

Present: Mayor Campbell
Councillor Land
Councillor Coates
Councillor Ward-Russell
Councillor Elderkin
Councillor Jonah

Staff Present: Sean Wallace – CAO
Kim Beers – Director, Legislative Services
Jillian Hutchinson – Treasurer
Ian Barrett – Director, Operations

Guests: Caleb Babin, Planner with Plan 360

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Campbell called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mayor Campbell requested the addition of Public Statements to the agenda. **IT WAS MOVED** by *Councillor Ward-Russell* and **SECONDED** by *Councillor Elderkin* **THAT** the amended agenda be adopted.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimously)

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS

None.

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

IT WAS MOVED by *Councillor Jonah* **SECONDED** by *Councillor Coates* **THAT** the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held January 6, 2026 be approved.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimously)

IT WAS MOVED by *Councillor Land* **SECONDED** by *Councillor Elderkin* **THAT** the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held January 20, 2026, be approved.

Councillor Elderkin requested clarification regarding the remaining trail funding balance of approximately \$79k and asked for confirmation of the source of these funds.

Administration advised that the funding was received prior to amalgamation through Infrastructure Canada for trail development, specifically related to the Petitcodiac shoreline trail and the Grey Brook and Wetland trail projects. Administration noted that the Grey Brook and Wetland trail components have been completed, while the Petitcodiac shoreline trail portion, approximately three kilometres in length, has not yet been completed. The remaining balance represents unspent funds from that original grant.

Administration further advised that work with landowners is ongoing and that the deadline to use the remaining funds has been extended.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimously)

CONSENT AGENDA

None

PUBIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS

Caleb Babin, Planner with Plan 360 presented the [Staff Preliminary Report for Rezoning from CI to IRD](#)

Mr. Babin presented an overview of a rezoning request for a property located on Tingley Road (a public, non-maintained road on Caledonia Mountain), proposing to rezone the lands from Commercial-Industrial (CI) to the Intensive Resource Development (IRD) Zone to permit a rock quarry.

Mr. Babin provided an overview of the site location and characteristics, noting that the property and surrounding lands are forested and situated on a plateau with a slope toward Caledonia Brook. The current CI zoning is a legacy zoning intended to permit quarry use under a previous plan; however, quarry uses are now regulated under the IRD Zone in the current Rural Plan. Surrounding lands are primarily zoned Rural Area, with Conservation zoning immediately to the south. Comparable quarry operations exist in the broader area.

Mr. Babin explained that the IRD Zone is applied on a case-by-case basis and requires compliance with Department of Environment standards and approval to operate. The applicant confirmed that the proposal remains consistent with a rezoning application initially approved in 2013, noting that extraction has not yet occurred.

Details of the proposed quarry operation were outlined, including phased extraction, an estimated production of approximately 75,000 tonnes of rock annually, blasting two to three times per year, and a temporary processing plant on site.

A site visit was conducted on January 21, 2026; however, the subject property was inaccessible. Mr. Babin summarized comments received from provincial departments. The Department of Natural Resources raised no objections subject to appropriate zoning. Environmental authorities noted potential dust and noise impacts but advised that no environmental impact assessment

was required. The Department of Transportation and Infrastructure raised concerns related to sightlines, road conditions, potential traffic impacts, proximity to the Turtle Creek watershed, and the need for agreements related to work on non-maintained roads.

Mr. Babin advised that, following receipt of departmental comments, the applicant confirmed they would not haul during spring weight restrictions, would enter into required agreements with DTI, would maintain a stockpile on site without off-site hauling during the snowmobile season, and that the quarry would operate on a limited, project-specific basis. Additional comments were received from the Department of Agriculture noting the presence of a nearby blueberry farm.

Mr. Babin advised that a draft by-law has been prepared and, if adopted, would represent the third rezoning under the Westmorland-Albert Rural Plan and the second rezoning to the IRD Zone in Fundy Albert. Mr. Babin indicated the proposed use is considered appropriate for the site, noting that the rezoning is intended to renew an existing approval and that extraction is anticipated to commence within the next year, subject to approvals.

A proposed timeline was presented, including initiation of the rezoning process, notification to nearby property owners, review by the Planning Review and Adjustment Committee, a public hearing of objections, and final readings prior to the municipal election.

Mr. Babin outlined Council's options, including proceeding with the public rezoning process, refusing the request, or postponing the matter pending additional information.

