Village of New Maryland
Council
21 January 2026

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
	Fire Chief Harry Farrell	

1. Call to Order
Mayor Judy Wilson-Shee called the meeting to order at 7:29 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 Mariet van Groenewoud that the agenda be approved as distributed. **MOTION CARRIED.**

3. Approval of the Minutes
MOVED BY Councillor Tim Scammell and **seconded by** Deputy Mayor Mike Pope that the minutes of the regular session of Council of 17 December 2025 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. Mayor's Comments
Mayor Wilson-Shee provided an update of the meetings and events attended since the last Council meeting:

- December 18: JDI Woodlands *Conservation Plan* discussion;
- December 18: volunteered at the New Maryland Fire Department Christmas Dinner;
- December 19: Staff Christmas Party;
- December 20: presented Community Christmas Challenge gift cards to the following recipients: 1st (first) place – 197 Sunrise Estates Drive; 2nd (second) place – 131 Bradshaw Drive; and 3rd (third) place – 11 Stonehurst Avenue;
- January 01: Lieutenant Governor's New Year's Levee;
- January 05: Parish of New Maryland (PNM) Zoomers meeting;
- January 14: Capital Region Service Commission (CRSC) Zoom interview with the *Daily Gleaner* regarding the Oromocto and Area Food Bank Investments; discussion included the CRSC's partnership with the Department of Environment and Local Government for the implementation of mandated services, as well as collaboration with the Economic and Social Inclusion Corporation (ESIC) on the delivery of *Overcoming Poverty Together 4 (OPT4)*, which includes initiatives to address food security; the investment will provide essential infrastructure, including refrigeration, freezer capacity, and reliable transportation;

- January 15: PNM Zoomers Potluck, followed by a guest presentation from Alex Boyd, Greener Village;
- January 20: information session led by Danielle Connell regarding the CRSC-commissioned study to map all agricultural assets in the Capital Region; project progress to date was discussed; the slideshow presentation outlined the project purpose, asset categories, inclusions, mapping types, map development, data collection, public perceptions, and next steps (*Councillors Scholten and van Groenewoud attended*);
- January 20: New Maryland Lions Club (NMLC) meeting (*Councillor Scholten attended*); Mayor Wilson-Shee provided an overview of upcoming activities, including:
  - Poker Tournament to be held on 21 March 2026;
  - Coldest Night of the Year Walk in support of the John Howard Society of Fredericton to be held on 28 February 2026;
  - Chili Drive-Through at Faith Baptist Church to be held on 18 April 2026; and
  - 40th (fortieth) NMLC Anniversary Dinner to be held on 03 October 2026; and
- January 21: on behalf of Council, staff, residents, and members of the Village's Emergency Response Plan Committee (EPRC), Mayor Wilson-Shee presented a 15 (fifteen)-year service pin to Pastor Larry Matthews and expressed her appreciation for his on-going contributions to the community; she noted further that the ERPC members are all knowledgeable and it was a well-run meeting.

8. Comments by Members of Council

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

- December 18: Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick (UMNB) Board meeting regarding Regional Service Commission (RSC) reform; the Board reviewed a consultant's report prepared on behalf of members outlining potential improvements to the RSC model; the Village also submitted a response previously;
- January 06: NMLC meeting; discussion included community support initiatives and a post-event review of the Food and Toy Drive, focusing on the collection process, route, volunteers, and dates;
- January 07: UMNB Membership Services Committee meeting; discussions focused on enhancing member offerings and benefits, as well as ongoing advocacy and research initiatives;
- January 08: UMNB Governance Committee meeting; reviewed UMNB by-laws and resolutions;
- January 08: Downtown Fredericton Inc. Government Relations Committee meeting; discussions focused on federal and provincial pre-budget submissions and strategies for member issue representation ahead of the municipal election; Downtown Fredericton Inc. represents businesses in the downtown core and is funded through the City of Fredericton's Business Improvement Area (BIA) property tax levy, representing a significant portion of the Fredericton business community;
- January 15: chaired the UMNB Fiscal and Local Government Advisory Committee meeting; discussions included municipal fiscal reform, property tax assessment reform, and RSC reform initiatives, along with related advocacy approaches; and
- January 20: NMLC meeting; discussions focused on planned activities for the next 6 (six) months and the upcoming 40th (fortieth) anniversary; Nashwaak will be celebrating its 60th (sixtieth) anniversary.

9. Planning Advisory Committee

There was no report read by Council.

10. Emergency Response Plan Committee

There was no report read by Council.

11. Project Reports / Updates

11. (i) Recreation & Leisure Services Department

Deputy Mayor Pope provided an update on the activities of the Recreation & Leisure Services Department.

