

2025-06-17 Municipal Council

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Minutes of the regular session of Municipal Council held on Tuesday, June 17, 2025, at 10:00 a.m., at the Municipal Administration Building, 752 St. George St. Annapolis Royal, NS.

Roll Call

- District 1 – Karie-Ann Parsons-Saltzman, present
- District 2 – Jesse Hare, present
- District 3 – Dustin Enslow, Deputy Warden, present
- District 4 – Charles “Chuck” Cranton, present
- District 5 – Lynn Longmire, present
- District 6 – Jon Welch, present
- District 7 – Ted Agombar, present
- District 8 – Nile Harding, present
- District 9 – Gail “Gidget” Oxner, present
- District 10 – Brian “Fuzzy” Connell, present
- District 11 – Diane Le Blanc, Warden, present

Also Present: CAO Chris McNeill; Administrative Clerk – Municipal Clerk Office Kelly Kempton; Director of Finance Angela Anderson; Director of Planning and Inspection Services Linda Bent; Strategic Initiatives Coordinator Alyssa Blais; Director of Corporate Services / Deputy CAO Dawn Campbell; Communications Coordinator Nadine McCormick; Manager of Information and Technology Ben Olsen; and Director of Municipal Operations Jim Young

Disclosure of Interest

None

Order of the Day

To add Municipal Electoral Boundary Report as item 6.2 and Bridgetown Sidewalk West as item 6.3 under New Business.
Moved: Councillor Longmire
Seconded: Councillor Welch
Motion carried

Minutes

Re: 2025-05-20 Regular Minutes

Approved, no errors or omissions

Re: 2025-05-20 Public Hearing Minutes

Approved, no errors or omissions

Re: 2025-05-27 Emergency Council Minutes

Approved, no errors or omissions

COMMITTEE of the WHOLE RECOMMENDATIONS

Re: SR2025-62 Annapolis County Anti-Poverty and Inclusion Initiative

Motion 250617.01 Annapolis County Anti-Poverty and Inclusion Initiative

To support the proposed three commitments of the Anti-Poverty and Inclusion Initiative, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Parsons-Saltzman

Seconded: Councillor Harding

Motion carried

Re: SR2025-63 BRCS Trust Award Payments

Motion 250617.02 BRCS Trust Award Payments

To authorize payment from the Bridgetown School Trust to the Bridgetown Regional Community School in the amount of \$8,893, in accordance with the recommendation of Committee of the Whole

Moved: Councillor Agombar

Seconded: Deputy Warden Enslow

Motion carried

Re: SR2025-63 BRCS Trust Award Payments

Motion 250617.03 BRCS Trust Award Payments

To authorize payment up to \$2,800 for scholarships recipients upon confirmation of attendance at a post-secondary institution, in accordance with the recommendation of Committee of the Whole

Moved: Deputy Warden Enslow

Seconded: Councillor Agombar

Motion carried

Re: SR2025-64 Approve *Bylaw 7 Dogs*

Motion 250617.04 Approve *Bylaw 7 Dogs*

To give first reading to approve *Bylaw 7 Dogs*, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole

Moved: Councillor Welch

Seconded: Councillor Longmire

Unanimous consent was given for minor changes to *Bylaw 7 Dogs*.

Motion carried

Re: SR2025-65 Appointment of Development Officer

Motion 250617.05 Appointment of Development Officer

To appoint Ning Liang as Development Officer for the Municipality of the County of Annapolis to administer the Municipality's Land Use Bylaw and Subdivision Bylaw, in accordance with the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Parsons-Saltzman

Seconded: Councillor Cranton

Motion carried

Re: SR2025-66 Animal Control Agreements – Annapolis Royal

Motion 250617.06 Animal Control Agreements - Annapolis Royal

To authorize for the County of Annapolis to provide dog control services to the Town of Annapolis Royal starting July 1, 2025, and ending March 31, 2030, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole

Moved: Councillor Welch

Seconded: Councillor Parsons-Saltzman

Motion carried

Re: SR2025-66 Animal Control Agreements - Middleton

Motion 250617.07 Animal Control Agreements - Middleton

To authorize for the County of Annapolis to provide dog control services to the Town of Middleton starting July 1, 2025, and ending March 31, 2030, in accordance with the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Parsons-Saltzman

Seconded: Councillor Agombar

Motion carried

Re: SR2025-67 Budget Approval – Cyber Security Insurance

Motion 250617.08 Budget Approval - Cyber Security Insurance

To authorize funding from the Operating Reserve Fund, in the amount of \$10,130, to cover the costs of cyber security insurance with a liability limit of \$2,000,000, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Cranton

