

Village of New Maryland Council

16 February 2022

Present: Mayor Judy Wilson-Shee Deputy Mayor Tim Scammell
 Councillor Alex Scholten Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud
 CAO/Clerk Cynthia Geldart

Virtual Attendance: Councillor Laurie Pearson and Councillor Mike Pope (*via Zoom*)



1. Call to Order

Mayor Judy Wilson-Shee called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the acknowledgement that the land on which we gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Wolastoqiyik and Mi'kmaq people and that we should live and work on this land in relationships of peace, friendship, and mutual respect. She also explained that Councillors Pope and Pearson were participating in the meeting via Zoom and that the meeting was being recorded for broadcast.

2. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED BY Councillor Alex Scholten and **seconded by** Deputy Mayor Tim Scammell that the agenda be approved as circulated. **MOTION CARRIED.**

3. Approval of the Minutes

MOVED BY Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud and **seconded by** Councillor Alex Scholten that the minutes of the regular session of Council of 19 January 2022 be approved as circulated.
MOTION CARRIED.

4. Disclosure of Interest

No *Disclosures of Interest* were declared.

5. Presentations

There were no presentations.

6. Proclamations

There were no proclamations.

7. Correspondence:

There was no correspondence.

8. Mayor's Comments

Mayor Wilson-Shee provided an update of the meetings and events that she attended since the last Council meeting:

- January 24: met with Fredericton Non-Profit Housing Corporation Development Committee co-chairs Andree McLean and Bill O'Donnell, and CAO Cynthia Geldart to discuss potential for the development of seniors' housing in the Village; a presentation will be made to Council on 09 March 2022;
- January 24: Seniors' Advisory Committee meeting hosted virtually via Zoom;
- January 27: provincial government update via Microsoft Teams regarding COVID-19;
- January 27: chaired the Community Policing Committee meeting conducted via Microsoft Teams;
- February 01: Regional Service Commission 11 (RSC11) board meeting hosted via Zoom; Mayor Wilson-Shee explained that she will be serving on the municipal reform Transition Advisory

Committee for RSC11; the Transition Team Facilitator is Maurice Robichaud and the committee will consist of the following RSC11 members: Brett McCrea, Acting Executive Director; Mari-Kaye Langton, Chief Financial Officer; Fredericton Junction Mayor John Biggar, Chair; LSD Director Mike Chamberland, Vice-Chair; Oromocto Mayor Bob Powell, and Mayor Wilson-Shee;

- February 03: met with Fredericton Councillor Eric Megarity, Oromocto Mayor Bob Powell and Hanwell Mayor Dave Morrison via Zoom;
- February 06: celebration of the 70th anniversary of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's accession to the Throne, hosted at Government House;
- February 07: met with New Maryland Pathfinders to discuss Women in Politics;
- February 08: New Maryland Lions Club meeting hosted via Zoom;
- February 09: provincial government update regarding COVID-19 hosted via Microsoft Teams; and
- February 16: Microsoft Teams meeting with Samantha Hachey and Julie Caissie to discuss recruitment for the research component of the NB Dementia Friendly Initiative.

Mayor Wilson-Shee expressed congratulations to Andrea Crawford's NB Women's Curling Team on their bronze medal win at the Scotties Tournament of Hearts and noted that they are the first NB team to make the playoffs at the tournament since 1991. She also offered good luck wishes to the athletes participating in the 2022 Winter Olympics being held in Beijing and congratulated all of the athletes who have earned medals to date.

9. Comments by Members of Council

Councillor Alex Scholten reported that he had participated in the following meetings and/or events since the last Council meeting:

