

TOWN OF LUNENBURG
COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
Tuesday, April 15, 2025 | 6 pm
Lunenburg Town Hall – Council Chamber
120 Townsend Street



NOTICE: Council meetings are open to the public and held in Town Hall. **Please use the back entrance at 120 Townsend Street.**

The public can also watch meetings through Zoom. To livestream this meeting starting at 6 pm, use this Zoom link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88956545878>

Meeting recordings are also available on the Town's [YouTube](#) channel.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This meeting takes place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people. We are all Treaty people.

3. ADDITIONS/ DELETIONS TO AGENDA

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4.1 April 15, 2025 Council Meeting Agenda **Please note this meeting was initially scheduled for April 8, but was cancelled due to weather.*

Recommendation: That Council approve the agenda for the April 15, 2025 meeting as presented.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5.1 March 25, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Recommendation: That Council approve the March 25, 2025 meeting minutes as presented.

6. PRESENTATIONS

6.1 Quarterly Police Report (October – December 2024)

7. PUBLIC INPUT AND QUESTIONS – 20 MINUTES

- Each person is limited to 3 minutes
- Each person must state their name
- Questions or comments are directed to the Chair

- Comments and questions are open to any municipal matter

8. CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence items included on the agenda have been submitted for Council's information and do not imply endorsement by the Town. The content of correspondence reflects the views of the author and has not been independently verified. Should Council wish to take action on an item, a motion must be made.

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS, PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETINGS AND APPEALS

10. BUSINESS ARISING AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

11. NEW BUSINESS

11.1 Information Report: Lunenburg Academy Washrooms

11.2 Information Report: Reduction to Speed Limits on Town Streets

11.3 Information Report: 2025/26 Capital and Operating Budget Schedule

12. NOTICES OF MOTION, INFORMATION REQUESTS AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS

12.1 UNESCO Buffer Zone Development Context and Surplus Lands Reconsideration –
Presented by Council Strachan on March 25, 2025

Draft motion: That Council direct staff to review and report back to Council on the UNESCO World Heritage context for development within the Old Town Buffer Zone, including how the 2017 UNESCO-related document relates to or differs from the development expectations outlined in the original 1994 nomination documents submitted by the Province and the Town of Lunenburg;

And that this review include consideration of how these documents have informed the Town's interpretation of appropriate development within the Buffer Zone;

And that, following receipt of the staff report, Council reconsider its November 28, 2023 motion which stated: "Moved and seconded that Council declare the lands of Upper King Street, including PID 60057460, PID 60057395, PID 60057387, PID 60057379, Upper Duke Street (north of Creighton Street), Upper King Street (north of Creighton Street with the exception of the first 42.5m beginning at Creighton Street heading North), as shown on Attachment F, as surplus lands.

13. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

14. CLOSED SESSION

14.1 Acquisition, Sale, Lease and Security of Municipal Property

Recommendation: That Council move in closed session at _____ to discuss agenda item 14.1 per the Municipal Government Act.

15. ADJOURNMENT

TOWN OF LUNENBURG
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

March 25, 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
Kathleen Rafuse, Accountant
Kayla Byrne, Legislative & Policy Manager
Ellen Johnson, Regional Accessibility Coordinator
Gem Roberts, Regional Anti-Racism and Diversity Coordinator
- Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 6:01 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 25, 2025 meeting as presented.
Motion carried unanimously
- Approval of Minutes Moved and seconded that Council approve the March 11, 2025 meeting minutes with the following amendment: That the amended motion for the LBOT Lease Renewal should read a "10-year lease" rather than a five-year lease.
Motion carried unanimously
- Presentations Council received a presentation from the Lunenburg Community Garden Steering Committee, who provided an update on the garden's activities and vision. The presenters highlighted the garden's inclusive and sustainable mission, its longstanding community partnerships, and ongoing engagement with local residents, including programming in collaboration with the library.
- Council received a presentation from We Feed Lunenburg, who provided an overview of the volunteer-led charity's work supporting food security in the community. The group runs the Lunenburg Community Food Pantry, supplies pre-cooked meals, and delivers holiday food boxes. They are now fundraising for a new modular Community Food Hub to

expand access to fresh, frozen, and bulk goods.

Public Input

Teresa Quilty expressed support for the Town to stop using X (formerly Twitter) and encouraged Council to also reconsider the use of Facebook for official communications. She raised concerns about accessibility and equity, noting that important information should be available outside of social media platforms to ensure all residents have equal access.

It was noted that the Town will be deactivating its X account.

Jesse Ward raised concerns about the proposed electric rate increases. He questioned the Town's communication practices, the status of recommendations from the 2023 CEMA report, and the absence of updates on major decisions and expenses. He urged Council to delay the vote on rate increases and commit to clearer communication and public reporting on the utility's future.

Martin Ruiz Salvador expressed concern about the proposed 21% rate increase for businesses and the limited communication surrounding it, particularly for those not on social media. They emphasized the need for clearer information on why the increase is necessary and whether it addresses past issues or future needs, while also expressing openness to supporting it with better understanding.

Correspondence

With respect to a request from Lunenburg County Wheels, Council made the following motion:

Lunenburg County
Wheels Request

Moved and seconded that Council refer the request from Lunenburg County Wheels, requesting \$10,000 for the 2025/26 fiscal year, to the 2025/26 budget deliberations.

