

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TOWN OF LUNENBURG**

Tuesday, September 22, 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
Regrets	
Also present	Paul Nopper, CAO Kristi Tibbo, Director of Recreation and Parklands Tyson Joyce, Director of Public Works Jamie Deans, Communications and Events Coordinator Lisa Dagley, Director of Finance Representative from RCMP
Call to Order	The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.
Land Acknowledgment	The Chair recognized Lunenburg's location on the unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.
Approval of Agenda	Councillor Strachan moved and Councillor Fullerton seconded that Council approve the agenda for the September 22, 2026, meeting as presented. Moved by Councillor Strachan. Seconded by Councillor Fullerton. Motion carried unanimously
Approval of Minutes	Councillor Strachan moved and seconded that Council approve the September 08, 2026 regular meeting minutes with an adjustment to remove the last line of the ABCO Presentation section, for clarity of that motion. Councillor Babineau seconded. Moved by Councillor Strachan. Seconded by Councillor Babineau. Motion carried unanimously
Presentations	Council received the Quarterly Report from RCMP. The including an overview of staffing, policing activities, crime statistics, traffic enforcement efforts, and significant investigations undertaken during the reporting period. Key highlights include: • Two members successfully completed graduated return-to-work programs and returned to full duties.

- One new police vehicle was added
- Overall calls for service and crime statistics remained consistent with previous quarters
- Common theft occurrences continued to involve food, fuel, and alcohol thefts from retail establishments
- Members responded to 21 mental health and well-being related calls within the Town of Lunenburg
- Traffic enforcement remained a significant focus, including impaired driving enforcement, school zone safety initiatives, speed enforcement, and off-road vehicle trail patrols. District members charged 25 individuals with impaired driving-related offences during the quarter.
- The report highlighted several major investigations and ongoing files
- An update was provided on the School Safety Resource Officer program

Council members raised questions regarding motor vehicle collisions and traffic safety concerns. The RCMP advised that collision and traffic complaint data is regularly analyzed and mapped to identify problem areas and align enforcement efforts. Staff indicated they would explore including collision hotspot data in future reports.

A question was raised regarding the report's reference to an intimate partner violence occurrence. RCMP clarified that the incident was highlighted because of its severity, including potential firearms involvement and the significant police response required, but noted that it was not the only intimate partner violence investigation handled during the reporting period.

Council further discussed ongoing concerns regarding collision activity at the Lillydale Road/First Peninsula Road intersection and expressed interest in obtaining historical collision data to support future discussions with Nova Scotia Public Works regarding potential safety improvements.

Public Input

Council heard from Walter Forsyth, Festival Director of Lunenburg Doc Fest, regarding a request to install promotional festival banners on existing banner hardware attached to four downtown electric utility poles for the duration of the upcoming festival (5 days).

A banner policy had previously been requested by Council but had not yet been finalized. Going forward banners should not be placed in electric utility poles and a formal banner policy will be needed to guide future requests.

Council expressed general support for the request and agreed to permit the temporary installation of the festival banners for this year's event, with the understanding that a banner policy would be developed to address similar requests in the future.

Correspondence

Council received correspondence from Lunenburg Shipyard Re. ABCO Water Lot Proposal. The letter will be added to the ABCO file for review and consideration.

It was noted to staff that Mayor Jamie Myra, Councillor Babineau, and Councillor Dauphinee have declared a conflict on this matter and should not be included in future correspondence.

Finance approvals
for year-end –
Town General,
Water and Electric

Council received year-end financial reports for the Town General Fund, Water Utility, and Electric Utility. Staff outlined year-end operating results, reserve transfers, capital project funding, and borrowing requirements associated with projects completed during the 2025-26 fiscal year.

Town General

Staff presented a summary of completed capital projects and borrowing requirements, including financing related to the Old Fire Hall roof replacement and ongoing wastewater treatment plant upgrades.

Deputy Mayor Bailey moved Council approve the transfer of \$29,000 to the Town's General Operating Reserve for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2026. Seconded by Councillor Strachan

Motion carried unanimously

Councillor Fullerton moved that Council approves the capital financing for fiscal 2025/26 completed projects in the amount of \$2,151,680, as outlined in Schedule 2. Seconded by Councillor Greek

Motion carried unanimously

Councillor Fullerton moved that Council approve the capital financing to March 31, 2026, for the Work-In-Progress for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade to SBR, as outlined in Schedule 2. Seconded by Councillor Strachan

Motion carried unanimously

Councillor Strachan moved Council approve a Temporary Borrowing Resolution of \$99,443 for the financing of the Old Fire Hall Roof Membrane for the Fall 2026 Debenture Issue application, per Schedule 3. *(the resolution was read aloud at the meeting)* Seconded by Councillor Babineau.

Motion carried unanimously

Councillor Babineau moved that Council authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to sign the Resolution for Pre-Approval of Debenture Issuance, subject to interest rate confirmation not to exceed 7.0%, to enable the Town of Lunenburg to secure a debenture of \$99,443 per Schedule 4. Seconded by Councillor Strachan.

Motion carried unanimously

Water Utility

Staff provided an update on capital investments, including the Dares Lake Spillway project, and clarified that related borrowing approvals were part of the annual financial reporting process and separate from current discussions regarding the spillway breach.

Councillor Babineau moved that Council approves the transfer of \$73,000 to the Water Utility's Membrane Replacement Reserve for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2026. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Bailey.