Seconded: Councillor Harding

Motion carried

Re: SR2025-69 Approve *Bylaw 8 Noise*

Motion 250617.09 Approve *Bylaw 8 Noise*

To give first reading to approve *Bylaw 8 Noise*, in accordance with the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Welch

Seconded: Councillor Parsons-Saltzman

Motion carried

Re: SR2025-70 Approve *Bylaw 9 Repeal of C3 Water Supply Program Bylaw and C4 Clean Energy Program Bylaw*

Motion 250617.10 Approve *Bylaw 9 Repeal of C3 Water Supply Program Bylaw and C4 Clean Energy Program Bylaw*

To give first reading to *Bylaw 9 Repeal of C3 Water Supply Program Bylaw and C4 Clean Energy Program Bylaw*, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Parsons-Saltzman

Seconded: Councillor Harding

Motion carried

Re: SR2025-73 General Operating Line of Credit

Motion 250617.11 General Operating Line of Credit

To authorize a general borrowing resolution in the amount of \$2 million with Royal Bank of Canada to meet current expenditures for the Municipality of the County of Annapolis for the year ending March 31, 2025, in accordance with the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Longmire

Seconded: Councillor Oxner

Unanimous consent was given to change the date to March 31, 2026.

Motion carried

Re: SR2025-74 Temporary Borrowing Resolution

Motion 250617.12 Temporary Borrowing Resolution

To authorize the submission of a temporary borrowing resolution (TBR) to the Minister in the amount of \$1,570,000 for capital financing, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Welch

Seconded: Councillor Cranton

Motion carried

Re: Uranium Mining – Annapolis County

Motion 250617.13 Uranium Mining – Annapolis County

To authorize a formal written request for the provincial government to pause before granting any leases for uranium exploration in our county, to allow time for Council and communities to become informed and give input about the potential impacts of uranium on the community be sent to David Bowlby, Chris D'Entremont, Tim Houston, and the Minister of Natural Resources, in accordance with the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Connell

Seconded: Councillor Parsons-Saltzman

Motion

To move to amend the motion read "To authorize a formal written request for the provincial government to provide council with the provinces information and plan on how safe uranium mining will work, to allow time for Council and communities to become informed and give input about the potential impacts of uranium on the community to be sent to David Bowlby, Chris D'Entremont, Tim Houston, and the Minister of Natural Resources, in accordance with the recommendation of Committee of the Whole."

Moved: Councillor Hare

Seconded: Councillor Harding

Motion

To move to amend the motion to include the letter be sent to Jill Balser as well.

Moved: Councillor Cranton

Seconded: Councillor Hare

Motion carried

To move to have the motion read “To authorize a formal written request for the provincial government to pause before granting any leases for uranium exploration in our county to provide council with the provinces information and plan on how safe uranium mining will work, to allow time for Council and communities to become informed and give input about the potential impacts of uranium on the community to be sent to David Bowlby, Jill Balser, Chris D’Entremont, Tim Houston, and the Minister of Natural Resources, in accordance with the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.”

Moved: Councillor Agombar

Seconded: Deputy Warden Enslow

Motion carried

Re: 2025-06-09 Fire Services Recommendation

Motion 250617.14 Fire Services Recommendation

To approve a letter of support on behalf of fire services to Minister of Emergency Management, Kim Masland, and to Fire Marshall, Douglas MacKenzie, emphasizing the importance of dependable and consistent training for their membership, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Parsons-Saltzman

Seconded: Councillor Connell

Motion carried

Re: SR2025-71 Potential Additional of Lequille Water Customers

Motion 250617.15 Potential Additional of Lequille Water Customers

To authorize staff to proceed with the process of transitioning 14 remaining Annapolis Royal water customers located in Lequille to the Annapolis County Water Utility, in accordance with the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Cranton

Seconded: Councillor Parsons-Saltzman

Motion carried

New Business

Re: SR2025-75 Transit Agreement

Motion 250617.16 Transit Agreement

That Council of the Municipality of the County of Annapolis approve entering into the proposed 5-year transit funding agreement with Town of Annapolis Royal.

Moved: Councillor Welch

Seconded: Councillor Cranton

Motion carried

Re: Municipal Electoral Boundary Report

Motion 250617.17 Municipal Electoral Boundary Report

That Council of the Municipality of the County of Annapolis submit an application to Nova Scotia Regulatory and Appeals Board to re-confirm the number of councillors at eleven with slight changes to all electoral districts.

Moved: Councillor Connell

Seconded: Councillor Harding

Recess

A recess was called at 11:13 a.m. to look at the boundary review maps.

