

2026-02-17 Municipal Council

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Minutes of the regular session of Municipal Council held on Tuesday February 17, 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, 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; Director of Planning and Inspection Services Linda Bent; Director of Municipal Operations Paula Bromley; Administrative Clerk – Corporate Services Tina Halliday (Recording Secretary); Systems Network Coordinator Carter Hazel; Deputy CAO Sarah Kucharski; and Director of Community Development Debra Ryan

Disclosure of Interest

None

Order of the Day

Approved as circulated

Minutes

Re: 2026-01-20 Regular Council Minutes

Approved, no errors or omissions

Re: 2026-01-20 Public Hearing Minutes

Approved, no errors or omissions

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDATIONS

Re: SR2026-13 Appointment of David Wright

Motion 260217.01 Appointment of David Wright

To appoint David Wright as Building Official and Fire Inspector for the Municipality of the County of Annapolis, in accordance with the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Welch

Seconded: Councillor Harding

Motion carried

Re: SR2026-14 Amend Policy 135 Fees

Motion 260217.02 Amend Policy 135 Fees

To amend Policy 135 Fees as circulated, seven-day notice given on February 10, 2026.

Moved: Councillor Oxner

Seconded: Councillor Welch

Motion carried

Re: SR2026-15 Temporary Borrowing Refinancing Resolution

Motion 260217.03 Temporary Borrowing Refinancing Resolution

To authorize the submission of a temporary borrowing refinancing resolution (TBR) to the Minister in the amount of up to \$325,000 for water capital refinancing, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Parsons-Saltzman

Seconded: Councillor Agombar

Motion carried

Re: SR2026-17 MOA – Annapolis REMO & Kings Transit

Motion 260217.04 MOA – Annapolis REMO & Kings Transit

To approve the Memorandum of Agreement between Kings Transit Authority and the Annapolis Regional Emergency Management Organization (Annapolis REMO), as recommended by the Annapolis REMO Advisory Committee, in accordance with the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Longmire

Seconded: Councillor Agombar

Motion carried

Re: SR2026-18 Funding for Tidal Transit Authority

Motion 260217.05 Funding for Tidal Transit Authority

To direct the Warden to support the Tidal Transit Authority budget at the upcoming Intermunicipal Services Board meeting, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Cranton

Seconded: Councillor Parsons-Saltzman

Motion carried

Re: SR2026-19 Funding for Valley Waste Authority

Motion 260217.06 Funding for Valley Waste Authority

To receive the Valley Waste budget approval as information, in accordance with the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Harding

Seconded: Councillor Cranton

Motion carried

Re: SR2026-22 Revised Munro Lake Land Acquisition

Motion 260217.07 Revised Munro Lake Land Acquisition

To rescind the motion made at the December 16, 2025, Council Meeting “To approve the donation of property located at Munroe Lake, Annapolis County as a future public park and access to the lake; contingent on the ability to create two approved lots located north and south of the donated property.”, in accordance with the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Harding

Seconded: Councillor Welch

Motion carried

Re: SR2026-22 Revised Munro Lake Land Acquisition

Motion 260217.08 Revised Munro Lake Land Acquisition

To approve the donation of property located at Munroe Lake, Annapolis County as a future public park and access to the lake as described within the request for decision, in accordance with the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Harding

Seconded: Councillor Parsons-Saltzman

Motion carried

Re: SR2026-20 Funding for Annapolis Valley Regional Library (AVRL)

Motion 260217.09 Funding for Annapolis Valley Regional Library (AVRL)

To provide a one-time bridge payment of \$16,991 for the Annapolis Valley Regional Library for the 2026-2027 fiscal year to the total amount of \$147,691, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Parsons-Saltzman

Seconded: Deputy Warden Enslow

Motion carried

Re: SR2026-21 Shared Economic Development Position

Motion 260217.10 Shared Economic Development Position

To approve the development of an inter-municipal service agreement with the Towns of Annapolis Royal and Middleton, for the provision of a shared Economic Development Officer, as presented, pending budget approval, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Welch

Seconded: Councillor Longmire

Motion carried

New Business

Re: SR2026-23 Bylaw 11 Building – final reading

Motion 260217.11 Bylaw 11 Building – final reading

To give final reading to Bylaw 11 Building, final reading having been given on January 20, 2026.

