



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

**May 5, 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, CAO  
A. Parker, City Clerk  
M. Abernethy, City Engineer  
J.-S. Chiasson, Communications Officer  
M. A. LaPlante, Assistant City Manager  
C. Roy, Executive Administrator  
R. Wilbur, Director of Parks, Recreation and  
Tourism  
M. Bouffard, Director of Municipal Planning

**1. MOMENT OF REFLECTION / TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

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

**THAT** the agenda be approved as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**4.1 Regular Public Meeting Held on April 22, 2025**

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

**THAT** the minutes of the Regular Public Meeting dated April 22, 2025, be approved as circulated.

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **6. PUBLIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS**

### **6.1 Chaleur Planet Youth by Vanessa Couturier**

Chaleur Planet Youth is a new community-based initiative focused on preventing youth substance abuse in the region. The project began in summer 2023 with community collaboration, followed by funding requests from fall 2023 to summer 2024. Since fall 2024, a strong and motivated coalition has been working together to support youth wellbeing.

Substance use remains a major public health concern in Canada, especially among youth and vulnerable populations. Alcohol is the most commonly used substance, followed by cannabis, whose use has risen since legalization. These substances are linked to mental health challenges, increased injuries, and premature death.

Planet Youth Chaleur adopts a prevention model inspired by the successful Icelandic approach, now used in many countries. Rather than focusing solely on individual behavior, the model seeks to change the broader environment where young people live, learn, and play to reduce substance use and its long-term health impacts.

A launch event will be held on May 8, 2025, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Paul Ouellette Room at the K.C. Irving Centre.

### **6.2 Miramichi Lane Reduction Study by City Engineer, Matthew Abernethy**

The City has identified Miramichi Avenue as a priority under the Provincial-Municipal Highway Partnership Program for the coming years. Before beginning the design process, the Engineering Department requested that Roy Consultants complete a traffic needs assessment to ensure the road geometry is designed according to actual usage and requirements. The resulting report outlines the methodology and standards used and provides a recommended design.

The report recommends reducing the number of lanes from four to two along most of the street, which would result in an estimated construction cost savings of approximately \$1.2 million over the full length of the roadway, as well as an annual maintenance cost reduction of around \$30,000.

It is recommended that Council accept the findings of the Miramichi Avenue Lane Reduction Study, which proposes reducing the number of lanes from four to three between Bridge Street and Rough Waters Drive, and from four to two between Rough Waters Drive and Victor Street.

### **6.3 Chaleur ATV Club by Daniel Rioux**

#### **Summary of the Chaleur ATV Club's Request to the City:**

- 1. Access to Bridge Street:** The club is requesting that its members be allowed to access Bridge Street from Thériault Grocery to Atlantic Street. A request has been made to NB Housing, which owns the land between the walking trail and Bridge Street. Discussions are ongoing with NB Housing to obtain a right-of-way to their Trail #10. The club is asking the City to amend the municipal bylaw to allow access to this street for the two nearby subdivisions, enabling members of QUAD NB to use it.

2. **Access in North Tetagouche:** The club is seeking access between Route 322 (a provincial road leading to Robertville) and Lougar Road to connect to Trail #514. The proposed route would allow ATVs to use the main street in North Tetagouche, then Bryar Road, and finally connect to the trails. This section is being considered for development as a four-season trail.
3. **City Walking Trail:** The Club is prepared to maintain the walking trail located between the city limits and their Trail #10 in East Bathurst. In 2023, the Club began renovation work on Trail #36, which connects the Mi'gmaq Trail to Trail #10 and provides access to the Acadian Peninsula during the summer. This project is divided into three phases, with the second phase planned for this year. The third phase will involve the construction of a bridge. The Club claims that it was approached to take on the maintenance of the walking trail between the city limits and Miramichi Street, near Trail #10. Although the Club does not intend to use this trail for ATVs, it is willing to maintain it, including trimming branches and mowing the grass. The Club also notes that snowmobiles are the only vehicles not permitted on their trails, due to their high speed.

If the City authorizes access for the Chaleur ATV Club, the club commits to covering all maintenance costs, including any due to washouts. No expenses would fall to the City. The club is ready to start work on Trail #36 but is awaiting confirmation from the City to determine whether there is interest. They request a response from the council by May 20, 2025, to avoid project delays.

#### **6.4 Chaleur Green Trails by Bruno Poirier**

Following the earlier presentation by the Chaleur ATV Club, the president of Chaleur Green Trails spoke to express the organization's position. He represents a large portion of the Chaleur region community who enjoy walking—whether alone, with a dog, with family, friends, or neighbors. He emphasized that walking is one of the most accessible activities, requiring only a simple pair of sneakers.