Discussion:

Councillor Ward-Russell raised questions regarding the notification radius for the rezoning application, noting that the proposed 100-metre notification area may be limited and may not capture all potentially affected residents. The Councillor requested clarification on whether any residences fall within the 100-metre radius and suggested reviewing a larger radius to better understand the extent of potential impacts. Mr. Babin advised that the nearest residences are located more than one kilometre from the site and based on the available mapping and scale, it was difficult to determine definitively whether additional properties would be captured within the 100-metre radius but acknowledged that expanding the radius could potentially include additional properties.

Councillor Land raised questions regarding road access to the site, including the widening of access near the snowmobile club and ownership of the road. Mr. Babin confirmed that Tingley Road and associated access roads are public, non-maintained roads and that there is sufficient space to accommodate widening, subject to an agreement with the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure.

Councillor Elderkin inquired about comments from the Department of Agriculture regarding

nearby blueberry operations. Mr. Babin confirmed that the Department had no objections and provided only a reminder of the presence of a blueberry farm in the general area, noting that the operation is located a considerable distance from the proposed site.

Councillor Coates advised that additional consultation with Nav Canada should occur in advance of the public hearing.

During discussion, Council requested information from Mr. Babin. Mr. Babin requested additional time to locate the document.

With the agreement of **Mayor Campbell**, Council proceeded to the next agenda item while the information was obtained.

REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES AND PRIVATE MEETINGS

Personnel Committee – **Councillor Elderkin** advised that there is nothing to report.

EMO Committee – **Councillor Coates** advised there is nothing to report.

Recreation Committee – **Councillor Jonah** presented a [Youth programming request](#) - joint pilot project to deliver two youth programs in collaboration with Riverside Consolidated School.

The proposed programs include:

- a six-week children's drawing workshop focused on creativity, fine motor skills, focus, and self-expression; and
- a six-to-eight-week after-school music and movement program for children aged 8–11, designed to promote physical literacy, coordination, confidence, and social connection through age-appropriate music activities.

Council discussed insurance and liability considerations related to the programs. It was noted that both Recreation Councils are covered under the Village's insurance through their participation in the Recreation Committee, and that Council approval is required for programs carried out under this coverage.

Council also discussed the importance of communication and oversight for Recreation Committee programming, particularly where activities occur in municipal facilities or involve municipal insurance. It was noted that while Recreation Committees operate independently, Council must be informed of and approve activities that carry liability risk.

Councillor Jonah presented a request an [in-kind request from Fundy Blades](#).

Councillor Jonah advised Council that the Fundy Blades Skating Club, a local not-for-profit organization that has provided youth skating and skills development programming in the Village of Fundy Albert for over four decades.

Council was advised that the Club is currently experiencing financial challenges as a result of decreased registrations.

The Recreation Committee brought forward a request on behalf of the Club seeking:

- a donation of arena ice time for the Club's year-end ice show scheduled for March 26 and 27, with an estimated in-kind value of approximately \$1,500; and
- flexibility with respect to the timing of arena rental payments, as proceeds from the year-end ice show fundraiser are expected to allow the Club to bring its account up to date by the end of the season.

Council was advised that the Recreation Committee discussed potential strategies to support the long-term sustainability of the Club, including improved communication and outreach to increase participation.

The Recreation Committee recommended that Council:

1. approve the provision of in-kind arena ice time for the Fundy Blades Skating Club's year-end ice show on March 26 and 27, 2026, with an estimated value of approximately \$1,500;
2. approve a monthly payment plan allowing the Club to spread the remaining balance of its seasonal arena rental costs over the remainder of the season, with payments due every 30 days and subject to a written repayment schedule approved by the Treasurer; and
3. direct staff to prepare a draft arena rental payment deferral policy for Council's consideration to guide future requests.

IT WAS MOVED by **Councillor Jonah** **SECONDED** by **Councillor Land** THAT WHEREAS Fundy Blades Skating Club is a not-for-profit organization providing youth recreation programming within the Municipality of Fundy Albert; and

WHEREAS Fundy Blades has requested in-kind arena ice time for their year-end ice show scheduled for March 26 and March 27;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council approves in-kind arena ice time for Fundy Blades for March 26 and March 27, with an estimated total in-kind value in the region of \$1,500, subject to final scheduling confirmation by staff.

