

2025-10-21 Municipal Council

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Minutes of the regular session of Municipal Council held on Tuesday, October 21, 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 Rob Frost; Deputy Clerk Kelly Kempton; Deputy CAO Dawn Campbell; Public Relations Officer Nadine McCormick; Manager of Information and Technology Ben Olsen; Director of Finance Paul Wills; and Director of Municipal Operations Jim Young

Disclosure of Interest

None

Order of the Day

Approved as circulated

Minutes

Re: 2025-09-09 Special Council Minutes (1:00 p.m.)

Approved, no errors or omissions

Re: 2025-09-09 Public Hearing #1 Minutes

Approved, no errors or omissions

Re: 2025-09-09 Public Hearing #2 Minutes

Approved, no errors or omissions

Re: 2025-09-09 Special Council Minutes (4:00 p.m.)

Approved, no errors or omissions

Re: 2025-09-12 Emergency Council Minutes

Approved, no errors or omissions

Re: 2025-09-16 Regular Council Minutes

Approved, no errors or omissions

Re: 2025-09-19 Emergency Council Minutes

Approved, no errors or omissions

Re: 2025-09-26 Emergency Council Minutes

Approved, no errors or omissions

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDATIONS

Re: SR2025-94 Guarantees for Valley Region Solid Waste – Resource Management Authority Capital Spending

Motion 251021.01 Guarantees for Valley Region Solid Waste – Resource Management Authority Capital Spending

To approve the Valley Region Solid Waste – Resource Management Authority Guarantee Resolution in the amount of \$307,328 to cover its guaranteed portion of 2025-2026 capital expenditures of \$1,465,000 for the Authority, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole

Moved: Councillor Parsons-Saltzman

Seconded: Councillor Harding

Motion carried

Re: SR2025-98 Amend S2 Building Bylaw

Motion 251021.02 Amend S2 Building Bylaw

To give first reading to amend *S2 Building Bylaw*, in accordance with the recommendation of Committee of the Whole

Moved: Councillor Longmire

Seconded: Councillor Oxner

To amend the *S2 Building Bylaw* to include development fees.

*“NOTE: Notwithstanding the above, all permit, **development** and administrative fees shall be waived for rebuilding after a property has been destroyed by wildfire, hurricane, flood, storm or other natural disaster.”*

Moved: Councillor Agombar

Seconded: Councillor Cranton

Motion carried

The question was called on the original motion

Motion carried

Re: SR2025-99 Payout of Overtime related to Wildfire Response

Motion 251021.03 Payout of Overtime related to Wildfire Response

To approve the payout of overtime for Management related to the West Dalhousie Wildfire as described in the In-Camera Request for Decision dated October 14, 2025, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole

Moved: Deputy Warden Enslow

Seconded: Councillor

Motion carried

NOMINATING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Re: Citizen Appointments to Committees

Motion 251021.04 Citizen Appointments to Committees

To approve the appointment of Russell Floren to the Marketing Levy Ad Hoc Committee effective immediately for a one-year term, pursuant to the recommendation of the Nominating Committee.

Moved: Councillor Cranton

Seconded: Councillor Harding

Motion carried

Re: Citizen Appointments to Committees

Motion 251021.05 Citizen Appointments to Committees

To approve the appointment of Alexa Main to the Marketing Levy Ad Hoc Committee effective immediately for a one-year term, in accordance with the recommendation of the Nominating Committee.

Moved: Councillor Harding

Seconded: Councillor Welch

Motion carried

Re: Citizen Appointments to Committees

Motion 251021.06 Citizen Appointments to Committees

To approve the appointment of Patricia Lee to the Marketing Levy Ad Hoc Committee effective immediately for a one-year term, pursuant to the recommendation of the Nominating Committee.

Moved: Councillor Oxner

Seconded: Councillor Parsons-Saltzman

Motion carried

Re: Consideration for Reappointment of the Audit Committee

Motion 251021.07 Consideration for Reappointment of the Audit Committee

To reappoint Deputy Warden Enslow, Councillor Cranton, and Councillor Oxner to the Audit Committee for a one-year term ending October 31, 2026, in accordance with the recommendation of the Nominating Committee.

Moved: Councillor Parsons-Saltzman

Seconded: Councillor Longmire

Motion carried

Re: Consideration for Reappointment of the Audit Committee

Motion 251021.08 Consideration for Reappointment of the Audit Committee

To reappoint citizen member Melony Robinson to the Audit Committee for a one-year term ending October 31, 2026, pursuant to the recommendation of the Nominating Committee.

