

Minutes



Regular Meeting

December 15th, 2025

DATE OF MEETING

7:00 PM

TIME

Mayor Eagles

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY

IN ATTENDANCE

Mayor Tom Eagles, Deputy Mayor Gary Harding, Councillor Joanne Michaud, Councillor William Eagles, Councillor Sharon DeWitt, Councillor Tony Wright, Councillor Laurie Barry-Kinney, Patty St. Peter, CAO/Clerk, Amanda Jenkins McAskill, ASO

Gallery: Graham Eagles, David Michaud

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

OPENING PRAYER

Mayor Eagles lead the meeting in the Lord's Prayer.

Mayor welcomes all to the last regular meeting of 2025. He thanks all of council for their hard work over the year.

DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Eagles noted 14(b) Complaint to be added to the agenda.

RESOLUTION: Approval of agenda with the addition of 14(b) Complaint - Councillor Eagles, Councillor Wright

Carried 2025 - 169

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RESOLUTION: Approval of Regular Meeting November 17th, 2025 – Deputy Mayor Harding, Councillor Eagles

Carried 2025 – 170

RESOLUTION: Approval of the Special Meeting December 1st, 2025 - Councillor Michaud, Councillor Wright

Carried 2025 – 171

PRESENTATION

TOBIQUE VALLEY SENIORS COMPLEX

Graham Eagles presented to Council of the possibility of expanding the number of units for seniors who wish to take advantage of low-cost rentals, similar to what is already in place at the Tobique Valley Complex. It is the board's understanding that the expansion would be a stand alone building.

The board would like to invite a councillor to sit on a steering committee. Councillor Eagles will sit on the steering committee and Council supports this initiative.

Graham Eagles vacated the meeting at 7:14 p.m.

BY-LAW 2025-08 – DISTRICT OF TOBIQUE VALLEY – A BY-LAW RESPECTING THE ESTABLISHMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF AN EMERGENCY MEASURES PLAN.

A by-law of the District of Tobique Valley respecting the establishment and implementation of an emergency measures response plan pursuant to section 10(A) of the Local Government Act of New Brunswick.

First Reading of By-Law 2025-08 – District of Tobique Valley – A By-Law Respecting the Establishment and Implementation of an Emergency Measures Plan – Councillor Barry-Kinney, Councillor Wright

Carried 2025 – 172

Second Reading of By-Law 2025-08 – District of Tobique Valley – A By-Law Respecting the Establishment and Implementation of an Emergency Measures Plan – Councillor DeWitt, Councillor Wright

Carried 2025 - 173

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE VILLAGE OF PLASTER ROCK RURAL PLAN BY-LAW 20A-11

The District of Tobique Valley has applied to rezone five municipally owned properties to facilitate their sale for residential development, supporting ongoing growth in the Village of Plaster Rock.

These properties are currently zoned Mixed Development (MD), a designation that permits a range of residential, commercial, and institutional uses. To ensure that future development complements the surrounding neighborhood, the District is proposing to rezone the lands to Residential 4 (R4). This zone limits permitted main uses to single-detached dwellings, helping to maintain the residential character and cohesion of the neighborhood.

Property: PID's 65195414, 65195406, 65195398, 65195448, and 65195455, Cedar Street and Goodfellow Crescent, Plaster Rock

Rezoning: Mixed Development Zone (MD Zone) to Residential 4 (R4 Zone)

RESOLUTION:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- The public hearing to consider objections to the proposed by-law 20A-11 be scheduled for Monday, January 19th, 2025, at 7:00 pm at the District Office located at 159 Main Street, Plaster Rock.
- The Zoning By-law #20A-11 be referred to the Planning Review and Adjustment Committee for its written views.

Carried 2025 - 174

Committee Reports

Mayor Eagles

Regional Service Commission

Board meeting was held Nov. 21, 2025, via Zoom. Health Care was a major discussion regarding the Waterville Hospital (UVRH). Word has come to the Regional Service Commission that new surgeons do not want to come to a hospital where they have no control over the surgical suite, pointing to the current management and scheduling structure as a major barrier to recruitment. Also, the hospital's surgical program is being run out of Fredericton instead of locally.

Horizon wouldn't confirm how many surgeons are actually on staff, saying only that it's exploring more day-surgery models for outpatient care. In a lot of times, both surgical and obstetrical services have faced repeated temporary closures due to staffing shortages. Services have often been restored, but closures remain a possibility due to ongoing recruitment challenges.

This is another example of how centralized decision-making and poor planning continue to strain healthcare in our region.

The Regional Service Commission has requested a face-to-face meeting with the Minister of Health, Deputy Minister of Health and Margaret Melanson CEO Horizon Health.