Discussion:

Councillor Elderkin expressed concerns regarding the timing of the information provided, noting that materials received on the day of the meeting may not allow sufficient time for review, particularly for members with workday commitments.

Councillor Elderkin advised the importance of considering the broader municipal perspective when evaluating requests, including the potential for setting a precedent and ensuring fairness and consistency for all organizations operating within Fundy Albert.

Councillor Land advised that the request was being brought forward as a one-time consideration

in response to the current circumstances facing the organization. It was noted that approval, if granted, would not be intended to set a precedent and that any future requests would be considered separately based on their own merits.

MOTION CARRIED (Aye: **Councillor Ward-Russell, Councillor Land, Councillor Jonah, Councillor Coates and Mayor Campbell**
Nay: **Councillor Elderkin**)

Fundy Blades Monthly Payment Plan

IT WAS MOVED by **Councillor Jonah** **SECONDED** by **Councillor Land** THAT
WHEREAS Fundy Blades Skating Club has requested approval to spread the remaining balance of their seasonal arena rental costs; and

WHEREAS the Municipality does not currently have a formal policy governing arena rental payment plans or deferrals;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council approves a monthly payment plan, with payments due every 30 days, for the remainder of the skating season, subject to a written repayment schedule approved by the Treasurer; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council directs staff to develop an Arena Rental Payment Plan / Deferral Policy for future Council consideration

Discussion:

Council requested confirmation that the Fundy Blades Skating Club was current on its account and was advised that the Club was paid up to date, with only the most recent invoice (issued at the end of the month as part of normal billing practices) outstanding.

Council discussed the proposed direction to “staff” and clarified that direction should flow through the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), with the CAO to oversee the development of the repayment schedule. Council also discussed the need to include a timeframe for the payment plan within the current season and noted that a longer-term arena rental payment deferral policy could be developed for Council’s consideration.

Council reiterated that approval of payment flexibility would be considered a one-time request only and discussed incorporating that condition directly into the resolution to avoid setting precedent.

Council proceeded to amend the motion to:

- reflect that the payment plan is a one-time measure;

- specify that the CAO is responsible for approving/overseeing the written repayment schedule and directing staff accordingly.

IT WAS MOVED by **Councillor Jonah** **SECONDED** by **Councillor Land** **THAT** WHEREAS Fundy Blades Skating Club has requested approval to spread the remaining balance of their seasonal arena rental costs; and

WHEREAS the Municipality does not currently have a formal policy governing arena rental payment plans or deferrals;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council approves a one-time monthly payment plan, with payments due every 30 days, for the remainder of the skating season, subject to a written repayment schedule approved by the Treasurer; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CAO directs staff to develop an Arena Rental Payment Plan / Deferral Policy for future Council consideration

MOTION CARRIED (unanimously)

Mayor Campbell advised that the motion to approve the Youth Programming request was not read.

IT WAS MOVED by **Councillor Elderkin** **SECONDED** by **Councillor Land** **THAT** WHEREAS the Recreation Committee was established by Council resolution with a mandate to promote, plan, and implement recreational initiatives and to support community recreation councils operating under the Village of Fundy Albert's municipal liability insurance;

AND WHEREAS the Alma Recreation Council and the Riverside-Albert Recreation Council have jointly proposed two pilot youth recreation programs—the Creative Kids Drawing Workshop and the Strong Roots Music Program—to expand accessible after-school recreation opportunities within Fundy Albert;

AND WHEREAS the proposed programs will be delivered collaboratively by the Alma Recreation Council and the Riverside-Albert Recreation Council at Riverside Consolidated School at no cost to the Municipality, with all volunteers vetted through the Anglophone East School District's established screening processes to ensure participant safety;

AND WHEREAS the programs are intended as a trial initiative and template for future recreation programming delivered under the Village of Fundy Albert's municipal liability insurance;
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the delivery of the Creative Kids Drawing Workshop (Ages 5–10) and the Strong Roots Music Program (Ages 8–11) as pilot youth recreation programs operating under the Village of Fundy Albert's municipal liability insurance

MOTION CARRIED (unanimously)

Return to Agenda Item 6 – Public and Administrative Presentations

Council resumed discussion on the Rezoning following receipt of the requested information.

