

Village of New Maryland Council

17 November 2021

Present: Mayor Judy Wilson-Shee
Councillor Laurie Pearson
Councillor Alex Scholten
CAO/Clerk Cynthia Geldart

Deputy Mayor Tim Scammell
Councillor Mike Pope
Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud



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 the meeting is recorded for broadcast.

2. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED BY Councillor Mike Pope and **seconded by** Councillor Alex Scholten that the agenda be approved as circulated. **MOTION CARRIED.**

3. Approval of the Minutes

MOVED BY Councillor Alex Scholten and **seconded by** Deputy Mayor Tim Scammell that the minutes of the regular session of Council of 20 October 2021 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:

Cynthia Geldart, CAO reported that we received a letter on 05 November 2021 from Councillor Scholten in his role as President of the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick (UMNB) to thank Council for continuing our membership in UMNB and to provide a brief update on their major activities.

8. Mayor's Comments

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

- October 21: helped the Recreation & Leisure Services Department put together Halloween Treat bags;

- October 23: helped hand out pumpkins and treat bags at the Halloween Pumpkin drive-through at the New Maryland Elementary School (NMES) hosted by the Recreation & Leisure Services Department;
- October 25: Seniors Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting (*Deputy Mayor Scammell and Councillors Scholten and van Groenewoud also attended*);
- October 27: Age-Friendly Fredericton Activities & Initiatives meeting via Zoom with guest speaker Pam Campbell (*Councillor van Groenewoud and members of the SAC Art Standing and Yvon LeBlanc also participated*);
- October 28: Regional Service Commission (RSC) 11 special budget meeting;
- October 29: watched the fireworks display put on by NMES for Fall Frolic;
- October 30: Lions Club meeting to discuss the Food & Toy Drive (*Councillor Scholten chaired the meeting*);
- November 02: RSC11 board meeting; Brad Janes gave a presentation on the importance of not putting batteries in the garbage, landfill, or recycling boxes;
- November 04: meeting via Zoom with Fredericton Councillor Eric Megarity, Oromocto Mayor Bob Powell and Hanwell Mayor Dave Morrison to discuss Community Inclusion;
- November 04: Community Policing Committee meeting via Zoom;
- November 08: Remembrance Day ceremony in honor of National Aboriginal Veterans Days hosted by St. Mary's First Nation;
- November 11: Remembrance Day service held at the New Maryland Centre (NMC) (*all members of Council and various senior staff members also attended*); the service was professionally done and many positive comments were shared;
- November 14: telephone interview with a St. Thomas University student;
- November 14: Lions Club Scholarship Committee meeting hosted via Zoom with 3 (three) Lions Club committee members to discuss the scholarships received;
- November 15: meeting with Fredericton Mayor Kate Rogers and CAO Steven Hart;
- November 16: walked the trails behind the NMC to see the final repairs; and
- November 16: Lions Club meeting focused on the Food & Toy Drive (*chaired by Councillor Scholten*).

9. Comments by Members of Council

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

- October 21: Ignite Fredericton Board meeting;
- October 26: UMNBS Seminar Committee pre-meeting regarding municipal reform;
- October 27: Fredericton Local Immigration Partnership Advisory Committee meeting to discuss local immigration initiatives;
- October 27: Ignite Fredericton Board and staff meeting (*Councillor Pope also attended*);
- October 28: hosted a UMNBS webinar with Minister of Local Government and Local Governance Reform Daniel Allain and representatives from various municipal Councils across the province to discuss municipal reform; over 60 viewers participated online;
- October 28: represented UMNBS in a video conference call with Federal Rural Economic Development Minister Gudie Hutchings to discuss issues impacting rural economic development,

such as poor broadband coverage, a lack of adequate transportation infrastructure connecting rural communities with urban centres and markets, and the need for immigration for rural communities;

