



Arcadia

Council Meeting Minutes

Location: Cumberland Bay Fire Hall, Cumberland Bay

Date: Monday, March 16, 2026 – Regular Meeting of Council

Time: 7:00 pm

1) Call to Order

Mayor Sharpe called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. In attendance were Mayor Sharpe, Deputy Mayor Sharpe, Councillor Thomson, Councillor Gordon, Councillor Mennier, Councillor Gahan-MaGee, CAO Bedford and Clerk McGarity. Regrets received from Councillor Black.

2) Approval of the Agenda

It was moved by Councillor Gordon and seconded by Councillor Gahan-MaGee to approve the agenda as presented.

With all in favour, the motion was carried.

Mayor Sharpe read Arcadia's Vision and Mission statements:

- Vision Statement: "A united community where rural lifestyle, harmony with nature, and a relaxed pace of life thrive, creating a foundation for sustainable growth, unity, and well-being for all".
- Mission Statement: "To foster a vibrant and inclusive rural community by engaging with residents, collaborating with partners, and maintaining open governance. We are committed to preserving Arcadia's natural beauty, enhancing our quality of life, and building a harmonious future through thoughtful planning, sustainable services, and a shared sense of unity".

3) Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

Mayor Sharpe asked if there are any conflicts to declare pertaining to the approved agenda. No conflicts were declared.

4) Approval of the Minutes

a) Regular Council Meeting – February 17, 2026

It was moved by Councillor Mennier and seconded by Councillor Thomson to approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting on February 17, 2026.

With all in favour, the motion was carried.

5) CAO Report

CAO, Karrie Bedford, gave the monthly report.

- Creating the Foundation

- Gemtec continues to lead the Rural Plan development on behalf of Capital Region Service Commission. The working group is encouraging all community members to attend an in-person open house on Wednesday April 1, 2025 at Camp Medley.
- Exploration of opportunities to expand childcare services throughout Arcadia.
- Staff supporting CRSC planning team with online mapping resource of sewer lines in Gagetown.
- Branding guide and expanding logo development for marketing materials such as apparel and signage.
- Initial stages of policy development for Community Use Rentals of Municipal Buildings, Grounds, and Properties.
- Continue to explore funding available to local governments.
- Preparation of summary of office needs to help inform planning process to explore options for municipal staff.
- Connecting Community
 - Creation of reporting structure of resident inquiries and reporting briefing to be provided to Council during Committee of the Whole meetings
 - Staff participation in community events to support greater community connection to residents.
 - Council held the Committee of the Whole meeting on March 2, 2026. Next meeting is scheduled for April 6, 2026 – 7:00pm at the Jemseg Fire Department.
 - Encourage residents to reach out to office or directly to a member of Council if you have an inquiry regarding any recent council decisions or operational updates.
 - Reminder to local groups, associations and event planners to submit their event on our website calendar. Email info@arcadianb.ca with the event poster, contact information and details of your event.
 - Successfully started working groups to support Council on various initiatives: lagoon, wharves, fundraising, health services, recycling. Thank you to all volunteers.
 - Council and Staff will be present at March 21, 2026 Community Networking Night hosted by Strawberry Gables Marketing at Camp Medley.
- Building Arcadia
 - Successful workshop held on March 12, 2026 for Arcadia's Green House Gas Inventory presentation, which was funded by the Environmental Trust Fund.
 - Charging Community Celebrations are planned to celebrate the opening of the Charged for Change – EV Chargers at the Cambridge-Narrows Regional Library and Gagetown Rec Centre on March 17th, weather permitting.
 - Ignite MERGE funding – both projects from 2025 were finalized. Submission of Expression of Interest for 2026 project has been submitted for resources to help improve clarity over routes for solid waste collection.
 - In partnership with ACTivate Arcadia volunteers, staff are completing a Tourism Map for 2026 season. Local graphic designer has been engaged through the Community Investment Fund.
 - Through regional services offered through Capital Region Service Commission, Arcadia has leveraged Ignite to support the development of Arcadia's Economic Development and Tourism Strategy. Draft strategy is being reviewed.

- CRSC in partnership with Stiletto and Ignite are hosting a series of community conversations for creation of a Regional Workforce Strategy. Local session happened today at the Jemseg Lions Club.
- Living in Arcadia
 - Gagetown Medical Clinic renovations are complete. We are actively looking for someone to take over the clinic as we work closely with the Oromocto and Area Medical Services Committee, and a few local nurse practitioner students that live and would like to work in the community.
 - Health Services working group is supporting alignment of various other types of health services (outside of physician recruitment).
 - Ongoing programming with GDRC and other volunteer groups that are offering programs across Arcadia.
 - Developing a recreation strategy for all of Arcadia.
 - Public workings planning is ongoing for upcoming season.
 - Asset Management Plan development to start in Spring.
 - Review of the draft Emergency Response Plan has been discussed with Regional Emergency Management Coordinator with NB Emergency Measures Organization.

