Village of New Maryland
Council
17 December 2025

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 Councillor Alex Scholten and **seconded by** Councillor Tim Scammell that the agenda be approved as distributed. **MOTION CARRIED.**

3. Approval of the Minutes
MOVED BY Deputy Mayor Mike Pope and **seconded by** Councillor Alex Scholten that the minutes of the regular session of Council of 19 November 2025 be approved as circulated. **MOTION CARRIED.**

4. Disclosure of Interest
No *Disclosures of Interest* were declared.

5. Presentations
Mayor Wilson-Shee presented the New Maryland Home and School Association with a cheque in support of their fundraising efforts for new playground equipment at the New Maryland Elementary School (NMES).

6. Proclamations
There were no proclamations.

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

- November 20: Village Tree Lighting event (*Deputy Mayor Pope and Councillors Pearson, Scammell, and van Groenewoud attended*);
- November 22: recognized the 65th (sixty-fifth) birthday of a staff member of the Capital Region Service Commission (CRSC);
- November 24: CRSC Oversight Committee meeting to review the 3rd (third) quarter performance review of Chief Executive Officer (CEO) John Smith;
- November 25: virtual municipal engagement session presented by NB Power;
- November 27: 32nd (thirty-second) annual Muriel McQueen Fergusson Foundation Awards Ceremony held at Government House; Mayor Wilson-Shee extended congratulations to award recipient, Dr. Kelly Scott-Storey;
- November 28: physician recruitment working session held at the municipal office in Hanwell (*Deputy Mayor Pope and Councillor Scholten attended*);
- November 29: annual wreath seminar led by Mayor Wilson-Shee, featuring 3 (three) sessions with nearly 80 (eighty) participants, where residents created their own wreaths;
- November 30: Christmas dinner hosted by Opal Family Services at Porter's Diner; the meal was provided free of charge; Paul Porter has been offering this service for several years;

- December 01: Springwater Lane and Baker Brook Court route for the New Maryland Lions Club (NMLC) Food and Toy Drive; Mayor Wilson-Shee expressed appreciation for the generosity of Village residents whose donations will assist families in need during the holiday season;
- December 02: CRSC Board meeting;
- December 03: 5th (fifth) Canadian Division Support Group and Combat Training Centre Holiday Reception; Colonel Paul William and Chief Warrant Officer Dave Hudon welcomed guests; entertainment was provided by the Bagpipe band and dancers, and one team demonstrated the dismantling and reassembly of a jeep;
- December 04: CRSC Directors meeting with consultants for a review of the RSC model reform, conducted by Dr. Christine Paulin and Yves Gagnon;
- December 04: Oromocto Social;
- December 05: CRSC staff Christmas dinner held at Kingswood Resort;
- December 05: Village's annual Christmas Banquet;
- December 07: New Maryland Heritage Association Open House at the Historic Church formerly known as St. Mary the Virgin;
- December 10: NMES Holiday Concert;
- December 10: Hanwell Social (*Councillor van Groenewoud attended*);
- December 11: Ignite Holiday Hop; and
- December 17: CRSC Special Board meeting to address year end reserve transfers.

Mayor Wilson-Shee wished all Village residents a merry Christmas and a happy New Year, and thanked Jeff Despres of Rogers Cable for recording Village Council meetings.

8. Comments by Members of Council

Deputy Mayor Pope and Councillors Pearson, Scammell, and van Groenewoud each wished Village residents a happy, healthy, and safe holiday season.

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

- November 29: City of Fredericton's Santa Claus Parade, which included the Fredericton Community Grocers' annual Turkey Drive; the Drive raised over $95,000 (*ninety-five thousand dollars*), equivalent to more than 2,700 (two thousand seven hundred) turkeys, in support of Greener Village and community partner organizations; one beneficiary was the NMLC Food and Toy Drive, which received 200 (two hundred) turkeys, enabling the preparation of over 130 (one hundred thirty) individual hampers and support for several local organizations including Liberty Lane, Transition House, Gignoo House, and the Fredericton High School (FHS) Breakfast Program;
- December 01-04 and 06: co-chaired the 29th (twenty-ninth) annual NMLC Food and Toy Drive; Councillor Scholten expressed appreciation to all those involved, including:
  - volunteer members of the NMLC for their months of planning and many hours dedicated to the collection, sorting, and distribution of food and toys; the NMLC's motto is "We Serve," and their commitment to the community was clearly demonstrated;
  - Fire Chief Harry Farrell and members of the New Maryland Fire Department for their nightly assistance;
  - Faith Baptist Church for providing space for the collection, sorting, and distribution of food and toys; and
  - the many groups and individuals who volunteered including Kat's Kitchen, FHS Student Representative Council (SRC), FHS Football team, U16 Girls Volleyball team, New Maryland Boy

