



MINUTES – REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

A Regular Meeting of Valley Waters Council was held on May 13, 2025, 7:00 P.M. in Council Chambers of the Municipal Building. Those present were Mayor Randy McKnight, Deputy Mayor Carey Beth Gillis, Councillors Harold Keith, Charity McDonald, Mary Francis Keirstead, and Lindsey Ganong.

Staff: Angela McLean and Jackie Clement

Regrets: Councillor Steven Muir

Motion: To approve the meeting agenda.

Moved by: Councillor Ganong

Seconded by: Councillor Keith

MOTION CARRIED.

No recordings of Conflicts of Interest.

Motion: To approve the minutes of the April 8, 2025, Regular Meeting.

Moved by: Councillor McDonald

Seconded by: Councillor Ganong

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion: To approve the minutes of the April 8, 2025, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Gillis

Seconded by: Councillor Keith

MOTION CARRIED.

Presentation – Vanessa Coggan, Sussex and District Chamber of Commerce re: the 2024 Annual Report. Vanessa presented the Annual Report, highlighting the relationship with the Kings RSC for economic development. Council asked if Vanessa knew how many businesses in Valley Waters are currently registered with Sussex Chamber and how many are registered with the Hampton Chamber. She will collect the data and report back to the CAO.

CAO's REPORT: Following presentation of the report, Council posed questions regarding tax subunits. Councillor Ganong asked for clarification on whether this was already voted on at Budget time. The CAO explained although tax rates may be the same, the subunits still have their own individual budgets. Merging the subunits (budgets and tax rates) is a different process that will require a Special Meeting before June 11.

Councillor McDonald asked what a copywriter does, and the CAO Angela explained that they research and write the content for our website. Councillor Keith inquired about the status of the property at 12 Church St. and the CAO indicated that it's an ongoing file. Deputy Mayor Gillis asked if the RSC applied for ETF funding for a Solid Waste study and the CAO responded that they were not approved for an ETF grant, and we have no indication as to whether they applied for this or other funding. Councillor Keirstead inquired about the potential for bacteria in the water at the Hatfield Point recreation site and

Mayor McKnight responded that the Belleisle Watershed Coalition and NB Dept. Environment keep a close eye on the activity at this site and others and inform the public when it is unsafe. Councillor Keith asked if there has been any development on the new subdivision on Route 865, and it appears the land clearing has begun.

Introduction and Readings of By-Laws and Policies:

Motion: to proceed to 1st and 2nd Reading (by title), Valley Waters Emergency Planning By-Law 25-17-01.

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Gillis

Seconded by: Councillor Keith

MOTION CARRIED.

Deputy Mayor Gillis did both readings.

CORRESPONDENCE:

A. KRSC Building Permit Report, April 2025

B. Memo from Dept. Local Government re: Amended regulations coming into effect

C. Memo from Dept Local Government re: Process for changes to Wards/Councils.

NEW BUSINESS & CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS:

Motion: To distribute the Canada Day grant from Heritage Canada as follows:

Belleisle \$2,100

Norton \$2,100

Wickham \$800

Moved by: Councillor Keith

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Gillis

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion: To award Graduation Scholarships in the amount of \$250 each to Belleisle High School, Sussex Regional High School and Hampton High School for graduating students who reside in Valley Waters.

Moved by: Councillor Ganong

Seconded by: Councillor Keirstead

MOTION CARRIED.

COMMITTEE REPORTS, MAYOR'S AND COUNCILLORS' REMARKS:

A. RSC Committees: All meetings remain on hold during the Trusteeship. Councillor McDonald had her private Teams interview with the mediator last week and Mayor McKnight is scheduled for this week. Originally the format was going to be a group meeting but was changed to one on one. Mayor McKnight feels they are behind on the original timeline that was forecast by the Trustee.

B. UMNZ Zone Reps. UMNZ held their April 17 meeting here at Valley Waters and Councillors Keith and Ganong attended. There was a quick update on Fiscal Reform, and UMNZ is still advocating on the issue. There were discussions concerning highway use permits, as a group of recreation vehicles are currently accessing Main St. in Sussex and they hope to extend this in other areas. The next meeting will be at the end of summer. Deputy Mayor Gillis attended a UMNZ Teams meeting to vote on updated By-laws,

discussions surrounding the assessment freeze, and decrease in assessment appeals. The freeze includes industry as well.

C. Way of Life Advisory Committee next meeting is the 22nd of May.

E. Strong and Vibrant Community Advisory Committee – there's a need for promoting Dial A Ride and recruiting volunteers. The local food bank is going strong and shows there is a need in our area. Bill Olivier is hosting a breakfast at Valley Waters on Monday 19th supporting local food banks. Mayor McKnight reached out to see if that will include our local one as well, but he has not heard back.

Motion to Adjourn: at 7:50 pm by Councillor Ganong.


MAYOR


CLERK/TREASURER

