

2026-01-20 Municipal Council

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Minutes of the regular session of Municipal Council held on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, 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, absent
- 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; Director of Planning and Inspection Services Linda Bent; Strategic Initiatives Coordinator Alyssa Blais; Manager of Recreation Kaesy Gladwin; Administrative Clerk – Corporate Services Tina Halliday; Deputy CAO Sarah Kucharski; Public Relations Officer Nadine McCormick; Manager of Information and Technology Ben Olsen; and Director of Community Development Debra Ryan

Disclosure of Interest

None

Order of the Day

Approved as circulated

Minutes

Re: 2025-12-16 Regular Council Minutes

Approved, no errors or omissions

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDATIONS

Re: SR2026-01 Amend Policy 120 Code of Conduct for Elected Officials

Motion 260120.01 Amend Policy 120 Code of Conduct for Elected Officials

To amend *Policy 120 Code of Conduct for Elected Officials* as circulated, seven-day notice given on January 13, 2026.

Moved: Councillor Welch

Seconded: Councillor Oxner

Motion carried

Re: SR2026-02 Amend Policy 114 Council Renumeration

Motion 260120.02 Amend Policy 114 Council Renumeration

To amend *Policy 114 Council Renumeration* as circulated, seven-day notice given on January 13, 2026.

Moved: Councillor Longmire

Seconded: Councillor Hare

Motion carried

Re: SR2026-03 Amend Policy 135 Fees

Motion 260120.03 Amend Policy 135 Fees

To amend *Policy 135 Fees* as circulated, seven-day notice given on January 13, 2026.

Moved: Councillor Oxner

Seconded: Councillor Cranton

Motion carried

Re: SR2026-04 West Dalhousie Wildfire After Action Report

Motion 260120.04 West Dalhousie Wildfire After Action Report

To receive the West Dalhousie Wildfire After Action Report as information, in accordance with the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Agombar

Seconded: Deputy Warden Enslow

Motion carried

Re: SR2026-06 Approve Bylaw 11 Building

Motion 260120.05 Approve Bylaw 11 Building

To give first reading to approve *Bylaw 11 Building*, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Hare

Seconded: Councillor Harding

Motion carried

Re: SR2026-08 BCRA Funding Request

Motion 260120.06 BCRA Funding Request

To authorize the procurement of a new Ice Resurfacer with funds from the Max Young Fund, in accordance with the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Deputy Warden Enslow

Seconded: Councillor Agombar

Motion carried

Re: SR2026-09 Annapolis County Joint Accessibility Plan 2026-2028

Motion 260120.07 Annapolis County Joint Accessibility Plan 2026-2028

To approve the Annapolis County Joint Accessibility Plan 2026-2028 and submit to the NS Accessibility Directorate as the approved plan to guide actions over the next 3 years, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Longmire

Seconded: Councillor Oxner

Motion carried

Re: SR2026-10 Approval of the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Plan

Motion 260120.08 Approval of the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Plan

To approve the 2026-2029 Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Plan as amended to include all equity deserving communities or groups in portions of the documents as discussed by Council, in accordance with the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Longmire

Seconded: Councillor Welch

Motion carried

Re: SR2026-11 Adoption of the Communications Strategy

Motion 260120.09 Adoption of the Communications Strategy

To approve the Municipality of the County of Annapolis Communications Strategy 2026-28, as presented, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Deputy Warden Enslow

Seconded: Councillor Cranton

Motion carried

New Business

Re: 2026-01-12 PAC Recommendation

Motion 260120.10 2026-01-12 PAC Recommendation

To give first reading of the proposed East End Area Secondary Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw and to set a public hearing date of February 17, 2026, at 11:00 am at the Municipal Administration Building.

Moved: Councillor Longmire

Seconded: Councillor Welch

Motion carried

Re: 2026-01-13 Nominating Committee Recommendation

Motion 260120.11 Nominating Committee Recommendation

To approve the appointment of John Smith to the Source Water Protection Advisory Committee effective immediately for a term ending October 31, 2026, pursuant to the recommendation of the Nominating Committee.

Moved: Deputy Warden Enslow

Seconded: Councillor Oxner

Motion carried

Council Motion Tracking List (October, November, December)

Reviewed for information

Councillor Comments

District 1 – Councillor Parsons-Saltzman sent her regrets.

District 2 – Councillor Hare extended greetings from District 2. He reminded residents that the Brickton Community Hall jam session is held every Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. Councillor Hare mentioned that on January 25, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. the Hometown Maker’s Market will be held at the

Brickton Community Hall. He noted that Annapolis County Recreation will be set up with outdoor activities. He stated that the Port George Recreation Center is planning on hosting the 38th County Jamboree this summer after a couple year hiatus.

District 3 – Deputy Warden Enslow wished everyone a Happy New Year. He looked forward to another year of hard-working council sessions. Deputy Warden encouraged residents to check the Community Event Guide for the many upcoming events happening within the County. He reminded residents to submit their events to the Guide for the upcoming year by the February 15, 2026, deadline. Deputy Warden highlighted the Bridgetown Walk which takes place every Wednesday at 10:00 a.m., leaving from the Bridgetown library. He mentioned the pub night held on the last Friday of each month at the Legion. He noted that the Big Lion’s Breakfast is held on the first Saturday of each month from 8:00 – 10:00 a.m. at the Bridgetown Legion.

District 4 – Councillor Cranton extended greetings from District 4. He reminded residents to be cautious on the winter roads and to be prepared for power outages. Councillor Cranton noted that property assessments have been mailed out. He mentioned that he has received a number of emails from residents. Councillor Cranton stated that the Round Hill Community Hall will be hosting a chilli cookoff on January 24, 2026. He also noted that the Granville Ferry Community Hall will be holding a community potluck on February 1, 2026. He encouraged everyone to check out the website for the times of their weekly fitness classes. Councillor Cranton mentioned that the County Recreation Department holds a number of winter activities and encouraged residents to watch the County social pages for these events.

