REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

September 8, 2026, 6:00 PM
Municipal Office, 82 Main Street, Rexton, NB, E4W 5N4

FIVE RIVERS

1. Call to Order.

Actual Start Time: 6:00 p.m.

2. Attendance.

CHAIR	Kevin Scully	Mayor
COUNCIL (IN PERSON):	Kevin Scully	Mayor
	April Warman	Councillor / At Large / Deputy Mayor
	Mike Robertson	Councillor / At Large
	Natalie Fillmore	Councillor / Ward 1
	Dan Shortall	Councillor / Ward 2
	Bruce Hickey	Councillor / Ward 3
	Carl Cobsy	Councillor / Ward 4
COUNCIL (VIRTUAL):	N/A	
COUNCIL (ABSENT):	N/A	
CLERK:	Rob Webber	
STAFF:	Tiffany Cail	Assistant Clerk
	Nathalie Elward	Assistant Treasurer
	Marley Burke	Community Development Manager
PRESENTERS:	Yvon Williams	

3. Approval of Agenda of Regular Meeting on September 8, 2026.

Resolution 090826.01
Be it resolved that Council approves the agenda, as submitted by the Clerk, for its regular meeting on September 8, 2026.
Moved by: COUNCILLOR HICKEY | Seconded by: COUNCILLOR ROBERTSON.
MOTION CARRIED.

4. Disclosures of Conflict of Interest.

No conflict of interest was declared.

5. Presentations.

a. Kent Curling.

DRAFT

6. Approval of Minutes.

a. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting on August 11, 2026.

Resolution 090826.02
Be it resolved that Council approves the minutes, as submitted by the Clerk, for its regular meeting on August 11, 2026.
Moved by: COUNCILLOR ROBERTSON | Seconded by: COUNCILLOR SHORTALL.
MOTION CARRIED.

7. Correspondence.

a. KRSC Waste Reports.
b. Climate-Ready Community (CRC) Assessment (UMNB).
c. Correspondence re: Capital Renewal Funding.
d. Historical Society re: Museum.
e. Report on changes to Environmental Trust Fund.
f. Letter from resident Nancy Scully.
g. DTI 2027 Kilometrage Reports and Maps.
h. GNB Housing Definitions and Community Planning.
i. Request for Support – People for Animal Well-Being (PAW).
j. Thank You Card – Robichaud Family.
k. Thank You Letter – Serenity House.

8. Mayor and Councillor Reports.

a. Mayor Kevin Scully.
b. Deputy Mayor April Warman.
c. Councillor Mike Robertson.
d. Councillor Natalie Fillmore.
e. Councillor Dan Shortall.
f. Councillor Bruce Hickey.
g. Councillor Carl Cosby.

9. Committee of Council Reports.

a. N/A.

10. Staff & Department Reports.

a. CAO Report.

b. Finance Report.

c. Public Works Report.

d. Community Development & Recreation Report.

11. Consent Agenda.

a. N/A.

12. Business Arising from Prior Meeting.

a. PROPOSED BY-LAW A.01.04: PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.
The administration has amended By-Law A.01.03 to proposed By-Law A.01.04. The current version has been updated to change the start time of meetings from 6:00 pm to 6:30 pm.

Resolution 090826.03
Be it resolved that Council approves the second reading, by title, of By-Law A.01.04: Proceedings of Council.

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7 EFFECTIVE DATE

8 SIGNATURES

Moved by: COUNCILLOR SHORTALL | Seconded by: COUNCILLOR FILLMORE.MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution 090826.04
Be it resolved that Council approves the third and final reading to enact By-Law A.01.04: Proceedings of Council, with the amendment to include CAO Report in the order of business.
Moved by: COUNCILLOR COSBY | Seconded by: COUNCILLOR HICKEY.

MOTION CARRIED.

b. FINANCE COMMITTEE FORMATION. The administration recommends the formation of a Finance Committee to support council decision-making relating to the preparation of operating and capital budgets and other financial matters. The administration further recommends that three members of council be appointed to serve on the committee.

