Minutes

Regular Meeting

DATE OF MEETING	**Sept 14th, 2026**
TIME	**7:00 PM**
MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY	**Mayor Jones**

IN ATTENDANCE

Mayor Aaron Jones, Deputy Mayor Laurie Barry-Kinney, Councillor Tony Wright, Councillor James Parish, Councillor John Sharkey, Councillor Kevin Thompson, Councillor William Eagles

Staff: Patty St. Peter, CAO/Clerk, Raeleta Ruff, Admin Support

Gallery attendance

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

Mayor Jones stated, "We begin today by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Wolastoquey people. These territories are covered by treaties of peace and friendship of the Wolastoquey people first signed with the British Crown in 1725."

AGENDA

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Barry-Kinney asked to add:

- New Business; an email from Jodi Corey, TVMHS
- Correspondence; an email received from Mark Glass

RESOLUTION: To accept the agenda with the addition of the emails from Jodi Corey and Mark Glass.

Moved by: Councillor Eagles
Seconded By: Councillor Sharkey

Motion Carried 202609-07

DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOTION:

To adopt Regular Meeting Minutes of Aug. 17th, 2026.
Moved by: Deputy Mayor Barry-Kinney
Seconded by: Councillor Wright

Motion Carried 202609-09

CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINT

Brian Vincent – Formal Objection to Procedural Violation – Code of Conduct Meeting August 17th, 2026.

I am writing to formally log an objection regarding a serious procedural violation complaint against that occurred during the handling of my Code of Conduct complaint at the regular council meeting on Monday, Aug.17th, 2026. While I acknowledge the receipt of the final report, the physical process executed by council during the meeting explicitly violated the mandatory sequence set out under option two, step seven and step eight on page 11 of the District of Tobique Valley By-law No. 2026-09. Specifically, council failed to adhere to the policy in the following manner:
Denial of access to open session voting under step seven; the complainant and respondents are required to withdraw from the chambers strictly during deliberations.
Step eight explicitly dictates that the subsequent debates and votes on whether the breach occurred and what corrective action should be taken must occur transparently in an open session. I was actively excluded from the room and was not invited back into the chambers until after the votes had already been called and completed.
As a public decision body, council owns a strict duty of procedural fairness. Excluding a member of the public and the primary complainant from the public chamber during a formal vote violates both our local by-law and open meeting principles mandated by the New Brunswick Local Governance Act.
By way of this letter, I am formally requesting:

- An official written explanation as to why I was denied re-entry for the open session voting process.
- Written confirmation that the official meeting minutes for August 17th, 2026, will accurately record that I was kept over in the hallway until after the votes were completed.

If council fails to acknowledge and address the structural breach of its own By-law, I'll reserve the right to escalate the matter to the provincial minister of local government and local government's reform for formal compliance review.

Mayor Jones replied to the complaint by Mr. Vincent:
Under step 7, the councillor and the complainant withdrew from the meeting during deliberations.

Step 8, in open session:

a) Council discusses the complaint and report
b) Votes on whether a breach occurred
c) Votes on corrective action

At the August meeting, when the Code of Conduct complaint against Councillor Wright came up to be dealt with, I followed the procedure laid out in the Code of Conduct.

Councillor Wright and Mr. Vincent were asked to remove themselves from the meeting for the deliberations of the matter.

The deliberations, Step A, B, and C were held in an open session, in presence of the public, as well as on the official livestream. The only individuals not present were Councillor Wright and Mr. Vincent as per the procedure in the Code of Conduct. After the deliberations were concluded, both Councillor Wright and Mr. Vincent were invited to re-join the meeting.

I contend that this matter was handled according to the procedure laid out in the Code of Conduct. The deliberations would include the discussion on the action if needed. In this case, step C was not needed.

In the letter of formal objection from Mr. Vincent, it is asked for

- An official written explanation as to why he was denied re-entry for the open session voting process. Mayor Jones has no issues for the clerk to provide a written explanation as to why the parties were excluded. The process was conducted in an open session. It was not an in-camera session.
- Written confirmation that the official meeting minutes for August 17th, 2026, will accurately record that I was kept in the hallway until after the votes were completed.

Mayor Jones, with council in agreement, has no objection with providing these requests. It is his belief that the process was conducted as laid out in the Code of Conduct.

