



Committee of the Whole

Minutes

Monday June 8, 2026 7:00pm

Jemseg Fire Hall

91 Route 695, Jemseg

1. Call to Order

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

Mayor Stoney welcomed everyone to the first Committee of the Whole meeting with the newly elected Council. As a reminder, Committee of the Whole is an opportunity for Council and Staff to have open discussions amongst themselves. Spectators are not to participate in the discussion or make comment.

2. Approval of the Agenda

It was moved by Councillor Sharpe and seconded by Councillor Gordon to approve the agenda as presented.

With all in favour, the motion was carried.

3. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

Mayor Stoney asked if there are any conflicts to declare pertaining to the approved agenda.

No conflicts were declared.

4. Approval of the Minutes

a) Committee of the Whole Meeting – April 13, 2026

It was moved by Councillor Gordon and seconded by Councillor Black to approve the minutes from the Committee of the Whole Meeting on April 13, 2026.

With all in favour, the motion was carried.

5. Correspondence

- Mayor Stoney went through correspondence, requesting if Council would like to discuss each item.
- April 2026 Building Permits
 - There were 4 building permits with an estimated value of \$387,000
- National Hydrological Service – River Watch Level Monitoring Gagetown Station



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- Request to move the monitoring station currently located in the lighthouse, to a location within the fence of the Gagetown Lagoon. This request has come forward due to the safety concerns of the monitoring staff getting in and out of the lighthouse. Security of their equipment is also a concern, therefore would like to have located within fenced area of lagoon.
 - Councillor Gahan-MaGee asked if insurance has been considered? Staff will discuss with Arcadia's insurance company; however, the federal government would have their own insurance for their monitoring system.
 - NB Power Vegetation Control Program 2026
 - Letter received advising that NB Power Transmission will be carrying out their vegetation control program along some of the transmission line rights-of-ways throughout New Brunswick and some of them are within the municipal boundaries of Arcadia.
 - Councillor Gahan-MaGee asked if we could stop them from spraying? Mayor Stoney asked if we should be stopping vegetation control? Councillor Gahan-MaGee requested we send a letter requesting more information. Councillor Sharpe noted how the letter gives information on why this program is necessary, how they are in compliance with the Pesticide Control Act and Regulations as well as the additional terms and conditions in accordance with the Pesticide Use Permit issued by the Department of Environment and Local Government.
 - Letters from Cambridge-Narrows Community School PSSC
 - Requesting the municipality to assist with increasing daycare options in the community.
 - Requesting the Department of Transportation to review current student transportation policies as some of the students have very lengthy bus rides to and from the school each day.
 - May 2026 Building Permits
 - There were 6 building permits with an estimated value of \$985,000
 - NB Health Link Flyer
 - Opportunity to understand how many residents in Arcadia are in need of a primary health care provider, and how many residents have a primary health care provider but are travelling outside of Arcadia
 - Opportunity to promote registering for NB Health Link



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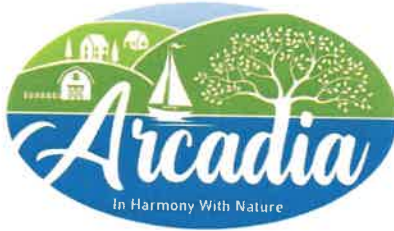
91 Route 695, Jemseg

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- EMO Packages
 - CAO Bedford discussed presentations to be circulated with staff and fire departments to assist with planning for emergency response.
 - Former Cambridge-Narrows Municipal Building is the only emergency shelter that is registered.
 - Emergency Measures Plan for Arcadia is still in draft. The plans for the former villages of Cambridge-Narrows and Gagetown are still active at this time.

6. Presentations and Discussions

a) Arcadia Council Meeting Locations

- Councillor Gordon noted that every resident deserves to have a meeting in their home ward. We should not only in Cambridge-Narrows and Gagetown. We should still rotate until we have a permanent location.
- Mayor Stoney noted that as we move around to all locations, we also give the option for residents to join the meeting virtually.
- Councillor Gahan-MaGee agrees with Councillor Gordon.
- Councillor Sharpe agrees that we move around to all wards, even if there are no residents in attendance.
- Councillor Thomson agrees with travelling around to all wards.
- Councillor Gahan-MaGee agrees to travelling around to all wards until we have a permanent location.
- Council agree that Committee of the Whole will stay at the Jemseg Fire Hall to be less movement for staff, until we have a permanent location.
- CAO Bedford brought forward safety concern in the event that there is an emergency call during a meeting. Councillor Gordon does not think that it is ideal to be walking around fire trucks. Mayor Stoney ensured that if there was an emergency call, everyone would stay in the meeting room and not impede fire service duties.
- Community Meetings have both been held at the former Cambridge-Narrows Municipal Building for capacity purposes. Mayor Stoney thought there was potential to move around Arcadia.