Chaleur Green Trails also represents cyclists, runners, and, more broadly, all users of active transportation. This is the core mission of the organization: to promote and protect access to safe, non-motorized, and inclusive trails.

Chaleur Green Trails is therefore opposed to the proposal to assign maintenance of the City's walking trail—located between the municipal boundary and Trail #10 in East Bathurst—to the Chaleur ATV Club.

#### **6.5 Nepisiguit Mi'gmaq Trail by Rod O'Connell and Blake Maher**

A representative from the Nepisiguit Mi'gmaq Trail shared the history and significance of the Sentier Nepisiguit Mi'gmaq Trail (SNMT). They expressed their concerns about the ATV club's proposal, highlighting the trail's value. The SNMT is a world-class hiking trail, built with resources from the City of Bathurst and countless volunteers over the span of four years. This trail showcases Mi'gmaq heritage and is frequented by thousands of local residents and international visitors alike. It stands as a cultural and historical treasure that must be safeguarded and celebrated. The SNMT opposes the ATV Club's request to share the trail.

### **8. MUNICIPAL BY-LAWS**

#### **8.1 Receipt of the Planning Advisory Committee Recommendations**

##### **8.1.1 Revision of Zoning Provisions Relating to Property Located on Daniel Drive and Vanier Boulevard**

On February 25, the Planning Advisory Committee reviewed a rezoning application for properties located at 1270 to 1296 Daniel Drive and 1330 Vanier Boulevard, identified by the PIDs 20027793, 20027785, 20027769, 20027744, 20349247, and 20348231.

For the purposes of the Municipal Plan, the land use designation would be changed from “Residential” to “Integrated Development.” Under the Zoning By-law, the zoning would be changed from “Low-Density Residential Type 1 (R2-1)” to “Integrated Development (ID)”.

The purpose of this rezoning is to allow for the development of a residential complex consisting of multiple row housing units.

The Planning Advisory Committee recommends that City Council approve the request to amend the zoning by-law from R2 (Single- and Two-Unit Dwelling) to ID (Integrated Development) for the six parcels located at the intersection of Daniel Drive and Vanier Boulevard, subject to the following terms and conditions:

Any new access point between the property and adjacent streets must be approved by the Public Works Department.

The property owner must contact the Department of Environment and Local Government’s Watercourse and Wetland Alteration Division to obtain a permit, if required, for any alteration to a watercourse or wetland.

All provisions of the current Zoning By-law remain in effect.

The property owner must comply with all recommendations made by the consultant in the geotechnical study, particularly those relating to slope stability:

- Site slopes in the construction areas, parking lot and driveway should not be significantly raised from the existing elevation.
- No additional fill should be added to slopes without the approval of the geotechnical engineer.
- Existing vegetation on slopes must not be removed.
- Measures must be taken to ensure that runoff, roof drains and drainage pipes are disposed of in such a way as not to cause erosion or saturation of slopes. Such measures could include riprap-lined swales/ditches on the slope or retention basins with drains falling at the base of the slopes.
- Proposed developments should be set back at least 3.5 meters from the edge of the nearest slope.
- The final drawing showing the footprint of the proposed development must be submitted to the geotechnical engineer for review and approval.

The final site plan must be approved by the Planning Advisory Committee. This plan must align with one of the three options previously submitted by the property owner to the Planning Department. If the final plan deviates significantly from those options, the Planning Department may refer it to City Council for review and approval by resolution.

## **8.2 Hearing of Objections or Support Regarding the Proposed Municipal Plan Amendments**

### **8.2.1 Daniel Drive and Vanier Boulevard**

For the properties located on Daniel Drive and Vanier Boulevard, a public notice, as required under Section 111 of the *Community Planning Act*, regarding the draft amendment to the Municipal and Zoning By-Law was published. No written objections were received.

Members of the public were invited to express their opinion to the proposed Municipal and Zoning By-Law amendments for the properties located on Daniel Drive and Vanier Boulevard. No objections were raised.

### **8.3 Proposed Municipal and Zoning By-Law Amendments - Daniel Drive and Vanier Boulevard**

#### **8.3.1 First Reading By-Law 2025-01M**

**Moved by** Councillor R. Hondas

**Seconded by** Councillor D. Knowles

**THAT** the proposed By-Law 2025-01M entitled “A By-Law To Amend By-Law No. 2006-01 Entitled “The City of Bathurst Municipal Plan By-Law”” shall be read 3 times by title as per requirements specified in the *Local Governance Act*, section 15(3); and

**THAT** the above-mentioned proposed By-Law may be examined by contacting the City Clerk during regular office hours; and

**THAT** the above-mentioned proposed By-Law shall be posted to the City of Bathurst Website and Facebook page, as per the *Local Governance Act*, section 70 (1) c; and

**THAT** the purpose of the above-mentioned proposed By-Law is to modify the designation for the Municipal Plan from "Residential" to "Integrated Development".

