

Rural Community of Upper Miramichi 6094 Route 8, Boiestown, August 24th, 2026

PLACE: The Council meeting of the Rural Community of Upper Miramichi was held in the Upper Miramichi Community Centre on August 24th at 7:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE: Mayor D. Frank McKeil, Councillor Grant Ross, Councillor Wendy Wellwood, Councillor Joe Hunter, Councillor Nolan Astle, Margie McKay-Lyons were in attendance. Mary Hunter sent her regrets.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor McKeil called the meeting to order.
2. **AGENDA:** It was moved by Councillor Hunter and seconded by Councillor Ross to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.
3. **MINUTES:** It was moved by Councillor Ross and seconded by Councillor Astle that the minutes of July 27th be approved as presented. Motion carried.
4. **NOTATION OF QUORUM:** Mayor McKeil noted that a quorum was present.
5. **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** No conflict declared by Council.
6. **RCMP REPORT:** RCMP Sgt Jason LeBlanc reported that there have been a few minor incidents in our area however things have been relatively quiet other than that. Sgt LeBlanc also reported there are still 5 members out of service and that they are expecting 2 replacement members soon.
7. **BUILDING INSPECTOR REPORT:** Nolan Astle gave his report to Council. There was 1 development permit in the month of August. Mr. Astle also said that work is ongoing for the Rural Plan. It was moved by Councillor Ross and seconded by Councillor Hunter to accept the Building Inspector report. Motion carried.
8. **RSC UPDATE:** Mayor McKeil reported there was an upcoming meeting on August 26th, and that Mary Hunter attends meetings via Zoom. Mayor McKeil reported that Minister Aaron Kennedy is onboard with the plan for our housing project.
9. **FIRE DEPARTMENT:** Councillor Ross reported that the fire department responded to 4 calls, 1 fire call, 1 moose struck, 1 trees on line and 1 mutual aid. There were 2 training sessions 1 – new tank and 1 – BA masks/bottles. Request for a letter to be sent out in thanks of the new fire skid unit received from Global Medic along with pictures. At the meeting held at Station 1 there were discussions on a new building for storage as well as the need for a new fire truck within the next five years. It was moved by Councillor Hunter and seconded by Councillor Astle to accept the Fire Department report. Motion carried.

10. **EMO:** Councillor Wellwood reported there were no updates on EMO at present.
11. **RECREATION AND PARKS REPORT:** Councillor Ross reported that the ballfield is looking good with the last tournament scheduled in October, Splashpad closing after Labour Day weekend and Maritime Tennis patched the dome floor and white lines on the pickleball court. It was moved by Councillor Astle and seconded by Councillor Hunter to accept the Recreation and Parks report. Motion carried.
12. **UPPER MIRAMICHI LIBRARY:** Councillor Ross reported the Library received \$10000. from Upper Miramichi as per the MOU agreement. The library gave out radon testing kits to residents. They had 2 summer students this year. It was moved by Councillor Hunter and seconded by Councillor Wellwood to accept the Upper Miramichi Library report. Motion carried.
13. **TOURISM AND TRANSPORTATION:**

Mayor McKeil reported that work on the kiosk and lighting at Norrad Bridge is ongoing. Bus-turning and no parking signs are needed at the head of Holtville, as well as speed signs.

Councillor Hunter reported the ATV club has offered to share in costs of signage for the trail. Requested the Snowmobile Club sponsors be listed on the new Trailhead sign. Councillor Astle will follow up on these matters. It was moved by Councillor Wellwood and seconded by Councillor Ross to accept the tourism and transportation report. Motion carried.
14. **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** Councillor Astle does not have anything to report.
15. **HEALTH CARE:** Councillor Wellwood reported the online healthcare was presenting some problems for users and advised that by calling 811 persons can be guided through the process. Becky Matchett is working on a step by step direction to be posted on the Upper Miramichi Facebook page and published in the ONN. Keltie will begin working at the Access Clinic in September and will continue until May 2027. Councillor Wellwood said that the Central NB Nursing Home is still working on "Nursing Homes without Borders" program. It was moved by Councillor Ross and seconded by Councillor Hunter to accept the health care report as presented. Motion carried.
16. **CORRESPONDENCE:** Josh Astle sent a letter explaining future use of Astle Rec Center and asked Council for a letter of support for RDC funding for his project. Discussion was supportive of this request. It was moved by Councillor Astle and seconded by Councillor Ross to provide a letter of support. Motion carried.
17. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES AND UPDATES:**

17.1 *Gas Tax Projects* – Mayor McKeil reported continuing work on the Kiosk.

Councillor Ross reported the lighting for the trail will cost between \$65000. and \$70000.

17.2 *Former Nursing Home* – Councillor Ross reported choosing Scenario two with all housing units, no commercial space. The Housing Hub is now submitting the funding proposal for approval.

17.3 *Capital Renewal Fund* – Margie McKay-Lyons gave an update on flooring quotes. Council asked for additional information on the flooring.

17.4 *Rural Plan and Building By-law* – Mayor McKeil advised a meeting needed to be set up with Jamie Burke of Stantec would be the next step to finish the plan.

17.5 *Fire Boundaries* - Mayor McKeil reported Kevin Russell was contacted about the concern over the Bondaries. Councillor Ross is going to assist Mayor McKeil with this matter.

17.6 *UMNB* – Mayor McKeil reported that he is gathering information in regards to the pros/cons of re-joining UMNB.

18. NEW BUSINESS:

18.1 *AMANB Conference* – Margie McKay-Lyons advised Council that the Annual Conference would be from September 15 – September 18 therefor the office would be closed for the duration.

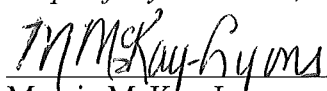
18.2 *In Camera Session* – It was moved by Councillor Ross and seconded by Councillor Hunter to close regular meeting and move into in camera session. Motion carried.

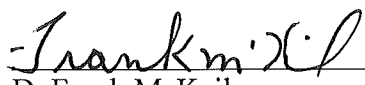
It was moved by Councillor Wellwood and seconded by Councillor Hunter to close in camera session and move back to regular meeting. Motion carried.

20. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The next regular meeting will be held on September 28th, 2026 at the Community Room at the Upper Miramichi Community Center.

21. ADJOURNMENT: The motion to adjourn was made by Councillor Wellwood.

Respectfully submitted,


Margie McKay-Lyons
Assistant Clerk


D. Frank McKeil
Mayor