Scouts, Councillor Scammell, Mayor Wilson-Shee, and several Village residents including an FHS foreign exchange student from Japan who volunteered for all 4 (four) collection nights;

- Councillor Scholten also thanked NMLC members, volunteers, local businesses and residents for their generous donations, noting that their continued support helped ensure families in need experienced a warmer and more hopeful holiday season and reflected the strong sense of community in New Maryland; and
- Councillor Scholten also extended best wishes to all residents of New Maryland for a happy and safe holiday season and all the best in the New Year.

9. Planning Advisory Committee

Deputy Mayor Pope provided an update on the activities of the Planning Advisory Committee.

- The Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) met last on the evening of Monday, 08 December 2025, for the conduct of their regular meeting. The November meeting was cancelled due to lack of new business on the agenda.
- In October 19 (nineteen) permits were issued with a total estimated construction cost of $352,540.10 (*three hundred fifty-two thousand, five hundred forty dollars and ten cents*) and $2,362.00 (*two thousand, three hundred sixty-two dollars*) in permit fee revenue.
- In November 10 (ten) permits were issued with a total estimated construction cost of $136,306.00 (*one hundred thirty-six thousand, three hundred six dollars*) and $1,086.50 (*one thousand, eighty-six dollars and fifty cents*) in permit fee revenue.
- The 2025 year-to-date totals to the end of November amounted to 111 (one hundred eleven) permits, just under $2.9 million (*two point nine million dollars*) in construction value and $21,932.75 (*twenty-one thousand, nine hundred thirty-two dollars and seventy-five cents)* in permit fee revenue.
- The Development Officer Variance Policy was conceived to define the limitations and applicable procedures under which a Development Officer may grant a variance approval in lieu of the matter being referred to the PAC for a decision. Per the policy, such authority is limited to dimensional variance requests that are within 10% (ten percent) of the prescribed distances required per Village development related by-laws. The overall intent is to provide for administrative efficiencies in the review and ruling on dimensional variance requests that are deemed to be relatively minor in nature. The policy also contains a provision that the Development Officer reserves the option, at any time and for any circumstance, to refer any application to the PAC for a decision. Having conducted a final review and discussion on the matter, the Committee approved a motion for formal adoption of the policy.

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

10. Emergency Response Plan Committee

There was no report read by Council.

11. Project Reports / Updates

11. (i) Recreation & Leisure Services Department

Councillor van Groenewoud provided an update on the activities of the Recreation & Leisure Services Department.

- An excellent turnout was observed at the Village Tree Lighting event held on 20 November 2025. Staff extended appreciation to the River Valley Chorus, the NMES Grade 3 (three) to 5 (five) Choir under the direction of Charlene Evans, and to Mayor Wilson-Shee for their participation. Special thanks were also extended to Fire Chief Harry for coordinating Santa's arrival from the North Pole by fire truck, which remains a highlight for attendees. Staff further acknowledged the hard work and dedication of Recreation

Foreman Kirk Billings and Community Facilities Manager Nancy St. Croix for their significant efforts in beautification and preparation leading up to the event.

