

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TOWN OF LUNENBURG**

Tuesday, March 3, 2026 | 6 pm
Lunenburg Town Hall - Council Chamber



Present	Mayor Jamie Myra, Councillors Alex Greek, Debbie Dauphinee, Renea Babineau, Gale Fullerton, and Alison Strachan
Absent/ Regrets	Deputy Mayor Rachel Bailey
Also present	Paul Nopper, CAO Tyson Joyce, Director of Public Works Marc Kiely, Director of Community Development Shania MacLeod, Bylaw Enforcement Officer Kayla Byrne, Municipal Clerk Jamie Deans, Communications and Events Coordinator
Call to Order	The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:19 p.m. The delayed start was due to technical difficulties with audio equipment.
Land Acknowledgment	The Chair recognized Lunenburg’s location on the unceded territory of the Mi’kmaq people.
Electric Utility Update	<p>The Mayor provided a brief update regarding recent power outages affecting the community. Council previously approved the Electric Utility’s five-year capital plan of more than \$15 million to support necessary infrastructure upgrades and improve system reliability.</p> <p>The Mayor noted that the Town met with representatives from Nova Scotia Power earlier in the day to review the recent outage and discuss ongoing efforts to stabilize the electrical grid and improve recovery times. Several infrastructure projects are already included in the capital budget, and additional options are being explored to accelerate improvements and reduce strain on the system.</p> <p>Council reaffirmed its commitment to modernizing the Town’s electrical infrastructure, acknowledging that upgrades will take time but are already making a difference in outage response and restoration times.</p> <p>The Mayor also highlighted the importance of clear communication during outages and encouraged residents to monitor updates through multiple channels, including radio broadcasts, social media, and the Town’s website, and to contact the Electric Utility directly for assistance.</p>

Additions to the Agenda Moved and seconded that Council add two Personnel Items for closed session under agenda item 15.
Motion carried unanimously

Approval of Agenda Moved and seconded that Council approve the agenda for the March 3, 2026 meeting as amended.
Motion carried unanimously

Approval of Minutes Moved and seconded that Council approve the February 2, 2026 meeting minutes as presented.
Motion carried unanimously

Moved and seconded that Council approve the February 10, 2026 meeting minutes as presented.
Motion carried unanimously

Public Input and Questions Towny Anderson raised concerns about the process and decision-making related to the potential heritage designation of the former CNR Lunenburg station, raising questions about transparency and the handling of the application.

Wendy Rofihe raised concerns about the use of residential surveillance cameras in the community and requested that Council consider developing a bylaw to regulate their use, citing privacy and nuisance concerns.

Amy Funk spoke in support of amending the Town's mobile food vending regulations, suggesting changes that would allow food trucks to operate on private property with appropriate permits and arguing that this could support tourism and provide additional food options during peak seasons.

Justin Cantafio spoke in support of proposed amendments to the Town's mobile food vending regulations, highlighting the role of local food businesses in supporting the regional food system, local producers, and community economic development.

Sarah Romkey spoke in support of proposed amendments to the Town's mobile food vending regulations, sharing positive experiences as a customer.

Meghan Doucette spoke in support of proposed amendments to the Town's mobile food vending regulations, noting that additional food options such as food trucks could help address limited restaurant availability during peak tourism periods

Correspondence: Council received two letters regarding proposed amendments to the
Vending By-law Town's mobile food vending regulations, expressing support for additional food options, such as food trucks, and noting that they could help address limited restaurant availability during peak tourism periods.

With respect to the matter, Councillor Babineau provided the following notice of motion: That Council direct staff to review the current vending rules and bring forward options for increased flexibility and modernization, and that this report be presented at a future Committee of the Whole meeting.

Proclamation Moved and seconded that Council proclaim March 2026 as Kidney
Request: Kidney Month in the Town of Lunenburg, in recognition of the importance of
Month (March kidney health and to support the awareness efforts of the Kidney
2026) Foundation of Canada, including World Kidney Day on March 12, 2026.

Motion carried unanimously

GLW March Break Moved and seconded that Council approve a Silver Sponsorship (\$500)
Hockey to the Gary L. Wentzell March Break Hockey Tournament.

Tournament **Motion carried unanimously**

Old Train Station / Council received a letter regarding the potential heritage designation of
Municipal the former train station and concerns related to the process followed by
Heritage Council and staff.

