

2026-03-17 Municipal Council

Summary of Motions

Motion 260317.01 Road Naming Process – Deep Brook2

Motion 260317.02 Road Naming Process – Albany New2

Motion 260317.03 Approve *Policy 105 Low Income Tax Exemption*2

Motion 260317.04 Guarantees for Valley Region Solid Waste.....2

Motion 260317.05 Administration Building Renovations Pre-Approval Form.....2

Motion 260317.06 Bridgetown Water Utility Refinancing Pre-Approval.....3

Motion 260317.07 *Policy 114 Council Remuneration*.....3

Motion 260317.08 Funding for Lawrencetown Medical Clinic3

Motion 260317.09 Trunks and Routes Paving Program3

Motion 260317.10 Lake Pleasant Boat Launch Upgrades Operating Funding.....3

Motion 260317.11 2026-02-19 Special COTW Recommendations4

Motion 260317.12 2026-02-19 Special COTW Recommendations4

Motion 260317.13 2026-02-19 Special COTW Recommendations4

Motion 260317.14 2026-02-19 Special COTW Recommendations4

Motion 260317.15 2026-03-09 PAC Recommendations4

Motion 260317.16 2026-03-09 PAC Recommendations5

Motion 260317.17 2026-03-09 PAC Recommendations5

Minutes of the regular session of Municipal Council held on Tuesday March 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; Deputy Clerk Kelly Kempton; Director of Planning and Inspection Services Linda Bent; Deputy CAO Sarah Kucharski; Public Relations Officer Nadine McCormick; Manger of Information Technology Ben Olsen; Director of Community Development Debra Ryan; and Director of Finance Paul Wills.

Disclosure of Interest

None

Order of the Day

Approved as circulated.

Minutes

Re: 2026-02-17 Regular Council Minutes

Approved, no errors or omissions.

Re: 2026-02-17 Public Hearing Minutes

Approved unanimously with one minor amendment.

Correspondence

Re: 2026-02-12 Letter of Support

Council received a copy of a letter sent to Premier Tim Houston from the Municipality of the County of Antigonish stating their support for concerns raised by the Antigonish Coalition to End Poverty (ACEP) regarding the need to increase social assistance and disability support rates in Nova Scotia.

Committee of the Whole Recommendations

Re: SR2026-24 Road Naming Process – Deep Brook

Motion 260317.01 Road Naming Process – Deep Brook

To approve the road name “Cliffside Way” for the shared access road in Deep Brook, on PID 05321302, in accordance with the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Oxner

Seconded: Councillor Welch

Motion carried

Re: SR2026-25 Road Naming Process – Albany New

Motion 260317.02 Road Naming Process – Albany New

To approve the road name “Trappers Lane” for the shared access road in Albany New, on PID 05310818, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Harding

Seconded: Councillor Cranton

Motion carried

Re: SR2026-26 Approve Policy 105 Low Income Tax Exemption

Motion 260317.03 Approve Policy 105 Low Income Tax Exemption

To approve *Policy 105 Low Income Tax Exemption* as circulated, seven-day notice given on March 10, 2026.

Moved: Deputy Warden Enslow

Seconded: Councillor Cranton

Motion carried

Re: SR2026-28 Guarantees for Valley Region Solid Waste

Motion 260317.04 Guarantees for Valley Region Solid Waste

To approve the Valley Solid Waste-Resource Management Authority Guarantee Resolution in the amount of \$89,961 to replace the guarantee for capital projects completed in 2025-2026 from the prior years budget that expired, in accordance with the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Welch

Seconded: Councillor Parsons-Saltzman

Motion carried

Re: SR2026-29 Administration Building Renovations Pre-Approval Form

Motion 260317.05 Administration Building Renovations Pre-Approval Form

To authorize the required pre-approval form for the administration building renovations to participate in the Finance and Treasury Board’s upcoming Spring Debenture offering, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Longmire

Seconded: Councillor Parsons-Saltzman

Motion carried

Re: SR2026-30 Bridgetown Water Utility Refinancing Pre-Approval

Motion 260317.06 Bridgetown Water Utility Refinancing Pre-Approval

To authorize the required pre-approval form for debenture MFC 31-A-1 for refinancing the upcoming balloon payment for the Bridgetown Water Utility to participate in the Finance and Treasury Board's upcoming Spring Debenture offering, in accordance with the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Deputy Warden Enslow

Seconded: Councillor Agombar

Motion carried

Re: SR2026-31 Policy 114 Council Remuneration

Motion 260317.07 Policy 114 Council Remuneration

To approve the amendments to the *Council Remuneration Policy (114)* as presented, seven-day notice given on March 10, 2026.

