

**TOWN OF NEW GLASGOW**  
**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES**  
**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2025**

A regular meeting of New Glasgow Town Council was held on Monday, November 17, 2025, at 6:37 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Present were Mayor Dicks, Deputy Mayor Dorrington, Councillors Joe MacDonald, Jessica MacDonald, McKenna, Fraser and Peters. Also present were: Lisa MacDonald, CAO; Kim Livingston, Director of Corporate Services; Rebecca Lewis-MacNeil, Director of Human Resources and Corporate Communications; Ross White, Director of Fire, Inspection and Emergency Services; Inspector Blair Bannerman, NGRP; Kaila Reid, Planning/Development Officer; Roland Burek, Planning/Development Officer; Earl MacKenzie, Director of Engineering and Public Works; Michelle Ward, Director of Community Development; Kim Dickson, Director of Strategic Initiatives; Alison Tait, Deputy Clerk; Jeff Hamelin, Information Technology Support Services; Morgan Simms, Program, Culture and Events Manager; and Frank DeMont, Solicitor. Absent from the meeting were staff members: Ryan Leil, NGRP Chief; Nick Hirtle, NGRP Deputy Chief; Audrey Buchanan, Assistant Director of Engineering and Public Works and Derek Eisan, Director of I.T.

**AGENDA**

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

Motion carried.

## **MATTERS FOR SENIOR STAFF**

### **RECOMMENDATION DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES AND CORPORATE**

#### **COMMUNICATIONS – COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT**

Council reviewed a recommendation submitted by the Director of Human Resources and Corporate Communications recommending that Council approve the Town of New Glasgow's Code of Conduct for Council Appointed Citizens as presented, to provide clear expectations for professional conduct, accountability, and respectful participation on all Town committees.

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

Motion carried.

### **RECOMMENDATION NEW GLASGOW REGIONAL POLICE CHIEF – RESIDENT REQUEST FOR**

#### **ADDITIONAL STOP SIGNS – CAMERON AVENUE/ROBIN ROW INTERSECTION**

Council reviewed a recommendation submitted by the New Glasgow Regional Police Chief and Municipal Traffic Authority recommending that Council approve the recommendation which does not support the installation of additional stop signs at the Cameron Avenue/Robin Row intersection based on the Traffic Authority's analysis.

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

Motion carried.

### **MEMO NGRP CHIEF – INTERNET CHILD EXPLOITATION (ICE)**

Council reviewed a memo from NGRP Chief informing Council that New Glasgow Regional Police with support through contribution agreements from the Nova Scotia Department of Justice – Public Safety and Security Division, has significantly increased its local capacity to manage Internet Child Exploitation investigations.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the memo be received as presented.

Motion carried.

**RECOMMENDATION DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC WORKS – PERMISSION FOR OUTSIDE OF ATLANTIC CANADA TRAVEL TO ACCESSIBILITY PROFESSIONAL NETWORK (APN) CONFERENCE 2026**

Council reviewed a recommendation submitted by Earl MacKenzie, Director of Engineering and Public Works to attend the Accessibility Professional Network (APN) conference from March 30-31, 2026, in Toronto. The conference will provide the required Continuing Education Units to maintain the professional designation of Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification.

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

Motion carried.

**RECOMMENDATION ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC WORKS – 2025 WATER RATE SUBMISSION TO NOVA SCOTIA REGULATORY AND APPEALS BOARD**

Council reviewed a recommendation submitted by the Assistant Director of Engineering and Public Works recommending that Council approve the Water Rate Study to be submitted to the NSRAB by the end of November 2025 which will set Town of New Glasgow customer water rates for the next 3 years.

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

Motion carried.

## **RECOMMENDATION DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES – TRANSFER OF FISCAL 2025**

### **GENERAL FUND OPERATING SURPLUS**

Council reviewed a recommendation submitted by the Director of Corporate Services recommending that Council approve the transfer of the March 31, 2025, General Operations operating surplus of approximately \$481,889 to the General Operating Reserve.

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

Motion carried.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

## **RECOMMENDATION DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES – MFC FALL DEBENTURE**

### **ISSUANCE**

Council reviewed a memo and recommendation circulated via email on September 18<sup>th</sup> submitted by the Director of Corporate Services for borrowing not to exceed \$925,000 over terms not to exceed 20 years for general capital expenditures at an interest rate not to exceed 7%.

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

Motion carried.

## **RECOMMENDATION DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – PERMISSION FOR**

### **OUTSIDE OF ATLANTIC CANADA TRAVEL TO ZOHU USER CONFERENCE 2025**

Council reviewed a memo and recommendation circulated via email on October 24<sup>th</sup> submitted by Derek Eisan, Director of Information Technology to attend the Zoho User Conference from November 18-19, 2025 in Toronto. The conference offers substantial benefits for the MoPC's Broadband Initiative providing peer-level networking, exposure to the latest product developments,

technical workshops and process panels relevant to large-scale broadband deployment. Attendance at this conference is directly aligned with the operational requirements of the Director's role as CIO and will be paid by the Municipality of the County of Pictou.

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

Motion carried.

### **MEMO – GROWTH AND RENEWAL FOR INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION FOR ERECC**

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO recommending that Council approve the GRID application submission for the East River Environmental Control Centre (ERECC) under the Town of New Glasgow. As a sponsor of the ERECC application under our municipality, this opportunity for grant funding will reduce our municipal contribution for the capital investment needed for the back-up generator at the ERECC plant.

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

Motion carried.