- October 29: Chamber of Commerce Immigration Committee meeting;
- November 02: Zoom call with City of Fredericton Ward 10 representative Councillor Cassandra Blackmore and members of the Fredericton Police Force to discuss community safety and policing issues;
- November 03: chaired UMNB's Municipal Reform Committee meeting to discuss potential upcoming municipal reform legislation;
- November 03: conference call with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Provincial Territorial Association (PTA) committee's chairperson Paul McLaughlin to determine how FCM may work more closely with provincial associations like UMNB to address issues of municipal concern;
- November 08: New Maryland Lions Club meeting to discuss details pertaining to the 2021 Food and Toy Drive (*Mayor Wilson-Shee also attended*);
- November 12 & 13: chaired the quarterly meeting of the UMNB Board where matters discussed included municipal reform and the upcoming release of legislation from the Minister;
- November 17: conference call with Minister of Local Government and Local Governance Reform Daniel Allain and his staff to discuss the announcement on municipal reform legislation that will be released tomorrow; and
- November 17: Zoom call with representatives of New Brunswick's 4 (four) associations that represent municipal Councils and administrators to discuss the proposed municipal reform legislation.

Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud reported that she attended a meeting via Zoom regarding a Regional Transportation Urban Rural Rides Program on 08 November 2021.

10. Planning Advisory Committee (PAC)

Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud explained that the PAC met on Monday evening, 01 November 2021 for the review and discussion of a number of topics.

The committee reviewed the Building Permit Summary reports for September and October. The September report noted 10 (ten) permits having been issued for home renovation projects and the construction of single-family dwellings located on Kimberley Street and Boxwood Lane with \$864,485.00 (*eight hundred sixty-four thousand, four hundred eighty-five dollars*) in estimated value of construction and \$6,478.50 (*six thousand, four hundred seventy-eight dollars and fifty cents*) in permit fee revenue for the month. The October report consisted of 8 (eight) permits issued for home renovation projects and the construction of one new garden home located on Lynda Lane. The estimated value of construction was \$438,960.00 (*four hundred thirty-eight thousand, nine hundred sixty dollars*) and the permit fee revenue for the month was \$3,351.00 (*three thousand, three hundred fifty-one dollars*).

A *Conditional Use* request from the property owner of 83 Alban Street to permit the keeping of hens in a Residential Zone Two (R-2) was reviewed. Public notification letters were distributed to property owners within 100 metres of the subject property. The request generated a fair amount of discussion and the Applicant was in attendance to answer questions. Following debate of the information, the PAC approved the *Conditional Use* request subject to numerous terms and conditions.

Staff advised the PAC that an application for a lot frontage variance had been received. The Applicant requested approval of a 10.5-metre variance to the 24.0-metre lot frontage required in a Commercial Zone. Public notification letters were distributed to property owners within 100 metres of the subject property and no responses in opposition were received, however 2 (two) emails in support of the application had been received by staff. The Applicant attended the meeting to answer questions. Upon review and discussion, the PAC approved the requested 10.5-metre lot frontage variance in relation to the tentative subdivision plan depicting proposed Lot 2021-1 at 524 New Maryland Highway.

MOVED BY Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud and **seconded by** Councillor Alex Scholten 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 Mike Pope provided an update of the Recreation & Leisure Services Department activities as detailed in a summary prepared by Michelle Sawler, Recreation Coordinator.

- The Remembrance Day Service held on Thursday, November 11th was a moving and respectful event, and despite the decision to hold the service indoors with limited attendance, the event ran smoothly. Special thanks to Councillor Laurie Pearson who did an excellent job as emcee of the event and it was nice to see all members of Council in attendance and participating. The service was live-streamed on our Facebook page and a copy of the program was published on our web site ahead of the event. The video of the service can be viewed on our Facebook page at any time.
- The Remembrance Day banners along the highway are being replaced this week with the snowflake banners.
- Staff purchased several new sets of commercial-grade lights for our Village Christmas Tree located at Victoria Hall Park. Due to current COVID-19 safety protocols we do not know at this time whether or not we will be able to hold a public Tree Lighting event and a decision will be made over the next few weeks.
- Our annual wreath making event is tentatively scheduled for November 27th; however, staff have been advised that tips are in short supply this year so we have not decided whether or not we are able to proceed with the event. If we do, details will be promoted on our web site and social media. As we have done in previous years, three sessions will be offered with limited registrations, following all COVID-19 safety guidelines.
- We are pleased to announce that we will be hosting our 2nd annual “Community Christmas Lights” competition. We will once again open the contest to Village residents with a launch date of Monday, November 29th. Stay tuned to our web site and social media over the next couple of weeks for the details.
- Details of this year’s Lions Club Toy & Food Drive are still being finalized but we do know that the event will follow a similar format as last year. Three collection “drop off” dates have been scheduled for November 27th, December 2nd and December 4th. Donations will be collected at Faith Baptist Church.