Moved: Deputy Warden Enslow

Seconded: Councillor Oxner
Motion carried

Council Motion Tracking List (November, December, January)

Reviewed for information

Councillor Comments

District 1 – Councillor Parsons-Saltzman extended greetings from District 1. She was encouraged to see the sunshine and for longer days. She mentioned the Wilmot Neighbor Water Committee meets the first Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. with a guest speaker present. Councillor Parsons-Saltzman noted that the community pantry is located at 377 Stronach Mountain Road. She encouraged everyone to leave what they can and take what you need. She stated that the Frugal Moms Committee is currently hosting a raffle box 50/50 to help pay for their storage container.

District 2 – Councillor Hare extended greetings from District 2. He mentioned that the Port George Hall holds Jam sessions each Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. He noted that jam sessions are held on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. at the Brickton Community Hall. He encouraged everyone to get their summer recreation vehicles serviced as he can see the end of winter is near. He looked forward to the summer season.

District 3 – Deputy Warden Enslow was happy to see the sunshine the past couple of days. He realized that spring is approaching. We mentioned that Council will have a couple of busy weeks with the upcoming budget season. He encouraged residents to reach out to their Councillor with suggestions and support. Deputy Warden Enslow mentioned the month Lions Big Breakfast is held the first Saturday of each month at the Bridgetown Legion. He stated that the Legion is the Hub of the community and hosts many events such as jam sessions and pub nights. Deputy Warden Enslow noted that work has started on the ACOSS track in preparation for use.

District 4 – Councillor Cranton extended greetings from District 4. He mentioned that he has been busy with inquiries on snow removal and sorting out which roadways are municipal, provincial or private. Councillor Cranton looked forward to spring but noted that winter is over yet. He asked residents to stay prepared. He encouraged everyone to check out the winter activities listed on the County facebook page and to take advantage of borrowing equipment that is loanable such as snowshoes. Councillor Cranton asked residents to check the Granville Ferry Hall website for upcoming events. He mentioned checking out the Round Hill calendar for their upcoming activities as well.

District 5 – Councillor Longmire extended greetings from District 5. She was proud to share the following opportunities that bring people together.

- Parkrun takes place every Saturday morning at 9:00 a.m. at St. Patrick's Lane in Annapolis Royal. She noted it's a welcoming 5k event – walk, jog, run, volunteer or simply cheer others on. It is about connection just as much as movement and a wonderful way to stay active while meeting neighbors and friends.

- Lower Granville Fall is full of activity – indoor walking, yoga options, community coffee, crafts and special gatherings. She encouraged everyone to reach out to the organizers before heading out if the forecast looks uncertain.
- Young’s Cove Community Hall – coffee is on every Monday morning at 10:00 a.m. Friday evenings bring lively music jams with a potluck supper on the last Friday of each month. She mentioned that it is a wonderful space to gather, listen, play and connect.

Councillor Longmire commented that these halls and events are the heartbeat of our rural communities – built on volunteers, participation and shared spirit. She recognized African Heritage Month and Heritage Day as a time to honour the history, culture and contributions of African Nova Scotians and to reflect on the diverse heritage that strengthens our Province and our County. She hoped to see people out and about at events.

District 6 – Councillor Welch extended greetings from District 6. He noted the past month has been full and meaningful. He had the opportunity to spend time exploring the County Community Forest in Graywood on snowshoes and looked forward to visiting in the coming seasons as the landscape changes. He mentioned that our local trail systems continue to see strong seasonal use. He noted Upper Clements Trails have been particularly well enjoyed this winter, with excellent conditions for walking and snowshoeing. Councillor Welch has met with several community groups to discuss local growth plans, emerging priorities and ongoing concerns. He was encouraged to see many events happening across the district, such as community breakfasts, winter activities and volunteer led gatherings. He thanked the many volunteers who keep our halls, rinks and organizations active. He noted that the heart of budget season is approaching and is one of the most important and demanding times of the year.