- The Wreath Making Workshop, held on 29 November 2025, was a festive and well-attended event, welcoming nearly 80 (eighty) participants across 3 (three) sessions. Staff extended their appreciation to Mayor Judy Wilson-Shee for leading each workshop, and to all attendees who generously contributed toys, monetary donations, and non-perishable food items in support of the annual Food and Toy Drive.
- On behalf of the NMLC, appreciation is extended to all residents for their outstanding effort and support of this year's Food and Toy Drive. Families were able to enjoy festive music, a visit from Santa, and the warm sense of community that accompanied the event. Thanks to the generous donations of food, toys, and financial contributions, many local families in need will experience a brighter and more joyful Christmas season. Thanks was also extended to the many volunteers and community groups whose efforts were essential to the success of this initiative.
- Residents were reminded that the final Open Gym sessions and co-ed adult volleyball and basketball programs for 2025 were held at NMES this past weekend. User groups will conclude their activities this week for the Christmas break, with all programs scheduled to resume in January 2026.
- The Parish of New Maryland (PNM) Zoomers' activities are held at the NMC, with several programs highlighted for January 2026 on the Village website. Residents may also email pnmzoomers@gmail.com for details.

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

11. (ii) Public Works Department

Councillor Scholten provided an update on the activities of the Public Works Department.

- Public Works staff investigated 2 (two) reports in November for location of water shut off valves and hauling of brush. The reports are being worked on and will be resolved to the satisfaction of the residents and staff.
- The winter weather has begun, along with winter plowing activities. The snow and ice control of Village streets is contracted out to 2 (two) contractors. The contractors and Public Works staff monitor weather reports to be prepared and ready to respond to snow events when they arrive. The contractors are required to start plowing after 5 (five) cm of snow have accumulated and repeat the plowing to hold a maximum accumulation to 10 (ten) cm. Once the storm is over, the contractors will do a final clean-up of all streets. Storms that have an accumulation of less than 5 (five) cm are plowed at the end of the storm. The contractors are to ensure that the travel lanes are kept to a minimum of 7 (seven) meters.
- Following a storm, work continues with pushing back snowbanks, cleaning up intersections and preparing for future storms. Salt and sand are applied to streets to provide traction and break down snow and ice on the surface. Additionally, salt and sand are applied at the onset of a storm to prevent snow from bonding to the pavement.
- The Village's sidewalks are maintained by Public Works staff. The sidewalks near the NMES are cleared first and then continued from there. The goal is to have the sidewalks cleared of snow prior to the start of the school day and before the end of the school day to allow children to use the sidewalks. Once the storm has ended, a final clean-up is conducted with the addition of salt and sand, which are also applied when slippery conditions exist.
- Residents were advised that the ban on overnight parking on Village streets is now in effect. As per the *Traffic and Parking By-law No. 63-2022 section 3.04(c) No person shall stop, stand or park any vehicle on any street or public space, in the "Winter Period" between the hours of 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.*

- Fire hydrants have been drained and staked for winter. Council and staff encourage residents to participate in the adopt-a-hydrant program during the winter months by keeping hydrants clear of snow. Any assistance is greatly appreciated. Sincere thanks were extended to residents who have actively assisted in keeping fire hydrants clear of snow in previous years.
- The Sunrise Wellfield Development project is nearing completion and is expected to be in operation early in the new year. In 2025, the booster station located at 482 New Maryland Highway was completed, and the water treatment plant located at 170 Kingston Avenue is nearing completion. Remaining work includes process piping, filling the water filter vessels with media, and commissioning of the system.
- The water booster station will control water flow from the water treatment plant to the water distribution system at the north end of the village. It will also monitor chlorine residuals and add additional chlorine as needed.
- The water treatment plant will treat raw water supplied by 2 (two) production wells located south of Sunrise Estates subdivision for iron and manganese. The plant will then send treated water along the New Maryland Highway to the water booster station.
- This project would not be possible without the financial support of the Federal and Provincial governments. More information regarding the project may be found on the Village's website.
- Public Works staff will be assisting the New Maryland Scouts in their annual Christmas Tree pick-up, scheduled for Saturday, 10 January 2026. Collected trees will be hauled to the Wastewater Treatment Plant site for chipping and disposal in the spring. The New Maryland Scouts will also remove boughs from some of the trees to use for winter camping activities and they appreciate any donations they receive.
- Residents were reminded to regularly visit the Village's website and Facebook page to stay informed of community events and projects.