The meeting resumed 11:27 a.m. with all councillors present as prior to the recess.

Unanimous consent was given to swap the communities of Lequille and Moschelle on the boundary review map.

Question was called on the motion.

Motion carried (10 in favour; 1 against)

Re: Bridgetown Sidewalk West

Motion 250617.18 Bridgetown Sidewalk West

That Council amend its resolution passed on April 15, 2025, regarding the Granville Street West sidewalk project, by replacing the approved design Option 2 with Option 1A, as outlined in the staff report presented at that time. And further, that Council direct staff to proceed with engineering design and utility coordination based on Option 1A, with no interruption to the current planning and scheduling timeline for the project.

Moved: Deputy Warden Enslow

Seconded: Councillor Agombar

Motion carried (6 in favour; 5 against)

Recess

A recess was called at 12:17 p.m. for a lunch break.

The meeting resumed at 1:12 p.m. with all councillors present as prior to the recess.

Council Motion Tracking List (March, April, May)

Reviewed for information

Councillor Comments

District 1 – Councillor Parsons-Saltzman extended greetings from District 1. She noted the warmer weather has allowed the start of hay making in the valley. Councillor Parsons-Saltzman congratulated all the community groups who had received grants and thanked the volunteers within these groups. She

stated that the Melvin Square Hall would be holding Canada day events on July 1, 2025, starting at 11:15 a.m. She encouraged everyone to get out to enjoy some Canada Day events within Annapolis County.

District 2 – Councillor Hare stated that he has heard concerns regarding the first reading of the noise bylaw. He noted that he would be out in the community talking to constituents about this bylaw and the proposed changes to planning documents.

District 3 – Deputy Warden Enslow extended greetings from District 3. He noted that we are starting to see some sunny weather but hoped for a good summer with a mixture of both sun and rain. Deputy Warden Enslow noted that line dancing classes are held each Saturday evening at the Bridgetown Legion from 7:00-8:00 p.m. He stated the Inglewood Community Hall located on Bay Road will be holding a fish and chip take out on June 29, 2025. Deputy Warden Enslow commented that the Lions Club big breakfast at the Legion is scheduled for July 1, 2025. He noted that both Bridgetown and Port Lorne will be hosting all day events on Canada Day. He thanked all the community members for all they do for these events.

District 4 – Councillor Cranton extended greetings from District 4. He attended the Wildfire Community Preparedness event at the Lower Granville Hall. He noted there were many organizations in attendance, including Annapolis REMO, Annapolis Fire Department, Seniors Safety, Salvation Army, Ground Search & Rescue plus many more. He stated that he had attended many other events as well. He commented that there would be many Canada Day events happening within Annapolis County. Councillor Cranton thanked the CAO, Chris McNeill, for all his great work and wished him the best of luck in his next adventure.

District 5 – Councillor Longmire extended greetings from District 5. She recognized June as National Indigenous History Month and June 21st as National Indigenous Peoples Day. She noted the past few weeks have been busy as she attended many wonderful events.

Councillor Longmire mentioned the following upcoming events in District 5:

Lower Granville Hall

- Indoor walking Monday's at 10:00 a.m.
- Tai Chi held the 1st and 4th Thursday at 11:00 a.m.
- Dugas Du Monde Exhibit Sunday at 6:00 p.m.

Young's Cove Community Hall

- Friday night jam session at 7:00 p.m.
- First Aid training June 21, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Monday morning coffee and muffins

Councillor Longmire noted that Young's Cove Fundy Community Hall was successful in their grant for an AED through the Giant Tiger and Red Cross program. She thanked Food for Shore and Belle's Blessing Pantry for continuing to help feed the local communities. She stated that the New Horizons Hall have been working hard on their renovations and hosting musical events/jam sessions on Monday evenings. She noted that the Port Royal Lighthouse Association was chosen for the Nova Scotia Heritage Trust Award. The awards committee selected Schafner Point Lighthouse for this award. She encouraged residents to pick up some local strawberries at Bayside Farms on McKenzie Mountain Road. Councillor Longmire mentioned that MareGod Centre in Victoria Beach will be hosting a build your own cabin event on June 23, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. She encouraged everyone to be mindful of more activity

on our roads as school begins to wind down. Children will be out walking, riding bicycles and so much more. She thanked CAO, Chris McNeill, for his outstanding commitment to Annapolis County. She was grateful for his wisdom, dedication to detail and extensive understanding of municipal business. She wished everyone a wonderful summer.

