



**CITY OF BATHURST**  
**REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING**  
**MINUTES**

**April 22, 2025**  
**6:30 p.m.**  
**Council Chambers - City Hall**

Recording of Attendance

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

Absent

Councillor M. Skerry

Appointed Officials

Todd Pettigrew, CAO  
A. Parker, City Clerk  
Matthew Abernethy, City Engineer  
D. Boucher, Fire Chief  
L. Foulem, Corporate Communications Manager  
S. Gauvin, Treasurer  
M. A. LaPlante, Assistant City Manager  
Donald McLaughlin, Development Officer  
N. R. Rabé Harou, Junior Urban Planner  
C. Roy, Executive Administrator  
Ryan Wilbur, Director of Parks, Recreation and Tourism  
Marc Bouffard, Director of Municipal Planning  
D. Hamel, Assistant Deputy Fire Chief

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

**Moved by** Councillor D. Branch  
**Seconded by** Deputy Mayor M. Willett

**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 April 7, 2025**

**Moved by** Councillor D. Knowles  
**Seconded by** Councillor S. Legacy

**THAT** the minutes of the Regular Public Meeting dated April 7, 2025, be approved as circulated.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**5. CONSENT AGENDA**

None

**6. PUBLIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS**

**6.1 Audited Financial Statements by Mr. Gilles Deveaux, CPS, CA - On Behalf of MNP Bathurst**

Mr. Gilles Deveaux presented the 2024 Audited Financial Statements on behalf of MNP Bathurst.

**6.2 2024 Year in Review - Bathurst Fire Department by Fire Chief Boucher and Assistant Deputy Fire Chief Hamel**

Fire Chief Boucher and Assistant Deputy Fire Chief Hamel delivered the 2024 Year-End Review, opening their presentation with a recap of major department events, notable retirements, and recent promotions.

Key topics covered in the presentation included:

- Fire prevention initiatives
- Fire safety inspection statistics
- Use and deployment of Fire Prevention Trailers
- New operational tools acquired in 2024
- Professional development and training, including the department's 5-Year Training Path
- A summary of emergency response activity in 2024

The presentation concluded with a look ahead at the department's plans for 2025.

**6.3 Public Works Update by Matthew Abernethy**

The Spring Update presented to council covered key infrastructure and maintenance activities planned or underway:

Roadway Patching:

- Winter Patching: Crews have used recycled asphalt for a more durable pothole fix, replacing the less effective cold mix asphalt. This approach has led to significant material and labor savings.
- Summer Patching: Asphalt plant typically open around May 20. Work will be carried out on arterial (e.g., St. Peter, St. Anne), collector (e.g., Riverside, Victoria), and local streets (e.g., Parkwood Heights). Beach areas will be prioritized before the tourist season.

#### Street Sweeping:

- Service levels are improving with new equipment.
- Downtown cleanup is already done; outer areas are ongoing.
- Final cleanup will begin once temperatures stay above 5°C, with completion expected within 6 weeks.

#### Water & Sewer Maintenance:

- Water Main Flushing: All dead ends flushed biweekly; some systems flush year-round to maintain water quality. Unidirectional flushing details are available on the city's website.
- Sewer Flushing: Runs from August to November on a 4-year cycle. Common issues include grease, roots, debris, and pipe defects.

#### Capital Projects:

- Road Paving: Includes Rough Waters, Daniel Drive, Roy Lane, and Ryan Road.
- Utility Work: St. Anne Street confirmed, with more projects pending provincial/federal funding announcements.

Savings: Projected operational savings may be redirected to extend paving projects if time allows.

### 6.4 Rezoning Request for 555 Evangeline Drive by Nahyssa Rose Rabé Harou

The City of Bathurst intends to amend By-Law No. 2006-01 entitled "The City of Bathurst Municipal Plan By-Law" to change the future land use designation for part of the property at 555 Evangeline Drive (PID 20784823) from "Communication Tower" to "Commercial." This update clarifies that a 2019 amendment applied only to a portion of the property, not the entire lot. The proposed changes will go through review by the Planning Advisory Committee, followed by a public presentation on May 20, 2025. Public notice will be posted online, and residents will have 30 days after the presentation to submit objections to the City Clerk.

