Village of New Maryland
Council
21 August 2024

Present:	Mayor Judy Wilson-Shee	Deputy Mayor Mike Pope
	Councillor Laurie Pearson	Councillor Tim Scammell
	Councillor Alex Scholten	Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud
	CAO/Clerk Cynthia Geldart	Assistant Clerk Maggie Kitchener

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 explained that the meeting was being recorded for broadcast.

2. Approval of the Agenda
MOVED BY Deputy Mayor Mike Pope and **seconded by** Councillor Tim Scammell that the agenda be approved as distributed. **MOTION CARRIED.**

3. Approval of the Minutes
MOVED BY Councillor Alex Scholten and **seconded by** Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud that the minutes of the regular session of Council of 17 July 2024 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 to read into the record.

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

- July 20: 50th (fiftieth) anniversary celebration of King's Landing;
- July 22: Capital Region Service Commission (CRSC) oversight committee meeting;
- July 22: Spotlight on Seniors information session held at the Harvey Lions Club; the purpose of this session was to bring older adults together to assist in navigating through provincial, federal and other programs that may be available to older adults; Mayor Wilson-Shee remarked that she has since discussed with CAO/Clerk Cynthia Geldart the benefit of having the Age-Friendly Committee host a session in the Fall as well;
- July 26: CRSC Summer Forum for directors and alternates; sessions included an Ignite Business of Medicine Program update and a Local Governance Commission (LGC) of New Brunswick (NB) presentation (*CAO and staff were invited to attend online*);
- July 28: NB Highland Games Festival;
- July 30: Ice Cream Social and concert with special guests, John Lohuis and Anthony O'Neill, the Communities in Bloom (CIB) judges (*all members of Council attended*);

- July 31: tour of the Village with Recreation Coordinator, Michelle Sawler, and the CIB judges; the judges had the opportunity to interact with many staff members;
- August 1: breakfast with CIB judges before they headed to Woodstock; the judges commented on the excellent work that Michelle Sawler did with her written presentation; and it was a busy 3 (three) days but worth the time showcasing the Village;
- August 3: presented a birthday certificate to Christa Shannine;
- August 6: met with a resident to discuss speeding concerns on his street;
- August 15: Acadian Flag Raising Ceremony held at the Victoria Hall (*Councillors Scammell and van Groenewoud attended*);
- August 15: Acadian Flag Raising Ceremony held at the Centre Communautaire Sainte-Anne (CCSA);
- August 16: Workforce and Newcomers summit; as Chair of the CRSC, Mayor Wilson-Shee had the privilege of introducing the Keynote Speaker, Hon. Krista Ross, Senator; the Senator spoke about workforce trends in the Capital Region;
- August 16: Success Story Gala; Mayor Wilson-Shee commented that she enjoyed listening to the success stories and watching the cultural performances; and
- August 20: Blueberry Social with a performance from the *HATband;* the fresh homemade pie and music were well received (*all members of Council attended*).

Mayor Wilson-Shee thanked Michelle Sawler for organizing all the summer socials.

Mayor Wilson-Shee commented that the Frank Dunn Memorial Golf Tournament is scheduled for 21 September 2024 and will be held at the Gage Golf & Curling Club in Oromocto. She expressed a special thank you to Cassidi Phillips, BDC Sales Representative and Marketing Coordinator, for the support we received from Riverview Ford Lincoln and Riverview Honda; Mayor Wilson-Shee further thanked Calvin Pelkey for his assistance and noted that registration forms are available on the Village website and the Village Office.

Mayor Wilson-Shee concluded her comments with a reminder to residents that school will be starting soon and requested that everyone drive safely, follow speed limits, and watch for children.