District 7 – Councillor Agombar extended greetings from District 7. He stated that it had been a real wintery month, but we are getting closer to spring. He mentioned the following events:

- Bridgetown Legion
 - Sundays from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. - fun darts
 - Mondays at 1:00 p.m. – chair yoga for seniors and those with limited ability
 - Tuesday from 10:00-11:00 a.m. – senior exercise class
 - Wednesday from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. – fun cribbage
 - Thursday from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. – open mic
 - First Saturday of each month – Lions Club Big Breakfast
- Centerlea Community Hall
 - Fridays at 10:00 a.m. – Tai Chi
- Bridgetown Pickleball every Wednesday and Friday from 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. held at the BRCS
- Paradise Community Hall
 - First and Third Thursday of each month – Craft & Chat sessions from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Councillor Agombar mentioned that the St. James Anglican Church is having their annual Pancake Super from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. today as it is Shrove Tuesday. He commented that the Bridgetown Food Bank is looking for volunteers to join their Board of Directors. He stated that the West Dalhousie Community Hall will be hosting brunch on February 22, 2026, for the community and the firefighters who helped during the wildfires.

District 8 – Councillor Harding extended greetings from District 8. He mentioned that February has been a busy month with spending time with family and shoveling. He noted the multitude of issues with the district with garbage collections and snow removal due to the multiple large storms that have passed through the area. Councillor Harding looked forward to the upcoming budget discussions. He was confident that they would be able to stay on track for fiscal stability and funding important projects. He took a moment to recognize the tragedy that took place in Tumbler Ridge, B.C. He encouraged everyone to take the time to check in on friends, family and neighbors. He stated that mental health is so important and we should look out for each other. Councillor Harding looked forward to spring.

District 9 – Councillor Oxner extended greetings from District 9. She noted that we have made it through the worst of the winter and the days are getting longer. She mentioned that District 9 was quiet during the month of January. Councillor Oxner noted that Council has been busy with planning, with the East End Public meeting scheduled for today. She commented that budget season is here and she was confident that Council would come up with the best possible budget. She noted that it is grant season. She offered her assistance to anyone in need and plans to be back at the Satellite office in Middleton on the last Thursday mornings from 10:00 – 12:00 of each month beginning February 26, 2026.

District 10 – Councillor Connell extended greetings from District 10. He noted that the new doctor is scheduled to start on February 23, 2026, in the Village of Lawrencetown. He mentioned that the Village would be sprucing up their signage. Councillor Connell stated that the Village no longer has to report water qualities or anything to environment unless requested. He noted that the Village rate will stay the same. Councillor Connell commented that the Lawrencetown Legion is busy with events such as darts and senior health programs. The Lawrencetown rink is open and looking at hosting three tournaments as 30 teams have requested to play. Councillor Connell was not looking for winter to pass too quickly. He noted that snowmobiling has been phenomenal this season. He stated that with lots of ice this year, ice fishing is back on par. Councillor Connell noted that the maintenance on the trails has been excellent this year.

District 11 – Warden LeBlanc hoped everyone had a great weekend and enjoyed Heritage Day. She has been enjoying the Olympics; specifically, the speed skating. Warden Le Blanc asked residents to check the Three Rivers Community Centre Facebook page for upcoming events. She stated that there are many community halls doing many different events; so, residents of Annapolis County can always find something to attend if they wish. Warden Le Blanc noted the great attendance at the Wilmot Community Centre's jam sessions.

Recess

A recess was called at 10:39 a.m. to hold the previously scheduled public hearing.

The meeting resumed at 11:31 a.m. with all councillors present as prior to the public hearing.