## 7. FINANCE

### 7.1 Accounts Payable Totals for March 2025

**Moved by** Councillor D. Branch  
**Seconded by** Councillor J.-F. LeBlanc

**THAT** the accounts payable totals, including payroll, for the month of March 2025 be approved as follows:

Operating - \$1,306,691

Capital - \$112,006

Total - \$2,915,380

**MOTION CARRIED**

**7.2 2024 Financial Audited Statements**

**Moved by** Councillor S. Legacy

**Seconded by** Councillor R. Hondas

**THAT** the 2024 Consolidated Financial Statements for the City of Bathurst be accepted as presented; and

**THAT** the Mayor and City Treasurer be authorized to sign the aforementioned statements.

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the 2024 Consolidated Financial Statements are approved as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**8. MUNICIPAL BY-LAWS**

**9. DRAFT RESOLUTIONS**

**9.1 Transfer from General Operating Reserve to General Operating Fund**

**Moved by** Councillor D. Branch

**Seconded by** Councillor P. Anderson

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** members of Council authorize a transfer of \$250,000 from the General Operating Reserve to General Operating Fund for the purchase of a wheeled gravel compactor.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**9.2 Engineering Services for Miramichi Avenue Upgrade**

**Moved by** Councillor D. Branch

**Seconded by** Councillor J.-F. LeBlanc

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** members of Council authorize the issuance of a purchase order in the amount of \$250,000 to Roy Consultants for engineering services as detailed in their proposal for the Miramichi Avenue Upgrade project.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**9.3 Amendment to the Municipal Plan Pursuant to Section 25 of the Community Planning Act - 555 Evangeline Drive**

**Moved by** Councillor R. Hondas

**Seconded by** Councillor D. Knowles

**WHEREAS** the City of Bathurst proposes to amend By-Law No. 2006-01 entitled “The City of Bathurst Municipal Plan By-Law” to allow the designation and use of the following lands as follows:

Change the future land use designation of a portion of the lot bearing civic number 555 Evangeline Drive and bearing PID 20784823. For the purposes of the municipal plan, the future land use designation is changed from “Communication Tower” to “Commercial”.

The purpose of this amendment is to specify that the amendments adopted by the council in 2019 were for a portion of the property and not for the entire property.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT**

1. The council request in writing the written views of the Planning Advisory Committee on the proposed amendments,
2. The public presentation of the proposed amendment to the Municipal Plan takes place on May 20, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers
3. The City Clerk, acting on behalf of the Council, see that the public notice prescribed in section 25 of the *Community Planning Act* is posted on the municipality’s website to announce the Council’s intention, the day and place of the public presentation, and
4. The opportunity to make objections to the Council regarding the proposed by-law within thirty (30) days of the date of the public presentation by forwarding them to the City Clerk at City Hall.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**9.4 Renewal of Appointment to the Bathurst Aquatic Centre Commission**

**Moved by** Councillor D. Branch  
**Seconded by** Deputy Mayor M. Willett

**THAT** Francesco Saverio Viglione be appointed to the Aquatic Centre Commission for a third term of office expiring April 2026.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**10. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

**10.1 Reports from Administration**

None

**10.2 Reports from Committees**

None

**10.3 Report from the Mayor**

The Mayor and Council received a thank you card and a glass plaque from the Anglophone North School District, expressing gratitude for their support. The district recognized them as community

heroes and thanked them for their kindness and the positive impact they've made on students and the school community. Teachers are invited to bring their classes to City Hall for an educational visit, where students can take part in a mock council meeting by stepping into the roles of mayor, council members, and city staff.

The mayor acknowledged staff and the financial team for reducing city debt from nearly \$38 million in 2016 to \$18 million since the City Treasurer took over in 2018. This improvement has resulted in interest savings and stronger financial management, placing the city in a better position to handle future financial challenges. With a \$40 million borrowing cap, the city retains the ability to fund major projects like water treatment plant upgrades if needed.

The mayor gave an update on Académie Assomption. On March 21, she and some council members met with parents, including Laura Renouf, president of the parent support committee. The meeting was supposed to be held at the school, but the district denied access to the building, which was seen as overstepping their authority. On March 27, the Minister confirmed the school's closure, rejecting a request to keep it open until June 2026. If it closes, Bathurst will lose its second Francophone school. Despite this, efforts to save the school continue. The group has connected with a lawyer, and a first meeting has already taken place. Parents are planning a public gathering on May 3, at 1 p.m. in front of the school.

#### 11. **ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by** Councillor R. Hondas

**Seconded by** Councillor S. Legacy

**THAT** the Regular Public Meeting be adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

**MOTION CARRIED**

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Kim Chamberlain / MAYOR

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Amy-Lynn Parker / CITY CLERK