Deputy Mayor Barry-Kinney vouched the clerk could send out a letter.

Salt Hauling Tender posted on website along with forwarding email to the current provider Aug. 20, 2026 – results:

- Brennan Farms Ltd. - $49.00 per metric ton plus HST equalling $56.35

MOTION: To accept the Brennan Farms Ltd. Tender of $49.00 per metric ton plus HST.

RESOLUTION: For the District of Tobique Valley to accept Brennan Farms Ltd. bid of $49.00 per metric ton plus HST.

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Barry-Kinney
Seconded by: Councillor Wright

Motion Carried 202609-10

Sand Tender posted on the website along with email forwarded to companies that responded in 2023, on Aug. 20, 2026 – results:

- Deleavey Sand & Gravel Ltd. - $5,175.00
- G.P. Forestry Management Ltd. - $3,967.50
- I.R. MacDonald & Son Inc. - $4,312.50

Councillor Eagles asked, Who G.P Forestry Management Ltd. was and where they are from.
CAO responded that they are from St. Leonard.
Councillor Eagles asked if they owned property within the District of Tobique Valley. CAO responded not that she is aware of.
Mayor Jones asked who our current provider was.
Deputy Mayor asked about the difference in sand.
CAO responded that Deleavey Sand & Gravel is our current provider.
Councillor Thompson asked if we have had sand from both Deleavey Sand & Gravel and I.R. MacDonald in the past? If any issues with either one that we know of?
CAO responded, not that I am aware of.
Councillor Wright suggested staying with someone within the district with Councillor Thompson and Deputy Mayor in agreement.

MOTION: To accept the sand tender from I.R. MacDonald for $4,312.50

RESOLUTION: For the District of Tobique Valley to accept the sand bid from I.R. MacDonald for $4,312.50

Moved by: Councillor Wright
Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Barry-Kinney

Motion carried 202609-04

PRESENTATIONS

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Jones

Regional Service Commission

From the previous meeting at the Regional Service Commission, By-law enforcement was discussed as well as the cost associated with that service. The Regional Service Commission would hire a By-law enforcement officer to provide services to municipalities within the Western Valley Region who wish to participate in the program. Cell coverage is a constant issue in the region.

Trail strategy – we are not affected as the system does not reach to our demographic.

The new board members were informed about what led to Commission hiring a consultant to create a Western New Brunswick Regional Trail strategy. In the coming months, the Western New Brunswick

Service Commission Board will be invited to meeting with the Minister of Environment to discuss trail strategy and plan for our region. The Board will discuss the composition of the Regional Trail committee at the next meeting.

The RSC's throughout New Brunswick will be undertaking an inventory of agriculture data, mapping and initiatives to identify regional priorities and opportunities, as well as assess organizational readiness and compacity.

Resolution to borrow for the garbage cart program down river.

Dalhousie residency program - draft letter of support expressing the Western NB Service Commission support for the Upper River Valley Hospitals. Request to establish Dalhousie residency program at the hospital. Deputy Mayor was on a tour at Perth hospital, and they are looking at doing another tour on Friday at the Upper River Valley Hospital in Waterville to see what services they have on the go there.

UMNB

Council will be attending the UMNB conference on the first of October.

Deputy Mayor Laurie Barry-Kinney

Tourism

The end of August, the mayor and I attended the Mayoral School in Fredericton for 2 days and was a great event.

Christmas Committee

First meeting was held the middle of September.

- Christmas Parade is the first weekend of December
- Tree Lighting is the weekend before.

Education

DFMS

Becky Harding states they are well on their way into the school year.

Once details are finalized for the youth council, Deputy Mayor Barry-Kinney will reach out to TVHS and TLA.

Councillor James Parish

Economic Development

There are some things coming along and will be rolling out in the next few months.

Health

Meeting was cancelled.

Finance

Will be getting into some budget stuff in the next few months, so some exciting things coming along.