Council discussed the provincial consultation buffer associated with the application, noting the standard 100-metre buffer and the implications of extending it to 200 or 300 metres. It was confirmed that extending the buffer to 300 metres would capture additional adjacent PIDs; however, there are no residential dwellings within the extended area, with the nearest residence located approximately one kilometre away.

Discussion also addressed access via Tingley Road, identified as an abandoned or former government road. It was noted that if road widening or upgrades are required to meet provincial standards (e.g., 66-foot right-of-way), this would be subject to approval by the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure (DTI). The applicant indicated a willingness to work with DTI. Notification to adjacent landowners regarding road matters would fall under DTI's responsibility. Council members emphasized that Council's role is limited to determining the appropriate consultation buffer distance (100, 200, or 300 metres) and ensuring that all affected adjacent PIDs within the selected buffer receive notification letters. Based on the mapping provided, it was clarified that all PIDs intersected by the buffer line would be notified, with the remaining nearby lands identified as woodland only.

IT WAS MOVED by *Councillor Land* **SECONDED** by *Councillor Coates* **THAT**

WHEREAS Council received a request from Birch Hill Construction Ltd. for a rezoning of the property located on Tingley Road and bearing PID 05036462 from Commercial-Industrial (CI) to the Intensive Resource Development Zone (IRD) to permit a rock quarry.

AND WHEREAS the Council wishes to consider the above-mentioned modifications;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- a) A bylaw amending the rural plan bylaw be drafted;
- b) The Clerk, in name and on behalf of Council, will publish the public notifications in conformance with section 111 of the Community Planning Act;
- c) The hearing of objections to the proposed bylaw is set for **March 3rd**, in the Council Chambers at **6:00pm**;
- d) The Clerk, in name and on behalf of Council, will request the views of the Southeast Regional Service Commission on the proposed bylaw in conformance with section 110 of the Community Planning Act; and

e) The proposed bylaw will be available for consultation by the public at the municipal building during operating hours from the date the first notice is published.

Discussion:

Councillor Ward-Russell advised that the motion does not specify the consultation buffer distance. It was suggested that the motion should clearly state the buffer (e.g., 100 metres), and an amendment to the motion was offered to include this clarification.

Councillor Ward-Russell requested clarification regarding the referenced date of March 3, noting that it is the date of the next Council meeting and confirming that the item or action would occur prior to that Council meeting. Administration advised that this was correct.

IT WAS MOVED by **Councillor Land** **SECONDED** by **Councillor Coates** **THAT**
WHEREAS Council received a request from Birch Hill Construction Ltd. for a rezoning of the property located on Tingley Road and bearing PID 05036462 from Commercial-Industrial (CI) to the Intensive Resource Development Zone (IRD) to permit a rock quarry.

AND WHEREAS the Council wishes to consider the above-mentioned modifications;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- a) A bylaw amending the rural plan bylaw be drafted;
- b) The Clerk, in name and on behalf of Council, will publish the public notifications in conformance with section 111 of the Community Planning Act;
- c) The hearing of objections to the proposed bylaw is set for **March 3rd**, in the Council Chambers at **6:00pm**;
- d) The Clerk, in name and on behalf of Council, will request the views of the Southeast Regional Service Commission on the proposed bylaw in conformance with section 110 of the Community Planning Act; and
- e) The proposed bylaw will be available for consultation by the public at the municipal building during operating hours from the date the first notice is published.
- f) Plan 360 will notify property owners located within 250 metres of the proposed PID of the rezoning application and public hearing.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimously)

ATV Access on Roads and Streets Committee – *Councillor Coates* advised there is nothing to report.

REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION

[Council Meeting Schedule During Election Transition – COW May 19](#)

IT WAS MOVED by *Councillor Elderkin* **SECONDED** by *Councillor Land* THAT Council cancel the Committee of the Whole meeting scheduled for May 19, 2026, as it falls within the municipal election transition period under section 56 of the Local Governance Act and prior to the first meeting of the incoming Council.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimously)

[Disposal of Surplus, Obsolete, or Damaged Equipment Policy](#)

IT WAS MOVED by *Councillor Land* **SECONDED** by *Councillor Coates* THAT Council adopt the Disposal of Surplus, Obsolete, or Damaged Equipment Policy to establish a transparent, accountable, and legislatively compliant framework for the disposal of municipal assets and authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to administer the policy in accordance with its provisions.

