Village of New Maryland
Council & Swearing-In
27 May 2026

Present:
Mayor-elect Alex Scholten
Councillors-elect Steve Clements, Laurie Pearson, Mike Pope, Tim Scammell, Mariet van Groenewoud
Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)/Clerk Cynthia Geldart
Assistant Clerk Maggie Kitchener

Guests: Hon. Cindy Miles, MLA, Former Mayors Judy Wilson-Shee and David Wiezel, Former Councillor Paul LeBlanc, staff, guests and residents

1. Call to Order
CAO/Clerk Cynthia Geldart brought the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the acknowledgement that the land on which we gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Wolastoqiyik and Mi'kmaq people. We recognize and honour the enduring presence, knowledge, and contributions of Indigenous peoples in this region, past, present, and future. As we meet here today, may we do so with respect for the land and a shared commitment to understanding, reconciliation, and collaboration.

2. Greetings from Hon. Cindy Miles, MLA for Hanwell-New Maryland
Hon. Cindy Miles, MLA expressed greetings, thanked former Mayor Judy Wilson-Shee for her service, and welcomed incoming and returning Council members.

3. Oaths of Office
CAO/Clerk Cynthia Geldart officiated the Oaths of Office with Mayor-elect Alex Scholten and Councillors-elect Laurie Pearson, Mike Pope, Tim Scammell, as well as the Affirmations of Office with Councillors-elect Steve Clements and Mariet van Groenewoud. Mayor Scholten was also presented with the Chain of Office.

4. Official Handing Over of Meeting
CAO/Clerk Cynthia Geldart officially handed over the meeting to Mayor Alex Scholten.

5. Mayor's Inaugural Address
Mayor Alex Scholten expressed greetings, offering sincere thanks to former Mayor Judy Wilson-Shee, and affirming his commitment to serving the community with diligence.

6. Comments by Newly-Elected Members of Council
Members of Council shared individual opening remarks, emphasizing their collective commitment to teamwork and community-first decision-making.

In their remarks, Councillors expressed appreciation to residents for their support, acknowledged the leadership of former Mayor Wilson-Shee, and noted key issues heard on the campaign trail. They affirmed their dedication to the responsibilities of office, highlighting both proud past milestones and anticipated upcoming projects.

7. Appointment of Deputy Mayor
Councillor Mike Pope explained that the appointment of a Deputy Mayor is a requirement of the *Local Governance Act* and New Maryland's process for the appointment is detailed in the Village's Procedural By-law. The *Local Governance Act* states that: "The council of a local government shall elect a deputy mayor in accordance with a procedural by-law made under paragraph 10(2)(a)." Further to that provincial requirement, the Village's Procedural By-law No. 50 states: "The Councillor receiving the greatest number of votes during the quadrennial municipal election will be appointed to the position of Deputy Mayor. Should that individual decline or be unable to complete the term, then the Councillor with the next largest number of votes shall be

appointed." The results of the 11 May 2026 municipal election identified Tim Scammell as receiving the most votes, with Laurie Pearson receiving the next largest number of votes, as Councillors.

MOVED BY Councillor Mike Pope and **seconded by** Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud the following Resolution of Council: ***Be It Resolved That***, pursuant to the *Local Governance Act S.N.B., Chapter 18* and the *Village of New Maryland Procedural By-law No. 50*, Councillor Tim Scammell be officially appointed as Deputy Mayor for the Village of New Maryland. **MOTION CARRIED.**

8. Motion to Suspend with Regular Order of Business Rules of Procedure

Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud explained that the standard order of business for Council meetings is prescribed in the *Village of New Maryland's Procedural By-law No. 50*. As motions of Council are required at the Swearing-In Ceremony, the event is officially a formal Council meeting. However, to prioritize the administration of the Oaths of Office and inaugural remarks from the new Council, the decision was made to bypass the standard Business Agenda.

MOVED BY Councillor Mariet van Groenewoud and **seconded by** Councillor Mike Pope the following Resolution of Council: ***Be It Resolved That***, the Council for the Village of New Maryland suspend the rules of procedure regarding the Regular Order of Business of Council for this meeting and proceed with the agenda as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

9. Motion to Appoint Financial Signing Officers

Councillor Laurie Pearson explained that every time there is a change in signing officers, a resolution of Council is required by the investment bank in order to ensure proper signature documentation is recorded. Since the May 11 municipal election, a new Mayor and Deputy Mayor have been named; therefore, a new motion for signing authority is required.

MOVED BY Councillor Laurie Pearson and **seconded by** Deputy Mayor Tim Scammell the following Resolution of Council: ***Be It Resolved That*** all cheques of the Village of New Maryland (hereinafter called the "Corporation") drawn on its current accounts be signed on its behalf by Alex Scholten, Mayor or Tim Scammell, Deputy Mayor, and signed by Scott Sparks, Treasurer or Cynthia Geldart, Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk;
Be It Further Resolved That the officers mentioned above are authorized for and on behalf of the Corporation: (a) to negotiate with, deposit with or transfer to the Bank of Montreal all or any Bills of Exchange, Promissory Notes, Cheques and Orders for the payment of money and other negotiable paper, and for the said purpose to endorse the same or any of them on behalf of the Corporation, either in writing or by rubber stamp; (b) to arrange, settle, balance and certify all books and accounts between the Corporation and the Bank; and to receive all paid cheques and vouchers, unpaid and unaccepted bills of exchange and other negotiable instruments; (c) to obtain delivery from the Bank of all or any stocks, bonds and other securities held by the said Bank in safekeeping or otherwise for the account of the Corporation and to give valid and binding receipts therefore;
And That this Resolution of Council be communicated to the Bank and remain in force until written notice to the contrary shall have been given to the Manager at the Branch of the Bank at which the account of the Corporation is kept and receipt of such notice duly acknowledged in writing. **MOTION CARRIED.**

10. Date, Time and Location of Next Meeting

The next formal Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 17 June 2026 at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chamber.

11. Motion for Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maggie Kitchener
Maggie Kitchener
Assistant Clerk

Alex Scholten
Mayor

Cynthia Geldart
CAO/Clerk

VILLAGE of NEW MARYLAND
1991 N.B.