The next Board meeting will be held on Dec. 12, 2025.

Addition: The board meeting held on December 12, 2025, was dominated by health. The RSC has released a media statement, which copies will be accessible. Mayor Eagles did two media interviews on December 15th, with an emergency meeting called on December 18th at 4 p.m. The meeting will consist of 7 doctors including Dr. Bill Goodine and his wife.

Mayor Eagles got word today that another surgeon at the UVRH is leaving to go to Fredericton. He is very concerned of the state our health care system is in.

RSC – Public Safety

RCMP communication has been great and have done anything that I have asked. Their presence in the District is very noticeable and most welcomed.

UMNB

Legal Procedures workshop will be offered virtually with Basile Chiasson to explain the legislative and regulatory framework surrounding the Local Governance Act, the Planning Act, and other relevant legislation, the possible legal procedures, and the options available to municipalities. The virtual English – Webinar will be March 24, 2026, @ Council Chambers for all of council to attend if available.

Deputy Mayor Gary Harding

Public Works

- Body metal work on trackless
- Repair quick attach on backhoe
- Put up Christmas tree and lights on green space
- New wing hose on plow truck
- New Chlorine analyzer commissioned at well house
- New cylinder for loader
- Took down Remembrance Day banners and installed Christmas banners and lights on welcome centre
- New backup alarms on plow truck, pickup and cube
- New sewer mainline on Michaud Lane
- Plowed/salted four times this month
- New paint on trackless & backhoe snowplow
- Change oil and fuel filters on trackless
- Met with Valcon to get work started on lagoon project

- One load of salt delivered this month
- Five water samples with all acceptable results

Addition:

- Work for phase one is completed at the lagoon with the road and fence completed.
- Public works is plowing the street known as MacWright Street, which will be changed to Clark Street once the land is turned over to the District.

Tobique Forestry Advisory Committee

No Report

Cemetery Committee

No Report

Councillor Laurie Barry-Kinney

Policy & By-Laws

No report

Pond Hockey

No report

Economic Development – Tourism

The Glen Group is visiting our area Thursday, December 18th, to tour our nature trail and quick sessions to review. Council is welcome to attend.

Councillor Tony Wright

Parks, Recreation & Facility Maintenance/Recreation Committee

Recreation:

- Attended Christmas Committee meetings on November 13th and 26th to plan the Christmas on Candy Cane Lane schedule.
- Posted an ad for a Thriftmas Sale on December 13th, giving the community an opportunity to browse and purchase holiday-themed and second-hand items.
- Hosted the tree lighting ceremony with caroling on November 28th.
- The annual Christmas Parade was held on December 5th, followed by cookies and milk with Santa at the Welcome Centre and a Christmas Skate at the arena. The events were well attended and enjoyed by participants.
- The 2nd Annual Baked Cookie Contest took place on December 6th at 10:00 a.m., with six registrants. Winners were chosen by Council in each age category.
- The Senior's Social was held on December 6th at 2:00 p.m., with a good turnout despite other local events.
- Sounds of the Season took place on December 7th from 2:30–4:30 p.m. at the Baptist Church. Admission was by donation, with proceeds going to the Lord's Pantry Food Bank.

Facility

No report

Pond Hockey

Teams are registered. 80 men's and 20 women with a waiting list. A month ago, there was already 2 inches of ice.

Councillor HW Eagles

Fire Department

No Report

Cemetery

Closed until spring.

Transportation

Councillor Eagles is concerned about transportation with our health care system. Mayor Eagles noted Urban Rides is a great resource that will transport even to St. John.

Long Term/Palliative Care

No Report

Mayor Eagles added he would like to our Fire Department for structure rescue at Twin Rivers Saturday night into Sunday with mutual aid of the Drummond Fire Department.

Councillor Sharon DeWitt

For the month of November 2025

MONTHLY	INCOME	EXPENSE
GENERAL	\$243,208.71	\$121,513.20
WATER & SEWER	\$ 74,986.56	\$ 31,535.18
TOTAL	\$318,195.27	\$153,048.38

EMO

Councillor DeWitt thanked Amanda for taking this position on.