Motion carried unanimously

X/Twitter Use

Council received a letter inquiring whether the Town would consider alternative methods of social media and consider deactivating its X account.

Old Firehall

Council received a letter inquiring about the future use of the Old Firehall, suggesting that it should be utilized as an arts resource.

Regional
Committee
Appointments

With respect to a request from the Regional Accessibility Coordinator and the Regional Anti-Racism and Diversity Coordinator, Council made the following motions:

Moved and seconded that Council appoint Lora Church to the Lunenburg County Accessibility Advisory Committee for a three-year term ending September 30, 2027, and to appoint Amy Chrysler to the Lunenburg County Accessibility Advisory Committee for a term ending December 31, 2026.

Motion carried unanimously

Moved and seconded that Council appoint Astrid Seidel and Darlene Higgins to the Lunenburg County Anti-Racism and Anti-Discrimination Advisory Committee for three-year terms; Vernon Simms and Caleb Paul Wheeldon for two-year terms; and Violet Cai and Meagan MacDonald for one-year terms.

Motion carried unanimously

Moved and seconded that Council appoint Councillor Babineau as the Town of Lunenburg Council representative for the Lunenburg County Anti-Racism and Anti-Discrimination Advisory Committee.

Motion carried unanimously

2025/26 REMO
Operating Budget

With respect to a request on the 2025/26 REMO Operating Budget, Council made the following motion:

Moved and seconded that Council approve the Town of Lunenburg's 2025/26 Regional Emergency Management Organization (REMO) contribution in the amount of \$21,633.80, as part of the total REMO budget of \$405,417.06 recommended by the Regional Emergency Management Advisory Committee.

Motion carried unanimously

DFA Claims

Council received a general provincial update on Municipal Disaster Financial Assistance Claims.

Code of Conduct
Training

Council received a general provincial update on upcoming mandatory Code of Conduct training.

Lunenburg County
Accessibility Plan

Moved and seconded that Council approve the Lunenburg County Accessibility Plan 2025-2028 as presented.

Motion carried unanimously

Anti-Racism and
Diversity Plan

Moved and seconded that Council approve the submission of the Draft Anti-Racism & Diversity Plan to the Province of Nova Scotia, with the

understanding that the final Plan will be further developed and presented to Council at a future meeting.

Motion carried unanimously

Electric Rate Study

Paula Zarnett and Trent Winstone of BDR gave a presentation on the Town's proposed general rate increase for the Electric Utility. Following the presentation, Council asked questions of clarification and made the following motion:

Moved and seconded that Council approve and direct the Town of Lunenburg's Electric Utility to submit a rate application to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board (UARB) requesting an overall electricity rate increase of 16.7%, including an 11.3% increase for Domestic rates. Additionally, for General Service customer classes, a total rate increase of 21% is to be proposed, to be phased in as follows: an immediate 15% increase upon UARB approval, with the remaining 6% deferred and recovered at a time and over a period to be determined by a subsequent application to the UARB.

Motion carried unanimously

Temporary Borrowing Resolution

Moved and seconded that Council approve a Temporary Borrowing Resolution of \$210,735 for the financing of the Public Works Salt Truck #2 for the Spring 2025 Debenture Issue application, per Schedule 1.

Motion carried unanimously

Moved and seconded that Council authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to sign the Resolution for Pre-Approval of Debenture Issuance, subject to interest rate confirmation not to exceed 6.5%, to enable the Town of Lunenburg to secure a debenture of \$210,735, per Schedule 2.

Motion carried unanimously

2024/25 Budget Variance Report

For information, Council received the 2024/25 Budget Variance (Capital & Operating) to Jan. 31, 2025.

Community Garden Licence Renewal

Moved and seconded that Council approve the five-year Community Garden Licence Agreement between the Town of Lunenburg and the Lunenburg Community Network, effective from April 30, 2024, to April 29, 2029, and authorize the Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer to

sign the agreement on behalf of the Town.

Motion carried unanimously

Notices of
Motion,
Information
Requests and
Councillor Report

Councillor Strachan provided a notice of motion to direct staff to review and report back to Council on the UNESCO World Heritage context for development within the Old Town Buffer Zone, including a comparison of the 2017 UNESCO-related document and the original 1994 nomination documents. The motion also seeks an analysis of how these documents have influenced the Town's interpretation of appropriate development in the Buffer Zone. Following receipt of the report, it is suggested that Council reconsider its November 28, 2023 decision to declare certain lands on Upper King Street as surplus.

Councillor Dauphinee shared that the Lunenburg Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary will be hosting a community breakfast at the Fire Hall on Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. She also addressed ongoing issues with dog waste in public areas, urging residents to pick up after their pets and dispose of waste bags properly.

Closed Session

Moved and seconded that Council move in closed session at 8:06 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 8:50 p.m.

There being no further business, the March 25, 2025 meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

The minutes were read and approved.



Quarterly Police Report
Town of Lunenburg
October to December 2024

1. CALLS FOR SERVICE

Between October 1st, 2024 and December 31st 2024 Lunenburg County District had received 2802 calls for service which included Criminal Code, Controlled Drugs and Substance Act and Provincial Act Investigations. In the previous quarter we had a total of **2638** calls for service.

Within the Town of Lunenburg, including traffic statistics, members responded to 126 calls for service which is down from 168 for last quarter.

