

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, June 23, 2026 – 9:00 a.m.

Attendance

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 Kacy DeLong, District 8

Councillor Ben Brooks, District 9

Regrets

Mayor Elspeth McLean-Wile

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 Proclamation – Indigenous Survivors Day

Deputy Mayor Veinotte proclaimed June 30, 2026 as Indigenous Survivors Day to demonstrate its commitment in honouring Indigenous survivors.

Councillor DeLong recognize Lisa Learning of Blockhouse for her company's national recognition. The company, now called PureGard (formerly AtlanTick Repellent Products), has developed a product recognized by Health Canada.

Councillor Smith announced that the Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department's annual summer fundraiser was scheduled for July 4, with yard sale, bake sale, and chicken BBQ meals.

Both Councillors Smith and DeLong declared a Conflict of Interest for Item 7.1 Award of RFP #2026-01-400 Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Treatment & Management Services on Municipally Owned Lands.

3. Public Input - Nil

4. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Brooks, seconded by Councillor Smith that the Agenda be approved as circulated. Carried unanimously.

5. Approval of Minutes – June 9, 2026

The Minutes of the June 9, 2026 Council meeting were approved as circulated.

6. Business Arising from Minutes - Nil

7. Awarding of Tenders/RFPs

7.1 Award of RFP #2026-01-400 Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Treatment & Management Services on Municipally Owned Lands

Councillors Smith and DeLong declared a Conflict of Interest and removed themselves from the Council table.

Abhimanyu Jain, Manager of Climate Change and Sustainability, and Kayla Winsor, Climate Action Coordinator, were in attendance.

Mr. Jain reviewed the report titled “Award of Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Treatment and Management Services on Municipally Owned Lands, RFP #2026-01-400 (circulated with the agenda), providing details on the proposals received for the services outlined in the RFP and recommending Medway Community Forest Co-operative as the successful proponent.

It was noted that a planned treatment at Miller Point Peace Park had been delayed due to drought conditions and treatment had not begun in other municipal parks. However, trees were treated in the Town of Bridgewater parks which showed a significant decline in hemlock wooly adelgid.

2026-085 Moved by Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Reinhardt that Municipal Council award RFP #2026-01-400 Hemlock Wooly Adelgid Treatment and Management Services on Municipally Owned Lands to Medway Community Forest Co-operative for \$173,739.76, excluding HST. Carried unanimously.

Councillors Smith and DeLong returned to the council table.

7.2 Award of RFP #2026-05-400 Wiles Lake Park Community Plan & Conceptual Design

Trudy Payne, Director of Recreation, Parks & Tourism, reviewed the report titled “Wiles Lake Park Community Plan and Conceptual Design RFP #2026-05-400” (circulated with the agenda), providing details on the proposals received for the services outlined in the RFP and recommending Mills & Wright Landscape Architecture as the successful proponent.

It was clarified that a previous RFP had included both the MARC and Wiles Lake projects to achieve efficiencies. However, during the budget process, funding for the MARC project was significantly reduced, which narrowed the project scope and the contract was terminated.

2026-086 Moved by Councillor Oickle, seconded by Councillor Hubley that Municipal Council award RFP #2026-05-400 Community Plan and Conceptual Design for Wiles Lake Park to Mills & Wright Landscape Architecture in the amount of \$47,500, excluding HST.

It was noted that the Lunenburg County Accessibility Advisory Committee was listed in the RFP as a key stakeholder and that it would be engaged during the public consultation process.

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

8. Presentations/Scheduled Times - Nil

9. Consideration of Correspondence

9.1 Lunenburg County Wheels – Request for Council Representation

Tom MacEwan, CAO, reviewed the correspondence received from the Lunenburg County Wheels Board asking that Council appoint a representative to the Board (circulated with the agenda). He advised that the matter be referred to the Nominating Committee for review and recommendation to Council.

2026-087 Moved by Councillor DeLong, seconded by Councillor Brooks that Municipal Council refer the request for Council representation on the Lunenburg County Wheels Board to the Nominating Committee for review and recommendation to Council. Carried unanimously.

10. Recommendations from Committees & Boards

10.1. Policy & Strategy Committee

10.1.1 Property Tax Exemption Application – LaHave Coastal Conservation Association

A recommendation from the Policy and Strategy Committee was circulated with the agenda, including a report titled “LaHave Coastal Conservation Association Property Tax Exemption Application” providing details on the Association’s request for a tax exemption on properties maintained by the Association.

Elana Wentzell, Director of Finance, provided a summary of the discussion held at the Policy & Strategy Committee.