Meetings Amanda attended:

- November 17th – Attended a 2-hour zoom about Provincial Extreme Winter Weather. They had representatives from Environment Canada, NB Power, and Office of the Fire Marshal. Each representative spoke about how they play a part of winter weather preparedness.
- November 19th – Rodney Schmidt, Chief Tim Corbin – Wildfire Resiliency Plan – Rodney is a consultant with Transitional Solutions Inc., who is working with our RSC to give our area a guide on how to build a Wildfire Resiliency Plan.
- November 21st – Attended a virtual meeting with Co-Operators and their Call for Proposals for Canadian Climate Resilience Infrastructure Projects – they are seeking projects that cost more than \$5 million however, ideal size is \$20-\$100 million.
- December 2 – Josh Corey – Regional NBEMO
 - - willing to do a tabletop with the municipality
 - - noted the by-law should be updated to give the district authority should anything happen
 - - will have ICS-200 training available in 2026

Continued Projects:

- Emergency Procedures Website
- Emergency Alert System Usage Policy (Voyent Alert System)

- Annual review of the EMO plan
- Table top exercise with Josh Corey

Councillor DeWitt mentioned the Voyent Alert has now been activated for our area.

Library

- The group from CVCVB will come on Dec. 3rd for their monthly craft session with Stephanie. This month will be Christmas art with buttons.
- The library has partnered with Tara Morris from Talk with Me to host a “Grinch Night” on Dec. 4th at 6:30. There will be grinch crafts for all ages, prizes, cookies to decorate and a visit from the Grinch! All ages welcome.
- Lego Club will be held after school on Dec. 16th
- Spice Club’s spice/seasoning for December is Rosemary. We currently have 24 participants. New members are welcome.
- We have free passes available from Dec. 1-19 for the Musee Acadien in Moncton. Passes can be used from Dec. 1 – Jan. 31st
- The library Book Club will be meeting on Dec. 18 to discuss “The Noel Letters” by Richard Paul Evans. New members are always welcome.
- Rug Hooking meets only once this month (on Dec. 9) due to the Christmas holidays.
- Grade 6 students are participating in Hackmatack (an Atlantic Canada book program) once again this year. They meet monthly to discuss and do activities about a book from the 10 fiction and 10 non-fiction books selected by the program. Sandy was in charge of that program; Stephanie will do her best to keep it going.
- There will be no Story Time on Dec. 3rd, due to staff shortages. There will also be no Story Time on Dec 24th & Dec. 31st due to the Christmas/New Year holidays.
- The library will be closing at noon on Dec. 24th and remain closed on Dec. 25 & 26th. And it will also be closed on Jan. 1st.

Education

DFMS

No Report

TVMHS

No Report

Councillor Joanne Michaud

Health

No Report

Policy & By Laws

No Report

Christmas

- Winners of the contests that we have had so far have been announced on FaceBook
- Sounds of the Season that was held at the United Baptist Church netted the Lord’s Pantry Food Bank \$450 this year.

Mayor Eagles noted the Candy Cane theme, and festivities were very well done. He asked Councillor Michaud to thank the committee on Council’s behalf.

RESOLUTION: Reports be accepted as submitted – Councillor DeWitt, Councillor Eagles

Carried 2025 - 175

Chief Administrative Officer

Community & Administration

- Riley Brook Generator update. Carl's is waiting on the propane company for December 12th to determine where the generator should be installed. Once this is determined the generator will be installed the following week.
- ElectionsNB will be forwarding Candidate Fact Sheets for public information
- 4 Poles with 100-watt streetlights will be installed at the intersection of Fraser Street and Route 108
- Email was forwarded to the President of the Victoria County ATV Club advising of damage to the ramp at the boat landing.
- A complaint from a resident from Birch Ridge Cross Road was directed to the proper department that maintains the roadway
- Letter of thanks forwarded to Mark Glass for his voluntarism and hard work as the EMO Coordinator
- Public Expression of Interest for 4.5 Hectares off Cedar Street posted to website and notified economic development committee.
- Surveying for Mac Wright Street won't be completed until after Christmas or early January. The property that belongs to Justin Clark can be named Clark Street with the rest of street remaining to be Mac Wright Street
- Holiday Hours for the District of Tobique; Wednesday, December 24th – closed at noon, Thursday December 25th – Closed, Friday, December 26th – Closed, Wednesday, December 31st – Closing at 3 p.m. And Thursday, January 1st - Closed

Financial

- Budget submitted to the province
- Luke Cain from Gallagher Insurance was able to renew the districts insurance policy by a decrease of \$10,000

CAO St. Peter noted Gallagher Insurance had missed the new Fire Department pick up truck so this will adjust our premium and savings.

