



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF
TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2026 7:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL OFFICE
31C MAIN STREET, SACKVILLE NB**

In attendance were Mayor Andrew Black, Deputy Mayor Debbie Wiggins-Colwell and Councillors Allison Butcher, Matt Estabrooks, Josh Goguen, Barry Hicks, Greg Martin, Bruce Phinney and Michael Tower. Also in attendance were Chief Administrative Officer Jennifer Borne, Director of Community & Corporate Services Jeff Taylor, Director of Financial Services Michael Beal, Director of Active Living & Culture Matt Pryde, Assistant Clerk Becky Goodwin, Communications Officer Jeremy McLaughlin, Superintendent of Public Works Michelle Sherwood, Dorchester Fire Chief Greg Partridge and Dorchester Deputy Fire Chief Dan Dupuis.

Also, in attendance were forty (40) members of the public.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Andrew Black called the meeting to order.

Mayor Andrew Black 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

#26-003 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR GREG MARTIN AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR MATT ESTABROOKS THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE AGENDA OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF JANUARY 13, 2026, AS CIRCULATED. MOTION CARRIED.

1.2. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Mayor Andrew Black asked if there were any disclosures of interest. There were none.

2. PUBLIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS

- 2.1. PROTECT THE CHIGNECTO ISTHMUS COALITION – LISA J. GRIFFIN
- 2.2. BREANNE WHEATON

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

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

#26-004 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR ALLISON BUTCHER AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR BARRY HICKS THAT COUNCIL ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF DECEMBER 9, 2025, AS CIRCULATED. MOTION CARRIED.

#26-005 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR BARRY HICKS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR MATT ESTABROOKS THAT COUNCIL ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL OF DECEMBER 17, 2025. MOTION CARRIED.

#26-006 MOVED BY DEPUTY MAYOR DEBBIE WIGGINS-COLWELL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR GREG MARTIN THAT COUNCIL ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL OF DECEMBER 19, 2025. MOTION CARRIED

#26-007 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATT ESTABROOKS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR MICHAEL TOWER THAT COUNCIL ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL OF JANUARY 7, 2026. MOTION CARRIED.

4. REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION

4.1. SACKVILLE WATER TREATMENT PLANT: CHEMICAL PURCHASE – M. SHERWOOD

A copy of the report can be found on page 12 of the Regular Council Meeting package.

#26-008 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATT ESTABROOKS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR BRUCE PHINNEY THAT COUNCIL AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF CHEMICALS FOR WATER TREATMENT PURPOSES FROM VEOLIA WATER CANADA INC. IN THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF \$77,500.00 PLUS HST. MOTION CARRIED.

4.2. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR MATT ESTABROOKS

#26-009 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATT ESTABROOKS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR GREG MARTIN THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE AMENDMENTS TO POLICY 2025-17 TANTRAMAR VETERANS MEMORIAL CIVIC CENTRE BANNER POLICY AS PRESENTED AT THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF JANUARY 13, 2026. AYE VOTES RECORDED BY MAYOR ANDREW BLACK, DEPUTY MAYOR DEBBIE WIGGINS-COLWELL AND COUNCILLORS ALLISON BUTCHER, MATT ESTABROOKS, BARRY HICKS, GREG MARTIN AND MICHAEL TOWER. NAY VOTES RECORDED BY COUNCILLORS JOSH GOGUEN AND BRUCE PHINNEY. MOTION CARRIED.

