

**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - ELECTRIC UTILITY BUDGETS
TOWN OF LUNENBURG**

Tuesday, May 13, 2026 | 6 pm

Lunenburg Town Hall - Council Chamber



Present	Mayor Jamie Myra, Deputy Rachel Bailey, Councillors Alex Greek, Debbie Dauphinee, Renea Babineau, Gale Fullerton, and Alison Strachan
Also present	Paul Nopper, CAO Lisa Dagley, Director of Finance Jamie Deans, Communications and Events Coordinator
Call to Order	The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 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 May 13, 2026 special meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously
Budget Presentations	Council received presentations regarding the 2026/27 Draft Electric Utility Capital Budget and 2026/27 Draft Electric Utility Operating Budget. The presentations outlined planned investments in electrical infrastructure upgrades intended to improve system reliability, increase capacity for future growth, modernize aging infrastructure, support future development, and provide an overview of the proposed operating budget and anticipated utility financial position. Council discussed project phasing, funding considerations, reliability improvements, and the long-term benefits of modernizing the utility system.
Public Input	Andrew Himmelman expressed support for the proposed infrastructure upgrades but raised concerns regarding the long-term operational model for the utility, including future staffing and service delivery arrangements, use of external contractors, local economic impacts, and planning beyond the five-year capital horizon. Discussion noted that current priorities are focused on utility modernization and reliability improvements, while longer-term service delivery options and utility planning continue to be explored. Robin Joost expressed support for the proposed utility upgrades while emphasizing the importance of considering visual impacts and community aesthetics when selecting and designing the proposed

Green Street substation location, particularly given its visibility as an entry point into the community. Staff noted that visual integration and design considerations are being incorporated into site planning discussions.

Approved Draft
Electric Capital
Budget

Moved and seconded that Council approve the 2026/27 Electric Utility Capital Budget as presented, totalling \$4,387,000.

Motion carried unanimously

Five Year Capital
Plan Approval

Moved and seconded that Council approve the five-year Capital Plan for the Lunenburg Electric Utility as included in the 2026/27 Capital Budget.

Motion carried unanimously

Approval of the
2026/27 Electric
Utility Budget

Moved and seconded that Council approve the 2026/27 Electric Utility Operating Budget as presented, totalling \$8,896,500.

Motion carried unanimously

NSPI Flow Through
Rate Application

Moved and seconded that Council approve the submission of an application to the Nova Scotia Energy Board (NSEB) for their approval of a per kWh increase to offset power purchase cost increases associated with the May 1, 2026 and January 1, 2027 NSPI Municipal Rate increases.

Motion carried unanimously

Adjournment.

There being no further business, the Council meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Minutes were read and approved.