Councillor Tony Wright

Pond Hockey

Registration is on going for the upcoming season. Event planning is getting under way

Facility Maintenance

- Zamboni blades taken for sharpening
- Ice paint received
- New banner received
- Arena floor prepped for ice installation
- Cimco plant start up sept 23rd
- Pool house prepped and closed for winter
- Regular lawn maintenance last mow
- Ice sprayer prepped for installation
- Condenser tower cleaned
- Dock at lake repaired
- Contacted Acetox for propane for Zamboni
- Ball diamond shut down which included the flags and porta potty removed, bases put away and garbage cans removed.
- Dressing Rooms cleaned and ready for the season
- Building Inspections Complete
- Chain saw course completed by Guy Sept. 10th
- Yard cleaned for debris for Zamboni Tire cleanliness
- Marty's Electric fixed urinals in park washrooms
- Swept and mopped players benches
- Soccer field nets were put in storage
- Picnic tables were put away
- Opened Suction valves on ice plant
- Ice Floods began Sept 25th which were 8 floods done daily, resulting in 56 floods including Painting. Saunders came to check Zamboni on Oct 13th and fixed a scraping issue.

Fire Department

- Rubbish Fire
- Cardiac Arrest with ANB
- iPhone crash notification

- Fire Alarm DFMS
- iPhone crash notification
- Tree on power lines
- Single vehicle rollover
- Fire near a residence
- Single vehicle rollover
- iPhone crash notification
- Residential fire alarm

This report covers the months of July and August.

During the month of July, the Plaster Rock Fire Dept was contacted by Global Medic; a nonprofit disaster relief organization. This organization donated a fire skid (1,000gal tank, gas pump, roll of fire hose, loading hose and nozzle) to the fire dept! This will help with smaller harder to reach grass/forest fires. This unit can be transported on the back of a pickup. Many departments across the province have benefited from these donations.

You will notice in the list of calls, several iPhone crash detection calls. These types of calls are becoming more common. If a phone is dropped it will trigger a crash notification. These calls tie up valuable resources, as everyone is dispatched, police, ambulance and fire, but they cannot be ignored, in case it is something legitimate. In conversation with other districts/municipalities it would be interesting to know if they have seen a rise in the frequency of this type of calls.

Two FD members attended the NBCC Firefighter 2-day workshop in Miramichi.

Councillor Kevin Thompson

Policy & By Laws

Working on Policy & By Laws

Transportation

In talks with Urban Rural Rides & 1 new volunteer.

Cemetery

No Report

Councillor John Sharkey

Parks Development & Recreation

- Summer Market: The Summer Market was held on August 15th and 16th at the Welcome Centre, bringing local vendors and community members together while supporting local businesses. Another market is being planned for October 3rd as part of the Fall Festival.
- National Bacon Lovers Day: A successful community breakfast was held, with over 60 breakfast meals sold. The event received excellent community support.
- 3rd Annual Car Show: The 3rd Annual Car Show was held on August 22nd and was a successful family-friendly event that brought residents, visitors, and car enthusiasts together. Awards included: 1st Place – Most Votes: 1931 Ford Coupe Model A and 2nd Place: 1954 Dodge Fargo and the Oldest Car Award: 1924 Ford Model T
- Walking Club: The Walking Club continues to encourage residents to stay active, healthy, and connected with others in the community. A picnic was also held following one of the walks, providing participants with an opportunity to enjoy food together.
- Pool: The pool officially closed for the season on August 30th following a successful summer. Free swimming for children under 16 was made possible through the generous support of Mark and Sandra Glass, helping make swimming accessible to local families throughout the season.

Library

- Interviews will be taking place during September for the Library Assistant position. Applications were received from July 16 to 27th. I will update as the process continues.
- CVCV returns for their monthly craft session with Stephanie on Wednesday, Sept. 2.
- Summer Reading Club was a success. Brooke did a great job of providing activities and promoting reading to the kids in the community. We offered 20 programs throughout the summer with just over 300 participants!
- September is “Read Local” month, a time to encourage participants to support NB authors, musicians and other creators from our own backyard. Anyone who checks out an item by an NB author or artist can enter their name into our draw. The prize is NB themed puzzle books.
- Tara from Talk with Me will return on September 15th with the Songs & Rhymes Program for ages 0-5yrs. She will continue until the snow flies or attendance drops.
- The library’s board will meet on September 8th at 4:30.
- Spice Club’s spice/seasoning pick up will be ready for pick up on Friday, Sept. 4th. The spice for September is tarragon.
- Rug Hooking returns in September. Tentative dates are Tuesday, Sept. 15th & 29th.
- Lego Club will be held on Tuesday, September 22.
- Book Club will meet on Thursday, Sept. 24 at 6:30 to discuss “The Book Club for Troublesome Women” by Marie Bostwick. New members are always welcome.
- Free passes for the NB Provincial Parks are available from May 15 – October 11. Passes can be redeemed during their summer season (same dates). Once issued passes are only good for 3 days, so patrons must plan accordingly.

