** (*four million five hundred thirty-six thousand eight hundred fifty-nine dollars*) be the total budget of the Village of New Maryland, that the sum of **\$4,213,613** (*four million two hundred thirteen thousand six hundred thirteen dollars*) be the Warrant of the Municipality for the ensuing year, and that the tax rate for the Municipality be **\$1.2321** (*one point two three two one dollars*). The Council orders and directs the levying by the Minister of Local Government of said amount on real property liable to taxation under the *Assessment Act* within the Municipality of The Village of New Maryland.

Discussion:

Councillor Scammell commented that during the election campaign he told residents that he would work to keep taxes as low as possible but to promise that Council would not raise taxes would have been irresponsible. He stated that he is satisfied that Council and staff have worked very hard on this budget to ensure that Village tax dollars are used in a responsible manner and have sorted projects and expenses in a proper prioritized manner. He acknowledged that the Village and its infrastructure are approaching a period that replacement and repairs will become necessary and more frequent due to the rising age of Village assets. He added that this certainly does not imply that poor workmanship or materials were originally involved and noted that to the contrary, the Village has been doing quite well to date. Staff and

Village engineers have done a great job of staying on top of monitoring Village assets and Councillor Scammell congratulated them for a job well done. He noted that one factor that cannot be ignored regarding Village infrastructure is the change in weather events. The increase in severe weather events around the world and at home has resulted in the implementation of the Storm Water Management Plan – a document which details both the need to increase the capacity of our infrastructure as well as the significant costs involved. He added that to ignore the need for financing of these costs would be detrimental to our community. Costs and expenses for the operation of Village services will also continue to rise. Accordingly, the sources of the needed income will need to keep up. This year’s budget increases the tax rate of the Village for the first time in 4 years. He stated that all members of Council would prefer that the increase was not necessary as they are all Village residents as well. However, Council agreed that this increase is fiscally responsible and manageable. Councillor Scammell expressed his belief that Councils of the past have worked very hard and diligently and this Council is continuing this tradition. He thanked staff and fellow members of Council for the spirit of cooperation which made the budgeting process a smooth one.

Councillor McCaie-Burke remarked that she also told residents during the election campaign that she would do her best to keep the tax rate as low as possible, but made no promises. She stated that considering the resources required to replace aging infrastructure and to support other important projects, she will be voting in favour of the tax increase to \$1.2321 per \$100 of assessment. She expressed her concern that if taxes are not raised this year, the Village will be required to raise taxes at a much higher rate in the future, and she much preferred increases in small increments.

Councillor Pope agreed with the comments of his colleagues. He added his feeling that given the infrastructure costs that the Village will be facing now that the Storm Water Management Master Plan has been completed, it is prudent to make this move. He stated that this is not a decision that Council has made lightly, but the reality is that these are the costs that are confronting the Village.

Councillor LeBlanc also agreed with the comments from his fellow Council members and stated his belief that this is a very responsible budget considering the challenges that lie ahead.

MOTION CARRIED.

► **MOVED BY** Deputy Mayor Scholten and **seconded by** Councillor McCaie-Burke the following resolution of Council:

Be It Resolved That pursuant to paragraph 189(4) of the *Municipalities Act*, the total budget for the water and sewer utility for the ensuing year would consist of total revenues of **\$1,191,585** (*one million one hundred ninety-one thousand five hundred eighty-five dollars*) and of total expenditures of **\$1,191,585** (*one million one hundred ninety-one thousand five hundred eighty-five dollars*).

MOTION CARRIED.

16. DATE, TIME AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING

The next regular session of Council is scheduled for Wednesday, 18 January 2017 at 7:30 pm in Council Chamber.

17. MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Wilson-Shee wished Council and staff a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

MOVED BY Councilor Scammell and **seconded by** Councillor McCaie-Burke to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Taylor
Assistant Clerk

Cynthia Geldart
CAO/Clerk

Judy Wilson-Shee
Mayor