- January 24: met via Zoom with Dan Murphy, Executive Director of the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick (UMNB) and members of the law firm McInnes Cooper Robertson, NB; this law firm is looking at how they might best serve municipalities in the province as they navigate the changes involved with municipal reform;
- January 25: met via Zoom with Nicole Andrade, Coordinator for the Fredericton Local Immigration Partnership (FLIP) to discuss plans for 2022, including the significant impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on immigration and hopes that with continued work to improve attraction, settlement and retention in the Fredericton region they will be able to bring immigration back to pre-pandemic levels;
- January 26: Ignite Fredericton Board of Directors meeting hosted via Zoom (*Councillor Mike Pope also participated*);
- January 27: met via Zoom with Minister Mary Wilson, executive staff of Service NB and UMNB Executive Director Dan Murphy to discuss concerns raised by UMNB members regarding the challenges many people face in accessing services through Service NB, especially those in rural communities who need to travel long distances to reach an SNB office, and seniors who face challenges getting to SNB offices in the winter and are then required to wait outside before gaining access to those offices;
- January 31: UMNB Protective Services Committee meeting hosted via Zoom to discuss concerns raised by municipalities regarding policing;
- February 03: met via Zoom with Phil Curley of Hotspot Parking to discuss potential interest that small- to medium-size municipalities in NB may have in utilizing the Hotspot app for parking, by-law fine collection and payment of permits; Mr. Hurley had been advised of funding opportunities

through the Innovative Community Fund that have allowed municipalities to set up the service at no cost;

- February 09: chaired a meeting via Zoom with UMNB's Municipal Reform Committee to discuss the status of the reform process and any concerns they may have; and
- February 10: chaired a meeting via Zoom with UMNB's Directors to discuss concerns regarding the municipal reform process; based on the concerns expressed at this meeting and the meeting of UMNB's Municipal Reform Committee, UMNB is preparing a list of points to share with Minister Alain for his consideration as the reform process continues.

10. Planning Advisory Committee (PAC)

Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud reported on the business conducted at the PAC meeting of Monday, 07 February 2022, which was hosted virtually via Zoom.

- The committee reviewed and discussed the Building Permit Summary Reports for January 2022. The report noted 4 (four) permits having been issued for home renovation projects with \$77,000 (*seventy-seven thousand dollars*) in estimated value of construction and \$651.25 (*six hundred fifty-one dollars and twenty-five cents*) in permit fee revenue for the month.
- Staff reviewed the proposed amendments to the *Policy on Procedure and Protocol for the Village of New Maryland Planning Advisory Committee* with the committee and discussed various administrative edits. The proposed revisions consist of the addition of guidelines for the conduct of electronic meetings, inclusion of procedures relating to the annual nomination and election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson positions, revisions to improve alignment with the *Community Planning Act* and the *Village Subdivision By-law*, and other general formatting edits. Based on input provided by the committee, staff proposed to prepare the final revisions for further review at the PAC meeting in March.

MOVED BY Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud and **seconded by** Deputy Mayor Tim Scammell the adoption of the Planning Advisory Committee report as presented. **MOTION CARRIED**

11. Emergency Response Plan (ERP) Committee

The ERP Committee has not met since the last Council meeting.

12. Project Reports / Updates

12. (i) Recreation & Leisure Services Department Updates

Councillor Alex Scholten provided an update of the Recreation & Leisure Services Department activities.

- He reported that conditions have been ideal over the past month for a variety of outdoor activities in the Village. The "Snow Much Fun" contest is now in its 4th (fourth) week and the response from our residents has been fantastic. Staff have received more than 25 (twenty-five) entries to date and 3 (three) weekly prizes have been awarded. A great deal of time and effort has gone into snow forts, quinzhees, families of snow people and sculptures, with whole families helping out in some cases. Councillor Scholten reminded residents that the contest runs until March 13th and photos should be sent to our Recreation Coordinator at michelle.sawler@vonm.ca to be included in the weekly prize draws. Participants may enter the contest as many times as they'd like as long as each entry is unique. Staff will post their favorite submissions to the Village's Facebook page during the week of March 14th with voting open for a two-week period to determine the ultimate winner of a family prize package.