Resolution 090826.05
Whereas council has the authority to create standing committees of council under the Local Governance Act;
Be it resolved that Council approves the establishment of a Finance Committee as a Standing Committee of Council.
Moved by: COUNCILLOR HICKEY | Seconded by: COUNCILLOR SHORTALL.
MOTION CARRIED.

Nominations:
Kevin Scully
Dan Shortall
Bruce Hickey

Resolution 090826.06
Be it resolved that Council appoints Mayor Kevin Scully and Councillors Dan Shortall and Bruce Hickey to serve on the Finance Committee for a term of one year.
Moved by: COUNCILLOR ROBERTSON | Seconded by: DEPUTY MAYOR WARMAN.
MOTION CARRIED.

c. FIRE TRUCK FOR HARCOURT FIRE STATION. The Beersville/Harcourt Fire Department has received two quotes from Metalfab (the only respondent to the RFP we posted in June) to purchase a new fire truck (a Freightliner M2 112 PLUS) for the Harcourt Fire Station. Metalfab will receive the chassis for the fire truck chassis (body) in March 2027 and then complete the build for delivery to Five Rivers no later than June 30, 2028.

Five Rivers can pay for the truck in two ways:
(1) **$179,500** when chassis is received in March 2027 and **$594,500** (after a **$6000** credit) when truck is delivered by or before June 2028, or
(2) **$780,000** when truck is delivered (no credit).

The $6000 credit equates to an interest charge of about 3.3%, assuming 12 months between chassis receipt and final truck delivery. Because we earn less than 3.3% on our savings, it makes sense to choose option 1.

Under our approved 5-Year CCBF Plan for 2024 to 2028, $475,000 has been allocated toward this purchase, leaving a balance of $299,000 with option 1 or $305,000 with option 2. In 2028, the balance of $300k can be paid by allocating more from CCBF, by using reserves, or by borrowing, or a combination thereof. We can decide how to pay the balance in our capital planning this fall.

Resolution 090826.07
Whereas council approved the purchase of a new fire truck for the Harcourt Fire Station in 2025; and
Whereas council allocated $475,000 in funding for this purchase through its 2024 to 2028 Canada Community Building Fund plan;
Be it resolved that Council agrees to purchase the Freightliner M2 112 PLUS fire truck from Metalfab for $774,000 for the Harcourt Fire Station by making a payment of $179,5000 for the chassis in March 2027, with the balance of $594,500 to be paid upon delivery on or before June 2028.
Moved by: COUNCILLOR ROBERTSON | Seconded by: COUNCILLOR SHORTALL.
MOTION CARRIED.

d. TRAFFIC INTERSECTION PROPOSAL (CBCL). In June, CBCL completed a traffic study of the intersection of Routes 116 and 134 to determine options to improve traffic flow and enhance public safety. Their report concluded that "*traffic signals would greatly improve future operations at the study intersection*" and a "*Preliminary design should be completed as a next step to plan for the implementation of traffic signals by or around the year 2031*."

After reviewing the study, the administration asked CBCL to prepare a proposal to complete the preliminary design, which would include: (1) a topographic survey of the intersection, (2) the identification of options, (3) a class C cost estimate, (4) a PDF submission of the design, and (5) a meeting to review and discuss the design.

CBCL has quoted $13,400 to complete this scope of work. The administration supports moving forward with this work, which will inform capital planning decisions later this fall. The administration further advises that we pay for this proposal with funds from our general operating reserve fund.

Proposed Motion 090826.08 [TABLED TILL OCTOBER 13, 2026 – REGULAR MEETING]
Be it resolved that Council approves CBCL to create a preliminary design for the intersection of Routes 116 & 134 for a cost of $13,400, exclusive of HST.
Moved by: COUNCILLOR FILLMORE | Seconded by: COUNCILLLOR SHORTALL.

