



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2025 6:30 P.M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL OFFICE  
31C MAIN STREET, SACKVILLE NB**

In attendance were Deputy Mayor Matt Estabrooks and Councillors Josh Goguen, Barry Hicks, Greg Martin, Bruce Phinney, Michael Tower and Debbie Wiggins-Colwell. Also in attendance were Chief Administrative Officer Jennifer Borne, Director of Financial Services Michael Beal and Assistant Clerk Becky Goodwin.

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Deputy Mayor Matt Estabrooks called the meeting to order.

Deputy Mayor Matt Estabrooks acknowledged that we are located within the territory of Mi'kma'ki, the unceded, ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

**1.1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

#25-160 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR DEBBIE WIGGINS-COLWELL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR GREG MARTIN THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE AGENDA OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF DECEMBER 9, 2025, AS CIRCULATED AND MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 68 (1) (C) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNANCE ACT. MOTION CARRIED.

**1.2. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Deputy Mayor Matt Estabrooks asked if there were any disclosures of interest. There were none.

**2. CLOSED SESSION**

**2.1. P-2025-04**

***Public – 7:00 p.m.***

Director of Community & Corporate Services Jeff Taylor, Director of Active Living & Culture Matt Pryde, Communications Officer Jeremy McLaughlin, Superintendent of Public Works Michelle Sherwood, Dorchester Fire Chief Greg Partridge and Dorchester Fire Captain Dennis Reid joined the meeting.

Also, in attendance were forty-nine (49) members of the public.

#25-161 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MICHAEL TOWER AND SECONDED BY GREG MARTIN THAT COUNCIL AUTHORIZE THE SETTLEMENT OF TANTRAMAR WATER AND SEWER ACCOUNT AS DISCUSSED UNDER FILE NO. P-2025-04 AT THE CLOSED SESSION OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF DECEMBER 9, 2025. MOTION CARRIED.

### 3. PUBLIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS

- 3.1. EOS ECO-ENERGY – J. BROOKS
- 3.2. SENIORS FOR CLIMATE TANTRAMAR – P. MOTT
- 3.3. DR. HAROLD POPMA (2-MINUTE)

To view all the presentations to Council, please visit our [website](#).

### 4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

#25-162 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR GREG MARTIN AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR BRUCE PHINNEY THAT COUNCIL ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF NOVEMBER 12, 2025, AS CIRCULATED. MOTION CARRIED.

#25-163 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR BARRY HICKS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR JOSH GOGUEN THAT COUNCIL ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL OF NOVEMBER 24, 2025. MOTION CARRIED.

#25-164 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR DEBBIE WIGGINS-COLWELL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR GREG MARTIN THAT COUNCIL ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 24, 2025. MOTION CARRIED

#25-165 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR BARRY HICKS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR JOSH GOGUEN THAT COUNCIL ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL OF DECEMBER 3, 2025. MOTION CARRIED.

### 5. CONSENT AGENDA

#25-166 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR BARRY HICKS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR GREG MARTIN THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA OF DECEMBER 9, 2025. MOTION CARRIED.

RFD 2025-094 – EOS ECO-ENERGY EXPENSES: CREATION OF CLIMATE ADAPTATION PLAN

*That Council approve EOS Eco-Energy to conduct work on the Climate Change Adaptation Plan for Tantramar in the total amount of \$41,100.00.*

RFD 2025-095 – CLIMATE CHANGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP  
RECOMMENDATIONS

*That Council approve the members of the climate change advisory committee as follows:*

*Jean Nye – Amlamgog Elder 3-year term January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2028*

*Andrew Knickle – MTA Student Representative 1-year term January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026*

*Brittany Cormier – EOS Executive Director 3-year term January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2028*

*Cyle Sheppard – Architectural Sustainability Consultant 3-year term January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2028*

**RFD 2025-089 – LICENSE OF OCCUPATION: RAIL TRAIL**

*That Council authorize Staff to apply for a License of Occupation with the Department of Natural Resources and Energy Development for the section of the former rail line within Tantramar Boundaries.*

