

TOWN OF LUNENBURG
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

March 11, 2025 | 6 pm

Lunenburg Town Hall – Council Chamber and virtually through Zoom



- Present** Mayor Jamie Myra, Deputy Mayor Rachel Bailey, Councillors Renea Babineau, Debbie Dauphinee, Gale Fullerton, Alex Greek and Alison Strachan
- Also present** Marvin MacDonald, Interim CAO
Tyson Joyce, Director of Public Works
Kathleen Rafuse, Town Accountant
Kayla Byrne, Legislative & Policy Manager
Darin Lamont, CIMA
- Call to Order** The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.
- Land acknowledgment** It was acknowledged that Lunenburg is located in the unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.
- Approval of Agenda** Moved and seconded that Council approve the agenda for the March 11, 2025 meeting as presented.
Motion carried unanimously
- Approval of Minutes** Moved and seconded that Council approve the February 25, 2025 meeting minutes as presented.
Motion carried unanimously
- Council Recognition** Council took a moment to recognize the retirement of Cris and Karen Comstock of South Shore Optical.
- Public Input** Chassidy Veinotte addressed Council as the President of the Lunenburg & District Swimming Pool (LDSP) to announce that it will host the 2025 Summer Provincial Swimming Championship from August 15–17. To support the upcoming championship event, she requested that Council consider an in-kind donation by waiving the rental fees for the Community Center as a weather backup venue. It was indicated that a formal request will be sent to Council in the future.
- Correspondence** Council received a letter about provincial statements on inter-provincial trade agreements.

Council received an invitation to join the Organization of World Heritage Cities.

With respect to the annual budget request from the Region 6 Inter-Municipal Committee, Council made the following motion:

Moved and seconded that Council approve the Town of Lunenburg's required municipal contribution of \$3,371 to the 2025-26 Region 6 Solid Waste Management Budget, as outlined in the Region 6 Inter-Municipal Committee Budget.

Motion carried unanimously

Councillors inquired if Region 6 could possibly make a presentation to Council, highlighting their roles and responsibilities.

Electric Utility
Capital Projects

Darin Lamont from CIMA provided a brief overview of this agenda item.

Moved and seconded that Council pre-approve the following Electric Utility Capital Projects for 2025/26 in the amount of \$2,373,000, which includes the 81W-233 Upgrade to Dufferin Street for \$1,721,000 and the new Double Circuit on Green Street for \$652,000.

Motion carried unanimously

Bandstand
Restoration
Project

Moved and seconded that Council pre-approve the Bandstand Restoration Project for the Town's 2025/26 Capital Budget for the amount of \$345,000 (including net HST) with funding from Capital Reserves.

Motion carried unanimously

LBOT Lease
Renewal

Moved and seconded that Council authorize the Town to enter into a five-year lease agreement with the Lunenburg Board of Trade (LBOT), as presented, for the tourist bureau and campground on Blockhouse Hill.

Moved and seconded that Council amend the presented motion to enter into a 10-year lease rather than a five-year lease and that the motion now reads: That Council authorize the Town to enter into a 10-year lease agreement with the Lunenburg Board of Trade (LBOT), as presented, for the tourist bureau and campground on Blockhouse Hill.

FOR
6 Councillors

AGAINST
1 Councillor (Councillor Fullerton)

Motion carried

Notices of Motion, Information Requests and Councillor Reports

Councillor Strachan presented the following motion, which had received notice at the February 25, 2025 Council meeting:

Moved and seconded that Council direct staff to explore an application to the Parks Canada Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada for review of the National Historic Site designation, and that a report on a possible application be presented at a future meeting.

Motion carried unanimously

Councillor Dauphinee provided an overview of the Lunenburg County Senior Safety Program after attending their first meeting. Pamphlets were made available to attendees, and additional copies were offered. One specific initiative highlighted was the Senior Friendly Program, which helps businesses and organizations become more age-friendly.

Councillor Strachan provided updates on their recent committee work, highlighting participation in board governance training, budget reviews, and cultural initiatives. They attended meetings for the South Shore Public Libraries, Lunenburg Cultural Collective, Lunenburg Academy Foundation, and the Cultural Tourism Working Group, noting progress on cultural events and a sustainable tourism report. Councillor Strachan also attended an International Women’s Day event.

Councillor Fullerton also participated in the Cultural Tourism Working Group engagement sessions and attended an International Women’s Day event.

Closed Session

Moved and seconded that Council move in closed session at 6:48 p.m. to discuss agenda items 14.1 and 14.2 per the Municipal Government Act.

Motion carried unanimously

Adjournment

Council reverted to public session at 8:38 p.m.

There being no further business, the regular meeting of March 11, 2025 was adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

The minutes were read and approved.