Town of Lunenburg Notable Statistics:

- Assault- 1
- Impaired Driving- 1
- Roadside Suspension (alcohol)- 2
- Uttering Threats- 2
- Break and Enter- 0
- Sexual Offences- 2
- Theft Under \$5000- 5
- Theft Over \$5000- 0
- Criminal Harassment- 1
- Harassing Communications - 1
- Shoplifting- 2
- Fraud- 3
- Mischief (Property Damage/Preventing Lawful Enjoyment of Property- including noise complaints)- 7
- Trafficking in Drugs- 1
- Dangerous Operation of a Motor Vehicle- 1
- Impaired Operation of Motor Vehicle-2
- Check Stops- 1
- Summary Offence Tickets/Warnings: 7

- Wellbeing Checks- 8
- Missing Person calls- 0
- False/Accidental 911 Calls:-0
- Motor Vehicle Collisions- 7
- Mental Health Calls- 13
- Other- 59 files which is a reduction from the previous quarter of 96 files.
These include breach of peace, abandoned vehicles, animal calls, all assist other agency calls, cannabis act, all firearms offences, drug offences, disobeying court orders, other federal statutes, family law act / family orders, indecent acts, personating a peace officer, sexual offender information and registration act, other provincial acts, public mischief, Crime Prevention, Search and Rescue

2. Calls for Service within the Town of Lunenburg

Assault (Domestic) – Female caller reported being injured in an argument with her intoxicated partner. Suspect was arrested within the residence without incident. Suspect held overnight and released in the AM on conditions. Matter proceeding through the courts.

Destruction of Flares – Complainant attended Lilydale office and requested the destruction/disposal of several 12 gauge flares. The flares were collected and will be disposed of by the RCMP Explosive Device Unit.

Child Pornography – Complaint reported that nude photos of their child had been shared by the child's friend to several other persons in a chat group. It was later learned the child's face was not visible. Matter was investigated to the satisfaction of the parents and the matter was concluded.

Abandon or Misuse of 911 – Several calls for service from local seniors home where a caller was reporting being assaulted by staff members and being held against their wishes. Patrols made and after several calls management were engaged to limit future access to phone by patient in permanent care.

Theft Under \$5000.00 – Call of a male suspect captured on video stealing meats products. Matter still under investigation as police are looking to identify the suspect.

Fraud – Complainant reported their partner had sent funds to an unknown person for a purchase made on Facebook Marketplace. The complaint attended and the provided address to retrieve the item and learned the matter was an online scam. Matter reported to the Canadian Anti-fraud Center.

Suicidal Person/ Mental Health- Caller reported a female in distress who has suicidal ideations. Patrol made, subject located. Subject arrested under the IPTA. Subject resisted arrest and was combative with both police and EHS. Subject transported to hospital for further assessment.

Theft over \$5000.00 / Possession of Property Obtained by Crime- Information received that a recently stolen boat may be at a residence. Patrol made, observations supported evidence of theft. Judicial Authorization/ Warrant received and executed. Reported boat and a wide variety of other stolen items were seized. This warrant and seizure resulted in two subsequent warrants being executed. Three males are presently charged with numerous offences. All remain under strict release conditions. The matter is proceeding through the courts.

Impaired Operation by Drug – Caller reported observing a female operator possibly consuming an unknown drug with a child present in the vehicle. Patrols were made but the vehicle was not located and there was insufficient evidence to proceed with charges.

Demonstration/Protest- Information received of a potential protest at a local manufacturer that may disrupt their normal operations. Numerous RCMP speciality units were notified should a multi-member response be required. Additional resources were deployed to the area until such time that it was determined they were no longer required.

Theft Under – Caller reported a theft in progress from a local grocery store. Two females had just taken off with a cart load of groceries. The suspect vehicle was located by responding members and two females taken into custody. Both females referred to Restorative Justice. The matter is presently before the courts.

Family Dispute- Complaint received of two siblings fighting with each other. Suspects were grabbing each other, scratching and punching as they have been arguing all day. Member attended and spoke with the involved parties educating them on the elements of assault. Matter was discussed with the parents and other avenues of resolution were sought.

3. SIGNIFICANT / NOTEWORTHY OCCURRENCES within Lunenburg County District

School Threats/MHA- Lunenburg County RCMP received a complaint from NGRHS that a male student had made threats to school staff. Scene attended male was arrested for uttering threats, causing a disturbance and the IPTA. He was transported to the SSRH and was released by hospital staff. He was then taken to his grandparents residence and was released from custody on an undertaking with conditions.

School Threats- RCMP responded to a threat call at forest heights regarding an ex boyfriend stating that he is going to rape his ex-girlfriend and cut off her skin. Member attended the school where he met with the female student. She provided a statement giving grounds for the arrest as well as extortion. Member arrested the male student for uttering threats and extortion and read him his rights. His mom was informed. He was brought to Chester Detachment where his mother met member. He was fingerprinted and released on an undertaking with conditions of no contact order, to stay away from her residence, and to abide by the conditions the school with set. Still under investigation and monitoring court outcome.

Traffic Stop turned to Assault PO- A 17 year old male driver stopped for a traffic violation near Fancy's Lake. He refused to provide his name or any documentation to S/Sgt. Whalen. He also refused to exit the vehicle. Additional officers attended and had to forcefully extract the male driver from the vehicle and handcuff him. He then spit in an officer's face and nearly kicked the windows out of the police SUV. Parents were advised. This is the second similar type incident involving this same male. He has since pled guilty and was given 18 months of Probation.