MOVED BY Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud and **seconded by** Deputy Mayor Mike Pope the adoption of the Public Works Department report as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

11. (iii) Finance Department

Councillor Scholten explained that as part of the year-end process, it is the recommendation of the Treasurer to approve the following amounts to be transferred:

- $175,000 (*one hundred seventy-five thousand dollars*) from the General Operating Fund to the General Capital Reserve Fund, and $60,000 (*sixty thousand dollars*) from the General Operating Fund to the General Operating Reserve Fund.

MOVED BY Councillor Alex Scholten and **seconded by** Councillor Tim Scammell 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) $175,000 (*one hundred seventy-five thousand dollars*). **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOVED BY Councillor Alex Scholten and **seconded by** Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud 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 Operating Reserve Fund (Acct #0626 1015-013) $60,000 (*sixty thousand dollars*). **MOTION CARRIED.**

11. (iv) Development Services Department

Councillor Scammell explained that he had a motion to bring forward regarding the Forbes Property Development - Acceptance of the Silvermark Service Agreement.

- Senior staff wish to present for adoption a resolution to engage advisory services in support of the future development of an aging care facility in the community.

- The Village Municipal Plan, Age-Friendly Community Action Plan, and Strategic Plan all identify the importance of allowing seniors in the community to age in place. Promoting a full continuum of housing options and encouraging high-quality health care services such as clinics, community health programs, and wellness initiatives are integral to delivery on this goal.
- Advocacy for the development of aging care or assisted living facilities within the Village is also a noted priority for Council and staff, and engaging with stakeholders is essential to attracting such facilities for the benefit of the community and the region.
- The Village perceives a unique opportunity for an aging care facility to be integrated within a proposed mixed-use/mixed-density development opportunity at the Village-owned Forbes Property. Based on Council and staff's understanding of Silvermark's pivotal role in actioning a current care facility project in the region, Silvermark are uniquely positioned to deliver valuable insights on opportunities to integrate aging care facilities, of an appropriate scope and scale, as a core element of the future development of the site.

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, as per the recommendations of senior staff, accept the solicited service agreement bid from 695381 NB Inc., operating as Silvermark, dated 24 October 2025, in the amount of $22,500.00 *(twenty-two thousand, five hundred dollars)* plus $964.35 *(nine hundred sixty-four dollars and thirty-five cents)* HST for a total bid of $23,464.35 *(twenty-three thousand, four hundred sixty-four dollars and thirty-five cents)* for the provision of pre-construction advisory services to support the integration of aging care facilities as a strategic element of a proposed mixed-use/mixed-density development within the Village; and that the Village Clerk is authorized to execute said service agreement, as attached. **MOTION CARRIED.**

12. Approval of the Treasurer's Report

Deputy Mayor Pope explained that he had a motion to bring forward regarding the Treasurer's monthly report.

MOVED BY Deputy Mayor Mike Pope and **seconded by** Councillor Alex Scholten the following Resolution of Council: ***Be It Resolved That*** the Treasurer's Report be adopted as follows: Payments made in the month of November 2025: from the General Operating account by cheques and direct payments **$1,756,703.68** (*one million, seven hundred fifty-six thousand, seven hundred three dollars and sixty-eight cents*); from the Water & Sewer Operating account **$956,885.93** (*nine hundred fifty-six thousand, eight hundred eighty-five dollars and ninety-three cents*); from the General Capital account **$2,890.81** (*two thousand, eight hundred ninety dollars and eighty-one cents*); and from the Water & Sewer Capital account **$352,102.44** (*three hundred fifty-two thousand, one hundred two dollars and forty-four cents*). **MOTION CARRIED.**

13. Public Input / Inquires

There was no public input or inquiries.

14. New Business

There was no new business to report.

15. Date, Time and Location of Next Meeting

The next formal Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 21 January 2026 at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chamber.

16. Motion for Adjournment

MOVED BY Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud and **seconded by** Deputy Mayor Mike Pope to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maggie Kitchener
Maggie Kitchener
Assistant Clerk

Judy Wilson-Shee
Judy Wilson-Shee
Mayor

VILLAGE of NEW MARYLAND
1991 N.B.

Cynthia Geldart
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CAO/Clerk