**RFD 2025-096 – 2026 WINTERFEST**

*That Council authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign and seal an agreement with MAC Fireworks and authorize the Sackville Fire Chief to sign the application to purchase with MAC Fireworks for Winterfest 2026.*

*That Council approves the closure of Ford Lane, Sackville from Bill Johnstone Memorial Park to Lansdowne Street on February 6, 2026 from approximately 7:30-8:30 p.m. with a poor weather date of February 7, 2026 from approximately 6:30-7:30 p.m. to accommodate the fireworks display.*

**6. REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION**

**6.1. CAPITAL BUDGET 2026**

**#25-167 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR JOSH GOGUEN AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR GREG MARTIN THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE BREAKDOWN OF CAPITAL OUT OF REVENUE IN THE 2026 BUDGET FOR TANTRAMAR IN THE ESTIMATED AMOUNTS AS FOLLOWS:**

SHALE AND GRAVEL VARIOUS LOCATIONS	\$50,000
STORM SEWER- CULVERTS VARIOUS LOCATIONS	\$60,000
RESURFACING (SAMANTHA COURT - SACKVILLE)	\$60,000
RESURFACING (WOODLAWN ROAD – DORCHESTER)	\$100,000
SIDEWALK (KING STREET)	\$50,000
VARIOUS SIDEWALK RENEWALS	\$45,000
EQUIPMENT (SIDEWALK PLOW)	\$275,000
EQUIPMENT ( 2 – ½ TRUCKS)	\$160,000
TOOLS – BOOM FLAIL MOWER	\$75,000
TOOLS – HEAVY EQUIPMENT CODE READER	\$20,000
TOOLS – PLATE TAMPER FOR BACKHOE	\$20,000
BUILDINGS – SACKVILLE LIBRARY FRONT ENTRANCE	\$29,000
BUILDINGS – PUBLIC WORKS SECURITY UPGRADES	\$14,000
BUILDINGS – PUBLIC WORKS FLOOR GRATES	\$60,000
BUILDINGS – PUBLIC WORKS SALT SHED DOOR	\$75,000
TVMCC MURAL	\$10,000
TVMCC CONDENSOR	\$125,000
TVMCC ZAMBONI AREA IMPROVEMENTS	\$15,000



TVMCC FLOORING	\$105,000
GENERAL FACILITY REPAIRS	\$40,000
TRAILS WORK	\$25,000
LILAS PARK BOAT LAUNCH	\$65,000
MEMORIAL PARK UPGRADE	\$15,000
BJMP SPLASHPAD IMPROVEMENTS	\$17,000
PPE REPLACEMENT FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT	\$70,000
SCBA COMPRESSOR SACKVILLE STATION	\$125,000
EXTRACATION TOOLS – SACKVILLE	\$32,000
PORTABLE PUMP - DORCHESTER	\$18,000
GAS DETECTION – POINT DE BUTE/SACKVILLE	\$28,000
BUILDINGS – UPGRADE AT VISITOR INFO CENTRE	\$22,000
MUNICIPAL SIGNAGE (DIGITAL)	\$40,000

TOTAL \$1,845,000. MOTION CARRIED.

#25-168 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR JOSH GOGUEN AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR BARRY HICKS THAT THE MUNICIPALITY OF TANTRAMAR SUBMIT TO THE MUNICIPAL CAPITAL BORROWING BOARD, AN APPLICATION FOR AUTHORIZATION TO BORROW OR GUARANTEE THE REPAYMENT OF MONEY BORROWED FOR A CAPITAL EXPENSE FOR THE TERMS AND AMOUNTS AND AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR AND CLERK TO SIGN THE SAID DOCUMENT.

#### **PROTECTIVE SERVICES**

REPLACEMENT OF 1997 FIRE DEPARTMENT AERIAL \$ 4,000,000 10 YEARS

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

LIFT STATION UPGRADES CHARLES STREET	\$ 60,000	5 YEARS
LIFT STATION REPLACEMENT SQUIRE STREET	\$ 400,000	10 YEARS
VARIOUS LIFT STATION CAPITAL UPGRADES	\$ 60,000	5 YEARS
MIDDLE SACKVILLE LAGOON UPGRADES	\$ 50,000	5 YEARS
WATER TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADES	\$ 110,000	5 YEARS
PIPELINE INSPECTION TOOL	\$ 20,000	5 YEARS
TOTAL \$	700,000	

GRAND TOTAL \$ 4,700,000. MOTION CARRIED.