4.3. MOTION FROM DEPUTY MAYOR DEBBIE WIGGINS-COLWELL

#26-010 MOVED BY DEPUTY MAYOR DEBBIE WIGGINS-COLWELL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR MICHAEL TOWER THAT **WHEREAS** THE WHEATON COVERED BRIDGE IS A SIGNIFICANT PIECE OF HERITAGE ARCHITECTURE WITHIN TANTRAMAR; AND **WHEREAS** THE WHEATON COVERED BRIDGE IS UNIQUE WITHIN THE PROVINCE AND THE REGION AND REPRESENTS THE LAST REMAINING COVERED BRIDGE IN TANTRAMAR; AND **WHEREAS** THE BRIDGE HOLDS HISTORICAL, CULTURAL, AND COMMUNITY VALUE AND CONTRIBUTES TO THE IDENTITY AND HERITAGE OF THE MUNICIPALITY; AND **WHEREAS** PRESERVATION OF HERITAGE STRUCTURES CAN ENHANCE COMMUNITY PRIDE, EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, TOURISM, AND RECREATIONAL TRANSPORTATION NETWORKS;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF TANTRAMAR DIRECT STAFF TO INVESTIGATE OPTIONS FOR THE PRESERVATION AND LONG-TERM PROTECTION OF THE WHEATON COVERED BRIDGE AS A MUNICIPALLY LED INITIATIVE; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL SUPPORT THE CREATION OF AN AD HOC COMMITTEE OF CITIZENS, TO WORK WITH STAFF TO:

- IDENTIFY POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES (INCLUDING GRANTS, PARTNERSHIPS, AND OTHER FINANCIAL SUPPORTS);
- EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES TO PRESERVE, RESTORE, AND ADAPTIVELY INTEGRATE THE BRIDGE INTO THE MUNICIPALITY'S TRAIL AND RECREATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS; AND
- PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL ON FEASIBLE NEXT STEPS FOR PRESERVATION AND PUBLIC USE OF THE STRUCTURE.

MOTION CARRIED.

5. MAYOR & COUNCILLOR STATEMENTS & INQUIRIES

Deputy Mayor Debbie Wiggins-Colwell congratulated the Dorchester community on two successful New Years Day events: the 34th annual Polar Dip and the New Years Levee at the Keillor House.

Deputy Mayor Debbie Wiggins-Colwell provided several updates relating to the Dorchester Memorial Library.

Deputy Mayor Debbie Wiggins-Colwell requested an update on the possibility of an elevator at the Tantramar Veterans Memorial Civic Centre. Director of Active Living & Culture Matt Pryde provided an update.

Deputy Mayor Debbie Wiggins-Colwell noted that she has requested her previous notice of motion on the proposed gas plant be postponed, until follow up can be received from the December 9, 2025 motion from Councillor Michael Tower.

Deputy Mayor Debbie Wiggins-Colwell requested an update on the plaque for the sandpiper statue located in Dorchester. Director of Community & Corporate Services Jeff Taylor will provide Council with an update.

Councillor Barry Hicks requested an update on the Pecks Cove Bridge in Rockport. Administration will follow up with the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure.

Mayor Andrew Black gave an overview on his trip to France with the Southeast Regional Service Commission. Councillor Bruce Phinney asked questions as follow-up.

Mayor Andrew Black commended a dedicated group of individuals looking to reignite Age Friendly Community. Councillor Michael Tower added to this discussion.

To watch the full Statement and Inquiries portion of the meeting, please go to minute 59:25 of the Regular Council Meeting [video](#).

6. NOTICE OF MOTION

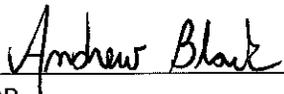
Councillor Bruce Phinney served notice of motion regarding a hiring and termination.

Deputy Mayor Debbie Wiggins-Colwell served notice of motion regarding the concerns regarding the Fire Department.

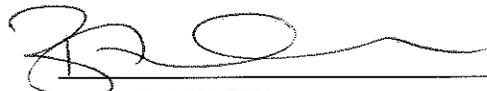
Councillor Barry Hicks served notice of motion regarding an elevator at the Tantramar Veteran's Memorial Civic Centre.

7. ADJOURNMENT

#26-011 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR BRUCE PHINNEY AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR MICHAEL TOWER THAT COUNCIL ADJOURN THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF JANUARY 13, 2026. MOTION CARRIED.



MAYOR



ASSISTANT CLERK