Discussion:

Councillor Elderkin raised a question regarding audit compliance, specifically whether a list of disposed assets is required for audit purposes. Mr. Wallace acknowledged that this has not been consistently done in the past, and it was confirmed that maintaining a list of disposed assets is necessary to ensure audit compliance.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimously)

[Respectful Communications Policy](#)

IT WAS MOVED by *Councillor Coates* **SECONDED** by *Councillor Land* THAT Council adopt the Respectful Communications & Public Interaction Policy to establish clear standards for respectful public interaction, protect the health and safety of municipal employees, and support orderly municipal operations, and authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to enforce the policy as required.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimously)

[Inclement Weather Policy](#)

IT WAS MOVED by *Councillor Elderkin* **SECONDED** by *Councillor Jonah* THAT Council adopt the Inclement Weather Policy to provide a clear and consistent framework for managing municipal operations during hazardous weather conditions, to protect employee and public safety, and to support continuity of essential services, and that the Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to act under the policy as required.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimously)

[Economic Development Terms of Reference](#)

IT WAS MOVED by **Councillor Jonah** **SECONDED** by **Councillor Elderkin** THAT Council establish the Economic Development Committee as an advisory committee of Council and approve the Economic Development Committee Terms of Reference to provide strategic advice on economic development priorities, business retention and expansion, investment attraction, and regional collaboration, and authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to administer and support the Committee in accordance with the approved Terms of Reference.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimously)

[Finance Committee Terms of Reference](#)

IT WAS MOVED by **Councillor Elderkin** **SECONDED** by **Councillor Jonah** THAT Council approve the Finance Committee Terms of Reference to provide strategic financial oversight and recommendations on budgeting, financial planning, audit review, and fiscal sustainability, and authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, or their designate, to administer and support the Committee in accordance with the approved Terms of Reference.

Discussion:

Councillor Elderkin advised that, based on discussions with other municipalities, many do not currently have a finance committee structured in this way. While acknowledging the importance of a finance committee, it was expressed that the municipality may not be ready at this time, given existing audit backlogs and operational challenges. It was suggested that the matter be revisited once audits are more current and operations are running more smoothly, potentially by a new Council.

Consensus emerged to table the matter until after the municipal election and until one or more outstanding audits are completed.

IT WAS MOVED by **Councillor Elderkin** **SECONDED** by **Councillor Jonah** THAT Council table the item for consideration at a later date.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimously)

[Warming Centre Activation Policy \(non-state of emergency\)](#)

IT WAS MOVED by **Councillor Land** **SECONDED** by **Councillor Jonah** Council adopt the Comfort Centre Activation Policy (Non-State of Emergency) to establish a clear and legally sound framework for the activation of municipal Comfort Centres during extreme cold or utility disruptions where a State of Emergency has not been declared and authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to carry out operational implementation as directed by Council.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimously)

Hillsborough Water Exploration Tasks

IT WAS MOVED by **Councillor Elderkin** **SECONDED** by **Councillor Land** THAT WHEREAS the Hillsborough Water Exploration Project is an ongoing, budgeted initiative to identify and develop a new municipal production well to support long-term water supply resilience and system reliability within the Hillsborough water system;

AND WHEREAS preparatory work completed to date includes hydrogeological review, wetland screening, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) registration nearing completion, and execution of a landowner access agreement permitting well-related works;

AND WHEREAS the next phase of the project includes construction of a preliminary access road, drilling of an exploration well, and initial pump testing;

AND WHEREAS a proposal has been received from Englobe to undertake this next phase of work at a revised estimated total cost of \$191,000, reflecting the Municipality's decision to complete the access road construction using in-house resources;

AND WHEREAS funding for this phase of the project was budgeted within the Hillsborough Utility operating budget;

MOTION CARRIED (unanimously)

3 Tonne Dump Truck/Plow Truck Replacement

IT WAS MOVED by **Councillor Land** **SECONDED** by **Councillor Jonah** THAT WHEREAS the municipality's existing three-ton dump truck has exceeded most key asset-management and fleet lifecycle performance indicators, including age, reliability, downtime, and repair-cost benchmarks, resulting in escalating maintenance expenses, reduced fleet reliability, and increasing impacts on service delivery;

AND WHEREAS Administration has received quotations from qualified suppliers for the purchase of a replacement three-ton dump truck fitted with an aluminum hybrid dump body, together with a fitted 9.2-foot V-blade snowplow, which together meet the municipality's operational requirements and represent a like-for-like replacement of the existing asset;