Prohibited Driver/Drug Offence- Traffic stop initiated on a black Volkswagen Golf without the license plate. Driver recognized by police and was arrested for driving while prohibited Canada wide. Incidental to arrest, 6.5g of crack cocaine found on his person. Male was released on undertaking with conditions to not occupy the driver seat of a motor vehicle. Car towed by Corkum's.

Assault- 911 Assault – Female caller reports that her neighbour is high on drugs and grabbed her by the throat with two hands and threw her outside the door and slammed the door on her fingers. Member took a statement from the female caller and took pictures of her injuries. Member arrested the male for assault and released him on an undertaking. Matter is before the courts.

Stunting/Impaired Driver- Traffic stop for vehicle travelling 157km/hr on highway 103 Outbound in a 100km/hr zone. Driver heavily intoxicated. ASD demand read and resulted in FAIL. Arrested for impaired Operation of a Conveyance. Driver has never had a driver's license. Breath samples of 220mg% / 210mg% respectively. Matter is before the court.

Impaired Driver- Traffic stop for speeding on Highway 103 inbound toward Chester. Female driver from Consecon, Ontario. On Canada Wide prohibition for driving until Jan 9th, 2025. Smelled of beverage alcohol at the time of the stop and subsequently blew a "FAIL" on ASD

roadside. Arrested for impaired operation of a Conveyance and escorted to Chester detachment. Vehicle towed by Corkum's Towing. Suspect blew 120mg% and 110mg% respectively on the Intox EC IR II after speaking with counsel. Released on an Appearance notice with pending court date.

Impaired/Refusal- While travelling west on Highway 103 police observed a Red GMC Canyon cross the centre line and unable to maintain a straight path. Traffic stop performed. Driver initially used a false name. She smelled strongly of alcohol. ASD administered, she did not provide a proper sample, purposely stopping air to prevent sample. She was then arrested for obstruction and failure to comply with ASD demand. Released roadside on appearance notice as the male passenger had a valid license and blew a zero on an ASD. Matter is now before the courts.

Impaired Driver- RCMP stopped a vehicle for exceeding the posted speed limit travelling 133km/h in a 100km/h zone on Hwy 103 near Gold River. Male driver was unable to provide any valid documentation. Member smelled alcohol and noted slurred speech from the operator. ASD demand and blew a fail, arrested for impaired operation. Was later charged with operation while over 80mg. Matter is before the courts.

Impaired Driver- Traffic stop on highway 103 outbound near exit 6. Driver travelling 128km/hr in a 100km/hr zone. Driver smelled of liquor / ASD demand read / resulted in FAIL. Male driver arrested for impaired operation of a conveyance. Blew 180mg% and 170mg% respectively. On no alcohol conditions from probation order. Charged S.733.1(1) for failure to comply.

Impaired Driver- A complaint called reporting a vehicle just passed him speeding and then had went into the ditch near 11925 3 Highway. Caller remained on scene for police to attend. Member attended and confirmed no injuries to the male driver. Member detected a strong odour of liquor on the driver's breath. ASD demand, result fail. A/C/W with breath demand transported to Cookville detachment and 2 suitable breath samples of 110mg% and 100 mg%. Vehicle towed by Corkum towing. Male released on

appearance notice and other documents for a suspension of 90 days and pending court.

Impaired Driver- Complainant called and reported a male driving a large lifted pickup truck just tore up his lawn at his residence in Rhode's Corner. The male was stopped by police. Signs of alcohol-impairment observed on the driver: his breath smelled of liquor, his speech was slurred and he was wobbly on his feet. Driver was arrested for impairment operation. He later provided two breath samples on the Intox EC/IR II instrument, which registered at 210mg% and 200mg%. Suspect released on an appearance notice for court.

Assault PO/Weapons Offences- Member on scene to assist ambulance with individual with unknown emergency. While there, member was pushed by the male suspect as he ran out of the ambulance, when it was discovered he was wearing hard body armor. Male was located and arrested for assaulting a peace officer and residence cleared/secured for search warrant relating to incident yesterday where the male was reported to be brandishing a firearm in a vehicle. Search Warrant obtained for the residence where numerous firearms/ammo were seized. Suspect was remanded into custody with a pending court date.

Robbery/Drugs- Officers were dispatched to a theft in-progress at Canadian Tire on Pine grove Rd. Officers located the male suspect near Nothing Fancy Furniture and arrested him for Theft. During the search incidental to arrest officers located a white powder identified as cocaine, a crack pipe and other suspected illegal substances. Through statements it was learned that the suspect verbally threatened to kill employees with a needle while exiting the store. Male chartered for Possession 4(1) and Robbery, he also had an Endorsed warrant and extensive theft history, he is also currently on probation. Held for JP. SUI.

Impaired Driver/MVC- Female caller reported a single-vehicle collision. Driver had crashed his Chevrolet Silverado near 2682 10 Highway.

Roadside ASD breath sample obtained: FAIL. 180mg% and 170mg% breath samples obtained. Appearance Notice for court issued.