Moved: Councillor Parsons-Saltzman

Seconded: Councillor Welch

Motion carried

Re: SR2026-32 Funding for Lawrencetown Medical Clinic

Motion 260317.08 Funding for Lawrencetown Medical Clinic

To provide funding in the amount of \$4972 (+non-recoverable HST) to the Village of Lawrencetown for medical equipment to be used at the Lawrencetown Community Health Centre, to be funded from GL 8153 – Physician Recruitment, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Connell

Seconded: Councillor Oxner

Motion carried

Re: SR2026-34 Trunks and Routes Paving Program

Motion 260317.09 Trunks and Routes Paving Program

To submit municipal paving priorities containing a 0.6 km portion of Church Street and a 0.9 km portion of Granville Street for re-paving under the 5-year trunks and routes provincial re-paving program at an estimate cost of \$1,500,00, in accordance with the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Agombar

Seconded: Deputy Warden Enslow

Motion carried

Re: SR2026-36 Lake Pleasant Boat Launch Upgrades Operating Funding

Motion 260317.10 Lake Pleasant Boat Launch Upgrades Operating Funding

To move \$50,000 from the 2025-2026 Operating Budget (Account 9463 Park Strategic Initiatives) to the Operating Reserve to be used in 2026-2027, pursuant to the recommendation of Committee of the Whole.

Moved: Councillor Welch

Seconded: Councillor Connell

Motion carried

New Business

Re: 2026-02-19 Special COTW Recommendations

Motion 260317.11 2026-02-19 Special COTW Recommendations

To give direction to the CAO that during the 2026-2027 fiscal year that a study be performed that would review all current and potential area rates within Annapolis County and provide potential options for consideration.

Moved: Councillor Hare

Seconded: Deputy Warden Enslow

Motion carried

Re: 2026-02-19 Special COTW Recommendations

Motion 260317.12 2026-02-19 Special COTW Recommendations

To amend the capital budget for the Administrative Building Assessment project for the 2026-2027 budget to be funded by the operation reserve.

Moved: Councillor Cranton

Seconded: Councillor Harding

Motion carried

Re: 2026-02-19 Special COTW Recommendations

Motion 260317.13 2026-02-19 Special COTW Recommendations

To amend the Munro Lake amount in the capital budget to \$20,000.

Moved: Councillor Welch

Seconded: Councillor Harding

Motion carried

Re: 2026-02-19 Special COTW Recommendations

Motion 260317.14 2026-02-19 Special COTW Recommendations

To add an addition to the 2026-2027 capital budget for an upgrade to Shannon River Park in the amount of \$15,000 coming from the recreation reserve.

Moved: Councillor Parsons-Saltzman

Seconded: Councillor Connell

Motion carried

Re: 2026-03-09 PAC Recommendations

Motion 260317.15 2026-03-09 PAC Recommendations

That Municipal Council give first reading and set a public hearing date of April 21, 2026, to consider the amendment application that redesignates 148/150 South Street (PID 05145651) from Mixed Use to Residential and rezones it from Mixed Use (MX) to Multi-Unit Residential (R2), in accordance with the recommendation of the Planning Advisory Committee.

Moved: Councillor Longmire

Seconded: Councillor Agombar

Motion carried

Re: 2026-03-09 PAC Recommendations

Motion 260317.16 2026-03-09 PAC Recommendations

That Municipal Council give first reading and set a public hearing date of April 21, 2026, to consider an application submitted by the Bear River Volunteer Fire Department to amend the texts of the Cornwallis Park Secondary Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw to allow Public Use in the Light Industrial (IND) zone, pursuant to the recommendation of the Planning Advisory Committee.