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b) Arcadia Deputy Mayor

- As per *Local Governance Act* and *Arcadia By-law No. 1B A Procedural By-law for the Council of Arcadia* shall elect a Deputy Mayor from among the Councillors.
- Deputy Mayor will be elected at the next Regular Council Meeting

c) Working Group Update: ACTivate Arcadia

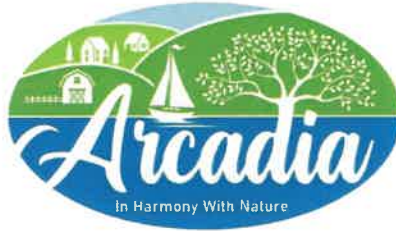
- 2026 ACTivate Tourism Map is complete and has been printed for distribution.
- Mayor Stoney thanked all volunteers who have been part of creating this Tourism Map.

d) Working Group Update: Recycling

- Request for Council to approve a one-page mailer to all residents in Arcadia regarding recycling, and request for Council to consider sponsoring the Jemseg Lions Club Community Newsletter to assist in expanding the reach to Gagetown, Upper Gagetown, and Hampstead.
- Councillor Black has received concerns from residents that their recycling was rejected because it was not sorted properly. It is important to get recycling information out to residents if we want to encourage them to recycle.
- Councillor Sharpe and Councillor Gahan-MaGee requested staff reach out to Circular Materials requesting them to promote recycling within Arcadia as they are responsible for recycling across New Brunswick.
- Councillor Gahan-MaGee asked if we have discussed with Jemseg Lions Club on how much it would cost to assist with expanding the reach of the monthly newsletter
- Staff will work with Recycling Working Group and reach out to Circular Materials for promotional materials

e) Working Group Update: Wharves

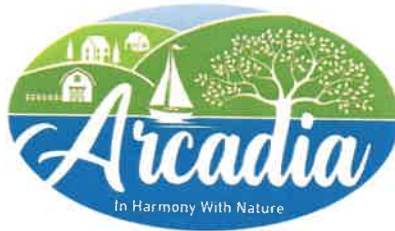
- The acquisition of the Youngs Cove and Waterborough Wharves is still with the lawyers.
- Councillor Gahan-MaGee requested Council to look at the short-term recommendations at this time.
- Councillor Black confirms that there is still money set aside for the Cambridge-Narrows Wharves



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- Mayor Stoney requested Council to look at recommendations brought forward so we can provide further guidance to staff.
 - When we acquire the Youngs Cove and Waterborough Wharves, we have to make sure there is proper signage posted.
 - Councillor Gahan-MaGee has concerns with the crane being on the Gagetown Wharf. Is the wharf able to hold the weight of the crane and the boat as they are launched into the water? Councillor Sharpe noted that the crane operator would not be on the wharf if it was not safe. This is something that has been happening for years. Councillor Thomson noted that the fire trucks go onto the Gagetown Wharf for water. Councillor Gahan-MaGee asked if the crane operator has their own insurance? Clerk McGarity informed that staff complete a Building and Properties Use Agreement for any events out of the norm, where we also ask for a Certificate of Insurance.
- f) Department of Natural Resources Gifting Agreement
- Received letter from Department of Natural Resources with a gifting agreement for repurposed and redistributed essential firefighting equipment to assist with wildfire management for all five fire departments in Arcadia.
 - Councillor Gordon informed that this gift is only for equipment and does not address coveralls.
 - Council recommend signing the agreement at the next Regular Council meeting, with a request for the Department of Natural Resources to also consider gifting us wildfire coveralls.
 - CAO Bedford noted that Department of Natural Resources will also come out and do training with the fire departments as part of the gifting agreement.
- g) Movies in the Park Property Use Request
- Economic & Community Development Coordinator D'Aoust read briefing for Council. This event is happening in Arcadia and Grand Lake. Our summer students will be assisting with set up for each event.
 - Staff have confirmed food truck vendors maintain their own licence requirements and will provide Certificate of Insurance.
 - Council recommended for the next Regular Council meeting to approve the use of the Pines Conservation Park for Movies in the Park.



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h) Strawberry Festival Funding Request

- Strawberry Gables Marketing has put forth a funding request for the upcoming 2nd Annual Strawberry Festival being held at the Pines Conservation Park.
- Arcadia summer students will be assisting with set up of the event.
- Council recommended to include the funding request for the Annual Strawberry Festival at the next Regular Council meeting for further discussion.
- Councillor Sharpe noted that this was not in the budget for this year. CAO Bedford asked if this would be ward specific or shared funding to assist with the preparation of the recommendation at the next Regular Council meeting.

i) Wildfire Resiliency Plan

- A Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan (CWRP) is a strategic framework designed to help communities prepare for and respond to wildfires. There is currently funding available through FireSmart NB for communities to complete a Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan.
- Council recommended staff to apply for the FireSmart NB funding with the proposal received from Emergency Solutions International (ESI) to move forward with the creation of a Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan.
- If the funding is received, the plan will be 100% funded. If we receive approval for the funding, staff will bring back to Council for acceptance of the funding and the approval of the proposal selected.