#### **6.2. HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND RDC FUNDING – J. TAYLOR**

A copy of the report can be found on page 19 of the Regular Council Meeting [package](#).

#25-169 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR DEBBIE WIGGINS-COLWELL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR GREG MARTIN THAT COUNCIL APPROVE RICHARD SAILLANT TO CREATE A HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOR TANTRAMAR IN THE AMOUNT OF \$21,000.00 PLUS HST AND APPROVE THE CONTRIBUTION OF \$15,000.00 FROM THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION AND AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR AND CLERK TO SIGN AND SEAL THE LETTER OF OFFER. MOTION CARRIED.

### 6.3. EMERGENCY DISPATCH PAGERS: DORCHESTER FIRE DEPARTMENT – D. REID

A copy of the report can be found on page 28 of the Regular Council Meeting [package](#).

#25-170 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MICHAEL TOWER AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR DEBBIE WIGGINS-COLWELL THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF TEN (10) MOTOROLA MINITOR VII PAGERS FROM CHANDLER ALARM & COMMUNICATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9,769.23 PLUS HST. MOTION CARRIED.

### 6.4. ARTICULATED SIDEWALK SNOW REMOVAL UNIT – M. SHERWOOD

A copy of the report can be found on page 31 of the Regular Council Meeting [package](#).

#25-171 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR DEBBIE WIGGINS-COLWELL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR BRUCE PHINNEY THAT COUNCIL AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF A 2025 MV6 MACLEAN SIDEWALK PLOW WITH ALL OPTIONAL ATTACHMENTS LISTED IN RFP TAN-2025-10 FROM ATLANTIC COASTAL EQUIPMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$354,106.05 HST INCLUDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 2026 CAPITAL BUDGET. MOTION CARRIED.

### 6.5. BIRD FRIENDLY CITY DESIGNATION – M. PRYDE

A copy of the report can be found on page 33 of the Regular Council Meeting [package](#).

#25-172 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MICHAEL TOWER AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR BRUCE PHINNEY THAT COUNCIL FORMALLY SUPPORTS MUNICIPAL STAFF AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS IN THEIR WORK TOWARDS PREPARING AND SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION TO NATURE CANADA FOR BIRD FRIENDLY CITY CERTIFICATION. MOTION CARRIED.

### 6.6. RESERVE TRANSFERS FOR 2025 – M. BEAL

A copy of the report can be found on page 35 of the Regular Council Meeting [package](#).

#25-173 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR BARRY HICKS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR BRUCE PHINNEY THAT COUNCIL AUTHORIZE THE TRANSFER, FOR THE BUDGET YEAR 2025, OF \$410,000.00 FROM THE GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET TO THE GENERAL CAPITAL RESERVE FUND. MOTION CARRIED.

#25-174 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR BARRY HICKS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR GREG MARTIN THAT COUNCIL AUTHORIZE THE TRANSFER, FOR THE BUDGET YEAR 2025, OF \$430,000.00 FROM THE UTILITY OPERATING BUDGET TO THE UTILITY CAPITAL RESERVE FUND. MOTION CARRIED.

#25-175 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR BARRY HICKS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR MICHAEL TOWER THAT COUNCIL AUTHORIZE THE TRANSFER, FOR THE BUDGET YEAR 2025, OF \$30,000.00 FROM THE UTILITY OPERATING BUDGET TO THE UTILITY OPERATING RESERVE FUND. MOTION CARRIED.



## 7. MAYOR & COUNCILLOR STATEMENTS & INQUIRIES

Debbie Wiggins-Colwell congratulated Fundy National Park and Kouchibouguac National Park on being named UN World Restoration Flagships in recognition of Parks Canada's salmon restoration efforts.