- The outdoor rink in Athletic Park opened on January 18th and the rink has remained open 24/7 other than for early morning maintenance and 1 (one) or 2 (two) days of warmer weather or snow days. The rink has been well used by skaters and hockey players sharing the ice surface. Appreciation was extended to Kirk Billings, Recreation Foreman, who often works after hours and on the weekends to flood and maintain the rink.
- Conditions at the Sunrise Estates subdivision sliding hill, adjacent to the community garden, are also excellent. Recreation staff regularly groom the hill and clear an area adjacent to the sliding hill to allow for parking and ensure the access road off Weston Street is plowed. Access is also available from the Sunrise Estates playground. For those who live in the Sunrise Estates subdivision, the sliding hill is a convenient walking destination.
- Appreciation was expressed to New Maryland resident Terry Gamblin for sharing a hand-drawn map of the snowshoe trails around the New Maryland Elementary School. The map has been posted to the Village's social media sites. The nature trails behind the New Maryland Centre are also a great venue for walking and snowshoeing, with staff maintaining an access from the parking lot to the entrance of the trails. Councillor Scholten asked trail users to be mindful that four-legged friends must be kept on a leash at all times and to clean up after their pets.
- Nature NB will be offering a guided snowshoe hike on the New Maryland Centre trails on Monday, March 07th at 2:00 p.m. The event is free of charge, however registration is required in advance with our Recreation Coordinator. The event is limited to 20 (twenty) people and Nature NB has a limited quantity of snowshoes available for participants.
- A one-day March break camp will be held on Tuesday, March 08th at the New Maryland Centre. The cost is \$30 (*thirty dollars*) and the event is limited to 20 (twenty) participants. The camp will focus on active outdoor play, crafts and games. Pre-registration for this event is also required.
- The summer student job positions will be posted later this week and the deadline for applications is Friday, March 25th. Staff have recently completed applications for funding through the Federal Canada Summer Jobs Program as well as the SEED Provincial program. This year we hope to hire a full complement of Day Camp Counsellors, Recreation Maintenance Labourers, and Public Works/Transportation Maintenance Labourers. Job descriptions and the Village application form will be posted to the Village website and social media, and the information has been circulated to the University of New Brunswick (UNB) and St. Thomas University (STU) for their student job boards. Staff is pleased to report that Kelsey Embleton is returning for a second year as our Day Camp Summer Supervisor and will commence employment in early May.
- The Day Camp program will run from June 27th to August 26th, 2022. Weeks 1 (one), 8 (eight) and 9 (nine) will be held at the New Maryland Centre and weeks 2 (two) through 7 (seven) will be hosted at the New Maryland Elementary School. With the renewal of the *Community Use for Schools Agreement* with the District, staff are grateful to be able to return to the school this summer after holding the camps exclusively at the New Maryland Centre over the past two years. There is also the potential to reintroduce the weekly day trips if the provincial guidelines permit full capacity camps this year. The weekly themes and potential day trip locations will be finalized for the March Council meeting.
- An application has been submitted to the 2022 Communities in Bloom Best Gardens program. Applicants will be notified by the end of March and we hope to offer the "Best Garden" contest again this summer.
- It has been a slow start to rentals at the New Maryland Elementary School for sports groups due to the COVID-19 Alert Level Three restrictions last month and a general sense of caution among user groups. The REDS Volleyball Club has recently booked for a 6 (six)-week program and there have been additional inquiries this past week.

- Councillor Scholten concluded his report by sharing an update of the PNM Zoomers activities taking place at the New Maryland Centre:
 - ❖ in order to belong to the PNM Zoomers and attend any of their events, proof of vaccination and wearing of masks are required;
 - ❖ monthly meetings are held the 1st (first) Monday of the month at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom, with the next meeting scheduled for 07 March 2022; all members are welcome to attend;
 - ❖ stretch and strengthening classes are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. in the Seniors Centre and those classes resumed on February 15th;
 - ❖ the craft group meets every other Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. until noon in the Seniors Centre and their next meeting is scheduled for February 23rd;
 - ❖ the book club meets on the 4th (fourth) Thursday of the month at 11:00 a.m. in the boardroom; their next meeting is scheduled for February 24th when they will be featuring the book “Billy Summers” by Stephen King;
 - ❖ memberships for 2022 are now available and run from January to December at a cost of \$20 (*twenty dollars*) for the year and forms can be found on the Village’s website;
 - ❖ a monthly newsletter detailing the PNM Zoomers activities is sent out via email and copies are also available at the Seniors Centre and Village Office; and
 - ❖ for more information regarding the PNM Zoomers activities please contact pnmzoomers@gmail.com.

