

TOWN OF NEW GLASGOW

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2025

A regular meeting of New Glasgow Town Council was held on Monday, March 17, 2025, at 6:45 p.m. in Chambers. Present were Mayor Dicks, Deputy Mayor Dorrington, Councillors Peters, McKenna and Jessica MacDonald. Also present were: Lisa MacDonald, CAO; Kim Livingston, Director of Corporate Services; Ross White, Director of Fire, Inspection and Emergency Services; Earl MacKenzie, Director of Engineering and Public Works; Rebecca Lewis-MacNeil, Director of Human Resources and Corporate Communications; Michelle Ward, Director of Community Development; Kim Dickson, Director of Strategic Initiatives; Ryan Leil, NGRP Chief; Alison Tait, Deputy Clerk; Jeff Hamelin, Information Technology Support Services; and Frank DeMont, Solicitor. Absent from the meeting were Councillors Fraser, and Joe MacDonald; staff members, Audrey Buchanan, Assistant Director of Engineering and Derek Eisan, Director of IT.

AGENDA

It was regularly moved and seconded that the agenda be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

MATTERS FOR SENIOR STAFF

RECOMMENDATION ACTIVE LIVING MANAGER – CORE ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION (AT) NETWORK PROJECT

Council reviewed a recommendation submitted by the Active Living Manager recommending the continuation of Option One (Community Engagement and class D to class C) of the Core AT Network Project.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the recommendation be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

**RECOMMENDATION ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC WORKS – NOVA SCOTIA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS COST SHARE APPLICATION 2025**

Council reviewed a recommendation submitted by the Assistant Director of Engineering and Public Works recommending that Council endorse the updated proposed multi-year Cost Shared Capital Paving Program with the Nova Scotia Department of Public Works.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the recommendation be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

RECOMMENDATION DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES – PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION 2025

Council reviewed a recommendation submitted by the Director of Corporate Services recommending that Council authorize a property tax exemption for the 2025-2026 taxation year in the amount of \$405 for income not exceeding \$24,300.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the recommendation be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

RECOMMENDATION DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC WORKS – ACCESSIBILITY ACTION PLAN UPDATE

Council reviewed a recommendation submitted by the Director of Engineering and Public Works recommending that Council adopt the Accessibility Action Plan for the 2025-2028 period.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the recommendation be approved as presented.

Mayor Dicks asked if a new committee would be formed.

Director of Engineering and Public Works, Earl MacKenzie confirmed that a new Accessibility Committee will be formed and the Accessibility Plan will be posted publicly.

Councillor Peters requested that the community engagement section in the Accessibility Plan be expanded and a clear outline of the engagement activities that will involve individuals with disabilities in our community.

CAO MacDonald stated that the Equity and Anti-racism Plan has the first action to develop an engagement/consultation policy which will guide all consultation and engagement for the Town.

Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

MEMO – LIBRARY PROJECT FUNDING

Council reviewed a recommendation from CAO Lisa MacDonald to formally approve the revised amount for the library redevelopment project of \$11,028,000 plus HST, as proposed by the successful bidder PCL Constructor Canada Inc. and vetted by Fathom Studios, bringing the total capital costs to an estimated \$14,941,000 (non-rebateable HST included).

It was regularly moved and seconded that the recommendation be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

LETTER FROM GFL

Council reviewed a letter from GFL for the notification reflecting the upcoming increase in tipping fees for the Towns' solid waste going to the GFL Guysborough Landfill through our PC Solid Waste contract.

It was regularly moved and seconded that letter be received.

Motion carried.

PICTOU COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE 2025 FUNDING SUPPORT REQUEST

Council reviewed a letter from the Pictou County Community Health Centre/Pictou County Seniors Outreach regarding a fiscal 2025-2026 funding request for consideration.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the request be referred to 2025-2026 for budget consideration.

Motion carried.

CHAD TRANSIT 2025 FUNDING SUPPORT REQUEST

Council reviewed a letter from CHAD Transit requesting financial assistance.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the request be referred to 2025-2026 for budget consideration.

Motion carried.

CARMA 2025 FUNDING SUPPORT REQUEST

Council reviewed a letter from CARMA regarding a fiscal 2025-2026 funding request for consideration.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the request be referred to 2025-2026 for budget consideration.

Motion carried.

HIGHLAND COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL SERVICES 2025 FUNDING SUPPORT REQUEST

Council reviewed a letter from Highland Community Residential Services regarding a fiscal 2025-2026 funding request for consideration.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the request be referred to 2025-2026 for budget consideration.

Motion carried.

PICTOU COUNTY VOLUNTEER GROUND SEARCH AND RESCUE 2025 FUNDING SUPPORT REQUEST

Council reviewed a letter from Pictou County Volunteer Ground Search and Rescue regarding a fiscal 2025-2026 funding request for consideration.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the request be referred to 2025-2026 for budget consideration.

Motion carried.

PICTOU COUNTY PRIDE 2025 FUNDING SUPPORT REQUEST

Council reviewed a letter from Pictou County PRIDE regarding a fiscal 2025-2026 funding request for consideration.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the request be referred to 2025-2026 for budget consideration.

Motion carried.

CREATIVE PICTOU COUNTY 2025 FUNDING SUPPORT REQUEST

Council reviewed a letter from Creative Pictou County regarding a fiscal 2025-2026 funding request for consideration.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the request be referred to 2025-2026 for budget consideration.

Motion carried.

RIVERVIEW HOME CORPORATION 2025 FUNDING SUPPORT REQUEST

Council reviewed a letter from Riverview Home Corporation regarding a fiscal 2025-2026 funding request for consideration.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the request be referred to 2025-2026 for budget consideration.

Motion carried.

NORTH NOVA EDUCATION CENTRE GRADUATION 2025 FUNDING SUPPORT REQUEST

Council reviewed a letter from North Nova Education Centre regarding a fiscal 2025-2026 funding request for consideration.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the request be referred to 2025-2026 for budget consideration.

Motion carried.

MINISTER OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS – WIND TURBINE SETBACK REGULATIONS

Council reviewed a letter from Minister of Municipal Affairs regarding the amendment of the maximum setback for commercial wind turbines.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the letter be received.

Motion carried.

FCM 2025 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Council was advised of that the FCM Conference is scheduled from May 29 to June 1, 2025 in Ottawa.

The Town's Travel Expense Policy allows the Mayor and 2 Councillors to attend the conference.

Mayor Dicks declined from attending the conference this year.

It was regularly moved and seconded that councillors Dawn Peters, Jessica MacDonald and Jim McKenna be granted permission to attend the FCM 2025 Annual Conference.

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 7:13 pm.

Motion carried.