Moved: Councillor Cranton

Seconded: Councillor Longmire

Motion carried

New Business

Council Motion Tracking List (June, July, September)

Reviewed for information

Councillor Comments

District 1 – Councillor Parsons-Saltzman extended greetings from District 1. She expressed how great it was to see some moisture and for the trails to be reopened. Councillor Parsons-Saltzman mentioned that the Melvern Square Community Center is busy with the following activities:

- Precision Dance Company
- Tops
- Yoga with Fionna – Tuesday and Friday mornings
- True Leverage Alliance Jiu-Jitsu

She noted that the Community Center also offers rentals for birthday parties, meetings, showers and lots more. She encouraged everyone to check out the Facebook page for the Center. Councillor Parsons-Saltzman spoke about the community pantry on Stronach Mountain Road. Residents are asked to leave what you can and take what you need.

District 2 – Councillor Hare expressed excitement for the reopening of the trails. He stated that the month breakfast at the Port George Hall is held the first Sunday of each month. He also noted that jam sessions are held each Monday evening.

District 3 – Deputy Warden Enslow engaged with residents and community groups over the past several weeks. He noted that several ongoing infrastructure concerns remain a priority. He mentioned following up with public works where drainage issues are causing periodic washouts and flooding. He appreciated staff's responsiveness in these matters. Deputy Warden Enslow wished to highlight the strong community involvement across Bridgetown and surrounding villages. He stated that the Sports Hall of Fame annual dinner would be held on October 25, 2025. He commented on the recent vandalism at the Sports Hub. He was saddened by the broken windows, stealing of equipment and playing golf on the turf. He expressed that some residents are still working through the impacts of last month's wildfire. He thanked everyone for their continued assistance. Deputy Warden Enslow stated that the Bridgetown library, local schools and community venues host a wide range of fall programs, from youth activities to senior gatherings. He noted these events strengthen community connections. He encouraged residents to reach out with concerns and suggestions.

District 4 – Councillor Cranton extended greetings from District 4. He noted that his first year as a councillor has flown by. He attended several events in his district this past month. He commented that the Tupperville Harvest Dinner has a highlight. He mentioned the history of this dinner being over 70 years old having started with dinner on a resident's front lawn. Councillor Cranton noted it was great news that the wildfire is considered under control. He mentioned the volunteers who helped in both Bridgetown and Cornwallis during the wildfire. Councillor Cranton mentioned that many halls would be closing for the winter. He encouraged everyone to get out and support the halls with the final events of the season. He noted the pancake breakfast at the Moschelle Hall on October 25, 2025. He will be posting

on Facebook when his next “Coffee with your Councillor” will take place. Councillor Cranton thanked staff for the quick response to opening the trails in Annapolis County when the woods ban was lifted. He encouraged everyone to take advantage but to also use caution. He gave a cheer for the Blue Jays.

District 5 – Councillor Longmire extended greetings from District 5. She attended many wonderful community events over the past month. Councillor Longmire mentioned the following upcoming events for district 5:

Young’s Cove Community Hall

- Monday Morning Coffee and Sweet Treat at 10:00 am
- Yoga Tuesdays at 10:30 am
- Bone Health 101 November 5, 2025, at 1:00 pm
- Friday Night Jams at 7:00 pm. The last Friday of the month begins with a potluck at 5:30 pm
- Craft Workshop October 22, 2025, at 6:00 pm

The New Horizons Hall

- Monday Night Jam Sessions at 7:00 pm
- Bake Sale and Hotdogs on the Grill November 22, 2025
- Christmas Show December 6, 2025

Lower Granville Hall

- Friday Morning Coffee and Sweet Treat at 10:00 am
- Yoga will be returning soon
- Holiday Market November 15, 2025, at 9:00 am
- Indoor Fitness Walking Monday and Thursdays at 10:00 am
- Mixed-Ability Tai Chi Classes Sundays November 2 – December 21, 2025, at 5:00 pm

She mentioned Belle’s Blessing Pantry located in Parker’s Cove is very busy. She commented that Delaps Cove celebrated its 40th anniversary at the Wilderness Trail Parking Lot. She stated that no trail could be walked on the day of the event. Councillor Longmire felt fortunate to be able to attend the Harvester breakfast at the Bear River reservation this morning. Councillor Longmire expressed her thankfulness for having the parks and trails open. She encouraged everyone to enjoy the vibrant autumn colours across our communities. She noted the importance of wearing hunters’ orange this time of year.