MOVED BY Councillor Alex Scholten and **seconded by** Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud the adoption of the Recreation and Leisure Services Department report as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

12. (ii) Public Works Department Updates

Councillor Mike Pope provided an update of the Public Works Department activities.

- Several residents have taken up the Adopt-a-Hydrant challenge by helping to clear hydrants of snow. Council and staff sincerely appreciate the efforts of residents, especially with the number of recent snow fall events. Residents are encouraged to participate in the program and any assistance to help clear the hydrants of snow is greatly appreciated.
- A reminder was shared of the ban on overnight parking on Village Streets. As per By-Law No. 63, vehicles are not permitted to park on Village streets between midnight and 7:00 a.m. of any day, or leave any vehicle unattended during periods of snowfall, on any street or highway so as to interfere with snow removal operations.
- Councillor Pope concluded his report by noting that winter is certainly providing challenges with the fluctuation in temperatures and significant amounts of snow. This has resulted in icy conditions on numerous occasions and difficulty for everyone in removing the large amounts of snow. The Village will be pushing back snow along streets and at intersections and will be hauling snow away from those locations to increase visibility and improve safety.

MOVED BY Councillor Mike Pope and **seconded by** Councillor Alex Scholten the adoption of the Public Works Department report as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

12. (iii) Seniors Advisory Committee

Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud reported on the January 24th Seniors Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting.

- The meeting was hosted via Zoom with 8 (eight) members and the CAO/Clerk Cynthia Geldart in attendance.

- Councillor van Groenewoud reported that she continues to gather information regarding the Regional Transportation Plan and anticipates that she will have an update for the next meeting.
- The SAC has completed a detailed review and update of the Age-Friendly Community Action Plan and Next Steps. The revised document will be reviewed by the SAC prior to being presented to Council for official approval.
- The 211-NB Database was launched in October 2021 with funding from the Government of Canada in conjunction with the provincial government, United Way of NB, and their partners. The database helps residents of NB to navigate the government networks and community programs and services such as social, community, and health services and to find information quickly. The program is free of charge and is confidential.
- The NB Dementia Friendly Initiative is hosting 2 (two) free training sessions. The first is a dementia care education course focused on Gentle Persuasion Approach (GPA) training and the second is a series of free virtual Tai Chi classes. The Village will receive a “Sleep Kit” valued at \$130 (*one hundred thirty dollars*) including alternative therapy for those with dementia. The SAC will need to determine how best to distribute the contents of the kit.
- There was an investigation into the possibility of changing the crosswalk lighting system on the highway to brighter flashing lights. The experts explained that the current lighting at the two highway crosswalks currently have the best lighting option available. It would be very expensive to change the lighting system and the committee agreed it was not practical to do so. The Village’s social media sites will be used to offer education and promotion of crosswalk safety.
- Councillor van Groenewoud concluded her report by explaining that Mayor Wilson-Shee was able to confirm that the Village’s renewal of the Age-Friendly Action Plan has been moved forward due to the pandemic delays and the committee will have time to develop the Action Plan for 2022 – 2025.

MOVED BY Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud and **seconded by** Deputy Mayor Tim Scammell the adoption of the Seniors Advisory Committee report as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

13. Approval of the Treasurer’s Report

MOVED BY Deputy Mayor Tim Scammell and **seconded by** Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud the following Resolution of Council: ***Be It Resolved That*** the Treasurer’s Report be adopted as follows: payments made in the month of January 2022 from: the General Operating account by cheques and direct payments **\$353,374.49** (*three hundred fifty-three thousand, three hundred seventy-four dollars and forty-nine cents*); the Water & Sewer Operating account **\$325,938.34** (*three hundred twenty-five thousand, nine hundred thirty-eight dollars and thirty-four cents*); and from the Water & Sewer Capital account **\$189,150.46** (*one hundred eighty-nine thousand, one hundred fifty dollars and forty-six cents*).

MOTION CARRIED.

14. Public Input / Inquires

No comments or inquiries were brought forward.