- Free passes for Kings Landing are available from September 11-19th. Passes can be redeemed during Sept. 13-19. One pass per card and kids under 5 are free.
- Story Time returns on Wednesday, Sept. 16th at 10:30.
- The library will be closed for a regional professional development day for all staff on Thursday, Sept. 17. All libraries in the HSJ region (Edmunston – Woodstock) will be closed that day.
- The library will also be closed on Wednesday, Sept. 30 in recognition of National Truth & Reconciliation Day.

Long Term/Palliative Care

Had discussion with a former nurse who stated, extra mural nursing is involved.

Councillor William Eagles

Public Works

- Hillcrest/ Aberdeen apron reconstruction completed
- Main Street retaining wall construction ongoing
- Water system correlation completed for water loss discovery
- Two of the water leaks discovered are repaired
- Speed & children playing signs installed on First St, Hillcrest and Hemingway.
- Ditching completed on north end of Tobique St.
- 13 water samples all acceptable results

EMO

No Report

Tobique Forestry Advisory Committee

No Report

Motion: Reports be accepted as submitted and accounts payable
Moved by: Deputy Mayor Barry-Kinney
Seconded by: Councillor Tony Wright

Motion Carried 202609 – 11

Deputy Mayor Barry-Kinney asked about the Service commission trail strategy. Mayor Jones responded about the trail system down river which has not been extended to Tobique Valley.

Councillor Eagles addressed Councillor Parish concerning the nurse practioner appointments. Councillor Parish replied of appointments being posted available. Deputy Mayor asked about the physician assistant if she was still tied up with paperwork. Councillor Parish has not heard if she is on duty yet.

Chief Administrative Officer

Community & Administration

- The Lagoon Project is ongoing.
- The complaint of graffiti on the bridge was forwarded to DTI with a response that a ticket has been created in their systems, and a DTI representative will be dispatched to follow up on the request.
- A company has been contacted regarding livestreaming for the district
- Attended a meeting with Minister Kennedy of ELG on September 3rd in Florenceville
- Maurice Dionne Street - Property owners from Route 108 to the intersection of Centennial Street have been informed of the change will come into effect October 19th. At that time the new street sign can be installed.
- Administration duties

The Chief Administrative Officer report be accepted
Moved by: Councillor Wright
Seconded by: Councillor Sharkey

Motion Carried 202609-12

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a) Jim Melanson – Proposal NB Age-Friendly Community Program asking the District of Tobique Valley to approve the beginning of the process:

- Council pass a resolution
- Create an advisory committee – Older member, councillor & town administrator
- Conduct a Needs assessment – don't assume; ask. Not a quick process.
- Action plan – identify priorities
- Come before community recognition
- Start implementation
- Report back

Motion: For the District of Tobique Valley to pass a resolution for Jim Melanson's proposal NB Age-Friendly Community Program

RESOLUTION: Resolution be passed for NB Age-Friendly Community Program.
Moved by: Councillor Sharkey
Seconded by: Councillor Parish

Motion Carried 202609-13

b) **Jim Melanson - Proposal to Support the Gathering Place for Seniors - asking the District of Tobique Valley:**

- To help with the snow removal.
- Sept thru April to support with $650/month for heating and lights and to use the large auditorium space
- Letter of support for grants

Deputy Mayor stated it was a very good program and well organized. She feels it should be supported through the Community Development program of $1,000.00.
Councillor Thompson commented being in on Thursday and there was a good turnout for games.
Councillor Wright mentioned snow removal is already taken care of. They could possibly use the Welcome Centre.
Councillor Eagles feels the Welcome Centre is a better option as the snow is already removed and taken care of, heated, has a kitchen, and the facilities needed.
Councillor Wright agreed.
Deputy Mayor feels there is not enough room at the Welcome Centre.
Councillor Parish mentioned having a conversation if the Welcome Centre is an option.
Councillor Sharkey says it's a nice set up and a discussion is a good idea.
Councillor Parish stated we can contribute more if we donate the Welcome Centre.
Mayor Jones stated to have more discussion with Jim Melanson over the next week or two.

c) **Councillor Sharkey Maritime Hockey Update of Follow UP Meeting**

Nothing to report or activity for this year. Tobique Valley would be the base for AAA. They like our facility and rates. Possible activity over the next 3 years. Further discussions to take place.