- The Recreation Foreman has spent considerable time over the past two months on repairs and maintenance of the New Maryland Centre nature trails. In October, staff met with representatives from the Provincial Government to discuss potential funding for the replacement of the last section of the original boardwalk in Cameron's Loop. We received notice last week that our application to the Community Investment Fund was successful. A 115-metre section will be completed and 36 (*thirty-six*) metres of elevated boardwalk will be constructed. Of the total project cost of \$32,000 (*thirty-two thousand dollars*) including HST, the Community Investment Fund will reimburse \$15,000 (*fifteen thousand dollars*).
- Following are this month's updates of the PNM Zoomers activities taking place at the NMC:
 - ❖ in order to belong to the PNM Zoomers and attend any of their events, proof of double vaccination and wearing of masks is required;
 - ❖ monthly meetings are held the first Monday of the month at 10:00 a.m. in the boardroom, with the next meeting scheduled for 06 December 2021; this meeting is the annual general meeting and election of officers, and all members are welcome to attend;
 - ❖ stretch and strengthening classes are held every Tuesday and Thursday at 10:00 a.m. in the Senior's Centre;
 - ❖ the craft group meets every other Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. until noon in the Senior's Centre and their next meeting is scheduled for 24 November 2021;
 - ❖ the book club meets the third Thursday of the month at 11:00 a.m. and their next meeting is scheduled for tomorrow, 18 November 2021 with discussions focused on the Kristen Hannah novel "The Four Winds";
 - ❖ membership runs from January to December at a cost of \$20 (*twenty dollars*) and forms are available on the Village's website; and
 - ❖ for more information on their events or activities, please contact pnmzoomers@gmail.com.

MOVED BY Councillor Mike Pope and **seconded by** Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud the adoption of the Recreation and Leisure Services Department report as presented.

Discussion: Councillor Scholten provided additional details regarding the Lions Club Food and Toy Drive: there will not be a parade; in order to ensure the pandemic protocols are met, there will be 3 (three) contactless drop-off events located at the Faith Baptist Church; donators are to pull up to the Church and remain in their vehicles while the volunteers remove the goods from the trunks of the vehicles; Santa and Mrs. Claus will be attending each event to say hello and hand out treat; volunteers will be wearing masks and are fully vaccinated; and the drop off site will be available on November 27th from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m., December 02nd from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m., and December 04th from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Councillor Scholten concluded by reminding everyone that the COVID-19 pandemic has had an impact on the economy and employment, increasing the demand and need for this event. He noted that the Lions Club Food and Toy Drive is a cherished event and that the Lions Club members hope to be able to host the parade again in future years. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Councillor Pope explained that during the formal Council meeting of 21 July 2021, Council passed a motion to designate funds for the **design phase only** of a Regional Aquatic Facility. At that time the project was being led by Chris Ramsey through *Fredericton Regional Aquatics Centre Inc.* and our resolution of Council committed funds to that organization. Since that meeting, it has been decided that RSC 11 will take the lead on the project. Our **contribution amounts remain the same**, however the motion needs to be revised to

indicate that the funds will now be provided to RSC 11. The motions being brought forward will rescind the original motion made in July 2021 and the new motion will reflect that the funds are being directed to RSC 11.