Debbie Wiggins-Colwell inquired on why the proposed gas plant project isn't classified as being under municipal jurisdiction and noted sections within the *Local Governance Act*. Deputy Mayor Matt Estabrooks responded that it does not fall under planning by-laws for the municipality. Where it's an NB Power initiative, the provincial government has been tasked with performing an environmental impact assessment. CAO Jennifer Borne added that Section 5 of the *Local Governance Act* defines municipal purpose and would be up to Council to decide what matters they wish to bring forward as resolutions.

Josh Goguen informed residents of the Christmas bird count happening on December 14, 2025, with additional information being found on Birds Canada's [website](#).

#25-176 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MICHAEL TOWER AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR BRUCE PHINNEY THAT COUNCIL WRITE A LETTER TO THE PREMIER STATING WE ARE AGAINST THE GAS PLANT, ASKING FOR THE GAS PLANT PROJECT PROCESS TO BE SUSPENDED UNTIL TANTRAMAR HAS A PUBLIC MEETING WITH NB POWER AND OUR CLIMATE CHANGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND ASK THE PREMIER AND MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT TO MEET WITH COUNCIL TO DISCUSS OUR CONCERNS. AYE VOTES RECORDED BY COUNCILLORS JOSH GOGUEN, GREG MARTIN, BRUCE PHINNEY, MICHAEL TOWER AND DEBBIE WIGGINS-COLWELL. NAY VOTES RECORDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR MATT ESTABROOKS AND COUNCILLOR BARRY HICKS. MOTION CARRIED.

Deputy Mayor Matt Estabrooks congratulated the U11 AIL Rangers and the U15 Legionnaires of Sackville Minor Hockey for capturing their respective titles at the Dave Wheaton Invitational Tournament, held in Sackville from December 5-7, 2025.

## 8. NOTICE OF MOTION

Deputy Mayor Matt Estabrooks served notice of motion regarding the Tantramar Veterans Memorial Civic Centre Banner Policy.

#25-177 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MICHAEL TOWER AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR WIGGINS-COLWELL THAT THE NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY DEPUTY MAYOR MATT ESTABROOKS REGARDING PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO POLICY NO. 2025-17 TANTRAMAR VETERANS MEMORIAL CIVIC CENTRE BANNER POLICY COME FORWARD FOR CONSIDERATION AT THIS MEETING, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15.2(B) OF BY-LAW NO. 2022-03 MEETING PROCEDURE BY-LAW. AYE VOTES BY DEPUTY MAYOR MATT ESTABROOKS AND COUNCILLORS JOSH GOGUEN, BARRY HICKS, GREG MARTIN, MICHAEL TOWER AND DEBBIE WIGGINS-COLWELL. NAY VOTE RECORDED BY COUNCILLOR BRUCE PHINNEY. MOTION DEFEATED.

Councillor Debbie Wiggins-Colwell served a notice of motion regarding opposition to Tantramar gas plant and a notice of motion relating to the Wheaton Covered Bridge.

#### 9. DEPUTY MAYOR ELECTION

Deputy Mayor Matt Estabrooks asked for nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor.

Councillor Barry Hicks nominated Councillor Debbie Wiggins-Colwell. Councillor Debbie Wiggins-Colwell accepted the nomination.

Councillor Michael Tower nominated Councillor Josh Goguen. Councillor Josh Goguen accepted the nomination.

Deputy Mayor Matt Estabrooks called for nominations two additional times. No other nominations were received.

A vote was then held with Councillor Debbie Wiggins-Colwell receiving votes from Councillors Matt Estabrooks, Barry Hicks, Greg Martin, Bruce Phinney and Debbie Wiggins-Colwell.

A vote was then held with Councillor Josh Goguen receiving votes from Councillors Josh Goguen and Michael Tower

Councillor Matt Estabrooks announced Debbie Wiggins-Colwell as Deputy Mayor.

Deputy Mayor Debbie Wiggins-Colwell assumed the chair.

#### 10. ADJOURNMENT

#25-178 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MICHAEL TOWER AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR BRUCE PHINNEY THAT COUNCIL ADJOURN THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF DECEMBER 9, 2025. MOTION CARRIED.

  
DEPUTY MAYOR  
ASSISTANT CLERK