AND WHEREAS the total estimated cost for the replacement vehicle and plow is \$133,883.74 (excluding HST), consisting of \$117,563.74 for the truck and aluminum hybrid dump body and \$16,320.00 for the snowplow;

AND WHEREAS funding is available for this purchase through the Capital Renewal Fund in the amount of \$84,394.00, with the remaining balance of \$49,489.74 and net HST to be funded from the Village Core Capital Reserve;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council approve the purchase of a three-ton dump truck fitted with an aluminum hybrid dump body and a 9.2-foot V-blade snowplow, as quoted by the respective suppliers, at a total estimated cost of \$133,883.74 (excluding HST);

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council authorize the CAO and Mayor to approve cost variances of up to \$5,000.00 should pricing change or minor specification adjustments be required at the time of purchase, provided the vehicle remains equivalent in duty rating and operational capability.

Discussion:

Council discussed the proposed purchase of a truck and sought clarification on whether it was included in the approved budget and which budget year applied. Administration confirmed the truck was included in the 2026 capital plan, with a portion previously approved through the capital renewal plan and the remaining amount originally intended to be financed through a debenture. Council had previously directed Administration to proceed using Village Core Capital funds instead of waiting for finalized financial statements to issue a debenture.

Further clarification was provided that the budget did not include the full purchase price as a single line item; rather, it included capital planning amounts and associated borrowing costs. It was noted that if budgeted funds are not used, they may result in a surplus, which Council could reallocate or return to reserves. Administration advised that the current approach preserves borrowing capacity should future needs arise.

Questions were also raised regarding a truck budgeted in 2025 that was not purchased; Administration confirmed those funds were invested into the Village Core Capital Reserve at year end.

Council noted that supplier quotes had technically expired; however, Administration confirmed that dealers are holding the pricing and vehicle in good faith.

Concern was expressed regarding a proposed authorization allowing up to a \$5,000 variance in the resolution. Councillors questioned the necessity of this provision, while Administration explained it was included to provide flexibility should the quoted vehicle no longer be available and a comparable replacement be required.

IT WAS MOVED by *Councillor Land* **SECONDED** by *Councillor Jonah* **Councillor Land** to remove the following paragraph from the original motion “AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council authorize the CAO and Mayor to approve cost variances of up to \$5,000.00 should pricing change or minor specification adjustments be required at the time of purchase, provided the vehicle remains equivalent in duty rating and operational capability”

MOTION DEFEATED (Aye: **Councillor Ward-Russell, Councillor Land, and Councillor Coates**
Nay: **Councillor Elderkin, Councillor Jonah, and Mayor Campbell**)

The Clerk advised that, where a vote results in a tie, the motion is considered defeated, and Council may then vote on the original motion.

IT WAS MOVED by **Councillor Elderkin** **SECONDED** by **Councillor Land** THAT WHEREAS the municipality's existing three-ton dump truck has exceeded most key asset-management and fleet lifecycle performance indicators, including age, reliability, downtime, and repair-cost benchmarks, resulting in escalating maintenance expenses, reduced fleet reliability, and increasing impacts on service delivery;

AND WHEREAS Administration has received quotations from qualified suppliers for the purchase of a replacement three-ton dump truck fitted with an aluminum hybrid dump body, together with a fitted 9.2-foot V-blade snowplow, which together meet the municipality's operational requirements and represent a like-for-like replacement of the existing asset;

AND WHEREAS the total estimated cost for the replacement vehicle and plow is \$133,883.74 (excluding HST), consisting of \$117,563.74 for the truck and aluminum hybrid dump body and \$16,320.00 for the snowplow;

AND WHEREAS funding is available for this purchase through the Capital Renewal Fund in the amount of \$84,394.00, with the remaining balance of \$49,489.74 and net HST to be funded from the Village Core Capital Reserve;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council approve the purchase of a three-ton dump truck fitted with an aluminum hybrid dump body and a 9.2-foot V-blade snowplow, as quoted by the respective suppliers, at a total estimated cost of \$133,883.74 (excluding HST);

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council authorize the CAO and Mayor to approve cost variances of up to \$2,500.00 should pricing change or minor specification adjustments be required at the time of purchase, provided the vehicle remains equivalent in duty rating and operational capability.