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** proposed By-Law 2025-01M entitled “A By-Law to Amend By-Law No. 2006-01 Entitled “The City of Bathurst Municipal Plan By-Law”” be read for the first time, by title.

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **8.3.2 First Reading By-law 2025-01Z**

**Moved by** Deputy Mayor M. Willett

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

**THAT** the proposed By-Law 2025-01Z entitled “A By-Law to Amend By-Law No. 2008-01 Entitled “The City of Bathurst Zoning By-Law”” shall be read 3 times by title as per requirements specified in the *Local Governance Act*, section 15 (3); and

**THAT** the above-mentioned proposed By-Law may be examined by contacting the City Clerk during regular office hours; and

**THAT** the above-mentioned proposed By-Law shall be posted to the City of Bathurst Website and Facebook page, as per the *Local Governance Act*, section 70 (1) c; and

**THAT** the purpose of the above-mentioned proposed By-Law is to modify the designation for the Zoning By-Law from “Low density residential type « 1 » - R2-1” to “Integrated Development - ID”.

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** proposed By-Law 2025-01Z entitled “A By-Law to Amend By-Law No. 2008-01 Entitled “The City of Bathurst Zoning By-Law”” be read for the first time, by title.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**9. DRAFT RESOLUTIONS**

**9.1 C001-25 Twin Steer Tandem Dump Truck**

**Moved by** Councillor M. Skerry  
**Seconded by** Councillor R. Hondas

**THAT** proposal C001-25 Twin Steer Tandem Dump Truck be awarded to Bayview Kenworth for a total of \$376,893.26 plus tax, through the City of Bathurst's membership with the Canoe Procurement Group of Canada.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**9.2 Items Discussed In-Camera**

**9.2.1 Easement - 1755 Carron Drive**

**Moved by** Councillor J.-F. LeBlanc  
**Seconded by** Councillor P. Anderson

**WHEREAS** the City of Bathurst previously granted an easement located at 1755 Carron Drive, identified by PID 20708509; and

**WHEREAS** the easement is no longer required;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that members of Council hereby terminate and release the easement located at 1755 Carron Drive, PID 20708509, originally registered on January 6, 1955, as discussed In-Camera on April 22, 2025, pursuant to section 68 of the *Local Governance Act* and that the Mayor and the City Clerk be authorized to sign all related documents on behalf of the City.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**10. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

**10.1 Reports from Administration**

None

**10.2 Reports from Committees**

None

**10.3 Report from the Mayor**

Volunteer Recognition Week

A strong turnout last Thursday evening marked Volunteer Recognition and Appreciation Week, with over 125 volunteers in attendance. On behalf of the City of Bathurst, sincere thanks go out to all who dedicate their time and effort to the community. Special congratulations to Richard Singer, named *Volunteer of the Year*—a well-deserved honour.

Académie Assomption

A meeting took place in front of the school this past Saturday. Some parents indicated plans to enroll their children in an English-language school.

Interfor – Bathurst Division (Big River) Visit

A very positive visit was held at Interfor’s Bathurst Division in Big River. The company is currently hiring and shared valuable insights during the tour.

Co-Action Committee – Bay Breakfast

The Bay Breakfast was a great success. A reminder that the mission of this committee is *for the youth, by the youth*. They raised just under \$9,000 for the Co-Action Group. These funds will go directly back to the committee to support free, inclusive, and engaging activities for youth across the region.

Upcoming: Paul Harris Award Dinner

The Paul Harris Award Dinner will take place this Thursday at the Gowan Brae Golf & Country Club. Four individuals will be honoured with the award:

- Gilles Deveaux
- Dr. John LeBlanc
- Isabel MacLaggan
- Al Buzas (*in memoriam*)

**10.3.1 Proclamation - National Police Week**

Mayor Chamberlain proceeded to read the proclamation for National Police Week of May 11 to 17, 2025.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by** Councillor R. Hondas

**Seconded by** Councillor M. Skerry

**THAT** the Regular Public Meeting be adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

**MOTION CARRIED**

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Kim Chamberlain / MAYOR

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Amy-Lynn Parker / CITY CLERK