Public Hearing

Re: Second Reading – East End Area Secondary Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw

Motion 260217.12 East End Area Secondary Planning and Land Use Bylaw

That pursuant to the first reading given on January 20, 2026, in accordance with the recommendation for approval from the Planning Advisory Committee and after holding a Public Hearing thereon, Municipal Council give second and final reading to consider their intention to adopt the proposed East End Planning Area Land Use Bylaw, Secondary Planning Strategy documents and Maps attached as Appendices A, B and C of the report dated February 17, 2026.

Moved: Deputy Warden Enslow

Seconded: Councillor Hare

To rezone the property located at 8979 Highway 201 (PID 05186515) from Institutional zone to Multi-Unit Residential zone. This will also change the Future Land Use Map designation from Public Use to Neighborhood designation.

Moved: Councillor Oxner

Seconded: Councillor Parsons-Saltzman

Motion carried

To add the Addiction & Rehabilitation Centre to the definition for Institutional Use.

Moved: Councillor Oxner

Seconded: Councillor Connell

Motion carried

To amend 5.4.4.8 on page 74 of draft LUB to remove words “up to 50% of the total lot area” to make it read “Larger industrial uses shall be considered by site plan approval.”

Moved: Councillor Hare

Seconded: Councillor Connell

Motion carried

To amend 4.3.1.5 on page 29 of draft SPS to remove words “up to 50% of the total lot area” to make it read “It is also the policy of Council to consider larger industrial uses by site plan approval.”

Moved: Councillor Hare

Seconded: Councillor Cranton

Motion carried

To amend 4.21.2 on page 42 of draft LUB to add after both mentions of meat birds “or rabbits,”

Moved: Councillor Hare

Seconded: Councillor Parsons-Saltzman

Motion carried

To amend 4.21.1 on page 41 of draft LUB to add after meat birds “or rabbits,”

Moved: Councillor Hare

Seconded: Councillor Parsons-Saltzman

Motion carried

To add 5.4.4.9. to draft LUB "Property Subdivision in Rural Zones" to read "In the rural zone lots over 15 acres shall not be subdivided more than once every three years into no more than two lots."

Moved: Councillor Hare

Seconded: Councillor Cranton

Motion defeated

To place the entire property of PID 05025234 wholly in the R2 zone on the Land Use Bylaw zoning map.

Moved: Councillor Parsons-Saltzman

Seconded: Councillor Agombar

Motion carried

Deputy Warden Enslow took the position of the chair.

To remove R2 zone from PIDs 05180682, and 05180674 and change to R1 zone.

Moved: Warden Le Blanc

Seconded: Councillor Parsons-Saltzman

Motion carried

To remove R2 zone from PID 05026869 and change to R1 zone.

Moved: Warden Le Blanc

Seconded: Councillor Parsons-Saltzman

Motion defeated

Warden Le Blanc resumed the position of the chair.

Question was called on the original motion

That pursuant to the first reading given on January 20, 2026, in accordance with the recommendation for approval from the Planning Advisory Committee and after holding a Public Hearing thereon, Municipal Council give second and final reading to consider their intention to adopt the proposed East End Planning Area Land Use Bylaw, Secondary Planning Strategy documents and Maps attached as Appendices A, B and C as amended on February 17, 2026.

Moved: Deputy Warden Enslow

Seconded: Councillor Parsons-Saltzman

Motion carried

In-Camera (12:41 p.m.)

To meet in in-camera in accordance with Section 22(2)(c) personnel matters of the *Municipal Government Act*.

Moved: Councillor Oxner

Seconded: Councillor Parsons-Saltzman

Motion carried


Recess

The In-Camera session began at 1:47 p.m. following a recess for lunch.

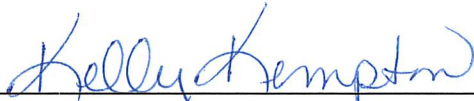
The meeting resumed at 2:30 p.m. with all councillors present as prior to the in-camera session.

Adjournment

The Warden declared the meeting adjourned at 2:31 p.m.



Warden



Recording Secretary, Deputy Clerk