2026-088 Moved by Councillor Bell, seconded by Councillor Reinhardt that Municipal Council accept the recommendation of the Policy & Strategy Committee and approve the tax exemption from LaHave Coastal Conservation Association, as per Policy 012 Tax Exemption / Reduction, for a 3-year renewal term in the amount of \$3,224.39, as presented. Carried unanimously.

11. Staff Reports

11.1 Administration

11.1.1 Comfort Centre Grant Award – St. Barnabas Anglican Church

Alex Dumaresq, Deputy CAO, reviewed the report, “Comfort Centre Grant Award – St. Barnabas Anglican Church” (circulated with the agenda), providing details on the grant program and the extenuating circumstances around the award of this grant to St. Barnabas Anglican Church.

It was clarified that the fund was limited to alternative power costs such as generators, installation, and electrical and that drought related improvements were not currently eligible under the policy.

2026-089 Moved by Councillor Hubley, seconded by Councillor Brooks that Municipal Council award a Comfort Centre grant to the St. Barnabas Anglican Church, 1396 Blue Rocks Rd, Blue Rocks, in the amount of \$3,461.62. Carried unanimously.

11.2 Planning & Development

11.2.1 NSFM Coastal Planning Support Program Funding Award

Ella Gindi, Planner II, reviewed the report, “NSFM Coastal Planning Support Program (CPSP) Funding Award” (circulated with the Agenda), providing details on the \$156,000 funding received to support a collaborative project between MODL, the Municipality of the County of Annapolis, the Town of Bridgewater, the Town of Lunenburg, and the Region of Queens Municipality. The project was aimed at strengthening municipal capacity to address coastal erosion and climate change impacts.

It was noted that the information collected through this project would be shared with other municipalities and the province.

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

12.1 LCLC Update

Councillor Hubley's update on recent matters of the Lunenburg County Multi-purpose Lifestyle Community Centre is attached to the Minutes.

It was clarified that free passes were previously widely distributed without tracking or consistency, prompting tighter controls and review of the process.

12.2 Deputy Mayor's Update

Deputy Mayor Veinotte advised that attended agenda briefing meetings, to cheque signing, and to an increase in calls and emails regarding the upcoming public hearing.

13. Added Items – Nil

14. In Camera

At 9:51 a.m., it was moved by Councillor Hubley, seconded by Councillor DeLong that Municipal Council go In Camera to discuss 14.1 Land Negotiations under Section 22(2)(a) of the MGA. Carried.

Municipal Council In Camera in session.

At 10:01 a.m., Municipal Council came out of In Camera and returned to open session.

Municipal Council in session.

14.1 Conveyance of Land

2026-090 Moved by Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Smith that Municipal Council approve the sale of PIDs 60742368 (Lot 100) and 60742376 (Lot 101) to Home Worx Roofing and Renovations Ltd. on the terms presented during the in-camera session of Council and authorize the CAO to prepare and execute the documents necessary to effect the conveyance of the properties. Carried unanimously.

15. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:02 a.m.

The following are the highlights from the LCLC meeting held on June 18, 2026

Michael Graves addressed the board regarding the decision to stop all free passes. He has asked that the motion be rescinded. He feels our decision will deny access to residents who may not have means to access the facility and will have a huge impact on the community. This topic will be added to the July agenda for discussion.

The board discussed the Renewall Contract. Renewall is helping Nova Scotia become the world leader in clean energy transition. This gives us a 1% increase over 20 years. Helping us manage costs with greater predictability. The board passed a motion giving the GM direction to sign the contract. (this process was started over a year ago. Renewall has many blue chip companies and many municipalities)

Last month we reviewed the doubtful accounts for the quick Books system. This month we reviewed the doubtful accounts for the registration software. Fusion. Several invoices have remained unpaid for various reasons. The balances are made up of 61 invoices of individually insignificant amounts. Invoices are prior to March of 2025. A motion was passed to approve an increase to the allowance for doubtful accounts in the amount of \$4814.40.

A motion was passed to proceed with alternative procurement and engage AquaPlans to provide architectural design and contract administration services for the aquatic tile replacement project, we will have a better idea of the timeline for this project after this phase.

The financial controller position for the LCLC closed last week with 20 applicants. The applications are being reviewed. This is a much-needed position. The recent changes at MJSB have resulted in the LCLC not getting their financials completed in a timely manner. (Currently, the accountant for the Town of Bridgewater is supporting). This new position will support these processes. The year-end audit is scheduled for July 20, 2026. After the audit is complete, we will have financial information to share with council.

That concludes my report.