Proposed Motion 090826.09 [TABLED TILL OCTOBER 13, 2026 – REGULAR MEETING]
Be it resolved that Council approves the transfer of $13,400 from the general operating reserve fund to the general operating fund.
Moved by _____ | Seconded by _____.

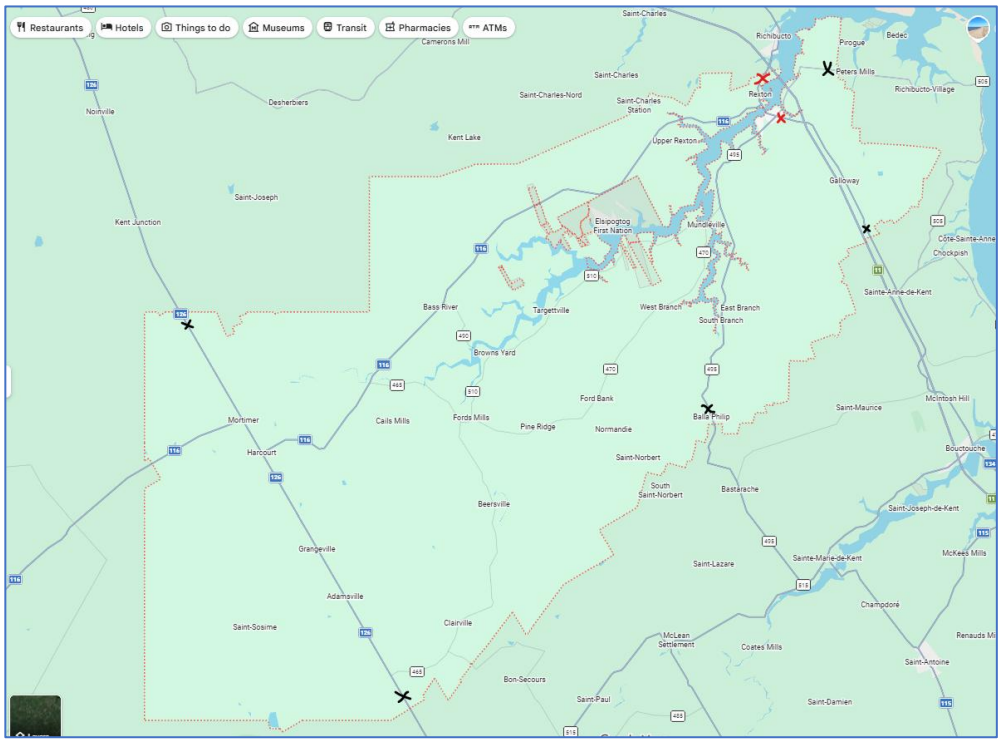
e. MUNICIPAL SIGNAGE. This year, Five Rivers installed two large signs on Route 11 and replaced signs in front of the municipal office, the recreation centre, and the Public Works building. To further update our municipal signage, we can (1) replace former Village of Rexton signs and (2) add "welcome to" signs at main entry points inside Five Rivers.

Welcome To Signs in Rexton
The former village of Rexton has five signs: two on route 134 (Main), one on Route 495 (Centennial), one on route 505 (near Beattie), and one on route 116 (Bonar Law Avenue). These signs are old and in poor condition. Many Rexton residents consider these signs important to local identity. To recognize Rexton and Five Rivers, we could install signs that say, "*Welcome to [name of former village or town], a community of [name of current municipality]*" as other New Brunswick municipalities have done. In our case, the sign would read "*Welcome to Rexton, a community of Five Rivers*."

The graphic below shows the approximate location of the five "Welcome to Rexton" signs.

Welcome to Signs at Entry/Exit Points

Five Rivers has no welcome to signs at key entry/exit points. The administration has identified five key points, as marked in the graphic below. Two are located on the 126, one on the 134, one on the 495, and one on the 505. These signs could be smaller (for example, 2x2) and double-sided (so drivers see them upon entry and exit). For simplicity and to optimize space, the administration recommends that these signs should just say "*Welcome to Five Rivers*."



The table below summarizes the amounts budgeted and spent to date on signage.

