



**Village of Belledune
Committee of Whole Council Meeting
July 6, 2026**

Time: 7:00 PM
Place: Belledune Council Chambers
Deputy Mayor, Cynthia Robinson
Councillor, Ron Bourque
Present: Councillor, Dawn Hickey
Councillor, James Carrier
Mayor, Mario LaPointe
Councillor, Brenda Cormier
Absent:
Late:
Staff Present: Chief Administrative Officer, Landon Lee
Clerk Treasurer, Angela Buckle
Staff Absent:
Staff Late:

Call to Order & Welcome

- Acknowledgement of "Treaties of Peace and Friendship"
- Reaffirm Oath of Office

Adopt Agenda

M 2026/07/06-72

Brenda Cormier moved that the Agenda be Adopted as Amended with changes, seconded by Ron Bourque. MOTION CARRIED.

Statements of Conflict of Interest

Presentations / Petitions / Delegations

Business

- Procedural By-Law Review

CAO, Lee is looking for direction on how Council would like to proceed with reviewing the Procedural By-Law.

Councillor, Carrier suggested that a separate meeting be called just for the purpose of reviewing the Procedural By-Law.

Councillor, Hickey agreed with Councillor, Carrier.

Council

Mayor, Lapointe

Councillor, Bourque

- Request for Public Presentation from Vitalite

Councillor, Bourque stated that he had been contact point with Chantal Bernard at Vitalite during his term on the previous Council. Councillor, Bourque has reached out to her to discuss the Jacquet River Clinic and she has indicated that she is in discussions with the directors of Vitalite regarding what the future direction will be for the clinic. He was hoping to have a response from her for the meeting this evening, but he has not received it. He will share her response with Council when he receives it.

Councillor, Bourque would like for Chantal Bernard to be invited to do a presentation to Council at a public meeting to discuss what is happening at the clinic, where it is going, and what direction we're going in.

- Request for Meeting with Fire Marshal

Councillor Bourque would like for the Fire Marshal, Jamie Innis to come in and do a presentation to Council to bring them up to speed on where our fire department is and what they've been up to. Councillor, Bourque suggested that this meeting be between Council and the Fire Marshal so that the Fire Marshal is able to speak freely. Councillor, Bourque stated that we have quarterly EMO meetings with the fire department, but he believes that Council needs to hear where the fire department is from a provincial perspective. He would like for the Fire Marshal to be able to come in and speak freely and give Council advice and recommendations as to where we need to go and what needs to be done.

Councillor, Bourque stated that the fire department is Council's biggest responsibility and biggest liability and that is why as new Councils and new Councillors we need to hear exactly where we're at and exactly what needs to be done. He stated that we need to know what we need to do to make sure that our fire department is ready, able, willing, and has our liabilities covered.

Councillor, Bourque would like for CAO, Lee to arrange for Jamie Innis to come before Council for a discussion prior to the next EMO meeting.

Mayor, LaPointe indicated that he would like to see a public presentation on the status of our fire department so that the public is aware and that we have full transparency on where we need to be and where we are now.

CAO, Lee stated that he has been talking to the Fire Chief, there hasn't been a quarterly meeting in a little while as they were waiting for the new Council to be in place. He went on to say that Council will probably receive a request for July 28th for the quarterly EMO meeting, so we would like to arrange something with Jamie Innis before that time.

CAO, Lee told Mayor, LaPointe that he could talk to the fire chief that if Council is looking for a presentation that it could be done at the EMO meeting which is open to the public.

- Request for Public Presentation from AFMNB

Councillor, Bourque stated that this may be a sensitive issue since he isn't sure how many Councillors speak French but he believes that the Francophone Association is highly involved in presentations and grants and things in municipalities that UMNB is not involved in. He went on to say that there are many municipalities in Northern New Brunswick that are members of both associations.

Councillor, Bourque said that he believes where this becomes sensitive to Belledune is that the development that is going on at the Port of Belledune has a lot to do with provincial and federal jurisdiction. He went on to say that Belledune is not at the table in a lot of these issues and Bathurst, Belle Baie and Heron Bay are speaking for Belledune because we are not there. He believes that this is something that would be a positive step forward and that the director of the Francophone Association would be happy to come and do a public presentation to advise us of the advantages of belonging to the Association.

