



CITY OF BATHURST
REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING
MINUTES

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

Recording of Attendance

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

Appointed Officials

T. Pettigrew, CAO
A. Parker, City Clerk
M. Abernethy, City Engineer
L. Foulem, Corporate Communications Manager
S. Gauvin, Treasurer
M. A. LaPlante, Assistant City Manager
N. R. Rabé Harou, Junior Urban Planner
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. Branch
Seconded by Councillor 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 October 20, 2025

Moved by Councillor M. Skerry

Seconded by Councillor S. Legacy

THAT the minutes of the Regular Public Meeting dated October 20, 2025, be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

5. CONSENT AGENDA

6. PUBLIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS

No presentations were made.

7. FINANCE

7.1 Budget - General Operating Fund

Council held a final review of the 2026 General Operating Budget recommendations. Previous meetings consisted of public working sessions, during which Council reviewed details, asked questions, and developed the proposed recommendations. The Capital and Utility budgets have already been agreed upon; therefore, the focus of this meeting was solely the General Operating Budget. If approved, the full budget presentation and accompanying resolution will be brought forward at the Regular Public Meeting on November 17, prior to submission to the province.

A few adjustments were made since the last working session:

- The Curling Club grant was inadvertently omitted and has now been added. To accommodate this, the Tourism Grant remaining balance was reduced by \$15,000.
- The McFlurry Monument project was removed from the 2026 plan, with funding shifted to 2025.
- The 2026 allocation previously designated for the monument has been redirected to the pool roof project, contingent on receiving 40% funding from the RDC.
- Ryan Road will proceed to full completion.
- Insurance costs were reduced, allowing reallocation of funds.
- Upon further review of the Aquatic Centre financials, it was confirmed that the 2024 surplus had not been reflected in the 2026 budget. With this correction, the budget can be balanced without the need to access reserve funds, as previously discussed.

Council can now finalize and approve the recommended 2026 tax rates and General Operating Budget.

8. MUNICIPAL BY-LAWS

8.1 Receipt of the Planning Advisory Committee Recommendations

8.1.1 1058 Roy Lane

On October 28, 2025, the Planning Advisory Committee reviewed the proposed amendments in By-law 2025-08Z aimed at permitting the development of a mini-home on the property located at 1058 Roy Lane, bearing PID 20931325. The Planning Advisory Committee recommends that City Council approve the by-law as proposed, with the following conditions:

1. In addition to the uses normally permitted in the R2-1 zone, a mini-home will be permitted on the property bearing PID 20931325.
2. The type of building and site layout must be in accordance with the plans submitted by the applicant as part of the rezoning request. Any significant changes to these plans must be approved by the Planning Advisory Committee.
3. All other provisions contained in the Zoning By-law remain applicable.

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

8.2.1 1058 Roy Lane

For the property located 1058 Roy Lane, a public notice, as required under Section 111 of the *Community Planning Act*, regarding the draft amendment to the Zoning By-Law was published. No written objections were received.

Members of the public were invited three times to express their opinions to the proposed Zoning By-Law amendments for the property located at 1058 Roy Lane. No objections were received.

8.3 Proposed Municipal and Zoning By-Law Amendments

8.3.1 1058 Roy Lane

8.3.1.1 First Reading By-Law 2025-08Z

Moved by Councillor S. Brunet

Seconded by Councillor J.-F. LeBlanc

THAT the proposed By-Law 2025-08Z 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*, subsection 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*, paragraph 70(1)c; and

THAT the purpose of the above-mentioned proposed By-Law is to allow the development of a mini-home on the property located at 1058 Roy Lane and bearing PID 20931325

BE IT RESOLVED THAT proposed By-Law 2025-08Z 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

8.3.1.2 Second Reading By-Law 2025-08Z

Moved by Deputy Mayor D. Knowles

Seconded by Councillor R. Hondas

THAT By-Law 2025-08Z, entitled "A By-Law to Amend By-Law 2008-01 entitled "The City of Bathurst Zoning By-Law" be read for the second time (by title).

MOTION CARRIED

9. DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

9.1 Miramichi Lane Reduction

As requested by Council, a comparison of 2-lane, 3-lane, and 4-lane configurations for Miramichi Avenue was presented. The review outlined the advantages and disadvantages of each option:

- 2-Lane Configuration: Provides the best balance of cost, safety, and flexibility.
- 3-Lane Configuration: Offers moderate performance but results in higher costs and reduced safety.
- 4-Lane Configuration: Increases capacity but decreases safety and does not support active transportation.

Recommendation: Proceed with the 2-lane configuration to achieve an appropriate balance of cost, safety, and multimodal accommodation.

It was noted that the 2-lane option can support up to a 250% increase in traffic volume. Should significant growth occur, high-volume left-turn movements resulting from new developments could be managed by adding short left-turn lanes where needed.

Moved by Councillor D. Branch

Seconded by Councillor S. Brunet

WHEREAS the City has identified Miramichi Avenue as a priority area under the Provincial-Municipal Highway Partnership Program (PMHP) for the coming years; and

WHEREAS the City of Bathurst contracted Roy Consultants to complete a traffic analysis report for Miramichi Avenue; and

WHEREAS City Engineer Matthew Abernethy presented the Traffic Analysis – Miramichi Avenue Lane Reduction Study during the Regular Public Meeting held on May 5, 2025;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the members of Council hereby receive and accept the Miramichi Avenue Lane Reduction Study completed by Roy Consultants as presented by City Engineer Matthew Abernethy on May 5, 2025, and approve the recommended change from four lanes to two lanes as outlined in the study.

(5) Yay: Councillors Anderson, Branch, Brunet, Leblanc and Legacy

(4) Nay: Councillors Hondas, Knowles, Skerry and Willett

MOTION CARRIED

10. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

10.1 Reports from Administration

10.1.1 Roadwork Update by Matthew Abernethy, City Engineer

Work on St. Anne Street is progressing with curbs and asphalt expected to be completed next week, followed by driveway clean-up. The overall project is scheduled for completion by November 21. A section of Evangeline will require paving in the spring. The curbs near the intersection of St. Anne and St. Peter are mountable to accommodate truck traffic.

Chaleur Street started later, with asphalt work also targeted for completion on November 21, followed by clean-up. It remains uncertain whether the sidewalk work will be completed this year or deferred to spring.

10.2 Reports from Committees

None

10.3 Report from the Mayor

A Community Information Session will be held on November 4th at the K.C.I. Paul Ouellette Room to discuss the potential new location for Bridge Housing for the Homeless. Residents with questions or concerns are encouraged to attend between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

On Wednesday, November 5th, Grade 9 students will participate in Take Your Kid to Work Day. The City of Bathurst has partnered with Bathurst High School to support students who are unable to secure individual placements. Approximately 10 to 15 students will be welcomed at City Hall for the day, with a full and engaging itinerary planned.

Also on Wednesday, November 5th, the Bathurst Heritage Museum will hold its Annual General Meeting beginning at 6:30 p.m. Community members are encouraged to attend in support of this local organization.

This week marks National Francophone Immigration Week. Several activities are scheduled to take place. Information is available on the Facebook pages of the Chaleur Region Multicultural Association or the 'Communauté francophone accueillante Chaleur'.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor S. Legacy
Seconded by Deputy Mayor D. Knowles

THAT the Regular Public Meeting be adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

Kim Chamberlain / MAYOR

Amy-Lynn Parker / CITY CLERK