Moved: Councillor Parsons-Saltzman

Seconded: Councillor Harding

Motion carried

Re: 2026-03-09 PAC Recommendations

Motion 260317.17 2026-03-09 PAC Recommendations

That Municipal Council give first reading of its intent to support amendments to the Future Land Use Map and Zoning Map of the Annapolis County Planning Area and set a public hearing date of April 21, 2026, in accordance with the recommendation of the Planning Advisory Committee.

Moved: Councillor Oxner

Seconded: Councillor Agombar

Motion carried

Council Motion Tracking List (December, January, February)

Reviewed for information

Councillor Comments

District 1 – Councillor Parsons-Saltzman extended greetings from District 1. She noted that as the weather improves roads will need maintenance. She encouraged residents to email dpw-occ@novascotia.ca with concerns. Councillor Parsons-Saltzman mentioned that the next Wilmot Neighborhood Watch meeting is scheduled for April 13, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. She commented that Melvern Square Community Center is hosting Adaptive Rotational Grazing for Productive Pastures on Saturday, March 21, 2026.

District 2 – Councillor Hare extended greetings from District 2. He stated that monthly breakfasts will be starting up again within the district. He noted that the Port George Rec Centre would be holding their breakfast on Sunday, April 12, 2026; and Margaretsville Fire Hall will be holding their breakfast on Saturday, April 4, 2026. Councillor Hare encouraged everyone to have a look at Evergreen's Theatre schedule. He looked forward to warm weather recreation.

District 3 – Deputy Warden Enslow stated that with seeing the signs of Spring comes the return of more community events, gatherings, and activities. He appreciated the winter activities the recreation staff hosted across the County. Deputy Warden Enslow encouraged residents to watch for the upcoming Annapolis County Community Guide. He noted that it is a great resource to see what is happening. He also noted that the Bridgetown Reader and the County's social media channel are excellent ways to stay informed. Deputy Warden Enslow recognized the special milestone for the 70th anniversary of the Bridgetown & Area Lions Club. He attended their celebration dinner as a guest speaker. Deputy Warden Enslow noted that March 15th marked the start of wildfire season in Nova Scotia. He encouraged everyone

to check the Nova Scotia Burn Safe website to confirm whether it is safe and permitted to burn. He acknowledged Staff Sergeant Mike Maxwell who will soon be moving on from his role with Annapolis District RCMP after nearly five years in a leadership position. He thanked the residents for continuing to reach out, share feedback and staying engaged.

District 4 – Councillor Cranton extended greetings from District 4. He expressed his heartfelt condolences to the families of the victims of the unfortunate event that happened on the Annapolis River last week. He thanked everyone involved in the search efforts. Councillor Cranton mentioned the upcoming music show to be held at the Round Hill Hall on Saturday, March 28, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. He noted there will be local artists, a 50/50 draw, door prize, bake sale and guitar raffle. He reminded residents to check the burn map before burning. Councillor Cranton stated that community grant applications will be received until April 1, 2026, and volunteer nominations until March 31, 2026.

District 5 – Councillor Longmire extended greetings from District 5. She highlighted the following events happening within District 5:

Lower Granville Hall

- Community Coffee is held on Fridays at 10:00 a.m.
- Tai Chi is held on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m.
- Indoor Walking & Fitness is held on Mondays & Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.
- Yoga with Dani is held on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11:15 a.m.
- Craft Nights are held on Mondays at 7:00 p.m.
- Book Club is held on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
- Plant & Seed Sale/Swap to be held on April 25 at 12:00 p.m.

She mentioned that the hall has a new AED safely housed in a heated outdoor cabinet and available for emergency use.

Youngs Cove Community Hall

- Community Coffee is held on Mondays at 10:00 a.m.
- Jam Sessions held Fridays at 7:00 p.m.
- Monthly Potluck & Jam is held the last Friday of each month at 5:30 p.m.
- AGM to be held on Wednesday, March 18, 2026.

She noted that the halls are welcoming spaces available to rent for special events. She mentioned that these spaces continue to bring people together and are a meaningful part of the strength and spirit of our communities.