9. Comments by Members of Council

Councillor Alex Scholten provided an update of the meetings and events that he attended since the last Council meeting:

- August 7: Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick (UMNB) Municipal Reform Committee meeting to discuss matters including municipal fiscal reform, provincial election preparations and the status of the Canadian Community Building Fund;
- August 13: UMNB Fiscal Reform Committee meeting where a policy paper prepared by an economist from Mt. Allison University regarding the fiscal capacity of municipalities in New Brunswick was reviewed; the purpose of this exercise was to provide the provincial government with data on the funding required for municipalities to carry out their assigned and legislated responsibilities as well as present how funding levels are lacking, subsequently putting more stress on municipalities to tax their residents when residents are experiencing increasing financial challenges;
- August 14: Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Award Committee meeting; the annual awards recognize excellence among new, small, medium and large enterprises and not-for-profit and charitable organizations as well as community leaders in the greater Fredericton area; there was inspiring information provided, and Councillor Scholten found it interesting to see the businesses that are operating at very high levels in the greater Fredericton area;

- August 16: Ignite Fredericton Immigration and Workforce Development session held at the Fredericton Convention Centre; this session had information about the importance of immigration to the community as well as the economic impact and cultural benefits that communities receive;
- August 19: UMNB Conference Planning Committee meeting to review the plans and activities scheduled for the UMNB AGM and annual conference to be held from 04 October to 06 October 2024 in Fredericton; Councillor Scholten reported that the agenda is almost at capacity, contains some interesting guest speakers and will be distributed shortly; he noted further that this event will be of great value to the municipal officials from across the province; and
- August 20: UMNB Zone 5 meeting at the Fredericton City Hall to discuss nominations for a Zone representative for the UMNB Board for the 2024 - 2025 year; Councillor Scholten was pleased to report that he is the nominee for the Zone and will await member approval of the nomination at the 2024 UMNB AGM in October.

Mayor Wilson-Shee congratulated Councillor Scholten on his nomination.

10. Planning Advisory Committee (PAC)

Councillor Laurie Pearson provided an update on the activities of the Planning Advisory Committee.

- She reported that the PAC met on Monday, 12 August 2024 for their regular meeting.
- The Building Permit Summary Reports for May, June and July 2024 were presented to the Committee. The permit totals revealed a positive trend for the level and type of construction activity during the mid-point of the construction season. Projects ranged from windows, siding, sheds and garages, decks, pools and general renovations which is typical of past seasonal trends.
- There were 5 (five) permits issued from May to July for new home constructions, and one permit was issued in June for the construction of the Village municipal water treatment plant and booster station as the final components of the Sunrise Wellfield development project.
- The 2024 year-to-date totals to the end of July amounted to 78 (seventy-eight) permits, $13,740,053.75 (*thirteen million, seven hundred forty thousand, fifty-three dollars and seventy-five cents*) in construction value and $98,902.75 (*ninety-eight thousand, nine hundred two dollars and seventy-five cents*) in permit fee revenue.
- Councillor Pearson reported on the election of the PAC Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson noting that in accordance with the Committee's nomination and election procedure, Julie Clarke was re-elected as chairperson. The election to the position of vice-chairperson was tabled by the Committee until the September meeting.
- Councillor Pearson concluded her comments by reporting on the *Erection of Telecommunications Tower and Antenna Policy – Proposed Amendments*. She noted that staff review and recommend amendments to various Village policy documents. To promote greater procedural clarity for Village Council, staff and the public, staff discussed and received feedback from the Committee on the proposed amendments to the Village *Telecommunications Tower and Antenna Policy*.

MOVED BY Councillor Laurie Pearson and **seconded by** Councillor Alex Scholten the adoption of the Planning Advisory Committee report as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

11. Emergency Response Plan (ERP) Committee

There was no report to read into the record.