MOTION CARRIED (Aye: **Councillor Elderkin, Councillor Jonah, Councillor Land, Councillor Coates**
and Mayor Campbell
Nay: **Councillor Ward-Russell**)

[Truck Mounted Sander Procurement](#)

IT WAS MOVED by **Councillor Land** **SECONDED** by **Councillor Jonah** THAT WHEREAS the Municipality has experienced sustained freeze-thaw conditions this winter resulting in significant ice accumulation across municipal service roads, utilities infrastructure, and public-

facing facilities, and existing sanding equipment inherited at amalgamation is limited in capacity, requires manual loading, and restricts the Municipality's ability to carry out sanding and snow removal simultaneously, contributing to staff safety concerns, reduced access to critical infrastructure, and increased reliance on unbudgeted contracted sanding;

AND WHEREAS a truck-mounted sander with increased capacity and compatibility across multiple municipal vehicles will improve winter response times, enhance staff and public safety, reduce operational risk, and provide greater value through shared fleet use;

AND WHEREAS sufficient funds are available within the Village core Capital Reserve Fund; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council approve the purchase of an Innovation truck-mounted sander from Work & Play at a cost of \$11,249.19 plus HST, to be funded from the Capital Reserve Fund;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council authorize the CAO and Mayor to approve_ additional costs up to a maximum of \$250 should the quoted pricing no longer be available, provided the total expenditure remains within this approved limit.

Discussion:

Councillor Ward-Russell requested to amend the wording of the resolution to correctly identify the funding source as the Village Core Capital Reserve Fund, rather than the capital reserve fund.

IT WAS MOVED by **Councillor Land** **SECONDED** by **Councillor Jonah** THAT WHEREAS the Municipality has experienced sustained freeze-thaw conditions this winter resulting in significant ice accumulation across municipal service roads, utilities infrastructure, and public-facing facilities, and existing sanding equipment inherited at amalgamation is limited in capacity, requires manual loading, and restricts the Municipality's ability to carry out sanding and snow removal simultaneously, contributing to staff safety concerns, reduced access to critical infrastructure, and increased reliance on unbudgeted contracted sanding;

AND WHEREAS a truck-mounted sander with increased capacity and compatibility across multiple municipal vehicles will improve winter response times, enhance staff and public safety, reduce operational risk, and provide greater value through shared fleet use;

AND WHEREAS sufficient funds are available within the Village core Capital Reserve Fund; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council approve the purchase of an Innovation truck-mounted sander from Work & Play at a cost of \$11,249.19 plus HST, to be funded from the Village core Capital Reserve Fund;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council authorize the CAO and Mayor to approve_

additional costs up to a maximum of \$250 should the quoted pricing no longer be available, provided the total expenditure remains within this approved limit.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimously)

BY-LAWS

None

MAYOR AND COUNCILLOR STATEMENTS

Councillor Ward-Russell noted that a previously raised question regarding winter maintenance on Lower Coverdale Streets remain unanswered and requested clarification on which contractor is currently responsible and what the future maintenance plans are, including whether DTI will resume responsibility in 2026.

Councillor Ward-Russell suggested that improved communication is needed between Council, and the ATV Committee, and involved parties.

Councillor Ward-Russell provided an update that she and the CAO and met with the Riverview Fire Chief regarding a proposed dry hydrant in Ward 6, and that further discussions are ongoing, with a report anticipated to come to Council for consideration in the near future.

Councillor Ward-Russell reminded everyone that property assessment notices have recently been mailed and that property owners may request a review within 30 days of the mailing date.

Councillor Ward-Russell advised that a Ward 6 resident is still awaiting promised documents. It was noted that budgets have been approved and funds are being spent without the documents being provided. Administration advised that work on these documents is ongoing, with an estimated timeline of approximately two weeks.

Councillor Jonah advised that some residents have asked about the Welcome to Hillsborough sign that was removed. **Councillor Jonah** expressed concern that the absence of the sign could impact the community's identity and asked for an update on earlier discussions regarding a possible redesign, slogan change, or public design contest. Administration advised that, should Council wish to proceed, options include replacing the sign in its previous form or launching a public contest to invite design and slogan ideas. It was noted that direction from Council is required in order to move the project forward and avoid further delay. Council requested that any previous correspondence or discussions on the redesign be reviewed and that additional information be brought forward to a future Committee of the Whole meeting for further consideration.