Councillor, Bourque would like for CAO, Lee to contact the director and ask for a public presentation at the next Committee of the Whole or public meeting or whenever one can be scheduled

Councillor, Carrier

Councillor, Cormier

- Orientation & Trainings Report

Councillor, Cormier wanted to provide a review of some of the sessions that she attended, some of which were also attended by fellow Council members and staff, to give an idea of some of the things that were learned from these trainings and orientations.

Councillor, Cormier attended the following orientations and training sessions in June:

- Local Government Kick-Off Orientation in Saint John on June 12th & 13th
- UMNB Regional and Training Meeting June 18th in Dalhousie, along with Councillor, Robinson
- Belledune In-House Orientation with Jacques Dube on June 20th, with all of Council and Staff
- UMNB Virtual - Respect and Action, A Path Forward To Address Harassment and Intimidation on June 23rd

Councillor, Cormier stated that the June 12th & 13th orientation in Saint John was on the following subjects, from a legislative standpoint:

- Local Government Roles & Responsibilities

- Local Government Finance, Code of Conduct, and Conflict of Interest
- Local Government Meeting Procedures, Rights to Information and Protection of Privacy Act
- Regional Service Commissions and Collaboration

Councillor, Cormier felt the orientation was excellent, clear, and easy to understand. It shed light on the challenges in Belledune and showed us where we need to improve internally to better serve the community.

Councillor, Cormier summarized the June 18th UMNB Regional Meeting saying that the Executive provided an organizational overview highlighting membership benefits and updating attendees on the active files. Consultant Chris McPherson, former CAO of Fredericton, delivered a presentation on local governance roles & responsibilities, offering strategies for Council and Administration to collaborate effectively and build cohesive municipal operations.

Councillor, Cormier stated that on June 20th she attended in-house orientation with Jacques Dube and he addressed the following topics:

- Civility and Local Government
- Belledune Council's CAO Relations
- Belledune Council's Meeting Procedures
- Belledune Council's Staff Relations
- Belledune Local Government Legislation

Councillor, Cormier stated that respect was the theme of all of the presentations. She went on to say that it permitted Council members and staff to reflect and discuss Belledune's experiences, where changes are necessary, and how we need to address the issues that need to be improved upon to foster respect, civility, and improvement in operations from both a governance and administration perspective.

Councillor, Cormier participated in a UMNB Virtual on June 23rd, Respect and Action - A Strategy to Address Harassment and Intimidation in Local Government. This was based on a 2026 report. Councillor, Cormier stated that the session examined a comprehensive strategy and 46 recommendations outlined in the final report. The document generates findings from the November 14th & 15th, 2025 symposium on harassment and intimidation which was held in Fredericton. There were stakeholder interviews and a jurisdictional scan of current legislation and what we hear report. The resulting 46 recommendations assign clear, actionable responsibilities across provincial government, local government and New Brunswick Associations.

Councillor, Hickey

Councillor, Robinson

Administration

Chief Administrative Officer, Landon Lee

- Discussion & Directive on Bathurst Airport Contribution - Removed from Agenda
- Service Proposal - FlexGo - Added to Agenda

CAO, Lee stated that the Chaleur Regional Service Commission wanted for Council to be aware that there is a feasibility study that's being done on regional transportation. CAO, Lee believes that the cost of the study is going to be covered by the Regional Service Commission, there are no fees that he is aware of at this time that will fall to Belledune. CAO, Lee said that regional transportation was one of the mandates with the Regional Service Commission that could benefit Belledune if it was utilized in the right way. It is associated to FlexGo and they have had, from what he understands, a successful pilot run out of Bathurst, and it would be looking at expanding those services up to Belledune. This might result in a regional transportation increase in contribution down the road, but Council will be fully informed of that by the Service Commission when we get to that point.

Deputy Mayor, Robinson followed up by saying that Jocelyn was hoping to get Council's feedback if they are interested in continuing with the feasibility study, and that the numbers would be available for the next budget meeting. She indicated that Bathurst has had huge success with FlexGo, they have had to add additional buses, they just acquired another bus to meet demand. The study will show what types of services can be offered in Belledune and Belle Baie to extend that line to cover more of the region.

Mayor, LaPointe stated that he is in support of continuing with the study.

Clerk/Treasurer, Angela Buckle

Closed Session

Adjournment

M 2026/07/06-73

**James Carrier moved that the meeting adjourned at 7:23pm., seconded by Cynthia Robinson.
MOTION CARRIED.**

Mayor

Clerk Treasurer