MOVED BY Councillor Mike Pope and **seconded by** Deputy Mayor Tim Scammell the following Resolution of Council: ***Be It Resolved That*** the Council for the Village of New Maryland rescinds the motion of July 21st, 2021 regarding the donation to the Fredericton Regional Aquatics Centre Inc. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOVED BY Councillor Mike Pope and **seconded by** Councillor Alex Scholten the following Resolution of Council: ***Be It Resolved That*** the Council for the Village of New Maryland provides a contribution to Regional Service Commission 11 in the amount of **\$14,088** (*fourteen thousand, eighty-eight dollars*) in 2021 and **\$32,872** (*thirty-two thousand, eight hundred seventy-two dollars*) in 2022 to support the creation of design options, the establishment of a Steering Committee and the hiring of a Project Manager for the design phase only of a regional aquatics facility. **MOTION CARRIED.**

12. (ii) Public Works Department Updates

Councillor Laurie Pearson provided an update of the Public Works Department activities as detailed in the summary prepared by Rockland Miller, Public Works Supervisor.

- Staff investigated two Public Works Reports during the month of October 2021.
- The recent speed radar data indicates speeds are increasing on Village streets. The posted speed limit is 40 km/hr and in the vicinity of the elementary school it is 30 km/hr. The data is showing speeds closer to 50 km/hr. She reminded motorists of the importance of keeping our streets safe, to respect speed limits and to be watchful of pedestrians. The Village office also has “Keep It To 40” signs available free of charge if residents would like to install the signs on their property to remind their neighbors of the speed limit.
- An early fall leaf drop-off was conducted on Saturday, October 23rd. A large bin was placed at the Village office and the leaves were then delivered to NMES and used by the NMES Home & School gardening committee to create a food forest to enhance student learning at the school.
- The annual Fall Leaf Collection is now completed and we thank everyone who participated in the collection. Another leaf collection will be scheduled in the spring of 2022.
- Contract # 2 for the Sunrise Wellfield Development project is nearing completion. The contractor is constructing the access road to the well sites and is expected to complete the work by the end of this month. The contractor for Contract # 3 is planning to start work the week of November 15th. This work involves the installation of the water main from the water treatment plant site to the New Maryland Highway through the Village’s easement located south of the Sunrise Estates subdivision. The supplier of the water treatment system will be conducting a pilot plant test starting November 15th. The project is expected to last one week, and the testing will ensure that the proposed treatment system will meet all of our requirements to provide safe and clean drinking water.
- The Maritime College of Forestry Technology undertook a study in 2018 to identify sites within the Village that would benefit from tree plantings. As a result, a tree planting program was initiated 2 (two) years ago. The program was funded through the Government of New Brunswick Environmental Trust Fund. In the first year, the Public Works Department planted trees along a portion of Sunrise Estates Drive. Last year trees were planted along Alban Street and this year staff will be planting trees on MacIntosh Drive. A total of 25 trees will be planted this year. The sites are currently being selected based on criteria identified by the Maritime College of Forestry Technology

students, including the ease of planting and potential for traffic calming. It is the intent of staff to continue the tree planting well into the future until all streets have benefitted from the program.

- Councillor Pearson reminded residents that the ban on overnight parking on Village Streets is now in effect. As per By-Law No. 63, vehicles are not permitted to park on Village streets between midnight and 7:00 am 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.
- Public Works staff continue with fall and winter maintenance activities, including the draining and staking of fire hydrants for the winter. Council and staff would like to encourage residents to participate in the **adopt-a-hydrant** program during the winter months by keeping hydrants clear of snow. Any assistance in that regard is greatly appreciated. We also want to sincerely thank residents who have helped to keep hydrants clear of snow in the past.

MOVED BY Councillor Laurie Pearson and **seconded by** Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud the adoption of the Public Works Department report as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

12. (iii) Seniors Advisory Committee (SAC)

Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud provided an update on the activities of the SAC, as detailed in a summary report prepared by the Administrative Clerk.