Councillor Coates requested clarification regarding library cleaning services, Administration confirmed that six hours of cleaning are budgeted and that cleaning is scheduled to occur on Mondays and Thursdays.

Councillor Coates advised that there is an upcoming Emergency Measures Organization (EMO) exercise on evacuations scheduled for Wednesday, March 18.

Councillor Land requested an update regarding an RCMP response to a recent incident in Albert Mines, following concerns raised by a resident. It was noted that a request for information had been submitted to the RCMP and that a response was received.

Administration advised that, based on information provided by the RCMP, the incident did not meet the criteria required to issue an Alert Ready notification. An infographic outlining the applicable alert criteria was provided by the RCMP. It was further noted that a media release requesting public assistance to locate suspects had initially been prepared but was later cancelled, as the situation had been resolved.

Councillor Elderkin advised that, following an inquiry from a resident in Lower Coverdale regarding road maintenance, the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure (DTI) confirmed that all concerns, comments, or complaints must continue to be directed to DTI, regardless of which contractor is performing the work. This information was relayed to the resident.

Councillor Elderkin also reported attending a Southeast Regional Commission meeting with Mayor Campbell. Noting that April is Volunteer Appreciation Month, **Councillor Elderkin** proposed that Council consider recognizing volunteers through a small appreciation initiative, such as an open house, to acknowledge the many volunteers who support Fundy Albert through committees, fire departments, recreation councils, boards, and non-profit organizations. It was suggested that the initiative could be modest in scope and cost and potentially supported through partnerships or contributions from local groups.

Administration indicated that the estimated cost would be minimal and that budget options could be explored, including potential grant funding. It was noted that such an initiative could align well with upcoming discussions involving non-profits and volunteers. **Councillor Elderkin** offered to work with Administration and other groups to assist with planning and coordination.

Mayor Campbell advised that he and the CAO met with the Minister of Tourism, her Deputy Minister, and departmental staff to discuss Fundy Albert's tourism assets, opportunities, and the need for closer collaboration with the Province. Discussion included advancing tourism development, working toward a tourism corridor in partnership with the federal government, and pursuing funding opportunities related to highway expansion and development. Opportunities for increased international tourism and international engagement were also discussed, with follow-up work planned with the Department.

An update was provided on the Mayor's Round Table, noting strong early interest with several organizations registered within the first 12 hours. The initiative is intended to bring together community groups and non-profits to discuss shared challenges, collaboration opportunities, and ways the municipality can support and recognize their contributions.

Mayor Campbell advised that meetings with several provincial ministers are scheduled for February 24–25 to raise Fundy Albert's profile and advocate for municipal priorities. Council requested that a list of planned meetings and proposed discussion topics be shared in advance to allow for input or suggested questions.

Mayor Campbell reported that he and Ms. Kathy Weir are scheduled to meet Mr. Patrick Kemp of the Fundy housing project in Riverside-Albert to receive an update. It is anticipated that, once design details are finalized, Mr. Kemp will be invited to make a presentation to Council for further discussion.

NOTICES OF MOTION AND RESOLUTIONS

None

PUBLIC STATEMENTS

Ms. Kathy Weir inquired about the status of the 2023 audit, noting it was not referenced earlier in the meeting. Administration advised that the most recent information has come directly from the auditor, with an anticipated timeline toward the end of February or early March. A meeting with the auditor is tentatively scheduled for March 6 to review draft financial statements, acknowledging that while the date is booked, no guarantees were provided.

Ms. Weir also asked whether the Economic Development Committee would be established prior to the municipal election. Administration clarified that, while the framework has been documented, the committee will not be enacted until after the new Council is elected, as the setup process is complex and will take several months.

Regarding ATV access, Ms. Weir noted that no recent update had been provided, particularly concerning access in Riverside-Albert. It was indicated that progress is dependent on coordination with Quad New Brunswick and other trail partners. An upcoming trail meeting hosted by CCRC was noted, intended to bring together motorized and non-motorized trail users to continue momentum from previous community discussions. ATV access matters are expected to be discussed at that meeting.

Additional information was shared that future funding from Chase the Ace is anticipated to continue supporting ATV trail development. Ms. Weir also advised that a gaming licence application has been submitted, with plans to begin ticket sales later in the month and proceed with a draw schedule involving

CLOSED SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by **Councillor Elderkin** to adjourn at 7:57 pm.

Mayor

Clerk