15. New Business

(i) Third & Final Readings of By-Law No. 62-2022

MOVED BY Councillor Laurie Pearson **and seconded by** Councillor Alex Scholten to read *Use of Streets By-law No. 62-2022, A By-law to Regulate the Use of Streets, Sidewalks, Boulevards and Public Spaces in*

the Village of New Maryland, for the third time, this reading by summary, pursuant to Section 15(4) of the *Local Governance Act*. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Councillor Pearson read the following summary: *Use of Streets By-law No. 62-2022*, includes amendments to update section references to be consistent with the most current versions of the *Local Governance Act*, *Motor Vehicle Act* and the *Highway Act*, and respective amendments thereto to formally consolidate previous by-law amendments and to simplify and provide clarity for administrative procedures relating to approvals for street excavations, curb cuts and driveway openings within the street right-of way. Amendments have also been incorporated to address minor revisions to promote clarity and to standardize the document formatting to achieve visual and organizational consistency among all Village by-law documents.

MOVED BY Councillor Laurie Pearson and **seconded by** Deputy Mayor Tim Scammell to read *Use of Streets By-law No. 62-2022, A By-law to Regulate the Use of Streets, Sidewalks, Boulevards and Public Spaces in the Village of New Maryland*, for the final time, this reading by title only, thereby enacting the by-law. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Councillor Pearson read the *Use of Streets By-law No. 62-2022, A By-law to Regulate the Use of Streets, Sidewalks, Boulevards and Public Spaces in the Village of New Maryland* by title only, thereby enacting the by-law.

(ii) Third & Final Readings of By-Law No. 63-2022

MOVED BY Councillor Alex Scholten and **seconded by** Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud to read *Traffic and Parking By-law No. 63-2022 - A By-law to Regulate Traffic and Parking in the Village of New Maryland*, for the third time, this reading by summary, pursuant to Section 15(4) of the *Local Governance Act*. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Councillor Scholten read the following summary: *Traffic and Parking By-law No. 63-2022* includes amendments to update section references to be consistent with the most current version of the *Local Governance Act*, to formally consolidate previous by-law amendments, and to update schedules identifying locations of traffic control signage and no parking zones, including new locations on MacIntosh Drive. Amendments have also been incorporated to address minor revisions to promote clarity and to standardize the document formatting to achieve visual and organizational consistency among all Village by-law documents.

MOVED BY Councillor Alex Scholten and **seconded by** Deputy Mayor Tim Scammell to read *Traffic and Parking By-law No. 63-2022, A By-law to Regulate Traffic and Parking in the Village of New Maryland*, for the final time, this reading by title only, thereby enacting the by-law. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Councillor Scholten read *Traffic and Parking By-law No. 63-2022, A By-law to Regulate Traffic and Parking in the Village of New Maryland* by title only, thereby enacting the by-law.

(iii) Third & Final Readings of By-Law No. 55-2022

MOVED BY Councillor Mike Pope and **seconded by** Councillor Alex Scholten to read *Noise Control By-law No. 55-2022 – A By-law to Provide for the Control and Prohibition of Noises*, for the third time, this reading by summary, pursuant to Section 15(4) of the *Local Governance Act*. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Councillor Pope read the following summary: *Noise Control By-law No 55-2022* includes amendments to update section references to be consistent with the most current version of the *Local Governance Act*, to clarify provisions relating to enforcement and to clarify that residential property owners completing maintenance and repairs to their own properties during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. daily does not constitute a violation of the by-law. Amendments have also been incorporated to address minor revisions, promote clarity and to standardize document formatting to achieve visual and organizational consistency among all Village by-law documents.

MOVED BY Councillor Mike Pope **and seconded by** Deputy Mayor Tim Scammell to read *Noise Control By-law No. 55-2022 – A By-law to Provide for the Control and Prohibition of Noises*, for the final time, this reading by title only, thereby enacting the by-law. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Councillor Pope read *Noise Control By-law No 55-2022 – A By-law to Provide for the Control and Prohibition of Noises* by title only, thereby enacting the by-law.

16. Date, Time and Location of Next Meeting

The next formal Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 16 March 2022 at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chamber.

17. Motion for Adjournment

MOVED BY Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud and **seconded by** Councillor Alex Scholten to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Geldart
CAO/Clerk

Judy Wilson-Shee
Mayor

Cynthia Geldart
CAO/Clerk