j) Queens County Fair Lagoon Request

- Queens County Fair has brought forth a request:
 - To dump the effluent removed from the portable toilets during the last day of the Queens County Fair into the Gagetown Lagoon, instead of having the Contractor transport to Sussex, at a cost of \$1200-\$1500.
 - If unable to dump into the Gagetown Lagoon, request Council to make a donation to help cover the cost for the Contractor to transport effluent to Sussex, at approximately \$1200-\$1500
- The Queens County Fair is currently a customer who pays for 3 units on the Gagetown Lagoon.
- Council recommended to include the request for the Queens County Fair Lagoon at the next Regular Council meeting for further discussion.



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7. Mayor and Councillor Updates

Mayor Stoney

- Expectations for Council moving forward
 - Conduct matters with respect, healthy debate, allowing for different perspectives, transparency (timely, clear updates), govern efficiently (meaningful change does not always happen quickly), and fiscal prudence
- 4 pillars
 - Stronger healthcare
 - Support local schools
 - Foster economic growth
 - Ensure public safety remains top priority

Councillor Gordon

- Upper Gagetown Lions Club breakfasts and Darts are now done for the summer
- Upper Gagetown Women's Institute is hosting Crib every other Thursday evening. Coffee Tea & Company is taking place every other Wednesday morning
- Yoga is taking place at the Upper Gagetown Fire Hall every Sunday evening at 7:00pm
- Camp Medley now has registration open for summer camps.
- Training taking place throughout the summer with the fire departments.

Councillor Luszc

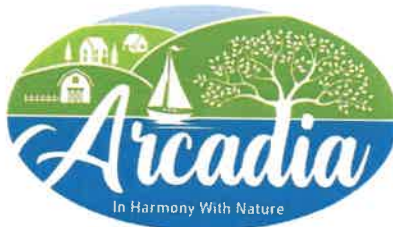
- Flo Greig celebration and Orchardview Nursing Home Garden Party took place over the weekend
- Attended Hook & Paddle at Harts Lake
- Many events taking place at the Gagetown Legion

Councillor Thomson

- 45's are on Tuesday nights at the Orange Hall
- There is a breakfast for the next two Saturdays at the Orange Hall

Councillor Sharpe

- Mill Cove Nursing Home celebrated their 10th anniversary in the new home



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- A fundraiser for a local community member was held at the Jemseg Lions Club with a great turnout for support.
 - Lions Club breakfasts are starting up for the summer. Will be taking place every weekend
 - Fire department is starting to get some calls regarding crash detection from iPhones.

Councillor Black

- Reached out to Public Health and Education District to lobby for interim solutions while there was no water use at the Cambridge-Narrows Community School. They were able to bring in handwashing stations during the two weeks that the water was not able to be used.
- There will be approximately 300 students from Cambridge-Narrows and Gagetown at the Pines Conservation Park on Friday for end of school activities. The Cambridge-Narrows and Jemseg Fire Departments will be on site to assist with slip-and-slides, foam slides, and water activities.
- Both schools will be visiting Camp Medley for a fun day field trip.
- Cambridge-Narrows prom is June 18 and graduation is on June 19
- We will have scholarships to present at the Cambridge-Narrows Community School graduation.
- Cambridge-Narrows Regional Library is now open for their summer hours.

Councillor Gahan-MaGee

- Attended Gagetown and Area Health Services Association (GAHSA) meeting today. They are looking at changing their name.
- Attended the Wharf Working Group meeting
- Website is still under construction at this time. Staff are working hard to get this completed.
- Mayor Stoney toured around Waterborough with Councillor Gahan-MaGee
- Cold plate supper at the Cumberland Bay Fire Department on June 4th. They are asking you to reserve ahead of time.
- Waterborough Hall will be having a strawberry supper, date TBD

Staff are meeting with the website designers for staff orientation and are expecting a soft launch last week of June. Councillor Gahan-MaGee reiterated that she would like to see the website prior to the launch.



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Mayor Stoney thanked Council for their updates and for their tour around each ward.

8. Upcoming Meeting

a) July 6, 2026 – Jemseg Fire Hall

9. Closed Session

It was moved by Councillor Sharpe and seconded by Councillor Luszcz to move to closed session at 9:00 pm.

With all in favour, the motion was carried.

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

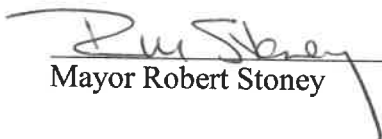
It was moved by Councillor Sharpe and seconded by Councillor Gordon to move out of closed session at 10:30pm.

With all in favour, the motion was carried.

10. Adjournment

It was moved by Councillor Black and seconded by Councillor Gordon to adjourn at 10:31 pm.

With all in favour, the motion was carried.


Mayor Robert Stoney


Clerk Jessica McGarity