Source	Budget	Actual 2025	Actual 2026	Balance
Reserve Funds (2025)	$20,000	$13,500	$0	$0
Capital Renewal Funds	$20,000	$0	$18,270	$1,730
Operating Funds	$10,000	$0		$10,000
Total	**$50,000**	**$13,500**	**$18,270**	**$11,730**

In 2025, the transfer of $13,500 from reserves was done through a motion of council. Any further transfer from reserves in 2026 would require a new motion of council. This year, we have spent $18,270 on signage, paid by Capital Renewal Funds. The 2026 general operating budget had $17,500 for signs with $0 spent to date. The municipality estimates the cost to produce the Rexton signs will be $750 to $1000 per sign, while the cost for the five rural entry/exit signs will be $200 to $300 per sign. The cost to design the Rexton and the rural signs should be $1500 to $2000. In total, we estimate that the cost to design and produce the signs will be up to $10,000, within the 2026 budget. We do not expect to pay for installation, as this work will be completed by Public Works. The administration asks council to approve the installation of the signs as recommended, in terms of number, location, and text.

Proposed Motion 090826.10 [TABLED – TO BE DISCUSSED SEPT. 22, 2026 COTW)
Whereas the municipality has five "*Welcome to Rexton*" signs that were designed and installed prior to local government reform in 2023;
Be it resolved that Council approves the current five "*Welcome to Rexton*" signs to be replaced by five "*Welcome to Rexton, A Community of Five Rivers*" signs.
Moved by: COUNCILLOR ROBERTSON | Seconded by: COUNCILLOR COSBY.

Resolution 090826.11
Whereas the municipality has no welcome to signs at any entry/exit point within Five Rivers except for the two large highway signs on Route 11;
Be it resolved that Council approves six new "*Welcome to Five Rivers*" signs to be installed as follows: two on route 126, one on route 134, one on each route 495, 116 and the 505.
Moved by: COUNILLOR FILLMORE | Seconded by: COUNCILLOR COSBY.
MOTION CARRIED.

f. LAGOON DREDGING PLAN. In May 2026, an Enforcement Officer from Environment and Climate Change Canada (a federal agency) sent the municipality a letter stating Five Rivers was in contravention of wastewater systems effluent regulations under the federal Fisheries Act and would be subject to fines and penalties if actions were not taken to restore the lagoon to normal operating parameters. The report noted that our CBOD (Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand) and TSS (Total Suspended Solids) tests exceeded acceptable levels in 2024 and 2025. The report also noted that some quarterly test results were submitted past the deadline in 2024 and 2025.

In response to the letter, the municipality consulted with the engineering firms CBCL and Dillon Consulting to assess the situation and to develop a corrective action plan. Earlier this year, CBCL provided us with a preliminary assessment of the work to be done, which included replacing the lagoon pipe and dredging the lagoon. Then, in June, CBCL conducted a depth test of the sludge in the lagoon. Based on the results of that test, CBCL recommends that we confirm our options to remove the sludge (phase 1) and develop a design for the area outside the lagoon to hold the extracted sludge (phase 2). CBCL's quoted cost for phase 1 is $14,379. The administration recommends that we move forward with this work to show the federal government that we are continuing to take action to retore the lagoon.

Note 1: Under provincial procurement regulations, municipalities may choose their preferred provider for professional services, including engineering, accounting, and legal services, without the need to get quotes or to tender.

Note 2: In the Capital Renewal Fund plan that was submitted to the province earlier this year, council allocated $25,300 to lagoon restoration and upgrades.

Resolution 090826.12
Be it resolved that council approves the administration to complete the Phase 1 action as proposed by CBCL at a cost of $14,379.
Moved by: COUNCILLOR ROBERTSON | Seconded by: COUNCILLOR SHORTALL.
MOTION CARRIED.

g. 2025 ANNUAL REPORT. Section 191(1) of the Local Governance Act says, "*On or before June 30 in each year, a local government shall prepare an annual report referred to in subsection 105(1) of the Act for the preceding fiscal year*." As per the Act, the report is to include, among other things: (1) the audited financial statements, (2) grants awarded over $500, including economic development grants, (3) council attendance and remuneration, (4) the names and member of committees, and (5) the services provided and their cost.