District 6 – Councillor Welch attended the Federation of Canadian Municipalities conference. He noted many of the challenges faced in Annapolis County, such as housing, infrastructure renewal, and access to services are shared across rural Canada. Councillor Welch commented that he has been reconnecting with residents and spending time in some of our beautiful public spaces. He pointed out the beaches around the Annapolis Basin, particularly Cornwallis Park, Clementsport and Deep Brook are being enjoyed by both locals and visitors. He wished to see improvements to access and signage in these areas. Councillor Welch encouraged everyone to visit local farmers' markets. He noted that these markets are community hubs that support small producers and keep rural economies moving. He mentioned that he continues to work with community groups on various issues, from land use needs to accessibility concerns and ongoing infrastructure questions.

District 7 – Councillor Agombar extended greetings from District 7. He noted that it had been a busy month in Annapolis County. He commented on all the lush greenery. He participated in the flag raising ceremony at the sports hub hosted by the IDEA Advisory Committee to begin Accessibility Week. Councillor Agombar attended the FCM conference in Ottawa. He mentioned that James House had completed its main project to have all electrical systems upgraded. He noted that they were able to hold their AGM at the James House. Councillor Agombar mentioned attending the PAC meeting on June 16, 2025. He commented on the three track meets held at the Sports Hub in Bridgetown during the month of May. He noted the huge impact these events had on local businesses in Annapolis County. He stated that Eastlink was on site to showcase Bridgetown and area. Lots of positive comments were received. He noted that the hub has seen a variety of new activities this spring, such as flag football and lacrosse. He mentioned that Jenna Martin Evans would be offering free clinics for young athletes on July 20, 2025. He noted that they are working on a solution for more storage at the hub.

District 8 – Councillor Harding extended greetings from District 8. He noted that the start of the summer season is a busy time. He commented that he is pleased that the weather has started to turn favorable. He encouraged everyone to get outdoors when they are able. Councillor Harding attended a tour of the Bear River Health Clinic. He noted that the board of directors were incredibly dedicated and had created a space for practitioners of all types. He also attended both Boundary Review Meetings in District 8. He commented that the information was well presented and received by the public. He thanked the CAO and staff for making these meetings possible. He felt the members of the public were able to make an informed decision. He noted that school will soon be out for the summer. He encouraged everyone to keep an eye out for the children. Councillor Harding offered a thank you to CAO, Chris McNeill for all he has done.

District 9 – Councillor Oxner extended greetings from District 9. She noted that Nictaux and surrounding areas have been busy with various clean up projects. She commented that there have been some challenges with the playground in the Lorcon subdivision being vandalized. Councillor Oxner reminded

everyone that the food banks are always in need of support. She stated that the community halls are busy with fundraising events. She encouraged residents to get out and enjoy the activities in Annapolis County. She offered a thank you to the CAO.

District 10 – Councillor Connell extended greetings from District 10. He attended the Village of Lawrencetown AGM where financial statements were presented. He stated that the museum would be opening their doors during the farm markets held at the exhibition grounds. Councillor Connell noted the annual strawberry supper would be held on June 21, 2025, at the Inglisville Community Hall. He stated the plaquing ceremony would be held on June 25, 2025, at the Whitman Cemetery. Councillor Connell encouraged everyone to get out and attend the many events happening at the exhibition grounds in Lawrencetown each weekend. These events include horse pulls, ox pulls and light horse events. He commented that Springfield Fire Hall would be holding a breakfast on June 28, 2025. He noted that the motorcycle enthusiasts might be interested in knowing that the devil’s half acre is taking place this coming weekend. Councillor Connell thanked CAO, Chris McNeill, for all his hard work. He wished him the best of luck in his next role.

District 11 – Warden LeBlanc stated that the Three River Community Center are holding karate sessions and Zumba classes on Thursdays and Saturdays. She encouraged everyone to check the Facebook page for events taking place at the center. Warden Le Blanc noted that June is an important month. Grade five students are excited to begin high school. Seniors are excited for their high school journey to end and to begin new adventures. She congratulated all the Grads and their parents on the work well done. Warden Le Blanc thanked CAO, Chris McNeill. She expressed the pleasure it was to be able to work with him. She wished him all the best.

In-Camera (1:42 p.m.)

To meet in-camera in accordance with Section 22(2)(e) contract negotiations of the *Municipal Government Act* and Section 22(2)(f) litigation or potential litigation of the *Municipal Government Act*.

Moved: Councillor Oxner

Seconded: Councillor Welch

Motion carried

The meeting resumed at 2:05 p.m. will all councillors present as prior to the in-camera session.

Adjournment

The Warden declared the meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Warden

Recording Secretary, Administrative Clerk
Municipal Clerk Office