By-Law Enforcement

- Update officer with new owners of 219 Main Street, Plaster Rock and 84 Main Street, Linton Corner

Meetings

- Nov 17 Council Meeting
- Nov 17 – Virtual Meeting
- Nov 19 – Health & Safety
- Nov 26 – Strategic Meeting
- Dec 3 – Health & Safety
- Dec 5 – Virtual Trails Strategy Meeting

RESOLUTION: The Chief Administrative Officer report be accepted – Councillor Wright, Deputy Mayor Harding

Questions:

- Councillor Eagles: The update to the By-Law Enforcement officer – what was the update?
 - CAO St. Peter noted – the owners were updated, therefore the process will start over again.
- Councillor DeWitt: Generator in Riley Brook, have you heard from Carl's about the propane company on December 12th?
 - CAO St. Peter – Have not been in contact with John yet since, will follow up
- Councillor DeWitt: Where are they putting streetlights at the intersection of Fraser Street and the 108?
 - Mayor Eagles – Both Sides
- Deputy Mayor Harding: Did Cain Insurance note why the insurance has decreased?
 - CAO St. Peter – 2025 paid \$90,974. The renewal was going to be \$95,000; however, they were going to see if they can lower it. The renewal came back at \$84,654. Remember there was one vehicle still to be added to the fleet.

Carried 2025 - 176

Business Arising from the Minutes

None

New Business

- a) Quote for Pool House Accessibility Renovations

Maintenance had contacted various carpenters for a quote for the pool house renovations. Received one quote back from Matthew Curtis Breau for the amount of \$7,450. The quote includes labour to replace 2 toilets, lower 2 sinks, install grab handles beside and behind 2 toilets in the bathrooms, make men's toilet stall bigger, remove one stall in women's, add and install two ramps to the bathroom entrances, handrails to the entrance by the fence along side wall. All inside work will be done this winter with the outside items to be completed in the spring.

RESOLUTION: To accept Matthew Curtis Breau's quote for the Pool House Accessibility Renovations - Councillor DeWitt, Councillor Wright

Carried 2025 - 179

- b) Community Investment Application from Sisson Brook Women's Institute asking for funding for a project Community Santa & Playground. The project's goal is to bridge the gap with their seniors and children. Project cost is \$1500.00 asking for \$1000.00

RESOLUTION: To donate \$1000.00 from the Community Investment Fund to the Sisson Brook Women's Institute – Councillor Wright, Deputy Mayor Harding

Carried 2025 - 180

Correspondence:

- a) Mark Scott, Department of Transportation, and Infrastructure forwarding memo to provide clarification regarding Access permits, Private roads, and public non-maintained roads. The memo notes that access permits are issued by DTI under the Highway Act. Access Permits are required from DTI whenever a person wishes to connect a private road, entrance way, driveway or proposed public road to an existing highway. Private roads are access roads which have been constructed for private use and where the title to the land is not held by the Crown. DTI is not responsible for the administration nor the maintenance or repair to private roads. Public non-maintained roads are a type of public road that is not constructed or maintained to a standard that supports year-round use or activities for commercial industrial or dwelling purposes. DTI has no responsibility to fund the maintenance, repair or upgrade a public non-maintained road.

b) **Complaint** - A complaint has been received from Patty St. Peter, CAO on November 18th, 2025 regarding the council meeting on November 17th against Councillor Joanne Michaud. A summary of concerns noted are:

- Remarks made were derogatory and inappropriate towards the CAO
- Chain of Command was not followed
- Raising personnel-related concerns in an open session.

Councillor Michaud gave a statement of defence.

Mayor Eagles asked Councillor Michaud and CAO, St. Peter to vacate the meeting for council to deliberate at 8:01 p.m.

Gallery, David Michaud left the meeting 8:01 p.m.

Council reviewed and deliberated.

Conclusions

- Council votes if breach of Code of Conduct occurred:

RESOLUTION: It was noted that Councillor Michaud did speak out of term in the regular council meeting of November 17, 2025, therefore breaching the Council Code of Conduct by-law 2023-01 3(e)(i)(1). – Councillor Wright, Councillor Eagles

Yay – 5

Nay – 0

Carried 2025 - 177

Sanctions

- Council votes if corrective action is required:

RESOLUTION: Council has sanctioned Councillor Michaud to a letter of apology to Patty St. Peter, CAO by January 19th, 2026, under the Council Code of Conduct by-law 2023-01 5(a)(ii). Council is also requesting a verbal apology at the next council meeting January 19th, 2026. – Councillor DeWitt, Councillor Wright

Yay – 5

Nay – 0

Carried 2025 – 178

Councillor Michaud rejoined the council meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Next Meeting Date

RESOLUTION: The next Regular Meeting is Monday, January 19th, 2026 @ 7:00 p.m. at the Phil Sharkey Memorial Centre – Councillor Barry-Kinney, Councillor Eagles

Carried 2025 - 181

Closed Session – None

Adjournment

RESOLUTION: The meeting adjourned @ 8:27 p.m. – Councillor Barry-Kinney, Councillor DeWitt

Carried 2025 - 182

Tom Eagles, Mayor

Patty St. Peter, CAO/Clerk

Amanda Jenkins McAskill, Acting CAO/Clerk