Prohibited Driver/ATV- Complainant reporting that a male was operating a blue ATV on the public roadway. Male driver confirmed to be Prohibited Driving Canada Wide. Driver dressed in orange oil pants and blue jacket. Patrols made to the area. Member observed an ATV travelling up the roadway. Member approached the male matching the description putting blue ATV in backyard shed. The male was arrested and released on appearance notice.

Impaired Driver- Member was conducting a check point on Hwy 3 Oakland and a vehicle approached. Member could smell an odour of alcohol emanating from the driver's breath and noticed an unopened can of Bush Beer in the cup holder next to the driver. Member read him the ASD Demand and suspect gave a suitable sample resulting in a Fail. The driver was then arrested for impaired operation of a conveyance. Suspect transported to Cookville where he gave 2 suitable samples resulting in 190 / 180 mg%. Matter pending and before the courts.

Domestic Assault- IPV ASSAULT- Female reported that she was strangled last night by common-law partner. Members attended the residence and spoke to the victim, based off the statement, the male was placed under arrest. Members seized 4 guns that were unauthorized possession. Male released on undertaking. Matter before the court.

Domestic Assault- Female attended the Cookville RCMP Detachment and provided a statement in relation to 3 incidents on domestic violence with her ex. Reported he confined her in the home. Used his vehicle to try and hit her vehicle and splashed water in her face breaking a glass while holding it in threatening manner towards her. She fears for her safety. Male arrested and released with a court date. SUI for court outcome.

Domestic Assault- Female caller reported that her spouse threw items at her and received a cut on her hand. Upon arrival police located the male outside with a laceration on his ear and the door to the house kicked in. He was cooperative with police, arrested and held overnight. Male provided statement upon release. Female later arrested for assault with a weapon and assault. Released on undertaking. Both matters before the court.

Domestic Threats- Male caller reported he was present for the drop off of his grandson when a female stated that her ex-boyfriend was a dead man walking. Statement and video obtained from the male. Female arrested and release with a court date. Male updated on matter.

Impaired Driver X 2- Complainant reporting impaired driver in progress at the Petite General store. Witness stating female SOC exited the driver seat of a 4 door red sedan. Female SOC entered the store, walked directly into a chip rack and then went to the washroom. Witness stating SOC vehicle left toward Broad Cove. Further details received that another witness had followed the SOC vehicle (Hyunda Elantra) to the area of Watermills Road. Members located the suspect vehicle. With a male and female occupants. Male was now in the drivers seat. Both arrested for impaired operation of a conveyance (alcohol). Both blew readings over 80mgs. Female held for court due to other criminal code charges.

Homicide/ Suicide (Intimate Partner Violence) – Complaint received of two suspicious deaths within a residence. Upon initial investigation a deceased 75 year old male and a 60 year old female were located. The Lunenburg County Street Crime Enforcement Unit, Southwest Nova Major Crime Unit and the RCMP Forensic Identification Section were all engaged. The detailed investigation determined that the deaths were the result of Intimate Partner Violence.

Homicide Update- On September 12th, 2024, Nova Scotia Crown Prosecutors filed a direct indictment on 41 year old, Arthur Abdul Mosher of Mahone Bay. Mosher is charged with the First Degree Murder of Joshua

Veinotte. Mosher remains in custody at the Bursnide Correctional Facility pending his trial. Pre-trial matters have been progressing through the courts and a number of critical evidence pieces have now been accepted by the courts.

Police Body Worn Camera (BWC) roll-out:

Almost **all** frontline RCMP members in Lunenburg County District have now been trained and equipped with NEW Body Worn Cameras. The training and implementation of BWC's started on January 8th, 2025 and is scheduled to be completed by the end of January.

Respectfully submitted,

Corporal Gordon Giffin
Team Leader of Community Policing/SSRO
Lunenburg District - Lilydale Detachment

INFORMATION REPORT

Subject: Lunenburg Academy Washrooms
From: Lisa Kendall, P.Eng., Municipal Engineer/Project Manager
Date: March 28, 2025



Recommendation

This is an information report. Should Council wish to move forward with any work on this item, a motion is required

Background

The Lunenburg Academy is experiencing a significant increase in visitors, including tour buses, during the tourist season. There are currently two single-unit washrooms on the first floor. These two washrooms are shared with the Lunenburg Library, the Language Academy, Lunenburg Walking Tours and the Heritage Classroom. First floor tenants have expressed their concern regarding the lack of washroom facilities for the number of daily visitors.

At the March 4 Committee of the Whole Meeting, one of the items Council discussed was washroom facilities at the Lunenburg Academy. Staff were directed to explore the feasibility and cost estimates for a washroom solution at the Lunenburg Academy.

If Council chooses to proceed with any sort of permanent washroom installation, further consultation shall be required with the Heritage Officer to ensure compliance with the Heritage Conservation District and applicable bylaws.

Discussion

Portable Toilets

The significant increase in visitors to the Lunenburg Academy comes with the tourist season (Victoria Day to Thanksgiving), which also generally aligns with the Heritage Classroom's full-time hours. Thus, seasonal portable toilets are considered an option. This option includes one accessible portable toilet and three standard portable toilets, all of which are complete with water and a sink.

The four portable toilets would be enclosed with a fence for both privacy and aesthetic benefits, and would be sitting on a gravel pad. This work can be completed by Public Works and would cost approximately \$10,000. The annual maintenance costs of the fence and gravel pad would be minor.