- The SAC met in Council Chambers on 25 October 2021 with 9 (nine) members in attendance.
- Aimée Foreman also attended the meeting and provided a presentation regarding Silvermark's Regional Transportation Plan. She explained that Silvermark is dedicated to the needs of older adults and is committed to improving their quality of life by working alongside partners who share the same vision. Through the Community Inclusion Network (CIN), the Economic and Social Inclusion Network has asked the Silvermark team to find a solution to the long-standing gaps in transportation for older adults and other vulnerable populations. She summarized the plan for the SAC and explained that it involves 'more than a drive', it provides additional social networks for both the riders and drivers. Additional discussion is required, however if the committee decides to move forward, the first step would be to secure a Community Lead to oversee the recruitment of volunteer drivers (minimum of 8 (eight)) and collaborate with the Provider and CIN through the implementation phase with the intention to begin rides in the spring. Aimée explained that the majority of funding is provided by the provincial government who has committed \$50,000 (*fifty thousand*) per year. Those funds should be sufficient to launch the program and take it into the new fiscal year. Many clients using the service are coming to the program through Social Development, so there may be funding potential through an 'umbrella agreement' with that department.
- The SAC also discussed the status of the garden homes being constructed on Lynda Lane. There have been 10 (ten) two-unit homes and 1 (one) three-unit home built to date and another is under construction. All of the units have been sold, however it is not known if any of the purchasers are seniors from our community.
- Councillor van Groenewoud concluded her report by explaining that the SAC has agreed to review the *Age-Friendly Community Action Plan* and next steps. The initial Action Plan has not been reviewed for over 18 months and several items need to be deleted or revised.

MOVED BY Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud and **seconded by** Councillor Alex Scholten the adoption of the Seniors Advisory Committee report. **MOTION CARRIED.**

13. Approval of the Treasurer's Report

MOVED BY Deputy Mayor Tim Scammell and **seconded by** Councillor Mike Pope the following Resolution of Council: ***Be It Resolved That*** the Treasurer's Report be adopted as follows: payments made in the month of October 2021 from: the General Operating account by cheques and direct payments **\$461,690.67** (*four hundred sixty-one thousand, six hundred ninety dollars and sixty-seven cents*); the Water & Sewer Operating account **\$36,692.42** (*thirty-six thousand, six hundred ninety-two dollars and forty-two cents*); from the General Capital account **\$20,775.47** (*twenty thousand, seven hundred seventy-five dollars and forty-seven cents*); and from the Water & Sewer Capital account **\$130,245.19** (*one hundred thirty thousand, two hundred forty-five dollars and nineteen cents*). **MOTION CARRIED.**

14. Public Input / Inquires

No comments or inquiries were brought forward.

15. New Business

Councillor Alex Scholten presented the 2022 General and Utility Budgets. The budget speech shared by Councillor Scholten is attached.

2022 General Operating Budget: MOVED BY Councillor Alex Scholten and **seconded by** Councillor Mike Pope the following resolution of Council: ***Be It Resolved That*** the sum of \$5,533,954 (*five million, five hundred thirty-three thousand, nine hundred fifty-four dollars*) be the total operating budget of the Village of New Maryland, that the sum of \$5,177,144 (*five million, one hundred seventy-seven thousand, one hundred forty-four dollars*) be the Warrant of the Village of New Maryland for the ensuing year, and that the tax rate for the Village of New Maryland be \$1.2778 (*one point two seven seven eight dollars*). The Council orders and directs the levying by the Minister of Environment and Local Government of said amount on real property liable to taxation under the *Assessment Act* within the local government of The Village of New Maryland. **MOTION CARRIED.**

2022 Utility Operating Budget: MOVED BY Councillor Alex Scholten and **seconded by** Deputy Mayor Tim Scammell the following resolution of Council: ***Be It Resolved That*** pursuant to subsection 117(4) of the *Local Governance Act*, the total budget for the Water and Wastewater Disposal utility for the ensuing year would consist of total revenues of \$1,435,143 (*one million, four hundred thirty-five thousand, one hundred forty-three dollars*) and of total expenditures of \$1,435,143 (*one million, four hundred thirty-five thousand, one hundred forty-three dollars*). **MOTION CARRIED.**

Councillor Scholten explained that the Treasurer has prepared a budget summary presentation in a format that is easy to read and understand, and it will be published on the Village's website tomorrow morning.

16. Date, Time and Location of Next Meeting

The next formal Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 15 December 2021 at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chamber.

17. Motion for Adjournment

MOVED BY Deputy Mayor Tim Scammell and **seconded by** Councillor Mike Pope to adjourn the meeting.
MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Geldart
CAO/Clerk

Judy Wilson-Shee
Mayor

Cynthia Geldart
CAO/Clerk