Motion carried unanimously

Councillor Fullerton moved that Council approve, for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2026, the funding for the \$1,902,105 of capital expenditures for the Water Utility be funded from \$85,000 PCAP grant, \$1,117,105 from depreciation funds and the balance of the funding will be in capital borrowing of \$700,000 per Schedule 2. Seconded by Councillor Strachan.

Motion carried unanimously

Councillor Fullerton moved that Council approve a Temporary Borrowing Resolution of \$700,000 for the financing of the Dares Lake Spillway for the Fall 2026 Debenture Issue application, per Schedule 3. *(the resolution was read aloud at the meeting)*. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Bailey.

Motion carried unanimously

Councillor Babineau moved that Council authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to sign the Resolution for Pre-Approval of Debenture Issuance, subject to interest rate confirmation not to exceed 7.0%, to enable the Town of Lunenburg to secure a debenture of \$700,000 per Schedule 4. Seconded by Councillor Fullerton.

Motion carried unanimously

Electric Utility

Council received the year-end financial results, noting that the utility recorded a deficit that was lower than originally projected. Staff reviewed completed capital improvements and associated financing

requirements.

Councillor Babineau moved that Council approve, for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2026, the funding for the \$2,542,346 of capital expenditures for the Electric Utility be funded from customer contributions of \$32,164, \$8,930 surplus equipment, \$305,610 from depreciation funds and the balance of the funding will be in capital borrowing of \$2,195,642 per Schedule 2. Seconded by Councillor Strachan.

Motion carried unanimously

Councillor Greek moved that Council approve a Temporary Borrowing Resolution of \$186,000 for the financing of the Electric Utility Distribution Overheads 25/26 for the Fall 2026 Debenture Issue application, per Schedule 3. *(the resolution was read aloud at the meeting)*. Seconded by Councillor Strachan.

Motion carried unanimously

Councillor Strachan moved that Council authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to sign the Resolution for Pre-Approval of Debenture Issuance, subject to interest rate confirmation not to exceed 7.0%, to enable the Town of Lunenburg to secure a debenture of \$186,000 per Schedule 4. Seconded by Councillor Fullerton.

Motion carried unanimously

Lunenburg Athletic Facility Fund (LAFF) Report

Council considered an application from the Lunenburg Curling Club for funding through the Lunenburg Athletic Facility Fund. Staff advised that a recent donation to the fund had been designated to support activities at the Curling Club and that the application related to repairs to the club's brine system.

During discussion, Council noted that updates to the Athletic Facility Fund policy were being prepared and would be brought forward for future consideration.

Councillor Strachan moved that Council approve the Lunenburg Curling Club's application for funding from the Lunenburg Athletic Facility Fund (LAFF) application in the amount of \$32,000 for repairs to the Brine system at the Lunenburg Curling Club. Seconded by Councillor Fullerton.

Motion carried unanimously

Ice Allocation Policy

Council considered the revised Ice Allocation Policy following feedback

Final Approval provided at a previous Committee of the Whole meeting. Staff outlined several amendments, including updates to definitions, allocation criteria, and the appeals process to improve clarity and ensure separation between policy administration and appeal reviews.

Councillor Babineau moved that Council approve the Ice Allocation Policy as presented. Seconded by Councillor Fullerton.

Motion carried unanimously

Water & Wastewater Quality Reports Council received the first quarter 2026 Water and Wastewater Quality Reports. Staff advised that all required water quality testing met regulatory approval requirements, with water withdrawals and treated water production remaining within permitted limits during the reporting period.

Council received updates on several water main repairs completed during the quarter (Mason's Beach Road, Hopson St. and Centennial Ave). Only one water quality-related complaint was reported, which was resolved following investigation and system flushing.

During discussion, Council inquired about how repair and break data is used to inform future infrastructure planning. Staff explained that trends in repairs can help identify aging infrastructure and support future capital planning and upgrades.

Council also received the quarterly wastewater report and was advised that all wastewater treatment results remained within provincial and federal regulatory limits.

Council received this report for information regarding Potable Water Quality and Wastewater Quality Test Results from the first quarter.

No Motion Required

Notices of Motion, Information Council members provided reports on recent meetings and community activities.

Requests and Councillor Reports Updates included the resumption of regular Library Board meetings, planning for upcoming community events such as Oktoberfest, Doc Fest, and the 11th annual Lunenburg Literature Festival, and participation in Regional 6 Solid Waste Management meetings.

Members also highlighted the recent Fishers' Memorial Service and the successful Terry Fox Run, which achieved a local fundraising record.

Council heard an update regarding the RCMP-funded Silver Guardian Project, a new initiative supporting families dealing with dementia and Alzheimer's-related behaviours.

The Mayor reported on discussions at a recent municipal conference regarding increasing concerns about civility in public discourse and the impacts of social media harassment on elected officials, their families, and local governance. Council acknowledged the importance of maintaining respectful community engagement and a collaborative working relationship within Council.

Items for
Consideration at
COTW

The next Committee of the Whole meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 6, 2026.

Motion Action List

Council will review the Motion Action List at the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

Closed Session

Councillor Fullerton moved and Councillor Babineau seconded that Council move into closed session at 7:18 p.m. for agenda item 14.1 Contract Negotiations.

Motion carried unanimously

Open Session

Council returned to open session at 8:54p.m. There was no report from the closed session.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Councillor Babineau moved that Council meeting be adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Minutes were read and approved.