### **MEMO – REMOVAL OF DEMOLITION ORDER FOR 52 DONALD STREET**

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO to approve the removal of the demolition order for 52 Donald Street. The property has been sold and a commitment to restore the property to a quality dwelling and remedy the issues being experienced in and around the property has been confirmed with the new owner.

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

Motion carried.

## **MEMO – WHAT WE HEARD REPORT**

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO requesting direction on how staff should proceed with the recommended actions outlined in the “What We Heard” report released on October 31, 2025.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the memo be received and placed on file.

Mayor Dicks spoke in response to the first step listed on the report, Homeless Shelter Accountability and Relocation Review recommending that Council initiate a meeting with MLA MacGillivray. Mayor Dicks also advised that the Viola’s Place Society Board met and have declined the request to change the name of the shelter.

Councillor Peters voiced concerns about the report, released by Viola’s Board titled “What We Want You To Know, community safety issues, and the inaccuracies in relation to police response calls.

Councillor McKenna asked for verification of the number of times, in the past month, that police have had to response to calls related to Viola’s Place Society.

Inspector Bannerman stated there were 16 police calls last month and an average of 13 calls per month.

Fire Chief White advised that the fire department assisted Emergency Health Services with 2 to 3 medical assist calls for the month to Viola’s Place.

Mayor Dicks spoke in regard to the recommendation for Intergovernmental Collaboration and suggested a meeting with the Ministers and Deputy Ministers of the Departments of Opportunity and Social Development, Mental Health and Addictions, Justice, and Housing.

Councillor Peters recommended that other departments should be included with the Intergovernmental meeting such as Mental Health and Addictions, Department of Housing,

Department of Justice, and other organizations that support domestic violence initiatives, emphasizing that the issue is complex and requires a coordinated strategic plan that goes beyond emergency housing solutions.

Councillor McKenna asked that the compliant calls and emails from concerned residents be tracked and correlated for future reference.

CAO, Lisa MacDonald advised that all emails and complaint calls received by the Town are being tracked for data purposes.

Mayor Dicks advised that a follow-up community meeting will be held by the end of January 2026.

Councillor Peters recommended that future meetings include the continued disclosure of the financial costs to the town and noted that these costs are not sustainable under the current circumstances.

Deputy Mayor Dorrington asked that the data be correlated to illustrate the increase in crime in Ward One.

Motion carried.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **CITIZEN APPOINTMENT TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO recommending Council make a choice of one of the three names submitted for the appointment of the Ward 2 representative for the Community Development Advisory Committee.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Council nomination of Andrew Miller be appointed the Ward 2 citizen representative for the Community Development Advisory Committee for 2025-2028 term.

Motion carried.

### **MEMO - PICTOU COUNTY WELLNESS CENTRE BUSINESS AUTHORITY INC. UPDATE**

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO regarding the Annual General Meeting and Regular Quarterly Board Meeting that took place on October 20, 2025.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the memo be received and placed on file.

Motion carried.

### **QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS**

#### **VIOLA'S PLACE SOCIETY TAXATION GRANT – COUNCILLOR JOE MACDONALD**

Councillor Joe MacDonald gave notice of motion to revoke the tax-exemption grant provided to Viola's Place Society for the 2025 tax year, and will bring this motion forward at the next Council meeting on December 15, 2025.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **DEPUTY MAYOR APPOINTMENT**

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO regarding the appointment of Dawn Peters as Deputy Mayor as per the Deputy Mayor Policy.

It was regularly moved and seconded that Dawn Peters be appointed Deputy Mayor for the term ending November 2026 in line with the current policy.

Motion carried.

## **MEMO - 2026 COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING DATES**

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO regarding the 2026 Council and Committee of the Whole meeting schedule.

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council approve the 2026 Council and Committee of the Whole meeting schedule as presented.

Motion carried.

## **EMAIL AND LETTER FROM AMANS – ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATORS NOVA SCOTIA PROFESSIONAL SERVICE FEE**

Council reviewed a letter from AMANS regarding how municipalities will be invoiced for the AMANS Professional Service Fee.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the correspondence be received and placed on file.

Motion carried.

## **LETTER FROM PROPERTY VALUATION SERVICES CORPORATION**

Council reviewed a letter from PVSC regarding the municipal funding requirements for fiscal 2026/2027.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the correspondence be received and placed on file.

Motion carried.

## **LETTER FROM EAST HANTS – PVSC MEMO RE: MGA AMENDMENTS**

Council reviewed a letter from the Municipality of East Hants regarding the change to the Municipal Government Act through Bill 141 that introduced Section 69B, enabling Councils to reduce the taxes payable on a property that has been rebuilt following a natural disaster.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the correspondence be received and placed on file.

Motion carried.

### **VIOLA'S PLACE SOCIETY REPORT "WHAT WE WANT YOU TO KNOW"**

Council reviewed the "What We Want You To Know" report released by Viola's Place Society.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the report be received and placed on file.

Mayor Dicks inquired if the stats in the report were correct in relation to the police calls.

Inspector Bannerman stated that their data may reflect how many times the shelter called for police assistance as opposed to how many calls the police receive from residents.

Deputy Mayor Peters requested verification at the next meeting with Viola's Place Society.

Motion carried.

### **EMAIL FROM RESIDENT RE: KENNEDY COURT RFP**

Council reviewed an email from New Glasgow resident, Peter McCarron regarding the Kennedy Court RFP.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the correspondence be received and placed on file.

Motion carried.

### **DOWNTOWN PARKING METERS – MONTH OF DECEMBER**

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO recommending that Council approve the designation of the Pictou County Fuel Fund and Pictou County Food Bank East for the metered parking donations this year.

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

Motion carried.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

It was regularly moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion carried.