



CITY OF BATHURST
REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING
MINUTES

March 3, 2025
6:30 p.m.
Council Chambers - City Hall

Recording of Attendance

Mayor K. Chamberlain
Councillor P. Anderson
Councillor S. Brunet
Councillor R. Hondas
Councillor D. Knowles
Councillor J.-F. LeBlanc
Councillor S. Legacy
Councillor M. Skerry
Deputy Mayor M. Willett

Absent

Councillor D. Branch

Appointed Officials

T. Pettigrew, Chief Administrative Officer
A. Parker, City Clerk
J.-S. Chiasson, Communications Officer
S. Gauvin, Treasurer
C. Roy, Executive Administrator
M. Bouffard, Director of Municipal Planning
N. R. Rabé Harou, Junior Urban Planner

1. **MOMENT OF REFLECTION / TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT**
2. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Moved by Councillor M. Skerry

Seconded by Councillor D. Knowles

THAT the Agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

3. **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

No conflicts of interest were declared.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

4.1 Regular Public Meeting Held on February 18, 2025

Moved by Deputy Mayor M. Willett
Seconded by Councillor J.-F. LeBlanc

THAT the minutes of the Regular Public Meeting dated February 18, 2025, be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

5. CONSENT AGENDA

None

6. PUBLIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS

6.1 eServices Launch by Sonia Gauvin, Treasurer

eServices, a new online platform for water & sewer invoices, was launched today. eServices offer a paperless experience, with secure online payment options, email notifications and the ability to view past invoices.

Key Features & Benefits

- **Saves Time:** No need to wait for invoices in the mail or visit City Hall.
- **Convenient:** Accessible 24/7 via phone, tablet, or computer.
- **Instant Payments:** Payments are applied instantly to your account.
- **Paperless Experience:** Clients who opt-in to eServices will be 100% paperless.
- **Operational Cost Savings:** Reduced operational costs due to the digital nature of the platform.

Non-Residential Accounts

- **Benefits for Metered Accounts:**
 - Access to historical account usage data.
 - Instant access to meter data, helping to identify issues (such as water leaks) quickly.
 - Available 24/7 via phone, tablet, or computer.
 - Instant payment application.
 - Saves time with no need to wait for invoices or visit City Hall.

How to Sign Up

- All customers will receive an instruction sheet with their next invoice, which will include a unique sign-up key for registration.

Launch Timeline

- Pre-launch and Testing: Extensive internal testing has been ongoing for the past two years with City staff.
- Official eServices Go-Live: March 3, 2025.
- Client Onboarding: Clients will gradually onboard as they receive their unique sign-up key with their next invoice by mail.
- Public Information Release: The City of Bathurst website and Facebook page will go live tomorrow with further details.

7. FINANCE

None

8. MUNICIPAL BY-LAWS

8.1 Proposed Municipal Plan and Zoning By-Law Amendments for Properties Located at 1270 to 1296 Daniel Drive and 1330 Vanier Boulevard

The Planning Department received a rezoning request for six parcels located at the intersection of Daniel Drive & Vanier Boulevard: lots bearing civic numbers 1270 to 1296 Daniel Drive and 1330 Vanier Boulevard and bearing PIDs 20027793, 20027785, 20027769, 20027744, 20349247 and 20348231.

For the purpose of the Zoning, the owner is requesting that the properties be rezoned from R2 (Single and two-unit dwellings) to ID (Integrated Development) to permit the development of a residential complex comprising several row-type multi-unit dwellings.

The rezoning would enable higher-density residential use in a growing area, aligning with municipal planning goals.

9. DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

9.1 Weight Restrictions - Spring 2025

Moved by Deputy Mayor M. Willett
Seconded by Councillor J.-F. LeBlanc

WHEREAS the *Motor Vehicle Act* empowers a municipality to impose weight restrictions on highways under their jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS the Administration has reviewed a plan and makes recommendations for the designation of the 2025 weight restrictions.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council designates the following weight restrictions, effective March 17, 2025, until further notice:

1. On all streets in the City of Bathurst except those exempted in Item 2, vehicles may operate with each axle weight not exceeding eighty percent (80%) of the maximum axle weight for which the particular vehicle may be operated in the Province of New Brunswick provided that each axle weight does not exceed that upon which the registered weight is based.

2. The following streets are exempt from these restrictions and are subject to the conditions below:

a) No spring weight restrictions:

All streets located within the Bathurst Industrial Park;
 Route 134 – Miramichi Avenue from the junction of Route 11 to Bridge Street;
 Route 134 – Bridge Street, from Miramichi Avenue to Murray Avenue;
 Route 134 – Murray Avenue from Bridge Street to Main Street;
 Route 134 – Main Street to St. Peter Avenue via Harbourview Blvd. North;
 Route 134 – St. Peter Avenue to Main/King, via Harbourview South to Murray Avenue;

St. Peter Avenue to City limits, Beresford;

Route 180 – Vanier Boulevard from St. Peter Avenue to Route 11;
 Route 430 – King Avenue from the junction of Route 11 to Dumaresq Street, and Dumaresq Street from King Avenue to Murray Avenue;
 St. Anne Street – Route 11 to Evangeline Street;
 Route 315 – Sunset Drive from Vanier Boulevard to Brown’s Bridge;
 Route 315 - Sunset from Civic address 2000 to city limits;
 Carron Drive – from Bridge Street to Sutherland Avenue.

In summary, the truck route through the city is now 100% of axle weight, without any tolerances over such weight.

b) Restricted to 90% of maximum licensed axle weight

Cape Road – Bridge Street from City Limits to Miramichi Avenue

3. Passenger buses and City of Bathurst vehicles be exempt from the above restrictions.

MOTION CARRIED

9.2 Application to Host the "Congrès mondial acadien" in 2029

Moved by Councillor R. Hondas

Seconded by Councillor D. Knowles

WHEREAS an interprovincial candidacy committee made up of elected representatives of Restigouche RSC, Chaleur RSC, Bonaventure MRC and Avignon MRC, presented a letter of intent in July 2024 to the Société Nationale de l’Acadie indicating a common will to submit an application that the Baie-des-Chaleurs be host of the Congrès mondial acadien (CMA) in 2029; and

WHEREAS the nominating committee, in collaboration with professionals from the region and community partners, is currently working to develop a nomination package to be submitted to the Société Nationale de l’Acadie on March 14, 2025; and

WHEREAS the CMA is a unifying event of international importance that contributes to the vitality, unity and modernity of the Acadian people and generates major economic and tourism spinoffs for the host region; and

WHEREAS the event has never taken place on our territory; and

WHEREAS the support of partners in this domain and from the municipalities is necessary to complete the nomination package and that it establishes an important part of the evaluation; and

WHEREAS an important proportion of the population of our community is of Acadian origin;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the municipality of Bathurst supports the interprovincial nomination of the Baie-des-Chaleurs as the host of the Congrès mondial acadien in 2029.

MOTION CARRIED

10. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

10.1 Reports from Administration

10.2 Reports from Committees

Councillor Brunet provided an update: The Pickleball Association held its Annual General Meeting which currently has 261 paid members. They are thankful for the city's help. They are looking for volunteers for the management committee, president and vice-president.

10.3 Report from the Mayor

The Red Cross is holding a blood drive this week; the region is in dire need of blood.

Starting March 5, the Bathurst Police Force will officially begin serving residents within the expanded boundaries of the City of Bathurst.

Happy March Break.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor R. Hondas

Seconded by Councillor M. Skerry

THAT the Regular Public Meeting be adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

Kim Chamberlain / MAYOR

Amy-Lynn Parker / CITY CLERK