

**COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
TOWN OF LUNENBURG**

Tuesday, April 14, 2026 | 6 pm
Lunenburg Town Hall - Council Chamber



Present Mayor Jamie Myra, Deputy Rachel Bailey, Councillors Alex Greek (via Zoom), Debbie Dauphinee, Renea Babineau, Gale Fullerton, and Alison Strachan

Also present Paul Nopper, CAO
Kathleen Rafuse, Deputy Finance Director
Jacon McGuigan, Accountant
Kayla Byrne, Municipal Clerk
Jamie Deans, Communications and Events Coordinator
Alan Howell, Senior Planner

Call to Order The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Land Acknowledgment The Chair recognized Lunenburg’s location on the unceded territory of the Mi’kmaq people.

Approval of Agenda Moved and seconded that Council approve the agenda for the April 14, 2026 meeting as presented.

Motion carried unanimously

Approval of Minutes Moved and seconded that Council approve the minutes of March 24, 2026, as amended to correct the wording of the amendment to the March 9, 2026 minutes, such that the Residential Tax Rate increase is described as a “2.9 cent increase,” not a “2.9% increase.”

Motion carried unanimously

Moved and seconded that Council approve the March 17, 2026 Special Meeting Minutes as presented.

Motion carried unanimously

Approval: 2026/27 Town General Draft Operating Budget Staff reviewed the 2026/27 Town General Draft Operating Budget documents.

Council asked clarifying questions regarding the proposed operating budget, including CPI impacts, key cost drivers (e.g., policing, education, insurance, and fuel), and the calculation of education funding. Discussion also addressed reserve contributions, long-term financial planning, and borrowing capacity, as well as specific budget items such as staffing, equipment reserves, and revenue sources.

Council further considered affordability impacts on residents and the alignment of the budget with strategic priorities and organizational capacity.

The Chair called a recess from 6:47 p.m. until 6:51 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Babineau that Council not establish a New Infrastructure Reserve in fiscal 2026/27 and approve the Town General Operating Budget totalling \$11,826,300, with a residential increase of 2.9 cents and a commercial increase of 7.1 cents, representing a 2.1% CPI adjustment to the tax rates, resulting in a residential tax rate of \$1.405, a commercial tax rate of \$3.429, and a seasonal tax rate of \$2.572 per \$100 of assessment, and approve the sewer rates as presented.

Motion died for lack of a seconder

Moved and seconded that Council approve the 2026/27 Town General Operating Budget, totalling \$12,054,200, with the following tax rates:

- Residential Tax Rate of \$1.455 per \$100 of assessment
- Commercial Tax Rate of \$3.479 per \$100 of assessment
- Seasonal Tourist Tax Rate of \$2.609 per \$100 of assessment
- Residential Sewer Rate of \$750.82 per dwelling unit
- Non-Residential Sewer Rate of \$0.7175 per \$100 of assessment
- Church Sewer Rate of \$440.98 per quarter

FOR	AGAINST
4 Councillors	3 Councillors (Babineau, Fullerton & Myra)

Motion carried

Tour and Horse-Drawn Vehicle By-law – 2nd (final) reading

Moved and seconded that Council approve second and final reading of the Tour and Horse-Drawn Vehicle By-law, as amended, to:

- clarify that any shade structures permitted under Section 21 are at the operator’s cost and subject to Town approval; and
- revise Schedule B, Section 2, to exempt vehicles used solely for training purposes from the per vehicle authorization fee, while still requiring authorization and compliance with the by-law;

and further that By-law 56 – the Hack and Trolley By-law be repealed.

Motion carried unanimously

Inclement Weather & Temporary Facility Closure Policy

Council discussed the Inclement Weather and Temporary Facility Closure Policy and identified the need for further clarification. By consensus, Council agreed to defer consideration of the policy to a future Council meeting.

Carry Over Projects from 2025/26 Moved and seconded that Council approve the carryover of the Interpretive Panels for Parks amount of \$20,000 from the 2025/26 Town Capital Budget into the 2026/27 Town Capital Budget, funded from Operating Reserves.

Motion carried unanimously

Notices of Motion, Information Requests and Councillor Reports Council members shared brief updates on recent meetings, upcoming community events, and opportunities for public participation, including accessibility initiatives, waterfront planning sessions, and volunteer recognition. General community reminders and acknowledgements were also noted.

Items for Consideration at COTW The next Committee of the Whole meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 5, 2026.

Closed Session Moved and seconded that Council move into closed session at 7:18 p.m. for agenda item 14.1 Contract Negotiations.

Motion carried unanimously

Revert to Open Session Council reverted to open session at 8:17 p.m.

Adjournment There being no further business, the Council meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Minutes were read and approved.