

Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

Minutes of a Meeting of Municipal Council

Held in Council Chamber, 10 Allée Champlain Drive, Cookville, N.S.

Tuesday, October 28, 2025 – 9:00 a.m.

Attendance

Mayor Elspeth McLean-Wile

Deputy Mayor Chasidy Veinotte, District 10

Councillor Morgen Reinhardt, District 1

Councillor Martin Bell, District 2

Councillor Wendy Oickle, District 3

Councillor Pam Hubley, District 4

Councillor Cathy Moore, District 5

Councillor Alison Smith, District 6

Councillor Edgar Burns, District 7

Councillor Ben Brooks, District 9

Regrets

Councillor Kacy DeLong, District 8

Staff

Tom MacEwan, Chief Administrative Officer

Alex Dumaresq, Deputy CAO

April Whynot-Lohnes, Municipal Clerk

Tina Robichaud-Bond, Executive Assistant

1. Call to Order

Deputy Mayor Veinotte called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and began by acknowledging that the meeting was held in Mi'kma'ki, the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

2. Announcements/Acknowledgements/Recognition

2.1 Volunteer Firefighter 50 Year Service Awards

Mayor McLean-Wile introduced the following volunteer firefighters receiving a 50 Year Service award and provided a short bio on each member and thanked them for their service and commitment to protecting our communities:

- Doug Cross of the Pleasantville & District Fire Department;
- Curtis Spidle of the New Germany Volunteer Fire Department; and
- Pat Langille of the Bridgewater Fire Department.

Councillor Smith acknowledged the Southwest Biosphere Association for the Lake Short Health conference held to discuss issues around water health and biodiversity in the Atlantic coastal

plain. She also acknowledged the Western Woodlot Services Cooperative for the conference held regarding wildfire mitigation and prevention.

3. Public Input

Leitha Haysom, Crousetown, was in attendance for public input to provide concerns around two matters and asked that Council consider communicating these concerns at the upcoming NSFM conference:

- The ongoing water shortage.
- The Province's decision to no longer permit citizens to make formal complaints against elected officials.

Deputy Mayor Veinotte reported that the NSFM had submitted a request to the Province to provide more detail and clarity regarding the change in the complaint process.

Mayor McLean-Wile reported that she communicated with Kim Masland, Minister of Emergency Measures to explain the seriousness of the water issue and that a plan is required to help residents get through the winter months.

4. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Bell, seconded by Councillor Hubley that the Agenda be approved as circulated. Carried unanimously.

5. Approval of Minutes – October 14, 2025

The Minutes of the October 14, 2025 Council meeting were approved as circulated.

6. Business Arising from Minutes - Nil

7. Awarding of Tenders/RFPs

7.1 Award of Capital Project – Supply & Installation of Cubit Modular Vault Building

Maria Butts, Project Manager, reviewed the report titled "Award of Capital Project – Supply & Installation of Cubit Modular Vault Building at Indian Falls Park" (circulated with the agenda) providing details on the purchase and installation of modular building at Indian Falls Park.

2025-188 Moved by Councillor Smith, seconded by Mayor McLean-Wile that Municipal Council approve the use of alternate procurement, as per section 19 of Policy 033 Purchasing & Tendering, to purchase and install a modular building from Cubit in the amount of \$32,000 excluding HST, to be used as a double vault washroom at Indian Falls Park.

Ms. Butts clarified that the remaining funds budgeted for the project in the current fiscal year would cover the installation of an accessible picnic area with shaded shelters, accessible adjustments to existing trail network, and create trail connections to all park features. She

explained that there are other costs associated with the installation of the vault washroom, including the septic vaults.

It was requested that staff provide a final total of the costs associated with this project.

The Motion on the floor was voted and carried unanimously.

7.2 Award of Community Hub Fitup Tender

Dave Waters, Director of Economic Development, reviewed the report, "Community Hub Fitup" (circulated with the agenda), providing details on the Municipality's leased space in the Welltide Health building.

2025-189 Moved by Councillor Oickle, seconded by Councillor Burns that Municipal Council approve the use of alternate procurement, as per section 19.1.9 of Policy 033 Purchasing & Tendering, and accept the Fitup Tender issued by Welltide Health on August 8, 2025 for completion of the base café, kitchen, event space, boardroom, and main community hub common areas, and award it to RCS Construction Inc. in the amount of 1,365,500 excluding HST.

It was noted that financial commitment from Council was required in order to keep the project moving along without delays or additional charges.

Concerns were raised regarding:

- Moving forward without a confirmation of plans to the program area
- Potential additional costs associated with a delay

The Motion on the floor was voted on and carried unanimously.