District 6 – Councillor Welch thanked residents for reaching out with questions, ideas and concerns. He hoped to get back to attending community breakfasts. He encouraged everyone to support the upcoming craft shows and seasonal events. Councillor Welch expressed his happiness with having the woods ban lifted. He spoke about the challenges of dry wells and limited access to potable water. He mentioned that now is a good time to start thinking about winter preparation. He attended the Kings Theatre golf tournament with his son. He noted he was able to enjoy a few days in Cape Breton with family and friends. Councillor Welch looked forward to continuing working collaboratively with his fellow council members in the months ahead.

District 7 – Councillor Agombar extended greetings from District 7. He thanked everyone that went above and beyond to fight the devastating fire on behalf of the community of West Dalhousie. He noted that the fire is under control and that he knew the community would pull together to restore and rebuild. Councillor Agombar referred to September as “Getting Back to it Month”. He gave a shout out to the Centrelea Community Hall for the grand opening of their now official comfort station. He thanked the Bridgetown Curling Club and the Bridgetown Legion for making their spaces available during the West

Dalhousie evacuation. Councillor Agombar mentioned that the Sports Hub has added a second modified shipping container for maintenance equipment. He noted that the annual fall clean up at the Hub is scheduled for October 25, 2025, and volunteers are needed. He expressed happiness that the Arena is now operational and ready for the 2025-2026 season. He stated that Bridgetown pickleball has moved in doors at the school for the winter. They have games each Wednesday and Friday from 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. He commented that the Annual Bridgetown & Area Sports Hall of Fame Induction will be held on Saturday, October 25, 2025, beginning at 5:00 p.m. with a meet and greet. He encouraged residents to check out the survey be circulated regarding revitalizing the natural playground at Jubilee Park.

District 8 – Councillor Harding extended greetings from District 8. He noted the arrival of fall. He mentioned receiving some much-needed rain and hoped for more. Councillor Harding expressed the need to be extra cautious while driving on Halloween evening. He attended the Bear River Firehall monthly breakfast and the fall fair at CES. Councillor Harding encouraged everyone to attend a Remembrance Day service on November 11. He mentioned that he held a second “Coffee with your Councillor” at the Milford Hall. He noted that REMO Coordinator Brian Orde joined him for this session. He hoped that the next session will be held in the spring at the Foresters Hall in Clementsvale. Councillor Harding extended his gratitude to everyone involved in the wildfire. He noted that the community response was remarkable.

District 9 – Councillor Oxner extended greetings from District 9. She again thanked everyone involved with the wildfires. She realized the recovery stage will take a long period of time; and looked to see involvement and support from the community. Councillor Oxner noted that the East End Secondary Planning Strategy is back on track. She mentioned that the Advisory Committee has met twice and received valuable input from residents at the public meetings that were recently held. Councillor Oxner encouraged everyone to support local businesses and groups.

District 10 – Councillor Connell extended greetings from District 10. He expressed his gratitude to staff for opening trails as quickly as possible. He noted the trails support all local businesses along them. He mentioned that Angie’s Restaurant had support from 75 ATVs on Saturday. Councillor Connell stated that hunters are happy the woods are now open. He mentioned that he has received pictures from happy residents due to the streetlights on Camelhill Road. Councillor Connell stated that the Village of Lawrencetown is working on the addition to the medical center. He commented that both a new doctor and nurse practitioner are scheduled to start in the new year. He expressed that the Village is also busy repairing the washed out section of the 201. Councillor Connell applauded everyone who has been helping with the cleaning up of the wildfire. He stated that the difference is noticeable. He knows that volunteers are still fundraising. He expressed his happiness with receiving some rain as residents are dealing with dry wells.

District 11 – Warden LeBlanc thanked the councillors for reporting on all the pieces of the puzzle that create our great county. She mentioned the following events taking place at the Three Rivers Community Centre:

- Games Night on the 3rd Saturday of each month from October – April
- Chair Yoga
- Turkey supper on Thursday. Preorders are required.

She encouraged everyone to check out the events on the Centre’s Facebook page. She mentioned that the reopening of the trails is good for both physical and mental wellbeing. She stated that October 31 is

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time for fun but remember to be safe. She reminded everyone that the next COTW would be held on Monday, November 10, 2025.

CAO Rob Frost reminded councillors that the Municipal Boundary Review hearing is scheduled for Monday, October 27, 2025, at 10:30 a.m.

Adjournment

The Warden declared the meeting adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

Warden

Recording Secretary, Deputy Clerk