12. Project Reports / Updates

12. (i) Recreation & Leisure Services Department

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

- He reported that the final 2 (two) weeks of Day Camp are underway, and it has been an active, fun summer for the counsellors and campers. The end of summer party will be held in the week of 26 August 2024 with activities to include cooking, camper's choice games and favourite crafts. The New Maryland Centre property will be closed to the public between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. daily (Monday to Friday) during the final weeks of camp to ensure camper and counsellor safety. Staff were commended for their hard work, professionalism and enthusiasm for another successful summer.
- The Participaction "Community Challenge" results reported that the Village of New Maryland finished in 6th (sixth) place provincially and 50th (fiftieth) place nationally. New Maryland continues to improve upon its standings each year. Councillor Scholten commented that it is wonderful to see residents get engaged in this activity.
- Councillor Scholten expressed appreciation to the Village staff, residents and community group members who met with the Communities in Bloom (CIB) judges last month. He expressed special thanks to Village staff and the beautification contractor, Dave Dunbar, for the extra efforts put forward leading up to the judging on 31 July 2024. Mayor Wilson-Shee and Recreation Coordinator, Michelle Sawler, were both pleased and proud to showcase the Village, and the CIB judges were enthusiastic and appreciative of the efforts made. The community results will be presented at the CIB conference and symposium in October.
- The Recreation maintenance summer students have had a busy and productive season; most staff will complete their tenure on or before Friday, 30 August 2024. Appreciation was expressed to each of them for their hard work over the past 4 (four) months for keeping parks, playgrounds, playing fields and Village properties in top shape.
- Councillor Scholten concluded his comments with a reminder that the "Honour our Veterans" banner program is accepting applications until Friday, 23 August 2024 with final banner design to be submitted by Friday, 30 August 2024. The banners will be displayed later in October until mid-November. There will be space for an additional 7 (seven) banners.

MOVED BY Councillor Alex Scholten and **seconded by** Councillor Tim Scammell the adoption of the Recreation and Leisure Services Department report as presented.

Discussion on motion. Councillor Scholten remarked that the community socials held throughout the summer season were fantastic and he expressed gratitude to Michelle Sawler and staff for their outstanding work on the activities. Mayor Wilson-Shee added that the judges commented that they were very impressed with the extent of work Michelle Sawler put into the portfolio. **MOTION CARRIED.**

12. (ii) Public Works Department

Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud provided an update on the activities of the Public Works Department.

- Public Works staff investigated 8 (eight) reports in July 2024 for culvert repair, tree trimming, collection of debris and municipal water discolouration. The reports are in progress and will be investigated to the satisfaction of residents and staff.
- As part of the Village's street maintenance program, sections of 2 (two) streets were resurfaced with 50 (fifty) mm of asphalt. The streets included approximately 53 (fifty-three) meters of Atkinson Lane from Coach House Lane to civic #57, and approximately 45 (forty-five) meters of Clover Street from the intersection of Sprucewood Drive to the property line of Anglophone West School District.
- Councillor van Groenewoud reminded residents that staff review the data collected by the Village's speed radars and forward any observations that are of concern to the RCMP for their monitoring. The posted speed limit throughout the Village is 40 (forty) km/hour. If residents observe individuals driving at high rates of speed, they should contact the RCMP to initiate an investigation.

- The Village office has "Keep It To 40" signs available free of charge should residents wish to install the signs on their property to encourage motorists to follow the speed limit.
- Council and staff will be participating in the annual Team Up to Slow Down Campaign from 03 September to 06 September 2024 in an effort to remind motorists of the importance of keeping our streets safe.
- Councillor van Groenewoud reminded residents that school will be starting soon and encouraged drivers to respect speed limits and be watchful of pedestrians.
- The Public Works Department has selected a section of Bellflower Street for its continuation of planting deciduous trees along municipal streets. The plantings will take place in early September. Locations are determined based on site specific criteria and recommended best practices.
- Residents were encouraged to visit the Village's website, Facebook page and Twitter (X) feed on a regular basis to stay informed of municipal activities and events.

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

12. (iii) Development Services Department

Deputy Mayor Mike Pope provided a summary of the report regarding the adoption of amendments to the *Erection of Telecommunications Tower and Antenna Policy.*

- He reported that the amended policy will serve as a modernized guide in instances where a proponent requires the municipal Land-use Authority's concurrence for telecommunications facilities proposed to be erected in the Village.
- The most notable changes proposed for the policy include an expanded list of definitions; additional information on encouraged and discouraged tower and antenna locations; elaboration on site and facility design guidelines; introduction of public notification and public consultation procedures; added clarity on internal review processes and building permit application requirements; and general document formatting edits.
- The proposed revisions will modernize the policy to be more current with recommended internal review methods and public engagement best practices and will promote greater procedural clarity for stakeholders such as the proponent, Council, staff and the public.

