

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF
MONDAY, JANUARY 27, 2025 – 2:30 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL OFFICE
31C MAIN STREET, SACKVILLE NB**

In attendance were Mayor Andrew Black, Deputy Mayor Matt Estabrooks and Councillors Allison Butcher, Josh Goguen, Greg Martin, Bruce Phinney, Michael Tower and Debbie Wiggins-Colwell. Also in attendance were Chief Administrative Officer Jennifer Borne, Director of Legislative Services Donna Beal, Assistant Clerk Becky Goodwin and Manager of Tourism & Business Development Ron Kelly Spurles

1. CALL THE 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

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR GREG MARTIN AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR BRUCE PHINNEY THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE AGENDA OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF JANUARY 27, 2025, AS CIRCULATED AND MOVE INTO IN-CAMERA IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 68(1)(D) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNANCE ACT. MOTION CARRIED.

1.2 CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

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

2. IN-CAMERA

2.1 P-2025-03

Public – 3:00 P.M.

Director of Engineering & Public Works Jon Eppell, Director of Active Living & Culture Matt Pryde, Director of Financial Services Michael Beal, Communications Officer Jeremy McLaughlin, Manager of Compliance, Risk & Safety Kathleen Carroll, Sackville Fire Chief Craig Bowser, Dorchester Fire Chief Greg Partridge, Dorchester Fire Captain Dennis Reid, Planner Guilhem Francez, Planner Jenna Stewart and Planning Manager Lori Bickford joined the meeting.

Also, in attendance were fifteen (15) members of the Public.

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

Mayor Andrew Black asked if there were any disclosure of interest. Councillor Josh Goguen noted his involvement with the local Scouts organization but will not be stepping out during the Community Development Grants agenda item.

3. INFORMATION ITEMS

3.1 PUBLIC HEARING TEXT AMENDMENT TO TOWN OF SACKVILLE ZONING BY-LAW – MINIMUM DWELLING SIZE – J. STEWART

A public hearing was held on the proposed changes to the Sackville Zoning By-Law which would change the wording of a minimum dwelling size to 37.61 square metre. A copy of the presentation can be found on the Municipality of Tantramar's [website](#).

3.2 PUBLIC HEARING REZONING ON KIRK STREET FROM R1 TO R2 – G. FRANCEZ

A public hearing was held on the proposed changes to the Sackville Zoning By-Law to rezone PID 70636147 AND 70636139 from Urban Residential (R1) to Urban Residential (R2) for the purpose of constructing up to 5 vertically attached dwelling units. A copy of the presentation can be found on the Municipality of Tantramar's [website](#).

3.3 CSC HEALTH CARE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE – J. FILLMORE

Jennifer Fillmore from Corrections Services Canada presented to Council on the Health Care Centre of Excellence being constructed in Dorchester, N.B. To watch her presentation, please visit the Municipality of Tantramar's [website](#).

3.4 CCAC YEAR END REPORT – D. BLISS

Climate Change Advisory member Doug Bliss presented the 2024 Year End Report found on page 25 of the Committee of the Whole package. To view the presentation, please visit the Municipality of Tantramar's [website](#).

4. COUNCIL DIRECTION REQUESTS

4.1 BY-LAW NO. 2025-17 A BY-LAW RELATING TO VEGETATIVE GROWTH IN TANTRAMAR – D. BEAL

MOVED BY DEPUTY MAYOR MATT ESTABROOKS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR MICHAEL TOWER THAT COUNCIL DIRECT ITEM 4.1 BY-LAW NO. 2025-17 A BY-LAW RELATING TO VEGETATIVE GROWTH IN TANTRAMAR BE SENT TO THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 4, 2025 FOR CONSIDERATION. AYE VOTES RECORDED BY MAYOR MATT ESTABROOKS, DEPUTY MAYOR MATT ESTABROOKS AND COUNCILLORS ALLISON BUTCHER, JOSH GOGUEN, GREG MARTIN AND MICHAEL TOWER. NAY VOTES RECORDED BY COUNCILLORS BRUCE PHINNEY AND DEBBIE WIGGINS-COLWELL. MOTION CARRIED.

4.2 BY-LAW NO. 2025-18 A BY-LAW RELATING TO ANIMAL CONTROL WITHIN TANTRAMAR – B. GOODWIN

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR JOSH GOGUEN AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR GREG MARTIN THAT COUNCIL DIRECT ITEM 4.2 – BY-LAW NO. 2025-18 A BY-LAW RELATING TO ANIMAL CONTROL WITH TANTRAMAR BE SENT TO THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 4, 2025 FOR CONSIDERATION. MOTION CARRIED.

- 4.3 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM YORK STREET AND FORD LANE – R. KELLY SPURLES

MOVED BY DEPUTY MAYOR MATT ESTABROOKS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR BRUCE PHINNEY THAT COUNCIL DIRECT ITEM 4.3 – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM YORK STREET AND FORD LANE BE SENT TO CONSENT AGENDA OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 4, 2025. MOTION CARRIED.

