

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
TOWN OF LUNENBURG**

May 6, 2025 | 6 pm

Lunenburg Town Hall - Council Chamber



- Present** Mayor Jamie Myra, Deputy Rachel Bailey, Councillors Alex Greek, Debbie Dauphinee, Renea Babineau, Gale Fullerton, Alison Strachan
- Also present** Marvin Macdonald, Interim CAO
Kayla Byrne, Legislative & Policy Advisor
- Call to Order** The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- Land Acknowledgment** The Chair recognized Lunenburg’s location on the unceded territory of the Mi’kmaq people.
- Approval of Agenda** Moved and seconded that Committee of the Whole approve the agenda for the May 6, 2025 meeting as presented.
Motion carried unanimously
- Approval of Minutes** Moved and seconded that the Committee approve the minutes of the February 26, 2025 minutes meeting as presented.
Motion carried unanimously
- Presentation** Council received a presentation from the Lunenburg County Senior Safety Partnership Society, which outlined the organization’s programs, including home visits, system navigation support, scams and fraud prevention, elder abuse awareness, and emergency preparedness initiatives.
- Correspondence** Council received an update on the Beautification and Streetscaping Program (BSP) and the Community Works Program (CWP) from the Department of Municipal Affairs.
- Marketing Levy By-law** Staff presented a report seeking Council direction on proceeding with the creation of a marketing levy bylaw, enabling the Town to implement up to a 3% levy on short-term accommodations for tourism marketing. Council discussed the importance of early notification to local operators to allow them to plan accordingly, while recognizing that more detailed engagement would be best conducted in the fall when operators have more capacity.
- Moved and seconded that Committee of the Whole direct staff to continue developing a Marketing Levy By-law, including conducting

targeted engagement with local accommodation operators, and bring forward a draft by-law for Council's consideration at a future meeting.

Motion carried unanimously

Public Statements Policy Amendments Staff presented proposed amendments to the Public Statements Policy to streamline processes, including adding an appendix for annually approved flag raisings to avoid repeat approvals and including language regarding flagpole use at the UNESCO monument.

Council discussed and suggested several refinements:

- Clarifying wording regarding requests contrary to the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, ensuring the wording makes clear that such requests would not be considered.
- Updating the presentation time limit from three minutes to the standard 10 minutes for consistency with other presentations to Council.
- Including provisions to clarify the CAO's discretion to lower flags to half-mast when appropriate, with clear criteria, and ensuring public notice is provided explaining why flags are at half-mast.
- Ensuring the Town checks annually with groups listed in the flag raising appendix to confirm the flag raising is still desired, and whether a formal ceremony is wanted.
- Revising references to communication channels to ensure flexibility.
- Adding flexibility to allow the Mayor and CAO to approve letters of support under special circumstances when time constraints prevent bringing them to Council.

Moved and seconded that the Committee of the Whole recommend that Council approve the amendments to the Public Statements Policy as presented, and with the amendments suggested, and that it serve as notice of Council's intent to amend the policy.

Motion carried unanimously

Notices of Motion, Information Requests and Councillor Reports Deputy Mayor Bailey noted that it's Emergency Preparedness Week.

Closed Session Moved and seconded that Committee of the Whole move into closed session at 6:52 p.m. to discuss agenda item 10.1 per the Municipal Government Act.

Before starting any closed session discussions, Council took a brief recess.

Revert to open session

Council reverted to open session at 8:18 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the May 6, 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Minutes were read and approved.