MOVED BY Deputy Mayor Mike Pope and **seconded by** Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud the following resolution of Council: ***Be It Resolved That*** the Council for the Village of New Maryland adopt the *Erection of Telecommunications Tower and Antenna Policy*, as amended. **MOTION CARRIED.**

12. (iv) CAO/Clerk's Office

Councillor Tim Scammell reported that he had 2 (two) motions to bring forward.

- He explained that our Strategic Plan is a key document that guides Council and Staff in shaping the future of the municipality by focusing on our Vision, Mission, Values and Principles as decisions are made regarding the continued growth and prosperity of the community.
- The Plan identifies specific goals and objectives to ensure the Village stays on track and executes the necessary steps for success.
- Councillor Scammell stated that Council and Staff began working on the Plan last year to continue the focus that was identified in the previous plan and incorporate new goals for the future.
- He noted further that Council was pleased to officially adopt the Strategic Plan, with the understanding that this is a living document that will be revised over time to address the needs and aspirations of Village residents.

MOVED BY Councillor Tim Scammell and **seconded by** Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud the following Resolution of Council: ***Be It Resolved That*** the Council for the Village of New Maryland adopt the Village of New Maryland Strategic Plan 2024 – 2029 as attached.

Discussion of motion: Councillor Pearson thanked CAO/Clerk Cynthia Geldart and Assistant Clerk Maggie Kitchener for their work on this extensive document. Councillor Scholten noted that this is a living document to be used on a regular basis as it will assist in measuring the work Council identifies as necessary and Council's progress in meeting those goals. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Councillor Scammell explained further that a decision of Council was reached via email that requires a formal motion of Council to ratify the approval for signing authority on the Agreement for Project Number 16952 regarding the Forbes Development Lift Station.

MOVED BY Councillor Tim Scammell and **seconded by** Deputy Mayor Mike Pope the following Resolution of Council: ***Be It Resolved That*** the Council for the Village of New Maryland ratify the decision to authorize the signing of the funding agreement with the Regional Development Corporation for Project Number 16952 – New Maryland – Forbes Development Lift Station. **MOTION CARRIED.**

13. Approval of the Treasurer's Report

MOVED BY Councillor Laurie Pearson and **seconded by** Deputy Mayor 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 July 2024 from the General Operating account by cheques and direct payments $700,375.87 (*seven hundred thousand, three hundred seventy-five dollars and eighty-seven cents*); from the Water & Sewer Operating account $464,781.43 (*four hundred sixty-four thousand, seven hundred eighty-one dollars and forty-three cents*); from the General Capital account $155,551.00 (*one hundred fifty-five thousand, five hundred fifty-one dollars*); and from the Water & Sewer Capital account $454,097.29 (*four hundred fifty-four thousand, ninety-seven dollars and twenty-nine cents*). **MOTION CARRIED.**

14. Public Input / Inquires

No input and/or inquiries were brought forward.

15. New Business

There was no New Business.

16. Date, Time and Location of Next Meeting

The next formal Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 18 September 2024 at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chamber.

17. Motion for Adjournment

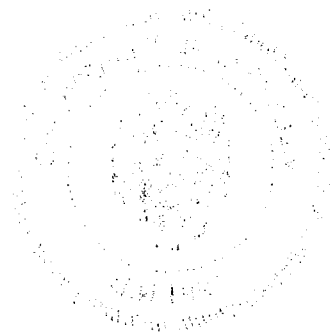
MOVED BY Councillor Alex Scholten and **seconded by** Deputy Mayor Mike Pope to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maggie Kitchener

Maggie Kitchener
Assistant Clerk

Judy Wilson-Shee
Mayor

Cynthia Geldart
CAO/Clerk