8. Presentations/Scheduled Times - Nil

9. Consideration of Correspondence - Nil

10. Recommendations from Committees & Boards

10.1. Policy & Strategy Committee

10.1.1 Gender Based Violence Epidemic & Municipal Roles

A recommendation from the Policy & Strategy Committee along with a report titled, "Gender Based Violence Epidemic & Municipal Roles" was circulated with the agenda.

Alex Dumaresq gave a summary of the report and the need for changes and support systems for those affected by gender-based violence.

2025-190 Moved by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Hubley that Municipal Council accept the recommendation of the Policy and Strategy Committee and refer the presentation

from Be the Peace Institute to the Lunenburg County Anti-Racism & Anti Discrimination Advisory Committee for advice on how the Municipality can best support the elimination of gender-based violence. Carried unanimously.

10.1.2 Gender Based Violence Education for School Aged Children

A recommendation from the Policy & Strategy Committee regarding Gender Based Violence Education for School Aged Children was circulated with the agenda.

Original Motion

Moved by Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Oickle that Municipal Council accept the recommendation of the Policy and Strategy Committee and write a letter to the Minister responsible for Education and Early Childhood Development, Brendan Maguire, with copies to local MLAs, requesting that they consider educating school age children on gender-based violence.

Councillor Reinhardt reported that the Department of Education had added early education on gender-based violence to school curriculums and had begun a province wide roll out to all grade levels. It was noted that since the Province was already addressing the matter, the motion on the floor was unnecessary and a thank you letter could be prepared in its place.

Motion to Amend

Moved by Councillor Oickle, seconded by Councillor Hubley that the motion on the floor be amended for the Mayor to write a thank you letter to the province for developing curriculum for school aged children rather than requesting that they consider educating school aged children. Those opposed: Councillors Reinhardt, Bell, Moore, Smith, Burns, Brooks, Mayor McLean-Wile, and Deputy Mayor Veinotte. Motion defeated.

The original motion on the floor was voted on. Those opposed: Councillors Reinhardt, Bell, Oickle, Hubley, Smith, Burns, Brooks, Mayor McLean-Wile, and Deputy Mayor Veinotte. Motion defeated.

10.1.3 First Refusal Waiver re 391 Harold Whynot Road

A recommendation from the Policy & Strategy Committee regarding the waiver of first refusal regarding the purchase of 391 Harold Whynot Road was circulated with the agenda.

Alex Dumaresq, Deputy CAO, provided a summary on the matter.

2025-191 Moved by Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Brooks that Municipal Council accept the recommendation of the Policy and Strategy Committee and waive its right of first refusal pertaining to the purchase of 391 Harold Whynot Road, Pine Grove (PID 60582566) in favour of the Department of National Defence. Carried unanimously.

10.2 Fire & Emergency Services Committee

10.2.1 Appointment of Member-at-Large

2025-192 Moved by Councillor Hubley, seconded by Councillor Bell that Municipal Council accept the recommendation of the Policy & Strategy Committee appoint Brooke Gray as a member-at-large on the Fire & Emergency Services Committee for a three-year term commencing November 1, 2025. Carried unanimously.

11. Staff Reports

11.1 Recreation, Parks & Tourism

11.1.1 Designated Community Fund – Friends of Cherry Hill Old Community Cemetery

Trudy Payne, Director of Recreation, Parks & Tourism, reviewed the report, “Designated Community Fund Project Friends of Cherry Hill Old Community Cemetery” (circulated with the agenda), providing details on the fund.

2025-193 Moved by Councillor Reinhardt, seconded by Councillor Brooks that Municipal Council grant the Friends of Cherry Hill Old Community Cemetery \$240 as per the criteria outlined in Policy 048 Designated Community Project Fund. Carried unanimously.

12. Mayor’s/Deputy Mayor’s/Councillors’ Matters

12.1 LCLC Update

Deputy Mayor Veinotte provided an update on the following matters of the Lunenburg County Multi-purpose Lifestyle Community Centre:

- EV Car Chargers
- Office and galleria furniture
- Ice resurfacers
- South Shore Lumberjack Junior B game attendance

13. Added Items – Nil

14. In Camera

At 10:06 a.m., it was moved by Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Brooks that Municipal Council go In Camera to discuss item 14.1 Potential Litigation under Section 22(2)(f) of the MGA. Carried.

Municipal Council In Camera in session.

At 10:47 a.m., it was moved by Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Smith that Municipal Council come out of In Camera and return to open session. Carried.

Municipal Council in session.

15. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:48 a.m.