Resolution 090826.13
Whereas section 191(1) of the Local Governance Act requires each municipality to produce an annual report containing particular information;
Be it resolved that council approves the administration to post the 2025 Annual Report for Five Rivers, as presented, on the municipal website.
Moved by: COUNILLOR ROBERTSON | Seconded by: COUNCILLOR SHORTALL.
MOTION CARRIED.

13. New Business.

a. BONAR LAW PROPOSAL. Earlier in 2026, after the province announced that it would no longer fund seven historic sites across New Brunswick, including Bonar Law Common, council and administration engaged the province to extend our lease agreement for Bonar Law Common. The new agreement was signed by both parties and went into effect on June 1, 2026. It gave Five Rivers the right to use the park for one year, that is, until May 31, 2027.

The new agreement was a temporary measure to keep the park open this year. Since signing it, we have continued to speak with Anne Hamilton of the Tourism, Heritage, and Culture (THC) Department at the province. More recently, we scheduled a meeting to discuss what comes next, which could include transferring the park to Five Rivers or extending our lease agreement for a longer period.

As we work with the province to forge a more permanent arrangement, it will be important for council to voice its support for the park. Without knowing the options we will have, the administration advises council to express their support for the engagement process, which should return specific options to council for further consideration.

Resolution 090826.14
Whereas Bonar Law Common Park is owned by the province of New Brunswick; and
Whereas the municipality has no established right or authority to use the park in 2027 due to the provincial government's decision in 2026 to terminate its financial and operational support for the property;
Be it resolved that council supports continued engagement with the province to reach an agreement regarding the rights of Five Rivers to continue to use and perhaps own Bonar Law Common Park.
Moved by: COUNCILLOR HICKEY | Seconded by: COUNCILLOR ROBERTSON.
MOTION CARRIED.

b. REPEAL OF OBSOLETE REXTON BY-LAWS. The administration has reviewed by-laws passed by the former village of Rexton prior to local government reform in 2023 for the purpose of identifying those that do not or should not apply because they contain obsolete references and regulations and are not subject to enforcement. To officially repeal these obsolete by-laws, the administration has created By-Law D.05.01, a by-law that repeals other by-laws. This approach to repealing obsolete by-laws after local government reform has been taken in other municipalities such as Riverview and Shediac.

Resolution 090826.15
Be it resolved that Council approves the first reading of By-Law D.05.01: Repeal of By-Laws of former Village of Rexton.
Moved by: COUNCILLOR SHORTALL | Seconded by: COUNCILLOR COSBY.
MOTION CARRIED.

c. MUNICIPAL PROPERTY SALES. In 2025, Five Rivers posted two RFPs (Requests for Proposal) to develop a municipal property on Main Street in the industrial park (PID 25140823). Since posting those two RFPs, Five Rivers has sold one part of the property to a developer and talks are underway to sell the other part to other parties. The municipality has more properties to be developed, including two in the industrial park. The administration proposes that all of these properties could be bundled in one RFP, which would feature a long response window (6 months) and allow respondents to submit proposals to purchase and develop one, two or more, or all of the properties in the RFP. The terms and conditions of the RFP would be such that the municipality would not be required to accept any proposal.

Resolution 090826.17
Be it resolved that Council approves the administration to prepare and post an RFP to solicit proposals for undeveloped municipal properties in Rexton Industrial Park.
Moved by: DEPUTY MAYOR WARMAN | Seconded by: COUNCILLOR HICKEY.
MOTION CARRIED.

d. REPRESENTATION ON IMPERIAL KENT NORTH CENTRE COMMITTEE. The municipality is required to appoint the mayor and a second member of council to serve on the Imperial Kent North Centre Committee. The committee meets on a quarterly basis and provides oversight on the administration and operation of the centre.