The rental, maintenance, and cleaning of the four portable toilets would be approximately \$1,000/month; thus, for the five-month season, a total annual cost of approximately \$5,000.

Vault Washrooms

Staff explored other options for washrooms through discussions with neighbouring municipalities and received input on the types of washroom facilities that they have used. Besides portable toilets, other municipalities have installed vault washrooms. Vault washrooms are permanent structures, similar in size to a portable toilet, with buried concrete vaults that act as a holding tank. Vault washrooms do not require water, sewer, or electricity connections; however, they do need to be regularly pumped out and cleaned. MODL approved the design and construction of one accessible vault washroom at one of their parks for 2024/25, and it was budgeted at \$190,000. Note that this budget is for a single-unit accessible washroom only.

If four vault washrooms were to be considered, the Capital cost of these four units would be upwards of \$750,000. In addition to the Capital cost, annual maintenance of pumping and cleaning would be required. The estimated annual maintenance costs are \$5,000.

Lastly, this option may not be in compliance with the Land Use Bylaw servicing requirements (Clause 7.2.1) where these could be considered permanent installs.

New Public Washroom Facility

Lastly, for analysis purposes, the option of a new stand-alone public washroom facility, similar to the public washroom on Bluenose Drive is considered. The design and construction of a new public washroom facility, complete with new water and sewer services and electricity, would have a Class X cost estimate (order of magnitude) of approximately \$600,000.

Assuming this facility would be open for the five month tourist season, the annual maintenance and cleaning of the washrooms would cost approximately \$20,000.

Strategic Plan Relevance

This project is part of the servicing and facilities strategic direction of the Town Comprehensive Community Plan.

Financial

Below is a financial summary of the three options:

Option	Up Front Capital Costs	Annual Maintenance Costs
Portable Toilets	\$10,000	\$5,000
Vault Washrooms	\$750,000	\$5,000
New Public Washroom Facility	\$600,000	\$20,000

INFORMATION REPORT

Subject: Reduction to Speed Limits on Town Streets
From: Tyson Joyce, Director of Public Works/ Town Engineer
Date: March 28, 2025



Recommendation

This is an information report. Should Council wish to move forward with any work on this item, a motion is required to direct Staff.

Background

At the March 4 Committee of the Whole Meeting, an item discussed was the follow-up to the recent Traffic and Parking Study, where Staff requested direction from Council on any priority items arising from the Consultant's Report and Presentation.

Council identified the speed of traffic within the Town as a concern. Although much of the data included in the Study supported that there is no significant speeding issue affecting the Town relative to the posted speed limit, staff's understanding is that the feedback Council had received from residents indicated there was at least a perception that traffic was travelling too fast for its surrounding environment.

Within Nova Scotia, Section 102 of the Province's Motor Vehicle Act (MVA) defines the default speed limit of 50km/h in residential zones. This regulates the minimum speed limit allowed to be posted on these roadways and streets.

In order to be able to post a speed limit lower than 50km/h, an application must be made to the Provincial Traffic Authority under the following details:

- i) The functional classification of the street/road must be local.
- ii) The current speed limit on the street/road must be 50km/h.
- iii) A speed study must be completed, confirming the 85th percentile speed is close to 40 km/h. The 85th percentile speed defines the speed that 85 percent of drivers usually drive at or below under normal conditions.
- iv) A 40 km/h posted speed limit is recommended by Canadian guidelines for establishing residential speed limits, based on the evaluation tool to objectively assess appropriate speed limits based on road classification, function and physical characteristics of the roadway.

In previous experiences, in certain circumstances, the Province has allowed speed limits to be lowered to 40 km/h where appropriate. Any lower than this limit is reserved for school zones and private property. It is important that the speed limit be set at a level to be safe for road users, pedestrians,

etc., but also there is a balance with it being reasonable for vehicles to follow (i.e. not too slow) for it to be effective and be followed.

Discussion

Based on the defined criteria, Staff have reviewed each item for relevance:

i) Functional Classifications of Streets/Roads in Town

The recently completed Traffic and Parking Study contains information on Street Classification in Section 5.3 of the Report for Old Town and a portion of New Town (Figure 14 as attached). A large majority of streets (shown in blue) meet the “local” classification, but there are exceptions with Major Collector & Minor Collector classifications also applying.

ii) Current Speed Limits within Town

The speed limit around Town is posted as 50 km/h. In the vicinity of several of the entrance/exit points to Town, it transitions from the external 80 km/h to 50 km/h (e.g. Lilydale four way stop at Dufferin and Green St).

iii) 85th Percentile Speed Study Data

Figure 3 in Section 3.2 of the Traffic and Parking Study (as attached) document analyzed speed data at six (6) locations around Town (as attached) and detailed the 85th percentile measured speeds:

- A) Trunk 3 near Civic #11176 (both directions approximately 68 km/h)
- B) Dufferin St near Green St (southward between 57-59 km/h, northward 35-42 km/h)
- C) Falkland St near Station Ln (both directions 37-39 km/h)
- D) Linden Ave west of Montague St (single direction 34 km/h)
- E) Pelham St near Prince St (single direction between 42-44 km/h)
- F) Creighton St near Cornwallis St (both directions between 39-43 km/h)

85th percentile speed is a measurement of the speed at which 85% of the drivers travel below and is a standard metric for traffic engineering analysis.