- 4.4 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM WALKER ROAD – R. KELLY SPURLES

MOVED BY DEPUTY MAYOR MATT ESTABROOKS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR MICHAEL TOWER THAT COUNCIL DIRECT ITEM 4.4 – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM WALKER ROAD BE SENT BACK TO STAFF FOR FURTHER INFORMATION FOR A FUTURE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING. AYE VOTES RECORDED BY MAYOR ANDREW BLACK, DEPUTY MAYOR MATT ESTABROOKS AND COUNCILLORS GREG MARTIN, BRUCE PHINNEY, MICHAEL TOWER AND DEBBIE WIGGINS-COLWELL. NAY VOTES RECORDED BY COUNCILLOR ALLISON BUTCHER AND JOSH GOGUEN. MOTION CARRIED.

- 4.5 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS – M. PRYDE

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR ALLISON BUTCHER AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR DEBBIE WIGGINS-COLWELL THAT COUNCIL DIRECT ITEM 4.5 – COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS BE SENT TO CONSENT AGENDA OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 4, 2025. MOTION CARRIED.

- 4.6 CIVIC CENTRE COMPRESSOR #1 OVERHAUL – M. PRYDE

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR BRUCE PHINNEY AND SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR MATT ESTABROOKS THAT COUNCIL DIRECT ITEM 4.6 – CIVIC CENTRE COMPRESSOR #1 OVERHAUL BE SENT TO CONSENT AGENDA OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 4, 2025. MOTION CARRIED.

- 4.7 ENERGY AUDIT REPORT – M. PRYDE

Director of Active Living & Culture Matt Pryde provided an overview of his report found on page 100 of the [Committee of the Whole package](#).

- 4.8 DORCHESTER FIRE DEPARTMENT PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT – D. REID

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR DEBBIE WIGGINS-COLWELL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR JOSH GOGUEN THAT COUNCIL DIRECT ITEM 4.8 - DORCHESTER FIRE DEPARTMENT PERSONAL

PROTECTION EQUIPMENT BE SENT TO CONSENT AGENDA OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 4, 2025.

4.9 DORCHESTER FIRE DEPARTMENT SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS – D – REID

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR BRUCE PHINNEY AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR MICHAEL TOWER THAT COUNCIL DIRECT ITEM 4.9 – DORCHESTER FIRE DEPARTMENT SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS BE SENT TO CONSENT AGENDA OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 4, 2025. MOTION CARRIED.

5. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

The following reports were presented to Council as information items only:

- 5.1 Active Living and Culture – M. Pryde
- 5.2 Community and Corporate Services – J. McLaughlin
- 5.3 Engineering and Public Works – J. Eppell
- 5.4 Protective Services – Chief Bowser, Chief Partridge, Sgt. Eric Hanson
- 5.5 Financial Services – M. Beal

Councillor Josh Goguen left the meeting.

- 5.6 Administration
 - 5.6.1 Legislative Services – D. Beal
 - 5.6.2 Chief Administrative Officer – J. Borne
 - 5.6.3 Mayor’s Report – A. Black

6. QUESTION PERIOD

Bruce Wark asked what the Municipality’s justification is for having a tax rebate through the Economic Development Incentive Program. Mayor Andrew Black responded that the program is to spur development within the Municipality. Chief Administrative Officer Jennifer Borne responded that it is an approved policy of Council and that a number of items from the Mayor’s Roundtable on Housing could be flagged for future review of the incentive program.

Bruce Wark asked if a tax expenditure of \$150,000 a year over 10 years couldn’t be better spent on more affordable non-profit housing. Director of Financial Services Michael Beal responded that the rebate isn’t existing taxpayers’ money, it is new taxpayer funds.

Bruce Wark asked how many active members of the Sackville Fire Department compared to the full compliment of forty-three members. Chief Craig Bowser responded that there are currently 36 active members.

Erica Butler asked what the next step is regarding the two public hearings that were held. Director of Legislative Services Donna Beal responded that first and second reading of the By-Laws would be brought forward for consideration at the Regular Council Meeting of February 4, 2025.

Erica Butler asked what the process is for next steps with the two municipal by-laws that were presented. Director of Legislative Services Donna Beal responded that the by-laws will be advertised on the municipal website and residents can review them up to third and final reading.

Erica Butler asked if there were any current dangerous or unsightly files related to vegetation concerns. Director of Financial Services Michael Beal responded that there are currently no active files, however the municipality does receive complaints from people concerned about unsafe properties. Councillor Allison Butcher noted that the Local Governance Act does not specify anything related to vegetative growth within the section related to Dangerous or Unsightly Premises.

Erica Butler asked why the Vegetative Growth By-Law was specific to residential properties. Chief Administrative Officer Jennifer Borne responded that the landscape of Tantramar is very rural and with the amount of farmland and commercial areas, it was felt this was better suited for the area.

Erica Butler asked if there is a built in period of review of the Economic Development Incentive program. Chief Administrative Officer Jennifer Borne responded that there is no review timelines noted in the incentive program document.

7. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MICHAEL TOWER AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR BRUCE PHINNEY THAT COUNCIL ADJOURN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF JANUARY 27, 2025. MOTION CARRIED.

MAYOR

DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

ASSISTANT CLERK