Designation

Councillor Strachan provided clarification regarding the timeline of the voluntary heritage designation application for the train station and the history of negotiations related to the property's sale, noting that Council had previously directed staff to proceed with a purchase and sale agreement.

Public Hearing: Council held a public hearing for the proposed Tour and Horse-Drawn
Tour and Horse- Vehicle By-law.

Drawn Vehicle By-law

Council discussed several aspects of the proposed Horse and Vehicle Bylaw following correspondence received from the public. Discussion included potential additions or clarifications, such as providing a map of the carriage route, considering shade provisions for horses during rest periods, and safety features on carriages.

The following comments were made by members of the public:

Marni Gent spoke in support of improving regulations related to horse-drawn carriage operations, raising concerns about horse welfare, particularly in relation to extreme heat and humidity. They further suggested additional measures such as providing shade, appropriate footwear, and safety features.

Jeanette Ernst, who provides care for the working carriage horses under an existing operator licence, spoke in support of the proposed bylaw updates, noting that the revisions better reflect current operations and provide flexibility through the requirement for an animal care plan. It was also suggested to clarify provisions related to the use of a training cart used for introducing and transporting horses during operations.

Several letters were also submitted for the public hearing and were included in the agenda package.

Moved and seconded that Council close the public hearing for the proposed Tour and Horse-Drawn Vehicle By-law.

Motion carried unanimously

Council requested that staff review potential amendments to the draft Horse and Vehicle Bylaw before bringing it forward for second reading. This includes exploring provisions related to shade or shade structures for horses at the carriage stand, subject to feasibility and traffic authority considerations, and reviewing how training carts or buggies used for horse training and operations may be treated differently from passenger carriages with respect to licensing requirements.

Public Hearing:
Short-Term
Accommodation
Levy By-law

Council held a public hearing for the proposed Short-Term Accommodation Levy By-law.

No members of the public spoke at the hearing. One letter was submitted and was included in the agenda package.

Moved and seconded that Council close the public hearing for the proposed Short-Term Accommodation Levy By-law.

Motion carried unanimously

Recommendations
: Water &
Wastewater
System Modelling

Staff presented an information report outlining key recommendations from the 2023 Water and Wastewater System Modelling Reports related to infrastructure capacity, future growth, and potential system upgrades.

2026/27 Region 6
Solid Waste
Management
Budget

Moved and seconded that Council approve the Town of Lunenburg's required municipal contribution of \$ 3,839 to the 2026/27 Region 6 Solid Waste Management Budget, as outlined in the Region 6 Inter-Municipal Committee Budget.

Motion carried unanimously

2025/26 Budget
Variance (Capital
& Operating) to
Dec.31, 2025

For information, Council received the 2025/26 Budget Variance Report (Capital & Operating) to Dec.31, 2025

Notices of Motion and Councillor Reports Councillors provided updates on recent committee work, community activities, and upcoming events. Reports included recognition of International Women’s Day, updates from the Senior Safety Committee and upcoming programming, participation in various community and organizational meetings, and recognition of local milestones and events. A Councillor also reported on attending an announcement related to the Atlantic Canada UNESCO Tourism Corridor initiative. Members noted a busy schedule of upcoming Council, Committee of the Whole, and budget meetings.

Councillor Dauphinee gave notice of motion requesting that staff review video surveillance bylaws and regulations in other municipalities and report back to Council on potential options for regulating residential surveillance cameras in the Town of Lunenburg.

Items for Consideration at COTW The next Committee of the Whole meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 17, 2026.

Motion Action List Council received the motion action list for information and agreed to move the Lunenburg Academy Washroom item to Priority C.

Closed Session Moved and seconded that Council move into closed session at 7:46 p.m. to discuss two personnel matters, as permitted under the Municipal Government Act.

Revert to Open Meeting Council reverted to open meeting at 8:58 p.m.

Motions Made Following Closed Session Following the closed session, Council made the following motions:

Moved and seconded that Council pre-approve the hiring of a By-Law/Electric Meter Reader position for the Town of Lunenburg.

Motion carried unanimously

Moved and seconded that Council pre-approve the hiring of a Water and Wastewater Supervisor position for the Town of Lunenburg.

Motion carried unanimously

Moved and seconded that Council approves the Chief Administrative Officer and Town Engineer, at their discretion, to allow the use of PID60500006 of Town of Lunenburg land for the placement of soils from the new Harbourview Haven Seniors Facility.

Motion carried unanimously

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Council meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Minutes were read and approved.