From the data, it appears that locations C, D, E & F all meet the criteria for the 85th percentile speed to facilitate the reduction. As observed in the Study, *“Speed limits are higher on the outskirts (Locations A & B) where speed limits are higher but are manageable within Old Town Lunenburg based on the collected data”*.

iv) Objective Assessment based on Canadian Guidelines

The Canadian Guidelines for Establishing Posted Speed Limits states: *“Road safety may be enhanced through credible posted speed limits that match the expectation of drivers for a given roadway and its surrounding area”*.

The tool evaluates the risk associated with roadways based on criteria such as road geometry, average lane width, roadside hazards, pedestrian and cyclist exposure, pavement surface, number of intersections with public roads and driveways and whether on-street parking is present. A copy of the assessment sheet is attached.

Individual streets or neighbourhoods could be assessed for these risk factors and a score given to assess the current speed limit suitability and whether a reduced speed would have validity based on the evaluation tool, but this has not yet been performed.

v) General Considerations

Staff raise some additional points for Council's consideration relating to speed limit reduction:

- Additional data may be necessary to establish the 85th percentile speeds in other areas of Town including (but not necessarily limited to) New Town, along Tannery Road, Centennial Avenue, etc. which were not the focus of the Traffic and Parking Study Report.
- The maximum permissible drop in a posted speed limit in a single step along a road or street is 30 km/h (i.e. 80 km/h to 50 km/h)
- Speed limits should be consistent at any location on a two-way traffic flow road or street (i.e. same speed limit in place for vehicles travelling in each direction at any specific location).
- It is unlikely that the Province will agree to reduced speed limits along the roadways that it shares with the Town. This would impact the following road networks within Town:
 1. Trunk 3 – Maple Ave, Dufferin St, Falkland St, Victoria Rd;
 2. Route 324 – Dufferin St, Sandy Hollow Rd.
- The Town's Comprehensive Community Plan (CCP) contains the following recommendation: *"Reduce speed limit to 30km/h on Old Town streets without sidewalks to foster a shared street environment"* (Section 5.2, Item n)).
- Also noted within the CCP is the following statement: *"Speed limits play only a partial role in actually slowing down vehicles. Drivers of vehicles tend to be more responsive to visual cues than posted speed limits. When drivers approach narrow streets surrounded by a higher degree of activity, they are more likely to slow down than on a wider road"*.

Strategic Plan Relevance

The speed limit reduction review forms part of the Mobility Objectives of the Town's Comprehensive Community Plan, prioritize the needs of pedestrians followed by cyclists and those using private automobiles, and supports sustainable transportation options and design.

Financial

Being a For Information Only Report, there are no direct costs associated with it but if Council wished to proceed with the reduction of speed limits with Town, some additional direct costs could be triggered such as the following:

- Additional speed data collection and analysis for areas not adequately covered by the Traffic and Parking Study, estimated cost \$20,000 (but also scope dependent).
- Removal of 50 km/h speed limits signs and replacement with the new reduced speed limits. Additional speed limit signage may be required to be installed as well if there are additional transition points impacting neighbourhoods within Town, estimated cost of \$10,000.

It is possible that this work could be performed within the scope of the Capital Budget under the Downtown Traffic Improvements item if Council direct Staff to proceed this way.

To this point, Staff have not put consideration into costs with changes to road infrastructure to complement any potential speed limit reduction. If required, these would be likely to be site-specific and need further investigation to properly scope.

Attachments

Figure 14 (Street Classification Map) from the Traffic and Parking Study

Figure 3 (Speed Data Collection and Results) from the Traffic and Parking Study

Canadian Guidelines for Establishing Posted Speed Limits Evaluation Tool Template