District 5 – Councillor Longmire extended greetings from District 5. She welcomed everyone to 2026. Councillor Longmire shared the following upcoming events happening throughout District 5:

- Lower Granville Hall
 - Coffee Friday from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
 - Parking Lot Bonfire on January 31 at 1:00 p.m.
 - Craft Nights on Mondays at 7:00 p.m.
 - Indoor Walking on Mondays and Thursday at 10:00 am
 - Yoga on Tuesdays and Thursdays with Floor Flow Yoga at 10:00 a.m., Chair Yoga at 11:00 a.m. and Standing Hatha Yoga at 12:15 p.m.
- Young’s Cove Community Hall
 - Coffee Mornings on Mondays at 10:00 a.m.
 - Jam Sessions on Fridays at 6:00 p.m.
- New Horizon Hall
 - Jam Nights on Mondays at 7:00 p.m.
- Belle’s Blessing Pantry located in Parker’s Cove welcome donations and encourage people to take what they need.

Councillor Longmire reminded residents to check the county website for additional recreation opportunities this winter. She encouraged everyone to use caution when on the roads as the weather can change quickly.

District 6 – Councillor Welch extended greetings from District 6. He acknowledged the ongoing work of County staff, first responders, volunteers, and residents who help keep our communities strong and functioning day to day. He reminded everyone that we do not always control the challenges that come our way, but we do control how we prepare and respond to these challenges. Councillor Welch noted that

Council will soon be entering the important budget season. He encouraged community groups and organizations to be thinking about their priorities as strong ideas supported by clear planning help Council assess opportunities and make the best use of limited resources. He encouraged Council to stay focused on the fundamentals: maintaining core services, investing wisely in infrastructure, and making sure our planning decisions reflect both current needs and long-term impacts. He commented that he is looking forward to a year of thoughtful discussion, respectful debate, and continued collaboration around the Council table and with the communities we serve.

District 7 – Councillor Agombar extended greetings from District 7. He wished everyone a prosperous and healthy new year. He noted that now that we are back to our day-to-day routines, Councillors are busy with daily communications, correspondence and committee work. Councillor Agombar looked forward to the work on the Bridgetown Secondary Plan reconvening this month. He noted that the Marketing Levy Ad Hoc Committee is now up and meeting to work with tourism stakeholders to bring more visitors to Annapolis County. Councillor Agombar mentioned that the Bridgetown Legion is the hub of the area, hosting lots of activities. He highlighted the open mic held on Thursday evenings from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

District 8 – Councillor Harding extended greetings from District 8. He hoped everyone had a good break over the holidays with time to enjoy family and friends. He expressed his gratitude for being back to a normal routine. Councillor Harding attended the New Year’s Day Levee at the Port Royal Branch 21 Legion in Annapolis Royal. He noted this event received a good turnout and thanked the volunteers for making this event possible. Councillor Harding attended a PAB training session. He mentioned that it was a very good opportunity to learn about forming strategic priorities and laying out a roadmap for municipalities like ours to work with our local RCMP detachments. He noted that the Marketing Levy Ad Hoc Committee has been meeting with important and productive discussions. Councillor Harding enjoyed the Bear River Fire Hall breakfast on Saturday, January 3, 2026, with his family. He noted the fire hall holds these breakfasts on the first Saturday of every month.

District 9 – Councillor Oxner extended greetings from District 9. She noted that the new year will become busier after a relatively quiet December. She encouraged residents to check on their neighbors, especially when we have winter weather. Councillor Oxner asked everyone to support the food banks if and when they could. She mentioned keeping our local merchants in mind as this is a quiet time for retail. Councillor Oxner noted that District 9 has no community halls, however there are many events at both the Nictaux Baptist Church and the firehall that are open for all residents to attend.

District 10 – Councillor Connell extended greetings from District 10. He attended the Lawrencetown Village meeting. He stated that the addition to the clinic is on schedule. A meeting is planned between the Village and the Province to discuss bringing on a third doctor with the clinic. Councillor Connell was present at the grand opening of the Port George Comfort Centre. Councillor Connell enjoyed the holiday luncheon held for Council and staff in December. He looked forward to the coming year.

District 11 – Warden LeBlanc noted that with the new year we are seeing the first signs of winter. She encouraged everyone to be safe and cautious when out on the wintery roads. Warden LeBlanc attended the grand opening of the Port George Comfort Centre. She mentioned that the Three Rivers Community Centre had their first painting session of the year; however, check their facebook page for other upcoming activities. She hoped for a great 2026.

Recess

A recess was called at 10:38 a.m. to hold the previously scheduled public hearing.

The meeting resumed at 11:11 a.m. with all councillors present as prior to the public hearing.

Order of the Day

To amend the order of the day by adding Deregistration of Municipal Heritage Property as 6.3 under New Business.

Moved: Councillor Harding

Seconded: Deputy Warden Enslow

Motion carried

Re: Deregistration of Municipal Heritage Property

Motion 260120.12 Deregistration of Municipal Heritage Property

To deregister the vacant lands (PID 05054275) once associated with the Reuben Potter property and remove it from the Annapolis County Municipal Registry of Heritage Properties and deposit a Notice of Deregistration in the Registry of Deeds.

Moved: Councillor Harding

Seconded: Councillor Oxner

Motion carried

Adjournment

The Warden declared the meeting adjourned at 11:13 a.m.

Warden

Recording Secretary, Deputy Clerk