- Regularly scheduled activities resumed at the New Maryland Elementary School. A reminder that Open Gym is held on Sunday evenings from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Co-ed Basketball sessions from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and the Co-ed Volleyball sessions run from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. The cost for each of these activities is $4 *(four dollars)* per visit.
- Staff have scheduled a Senior's Valentines Tea for Thursday, 12 February 2026. Residents are encouraged to watch for additional details later this month.
- The next Babysitter course is scheduled for Friday, 06 March 2026 at Victoria Hall from 9:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. The cost is $65.00 *(sixty-five dollars)* and is limited to 20 (twenty) participants.
- The Community Christmas Lights Challenge was held during the holiday season, with participating properties reviewed and scored by Council and staff. The displays were all wonderful, resulting in a close final outcome. The results were as follows: 1st (first) Place – 197 Sunrise Estates Drive; 2nd (second) Place – 131 Bradshaw Drive; and 3rd (third) Place – 11 Stonehurst Avenue. Appreciation is extended to Council and staff who took the time to visit the participating properties and complete the judging process, as well as to the residents who participated in the challenge.
- The PNM Zoomers' activities take place at the New Maryland Center (NMC); residents can learn more about their activities on the Village website or by emailing pnmzoomers@gmail.com.

MOVED BY Deputy Mayor Mike Pope 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 Pearson provided an update on the activities of the Public Works Department.

- Public Works staff investigated 73 (seventy-three) reports in 2025, one less than last year. The following is a summary of the reports investigated:
  - 22 (twenty-two) percent of the reports related to culvert repair;
  - 15 (fifteen) percent of the reports related to a municipal water issues;
  - 12 (twelve) percent of the reports related to sanitary sewer issues;
  - 5 (five) percent of the reports related tree/brush issues;
  - 12 (twelve) percent of the reports related to snow clearing operations;
  - 9 (nine) percent of the reports involved drainage issues; and
  - the remaining 25 (twenty-five) percent of the reports were for a variety of issues such as landscaping, sign repair, and garbage litter.
- Staff were pleased to report that the majority of the reports concluded with gratitude and compliments from the residents involved.
- Public Works staff continued to make certain the Village's infrastructure functioned properly, providing safe drinking water and ensuring wastewater was treated so as to not pose a risk to the environment. The following is a list of projects Public Works staff worked on through 2025:
  - resurfaced Route 101 from Phillips Drive to approximately Civic No. 647;
  - repaired or replaced 22 (twenty-two) driveway culverts;
  - planted 19 (nineteen) trees along Boxwood Lane and Sandcherry Lane;
  - purchased 9 (nine) additional speed radars;
  - conducted a pilot test on speed radars with NB Power;
  - purchased a new utility vehicle to assist with green space maintenance and utility structure maintenance;
  - purchased a vehicle hoist to perform in-house maintenance on municipal equipment;
  - refurbished the Fire Department's old forestry truck to assist with street sweeping, utility structure maintenance and grounds maintenance;
  - installed new chain link fencing around Springwater Reservoir; and

- purchased safety equipment for confined space entry for the Utility Department.

- In addition, the Village awarded the Snow and Ice Control contracts to MW Price & Sons and to Charters Construction for the next 3 (three) years.
- The Sunrise Wellfield Development is the largest and most exciting project for the Village. In 2024, construction started on the new water treatment plant in the Sunrise Estates subdivision and a new booster station along the highway. Completion of these 2 (two) buildings is expected to be completed soon with commissioning of the systems in early March. This wellfield development will provide redundancy for the Village's existing water system as well as allow further development in the Village. The Sunrise Wellfield Development project would not be possible without financial support from the Federal and Provincial governments.
- The Village of New Maryland must adopt a Resolution of Council to initiate the Wellfield Protection Program/*Wellfield Protected Area Designation Order* (WfPADO) process under the *Clean Water Act* prior to connecting Wells TW17-01 and TW21-01 to the distribution system.
- The province of New Brunswick has introduced a program for protecting the quality and quantity of municipal groundwater sources. The primary objective of a wellfield study is to develop an integrated protection document for the water supply that will proactively protect the quality and the quantity of the drinking water source. The study, which is carried out by a hydrogeological consultant, identifies the recharge area for production wells and management of land uses within the recharge area. The study will assist the Minister of Environment and Local Government in designating the area surrounding the water supply as a protected area. Within such a protected area, the Minister may:
  - allocate the use of water;
  - control, prohibit, or limit any activity or thing which might impair the quality or quantity of the water;
  - restrict or prohibit unsuitable land uses; and
  - establish and enforce guidelines and standards for the purpose of protecting the quantity and the quality of the water supply.
- A motion for the Resolution of Council will follow this report.
- A reminder that the winter weather is providing extreme fluctuations in temperatures which leads to snowfall turning to rain and back to snow. As a result, we are experiencing ice conditions which are proving to be a challenge to control both on the streets and on the sidewalks and paths. Motorists are reminded to allow extra time and greater stopping distances when slippery conditions exist. Pedestrians need to be cautious during these events as well.
- Residents are advised the ban on overnight parking on Village Streets is in effect.
- Public Works staff assisted the New Maryland Scouts in their annual Christmas Tree pick-up held on Saturday, 10 January 2026.
- The winter weather has been kind to us with very little snow. In the event that this changes, 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. The Village sincerely thanks residents for their assistance in keeping hydrants clear of snow.