Figure 14: Street Classification Map

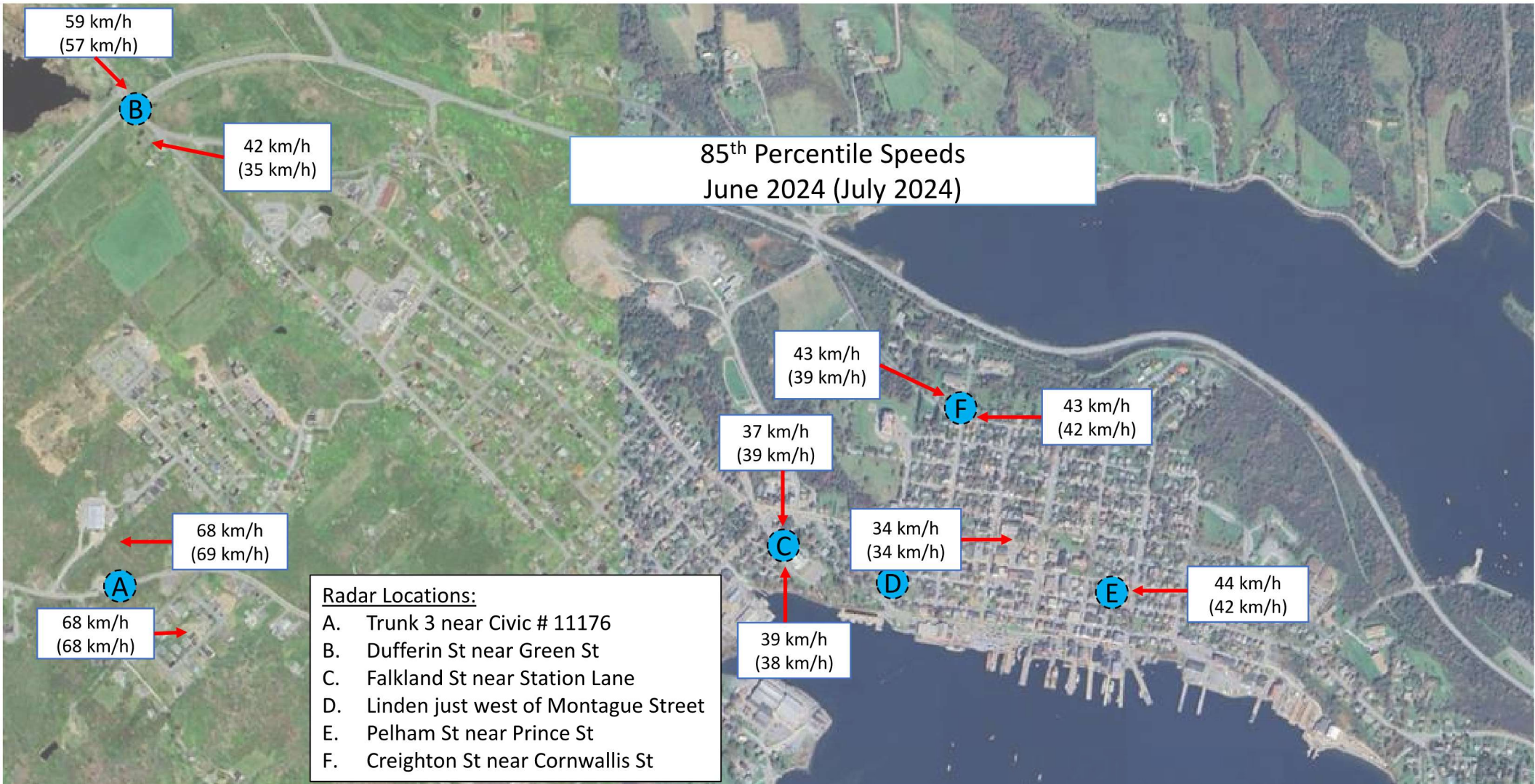


Figure 3: Speed Data Collection and Results



Automated Speed Limit Guidelines

FORM A - Automated Speed Limit Guidelines Spreadsheet

Version:
10-Apr-09

Name of Corridor:			
Segment Evaluated:		to	
Geographic Region:			
Road Agency:			
Road Classification:		Length of Corridor:	
Urban / Rural:		Design Speed: (Required for Freeway, Expressway, Highway)	
Divided / Undivided:		Current Posted Speed: (For information only)	
Major / Minor:		Prevailing Speed: (85th Percentile - for information only)	
# Through Lanes Per Direction:		Policy: (Maximum Posted Speed)	

		RISK	Score
A1	GEOMETRY (Horizontal)	Lower	
A2	GEOMETRY (Vertical)	Medium	
A3	AVERAGE LANE WIDTH	Lower	
B	ROADSIDE HAZARDS	Lower	
C1	PEDESTRIAN EXPOSURE	Lower	
C2	CYCLIST EXPOSURE	Lower	
D	PAVEMENT SURFACE	Lower	
E1	NUMBER OF INTERSECTIONS WITH PUBLIC ROADS	<i>Number of Occurrences</i>	
	STOP controlled intersection		
	Signalized intersection		
	Roundabout or traffic circle		
	Crosswalk		
	Active, at-grade railroad crossing		
	Sidestreet STOP-controlled or lane		
E2	NUMBER OF INTERSECTIONS WITH PRIVATE ACCESS DRIVEWAYS	<i>Number of Occurrences</i>	
	Left turn movements permitted		
	Right-in / Right-out only		
E3	NUMBER OF INTERCHANGES	<i>Number of Occurrences</i>	
	Number of interchanges along corridor		
F	ON-STREET PARKING		

Total Risk Score:

Recommended Posted Speed Limit (km/h):

As determined by road characteristics

As determined by policy

The recommended posted speed limit may be checked against the prevailing speeds of the roadway and the road's safety performance.

Comments:

Subject: 2025/26 Capital and Operating Budget Schedule

Prepared by: Lisa Dagley, Finance Director

Date: April 8, 2025



Recommendation

This is an information report. No decision of Council is required.

Discussion

Staff are currently working on preparing both the Capital and Operating Budgets for fiscal 2025/26 for Council's review. Outlined below are the upcoming meetings when the budgets will be on Council's agenda.

- 1. April 29, 2025 Additional (Budget) Committee of the Whole Meeting:** Both the Capital and Operating Budgets (Version 1) will be the agenda item for this meeting.
- 2. May 13, 2025 Council Meeting:** Both the Capital and Operating Budgets (Version 2) will be part of the agenda package.
- 3. May 27, 2025 Council Meeting:** Capital and Operating Budgets (Version 3) will be before Council for potential approval.

Each of these meetings will include a Special Public Input Session dedicated to the budget.

Communications

Starting tomorrow, April 9, the budget schedule will be published on the Town's website and shared on social media platforms. In addition, staff are exploring other non-digital communication methods, such as a mailout newsletter, and will consider other viable options to help ensure the information reaches as many residents as possible.