NEW BUSINESS

a) **Chamber of Commerce**
Councillor Parish met with the CEO of Grand Falls Chamber of Commerce Gilles concerning having a Chamber in the District of Tobique Valley. He suggested DTV become part of Grand Falls Chamber. Discussions from Council will need to be had to move forward. Businesses in the area have up the game here. A meeting will be set up with Gilles concerning moving forward and business buy in. Cost for municipality will not be more than $2,000.00.

b) **National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Holiday for staff.**

Motion: Deputy Mayor Barry-Kinney move that Truth and Reconciliation Holiday be added to the Statutory holidays for staff.

RESOLUTION: For the District of Tobique Valley to add Truth and Reconciliation Holiday to the Statutory holidays for staff.
Moved by: Deputy Mayor Barry-Kinney
Seconded by: Councillor Parish
Motion Carried 202609-14

c) **2027 Provincial-Municipal Highway Partnership Program information provided to council along with Public Works concerning this project on Tobique Street.**
Project includes from Merrithew Lane to Craig Street on Tobique Street. Deputy Mayor asked CAO to send letter to consider doing the mentioned roadway.

d) **Provincial-Municipal Highway Partnership Program**

Motion: To accept the Provincial-Municipal Highway Partnership Program 3-year plan with the updated cost.

RESOLUTION: For the District of Tobique Valley to accept the Provincial-Municipality Highway Partnership Program 3-year plan with the updated cost.

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Barry-Kinney
Seconded by: Councillor Eagles

Motion Carried 202609-15

e) **District of Tobique Valley Draft Procedural By-Law No. 2026-10**
First reading of Draft Procedural By-Law No. 2026-10 was read by Title by Mayor Jones. Council was in agreeance with the By Law reading by Title.

Motion: To accept the first reading by Title the Draft Procedural By-Law No. 2026-10

RESOLUTION: For the District of Tobique Valley to accept the first reading by Title the Draft Procedural By-Law No. 2026-10

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Barry-Kinney
Seconded by: Councillor Wright

Motion Carried 202609-16

Second reading of Draft Procedural By-Law No. 2026-10 was read by Title by Mayor Jones.

Motion: To accept the second reading by Title the Draft Procedural By-Law No. 2026-10

RESOLUTION: For the District of Tobique Valley to accept the second reading by Title the Draft Procedural By-Law No. 2026-10

Moved by: Councillor Wright
Seconded by: Councillor Sharkey

Motion Carried 202609-17

Deputy Mayor added the email from Jodi Corey requesting funding for supply teacher expenses as she has been selected to attend the 27th addition of the Teachers Institute on Canadian Parliamentary Democracy in Ottawa Nov. 1 – 8, 2026. Deputy Mayor will reach out for more clarification on this issue.

CORRESPONDENCE

a) Thank You from Eva Dionne-Gillingham in honoring her father former Mayor Maurice Dionne.
b) RCMP report
c) Additon: Councillor Eagles requested the renaming of Dionne St. be scheduled two weeks out so family can plan to attend.
d) Addition: Email from Mark Glass complimenting the Public Works staff for the great job they did at the St. Andrews United Church connecting the sanitary services to the municipal line. We also appreciate the restoration process of topsoil and seeing. This was not expected and the trustees of the church are certainly appreciative. I would like to mention Matt for the initial examination of our existing line to a post installation follow-

up. I have found Matt to be professional in his discussions and attentive to results. Originally our Presbyterian congregation is the oldest church in Plaster Rock constructed in 1906 with help from Donald Fraser. So, to be connected physically to municipality after 120 years is quite special.

To move that the next Regular Council meeting will be Monday, Oct. 19th, 2026, at 7 p.m. at the Phil Sharkey Memorial Centre.

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Barry-Kinney
Seconded by: Councillor Eagles

Motion Carried 202609-18

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned 8:40 p.m.

Moved by: Councillor Eagles

Motion Carried 202609-19

Aaron Jones, Mayor **Patty St. Peter, Clerk**