COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TOWN OF LUNENBURG

Tuesday, October 13, 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 Shania MacLeod, Senior By-Law Officer Jamie Deans, Communications and Events Coordinator
Call to Order	The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.
Land Acknowledgment	The Chair recognized Lunenburg's location on the unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.
Approval of Agenda	Councillor Strachan moved and Councillor Babineau seconded that Council approve the agenda for the October 13, 2026, meeting as presented. **Moved by Councillor Strachan. Seconded by Councillor Babineau.** **Motion carried unanimously**
Approval of Minutes	Councillor Fullerton moved and Councillor Babineau seconded that Council approve the September 22, 2026 meeting minutes as presented. **Moved by Councillor Fullerton. Seconded by Councillor Babineau.** **Motion carried unanimously**
Public Input	Council received a question from the public to clarify temporary borrowing. Staff explained that it is a financing mechanism used to fund capital projects through provincial debenture programs. Temporary borrowing serves as an interim measure, often for up to five years, before longer-term financing arrangements are established.
Business Arising from Unfinished Business.	Council requested updates on two previously discussed matters: the development of a banner policy to address future requests for banner installations and a review of the LAFF Fund policy. Staff advised that both items remain under review. Updates on timelines, priorities, and progress will be provided to Council at a future meeting.

Staff also clarified that Council direction provided during meetings may be tracked and reported through the action list even when not formally adopted by motion.

Proclamation: United Nations International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

Councillor Strachan moved that the Council of the Town of Lunenburg approve and support the Proclamation – United Nations International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. Seconded by Councillor Dauphinee.

Moved by Councillor Strachan. Seconded by Councillor Dauphinee.
Motion carried unanimously

By-Law Enforcement Quarterly Report

Council received the Bylaw Enforcement quarterly report outlining departmental activity and complaint volumes for the reporting period of June 1st to August 31st, 2026. The majority of enforcement activity were related to parking enforcement with other complaint categories included property maintenance, noise, garbage and unsightly premises, animal-related concerns, permit infractions, fire-related matters, poster placement, and civil disputes.

Council reviewed parking statistics and discussed the implementation of the HotSpot. Staff reported that the system has generated parking revenue while improving administrative efficiency by reducing the time required for meter maintenance, cash collection, and processing. Staff also noted that the system has enhanced compliance by allowing users to extend parking sessions remotely when permitted.

Staff also informed Council of upcoming changes to the Motor Vehicle Act that may provide municipalities with additional authority regarding local speed limits and vehicle noise enforcement.

No Motion required

Water Utility Ballon Refinance

Council reviewed a report regarding the refinancing of the Water Utility Treatment Plant debenture balloon payment. Staff explained that the original 20-year debenture, issued in 2011 to support construction of the water treatment plant, has reached the stage where the remaining balloon payment must be refinanced for the final five years of the term.

Councillor Babineau moved that Council approve a Temporary Borrowing Resolution of $203,750 for the Water Utility Treatment Plant Balloon payment, Schedule 1 *(Please note that this resolution is to be read aloud at the meeting).* Seconded by Deputy Mayor Bailey.

Moved by Councillor Babineau. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Bailey.
Motion carried unanimously

Councillor Fullerton moved 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 7.0%, to enable the Town of Lunenburg to secure a debenture of $203,750 per Schedule 2. Seconded by Councillor Strachan.

Moved by Councillor Fullerton. Seconded by Strachan.
Motion carried unanimously

Electric Capitol Report

Councillor Strachan moved and Councillor Fullerton seconded, that Council approve the following as forwarded from the October 6, 2026 Committee of the Whole, regarding the 2026/27 Capital Budget for the Town's Electric Utility:

1. Approval of additional feeder upgrade projects:
    a. 81W-321 – Old Town Feeder for $130,000
    b. 81W-322 – Industrial/Blue Rocks Feeder for $120,000
2. Revise the budget for Knock Lane Upgrade to $250,000
3. Increase the Blue Rocks Feeder Upgrade (Sawpit Rd to Hospital Rd) Project to $250,000
4. Revise the budget for Green Street Double Circuit to $1,127,000
5. Approve the addition of Starr Street Substation (81W) Recloser installation for $10,525
6. Approve the addition of Starr Street Substation (81W) Bushing installation for $39,000

Moved by Councillor Strachan. Seconded by Fullerton.
Motion carried unanimously

Notices of Motion, Information Requests and Councillor Reports

Council acknowledged and celebrated the induction of **Captain Angus Walters**, original captain of the *Bluenose*, into the Canadian Sailing Hall of Fame.

The mayor noted Nova Scotia Small Business Week is next week. And highlighted community efforts in awareness for October 4-10th was Mental Health Awareness Week.

Council further congratulated local athlete **Logan Taylor** on his achievement of playing in the NFL, recognizing the significance of the accomplishment for the community.

Council recognized a local business-led fundraising initiative that raised funds for the Lunenburg Food Bank Society and South Shore Hospice Palliative Care Society.

Council provided an update from the Lunenburg County Accessibility Advisory Committee, including information on accessibility advocacy, inclusion initiatives, and plans for activities marking the International Day for Persons with Disabilities on December 3rd.

Council highlighted that the South Shore Public Library announced the upcoming 2026 Lunenburg Lit Festival, with the theme "Nova Scotia Mystery Weekend" taking place November 5th-7th.

Council shared remarks regarding the recent groundbreaking ceremony for the new Harbour View Haven, acknowledging the project's significance to the region and its positive economic impact during construction.

Positive feedback was shared about the open house at the Fire Hall, for fire prevention week and acknowledgement of the upcoming 10th anniversary celebration of the Be The Peace Institute at the Community Centre.

Items for Consideration at COTW

The next Committee of the Whole meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 3, 2026. Several members of Council will be away, attending the NSFM conference.

Councillor Fullerton moved and Councillor Strachan seconded that Council cancel the Committee of the Whole meeting planned for Tuesday, November 3rd, 2026 and reschedule the meeting to November 17th, 2026.

Moved by Councillor Fullerton. Seconded by Strachan.
Motion carried unanimously

Motion Action List

Council reviewed the Motion Action List.

Closed Session

Moved and seconded that Council move into closed session at 6:53 p.m. for agenda item 15.1 Contract Negotiations.

Moved by Councillor Babineau. Seconded by Strachan.
Motion carried unanimously

Open Session

Councillor Fullerton moved that Council return to open session at 7:54 p.m. Seconded by Councillor Dauphinee. There was no report from the closed session.

Moved by Councillor Fullerton. Seconded by Dauphinee.
Motion carried unanimously

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Council meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Babineau.
Motion carried unanimously

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Minutes were read and approved.