Councillor Longmire encouraged residents to shop locally at:

- Bayside Farms
- Crow's Nest
- Belle's Blessings Pantry

Councillor Longmire stated that volunteer nominations are open until March 31, 2026. She noted that Annapolis County is incredibly fortunate to have so many individuals who give their time, energy, and compassion to support others.

District 6 – Councillor Welch extended greetings from District 6. He explained that it had been a busy month with concerns regarding the proposed forestry cutting around Mickey Hill and the proposed finfish farm lease expansion in the Annapolis Basin. He noted that both these concerns fall under provincial

jurisdiction, but he appreciated hearing from the residents. Councillor Welch attended the Nova Scotia Engagement Day Economic Prosperity Roundtable on March 12, 2026. He stated that one presentation focused on the expected growth of CFB Greenwood and what that could mean for housing, services, and businesses in the Annapolis Valley. He mentioned that there have been meetings and discussions with local fire departments regarding potential provincial changes that could affect fire services. He thanked the volunteer firefighters for their dedication. Councillor Welch recognized Carol Ann Sampson, who retired after 34 years as Bear River's Postmistress with Canada Post. He noted that as spring arrives many local community hubs will be ramping up activities and events. He encouraged everyone to keep an eye on what is happening in their local halls and community centers. Councillor Welch reminded residents to share the roads safely with cyclists and motorcyclists.

District 7 – Councillor Agombar extended greetings from District 7. He wished everyone best wishes for St. Patrick's Day. Councillor Agombar acknowledged the Bridgetown Lions Club 70th anniversary milestone. He noted that the Bridgetown Dog Park Association would be holding its AGM on Thursday, March 19, 2026. He invited everyone to join the Genealogy Circle at the Paradise Heritage Centre on Monday, March 30, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. Councillor Agombar stated that the 10th annual Bridgetown Hockey Memorial Cup Weekend is scheduled from Friday, March 20, 2026, through Sunday, March 22, 2026. He encouraged residents to attend this fast-paced, high level hockey event. He mentioned that on April 19, 2026, Centrelea Community Hall would be celebrating Earth Day. He noted that this annual event will be sponsored by SOOF.

District 8 – Councillor Harding extended greetings from District 8. He welcomed the first signs of spring and warmer weather. He reminded everyone that wildfire risk season began March 15th and will run until October 15th. He encouraged residents to check the burn restrictions before burning. Councillor Harding attended the Bear River Fire Department's monthly breakfast. He noted that they unveiled their new fire truck at breakfast. He thanked the local fire departments for attending recent fire services meetings to express their needs. Councillor Harding planned to attend a few meetings with various community groups in the coming weeks. He hoped he was safe to put his snowblower away for the season.


District 9 – Councillor Oxner extended greetings from District 9. She noted that the volunteer nominations close on March 31, 2026. She thanked everyone involved in the budget process. Councillor Oxner noted that the province has embarked on changes to Fire Services. She appreciated the feedback received from this important community group. She asked that with spring arriving, for residents to get involved with community events. She mentioned keeping an eye on County social media sites and the Bridgetown Reader for upcoming activities.


District 10 – Councillor Connell extended greetings from District 10. He wished everyone a Happy St. Paddy's Day. Councillor Connell noted that the Bridgetown Reader is a great resource for events happening within Annapolis County. He stated that he delivers copies each week to the store in Springfield. He mentioned that trails will get busier when the arrival of spring. He noted that it had been a great season for snowmobiling. Councillor Connell mentioned that he had been receiving calls from residents regarding policies and tax sale information.

District 11 – Warden Le Blanc wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick’s Day and a Happy March Break. She noted that the weather is getting better day by day and encouraged everyone to be vigilant of residents out and about enjoying the weather. Warden Le Blanc thanked all departments that worked together during the recent hardship on the Annapolis River. She expressed her condolences to the families and friends of the victims. Warden Le Blanc asked everyone to check the Facebook site of the Three Rivers Community Centre for upcoming events.

Adjournment

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


Warden


Recording Secretary, Deputy Clerk