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

MOVED BY Councillor Laurie Pearson and **seconded by** Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud the following Resolution of Council: ***Be It Resolved That*** the Council for the Village of New Maryland request that the Department of Environment and Local Government proceed to have the wells TW17-01 and TW21-01 designated under the *Wellfield Protected Area Designation Order* – Clean Water Act.

11. (iii) New Maryland Fire Department

Fire Chief Farrell provided a summary of his quarterly report for October, November and December 2025.

- The report noted 17 (seventeen) fire calls, totaling 151 (one hundred fifty-one) firefighting hours;
- 9 (nine) calls occurred within Village limits, totaling 78 (seventy-eight) hours;
- 7 (seven) calls occurred outside Village limits, totaling 69 (sixty-nine) hours; and
- 1 (one) mutual aid call accounted for 4 (four) hours.

Fire Chief Farrell also provided a summary of his annual report for 2025.

- The report noted 67 (sixty-seven) fire calls, a decrease from 70 (seventy) calls in 2024, totaling 559 (five hundred fifty-nine) firefighting hours;
- 29 (twenty-nine) calls occurred within Village limits, totaling 244 (two hundred forty-four) hours;
- 35 (thirty-five) calls occurred outside Village limits, totaling 278 (two hundred seventy-eight) hours; and
- 3 (three) mutual aid calls accounted for 37 (thirty-seven) hours.

MOVED BY Councillor Tim Scammell and **seconded by** Deputy Mayor Mike Pope the adoption of the New Maryland Fire Department Quarterly and Year-End Reports as presented by Chief Farrell. **MOTION CARRIED.**

11. (iv) Finance Department

Councillor Scholten provided an update on the activities of the Finance Department.

- On 18 August 2021, Council adopted *Procedural By-law No. 50-2021* including Appendix "B" which outlines the Village's procedure for procurement.
- On 01 January 2026, the Province of New Brunswick modified procurement thresholds and competitive bidding limits under the *Procurement Act*, which impacted both Goods and Services. These changes must be reflected in Appendix "B" of the Village of New Maryland *Procedural By-law No. 50-2021*.
- On 14 January 2026, Council reviewed the proposed amendment to Appendix "B" of By-law No. 50-2021.
- Therefore, as per the recommendation of Council at the 14 January 2026 Council-In-Committee meeting, Councillor Scholten presented the following motion:

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 hereby adopts the revised Appendix B, dated 21 January 2026, and forming part of *By-law No. 50, A By-law Respecting the Procedures of Council and Administration*; more specifically, the revisions to approve the procurement thresholds and competitive bidding limits, as attached. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Councillor Scholten explained that he had a second motion to bring forward.

- For the Village's water and sewer bank account, there has been an overnight approval for up to $300,000 (*three hundred thousand dollars*) in overdraft. With recent changes to electronic fund transfers replacing most cheques, the Village requires a motion to approve the Direct EFT of up to $300,000 (*three hundred thousand dollars*). This will allow for immediate transfers as opposed to overnight transfers. This helps cover costs particularly during year ends when the required funds from the final billing for the previous year are not received until the later part of January.
- Therefore, as per the recommendation of Council at the 14 January 2026 Council-In-Committee meeting, Councillor Scholten presented the following motion:

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 authorize the Treasurer to enter

into an agreement with the Bank of Montreal for a $300,000 (*three hundred thousand dollars*) Direct Electronic Fund Transfer Facility, on behalf of the Village of New Maryland, for the Utility Operating Fund (Acct # 0626 1014-176). **MOTION CARRIED.**

12. Approval of the Treasurer's Report

Councillor van Groenewoud explained that she had a motion to bring forward regarding the Treasurer's monthly report.

MOVED BY Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud 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 December 2025: from the General Operating account by cheques and direct payments **$1,708,686.50** (*one million, seven hundred eight thousand, six hundred eighty-six dollars and fifty cents);* from the Water & Sewer Operating account **$551,599.58** (*five hundred fifty-one thousand, five hundred ninety-nine dollars and fifty-eight cents*); from the General Capital account **$13,820.03** (*thirteen thousand, eight hundred twenty dollars and three cents*); and from the Water & Sewer Capital account **$760,365.71** (*seven hundred sixty thousand, three hundred sixty-five dollars and seventy-one cents*). **MOTION CARRIED.**

13. Public Input / Inquires

There were 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, 18 February 2026 at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chamber.

16. Motion for Adjournment

MOVED BY Councillor Alex Scholten and **seconded by** Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud 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
Judy Wilson-Shee
Mayor

VILLAGE of NEW MARYLAND 1991 N.B.

Cynthia Geldart
Cynthia Geldart
CAO/Clerk