Resolution 090826.18
Be it resolved that Council appoints Mayor Kevin Scully to serve on the Imperial Kent North Centre Committee.
Moved by: COUNCILLOR HICKEY | Seconded by: COUNCILLOR ROBERTSON.
MOTION CARRIED.

Nominations:
April Warman

Resolution 090826.19
Be it resolved that Council appoints Deputy Mayor April Warman to serve on the Imperial Kent North Centre Committee.
Moved by: COUNCILLOR HICKEY | Seconded by: COUNCILLOR COSBY.
MOTION CARRIED.

e. PAGING SYSTEM FOR REXTON FIRE DEPT. Currently, the Rexton Fire Department uses a VHF-based paging system, an old paging technology that is no longer supported in the province. In this system, the pagers communicate with a VHF antenna on top of the Richibucto water tower that is prone to out-of-service issues. The Richibucto Fire Department has already moved off of this system and Rexton is one of the only fire departments in the province that still uses a VHF paging system.

To ensure reliable access to emergency notifications, the Rexton Fire Department must transition to a TMR (trunk mobile radio) paging system. Most fire departments in New Brunswick use this system, including the Beersville Harcourt Fire Department. The Rexton Fire Department can migrate to this new system now and will not be charged until 2027. As soon as they migrate, Rexton will receive 10 radios at no charge. Each radio costs about $4000 to purchase separately. The TMR paging system falls under the provincial NB-911 service, and in our area, dispatching service is provided by the NB Police Association in Moncton. In 2027, the department will start to pay for the dispatch service, which is based on call volume and population. In the case of the Rexton Fire Department, the estimated annual cost will be about $25,000.

In the view of the Rexton Fire Chief and the administration, the department has no choice but to migrate to the TMR paging system, and they may as well do so now, as there will be no cost for the dispatch service in 2026 and the department will receive 10 free radios.

Resolution 090826.20
Be it resolved that Council approves the Rexton Fire Department to transition to the TMR paging system in 2026.
Moved by: COUNCILLOR HICKEY | Seconded by: COUNCILLOR SHORTALL.
MOTION CARRIED.

f. PUBLIC SAFETY SYSTEMS. Council has been asked to consider the deployment of public safety devices and systems in Five Rivers, such as electronic speed signs, streetlights, and security cameras. Given the wide array of available products, as well as restrictions that DTI, the RCMP, or other authorities may impose, the administration asks council for time to assess options in terms of features, benefits, cost, installation, operation, maintenance, regulatory requirements, and so on. The administration further advises that council's decision to install these devices should be directed by policy, so it reflects a clear standard and priority that have been set by council.

That said, deploying electronic speed signs on Main Street in front of the high school is a special case. Cars can reach speeds of 80 km or more at all times of the day, including times while students are entering or leaving the school. The estimated cost per light starts around $750 and ranges up to $5000 or more. The administration will consult with DTI and the RCMP to confirm permission before deploying signs.

Resolution 090826.21
Be it resolved that Council approves the administration to spend up to $10,000 to install up to six (6) electronic speed alert signs on Main Street in front of the Bonar Law Memorial school, Harcourt school and Rexton Elementary school, pending authorization from DTI and the RCMP.
Moved by: COUNCILLOR COSBY | Seconded by: COUNCILLOR SHORTALL.
MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution 090826.22
Be it resolved that Council approves the administration to prepare a policy to guide and direct decision-making pertaining to the deployment of public safety devices.
Moved by: COUNCILLOR HICKEY | Seconded by: COUNCILLOR ROBERTSON.
MOTION CARRIED.

g. SECOND BALL FIELD. Council has been asked to consider the creation of a second ball field to support a growing interest in baseball. Building a second ball field could be a significant undertaking for the municipality, as would caring for it after construction. Like public safety systems, this project requires further review to understand design options, cost, and funding. The administration advises council to consider this project alongside all others through the asset management and capital planning process, which will take place in the next several weeks. The table below shows a partial list of potential capital spends with estimated costs.

