

**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING (CAPITAL BUDGET) AGENDA
TOWN OF LUNENBURG**

Monday, February 2, 2026 | 6 pm
Lunenburg Town Hall - Council Chamber



Present	Mayor Jamie Myra, Deputy Rachel Bailey, Councillors Alex Greek, Debbie Dauphinee, Renea Babineau, Gale Fullerton, and Alison Strachan
Also present	Paul Nopper, CAO Tyson Joyce, Director of Public Works Marc Kiely, Director of Community Development Kayla Byrne, Municipal Clerk Jamie Deans, Communications and Events Coordinator Kristi Tibbo, Director of Recreation Kathleen Rafuse, Deputy Director of Finance Jacob McGuigan, Accountant
Call to Order	The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.
Moment of Silence	Council held a moment of silence to honour those who lost their lives in the sinking of the fishing vessel <i>Lily Jean</i> of Gloucester.
Land Acknowledgment	The Chair recognized Lunenburg's location on the unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.
Approval of Agenda	Moved and seconded that Council approve the agenda for the February 2, 2026 Special Council meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously
Approval of Minutes	Moved and seconded that Council approve the minutes from the January 12, 2026 Special Council meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously
Public Input Session on Proposed Budgets	None.
Information Report: Recreation Master Plans	Council received an overview of what is typically included in a Recreation Master Plan, including its scope, purpose, and components. Council members expressed differing perspectives. Some members noted the value of a Recreation Master Plan in providing long-term

direction, identifying opportunities, and incorporating public input into the future of recreation services and assets. Other members raised concerns about the timing of the plan, emphasizing current financial pressures, the need for capital upgrades to existing facilities, and the importance of aligning recreation planning with broader strategic planning work underway. Council also discussed the potential benefits of exploring a more regional approach to recreation planning, given that a portion of users of Town recreation facilities reside outside the municipality.

Information Report: Council received an information report regarding the Town's general
2026/27 Town capital and operating reserve.
General Capital and
Operating Reserves

2026/27 Draft Following an overview of the 2026/27 Draft Water Utility Capital
Water Utility Budget and some clarifying questions by Council, Council made the
Capital Budget following motion:

Moved and seconded that Council approve the 2026/27 Water Utility
Capital Budget as presented, totalling \$777,000.

Motion carried unanimously

2026/27 Draft Council reviewed the draft 2026–27 Town General Capital Budget,
Capital Budget including revisions made following the January 12, 2026 Special Budget
Town General Meeting. Staff outlined changes to the proposed vehicle purchases for
By-law Enforcement and Recreation, noting that a shared vehicle was
not operationally feasible. Budgets for both vehicles were reduced by
\$10,000 each, and it was confirmed that the electric utility would
compensate the Town when the By-law vehicle is used for utility
operations.

Council discussed several capital projects in detail, including sidewalk
renewal projects, wastewater utility funding and reserves, major
equipment purchases, and overall debt financing. Discussion focused
on accessibility considerations, coordination of projects with future
infrastructure work, asset management and long-term equipment
planning, financial sustainability, and debt ratios. Council also
discussed the importance of prioritizing projects that address
immediate needs and align with available funding opportunities, as
well as the timing of certain planning initiatives.

Council expressed concern about proceeding with the Recreation
Master Plan at this time and discussed alternative priorities, including
advancing accessibility improvements to existing trail infrastructure.
Council also discussed the proposed gravel pad preparation for

washroom facilities at the Academy, noting uncertainty around future funding for other capital work.

During discussion, staff clarified that the proposed By-law Enforcement vehicle purchase is contingent on the hiring of a second By-law Enforcement Officer, and that if the position is not approved, the vehicle would not be purchased.

Moved and seconded that the Recreation Master Plan be removed from the 2026–27 capital budget and replaced with \$20,000 for the Back Harbour Maple Street stairway removal and accessibility improvements. **Motion carried unanimously**

Moved and seconded that the 2026–27 capital budget be amended to remove the gravel pad preparation for the Academy washroom facilities. **Motion carried unanimously**

Moved and seconded that the amended 2026–27 Town General Capital Budget, in the amount of \$3,815,000, be approved as presented. **Motion carried unanimously**

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Council meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Minutes were read and approved.