6) Business Arising from The Minutes

a) Trail Initiative

- Received Highway Usage Permits (HUP) from Department of Transportation and Infrastructure.
- Awaiting approval letter from Public Safety

b) Approval of Arcadia's Future Community Fund Policy

It was moved by Councillor Gordon and seconded by Councillor Thomson to untable item 6b) from Business Arising from the Minutes "Approval of Arcadia's Future Community Fund Policy".

Clerk McGarity restated original motion made on February 17, 2026:

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Sharpe and seconded by Councillor Thomson to adopt the Future Community Fund Policy to support graduating students and encourage workforce and community leadership development.

Questions:

- *Councillor Mennier: Have we done a count of students who may apply and if it aligns with the funding that we have allocated?*

Clerk McGarity: We do know how many students are attending Cambridge-Narrows Community School, but we do not know how many other students may live in Arcadia but attend another school, such as Oromocto, Chipman, or Sussex.

CAO Bedford: As this would be the first year, it has been forecasted. Going forward we will be able to have a better estimate on how many students attend schools outside of Arcadia.

With all in favour, the motion was carried.

7) Recommendations from Committee of the Whole

- No recommendations brought forward at this time

8) New Business

a) Acceptance of Financial Reports

It was moved by Councillor Gordon and seconded by Deputy Mayor Sharpe to accept the financial reports for the Arcadia General Operating Expenditures for the month ending February 28, 2026 in the amount of \$482,487.24.

With all in favour, the motion was carried.

It was moved by Councillor Gordon and seconded by Councillor Mennier to accept the financial reports for the Arcadia Sewerage Expenditures for the month ending February 28, 2026 in the amount of \$30,919.14.

Questions:

- *Deputy Mayor Sharpe: Where do we get the money? I understand there is a deficit in the account.*

Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Trebble: There is a deficit, but we do have cash flow in the account to cover the expenses.

Councillor Mennier: Majority of the expense is for the EXP contract, to be reimbursed.

With all in favour, the motion was carried.

b) First Reading by Title Only and in its Entirety – By-Law No. 9A A By-law to Repeal the Former Village of Gagetown Recreation By-Laws

Mayor Sharpe read By-law No. 9A A By-law to Repeal the Former Village of Gagetown Recreation By-laws by title only and in its entirety.

It was moved by Councillor Mennier and seconded by Deputy Mayor Sharpe that the first reading by title only and in its entirety be given to By-law No. 9A A By-law to Repeal the Former Village of Gagetown Recreation By-laws.

With all in favour, the motion was carried.

c) Second Reading by Title Only – By-Law No. 9A A By-law to Repeal the Former Village of Gagetown Recreation By-Laws

Mayor Sharpe read By-law No. 9A A By-law to Repeal the Former Village of Gagetown Recreation By-laws by title only.

It was moved by Councillor Mennier and seconded by Deputy Mayor Sharpe that the second reading by title only be given to By-law No. 9A A By-law to Repeal the Former Village of Gagetown Recreation By-laws.

With all in favour, the motion was carried.

d) Annual Strawberry Festival Request

It was moved by Councillor Gordon and seconded by Councillor Mennier that the Council of Arcadia approve the use of the Pines Conservation Park on Saturday June 27, 2026 for the Annual Strawberry Festival hosted by Strawberry Gables Marketing.

With all in favour, the motion was carried.

e) Student Funding Request

Received request for financial support from Emma Fanjoy to attend SHAD program.

It was moved by Councillor Mennier and seconded by Councillor Gordon that the Council of Arcadia approve funding in the amount of \$500 to Emma Fanjoy for participation in the SHAD program to be paid out of the operational contingency budget, Ward 4 specific.

Questions:

- *Councillor Gahan-MaGee: Too much funding at this time if additional students come forward with request. It is not fair to help one and not the others.*
- *Deputy Mayor Sharpe: Ward 4 does not have the contingency funds for this sponsorship.*
- *Councillor Gordon: Can we find out how many students are participating?*
- *Councillor Mennier: If the deadline is April 1st, there is no time for other students to come forward.*

All those in favour: Councillor Mennier, Councillor Gordon

All those against: Councillor Gahan-MaGee, Councillor Thomson, Deputy Mayor Sharpe

Motion was defeated.

9) Open Session – Comments from the Public

- Can the CAO Report be posted for public view?
- Phone exchanges in the area – depending on where you live, your neighbor may be considered long distance
 - Cell phone service is not good in the area

10) Upcoming Meetings

- April 20, 2026 – Jemseg Fire Hall

11) Closed Session

It was moved by Councillor Gordon and seconded by Councillor Mennier to move to closed session at 7:52 pm.

With all in favour, the motion was carried.

Items discussed in closed session were as per Section 68(1)(d), and (j) of the Local Governance Act.

It was moved by Councillor Mennier and seconded by Councillor Gahan-MaGee to move out of closed session at 8:25pm.

With all in favour, the motion was carried.

12) Adjournment

It was moved by Councillor Gordon and seconded by Councillor Gahan-MaGee to adjourn at 8:26 pm.

With all in favour, the motion was carried.



Mayor Clinton Sharpe





Clerk Jessica McGarity