CAPITAL PROJECT	COST
Street paving & resurfacing & curb work	$2M to $5M
Lagoon restoration & upgrades	$2M to $4M
Lift Station Upgrades	$1M to $2M
Rexton Beautification	$500k to $1M
Streetlight for Route 116 / 126 Intersection	$500k
Recreation Centre Upgrades (Windows, Doors, Mini-Splits, Heaters, etc.)	$500k
Fire Station Upgrades	$250k to $500k
Rexton Sidewalk Restoration	$250k to $500k
BLC Park Acquisition	$250k to $500k
Trail Development	$250k to $500k
Trackless Replacement	$350k
SBCA Upgrades (all fire departments)	$250k
Carson's Landing Admission Gate	$250k
Works Truck	$100k
Small Boat Launch (Kayaks, Canoes)	$100k
Works Garage Upgrades	$100k
Outdoor Rink Upgrades (boards, lighting, etc.)	$100k
Generator for Recreation Center	$100k
Changing Room for Outdoor Rink / Splash Pad	$100k
Ball Field Lighting (existing field)	$100k
New Ball Field	$100k
Municipal Roof Replacement	$50k
Municipal Parking Lot Resurfacing	$50k
Community Hall Kitchen Upgrade (Lion's Club)	$25k
Greenwood Lodge Upgrades	$25k
Works Dump Trailer	$25k
Municipal Office Foundation Repair	$50k

14. Closed Session.

Resolution 090826.23
To exit open session and go into closed session.
Moved by: COUNCILLOR ROBERTSON | Seconded by: COUNCILLOR FILLMORE.
MOTION CARRIED.

a. Local Governance Act, Section 68(1)(c), information that could cause financial loss or gain to a person or the local government or could jeopardize negotiations leading to an agreement or contract.

b. Local Governance Act, Section 68(1)(g), litigation or potential litigation affecting the local government or any corporation referred to in subsection 8(1) or 116.1(1), the local government's agencies, boards or commissions including a matter before an administrative tribunal.

Resolution 090826.24
To exit closed session and return to open session.
Moved by: COUNCILLOR ROBERTSON | Seconded by: COUNCILLOR SHORTALL.
MOTION CARRIED.

15. Motions Airing from Closed Meeting.

a. **Resolution 090826.16**
Be it resolved that council approves the Memorandum of Understanding between Five Rivers and the Kent Curling Club for the 2026 – 2027 season.
Moved by: COUNCILLOR HICKEY | Seconded by: COUNCILLOR FILLMORE.
MOTION CARRIED.

b. **Resolution 090826.26**
Be it resolved that council agrees to rescind resolution 070825.09 regarding municipal signage from the July 8, 2025 council meeting.
Moved by: COUNCILLOR ROBERTSON | Seconded by: COUNCILLOR SHORTALL.
MOTION CARRIED.

c. **Resolution 090826.27**
Be it resolved that council approves the municipal grant application submitted by Karrie Miner on behalf of Fort Folly Mental Wellness team in the amount of $500.
Moved by: COUNCILLOR ROBERTSON | Seconded by: COUNCILLOR SHORTALL.
MOTION CARRIED.

d. **Resolution 090826.28**
Be it resolved that council approves the municipal grant application submitted by Stacey Couturier on behalf of PAWS in the amount of $500.
Moved by: COUNCILLOR HICKEY | Seconded by: COUNCILLOR FILLMORE.
MOTION CARRIED.

16. Date of Next Meetings.

a. Committee-of-the-Whole, September 22, 2026.

b. Regular Meeting of Council, October 13, 2026.

c. Committee-of-the-Whole, October 27, 2026.

17. Adjournment.

Time: 9:19 p.m.

Resolution 090826.25
To adjourn meeting of Council.
Moved by: COUNCILLOR ROBERTSON | Seconded by: COUNCILLOR HICKEY.
MOTION CARRIED.

Kevin Scully, Mayor

Rob Webber, Clerk