

TOWN OF NEW GLASGOW

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2026

A regular meeting of New Glasgow Town Council was held on Monday, March 23, 2026, at 6:15 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Present were Mayor Dicks, Deputy Mayor Peters, Councillors, Joe MacDonald, Jessica MacDonald, and McKenna. Also present were: Lisa MacDonald, CAO; Kim Livingston, Director of Corporate Services; Rebecca Lewis-MacNeil, Director of Human Resources and Corporate Communications; Michelle Ward, Director of Community Development; Earl MacKenzie, Director of Engineering and Public Works; Inspector Blair Bannerman, NGRP; Alison Tait, Deputy Clerk; Rohan Mishra, Environment and Sustainability Lead; Jeff Hamelin, Information Technology Support Services; and Frank DeMont, Solicitor. Absent from the meeting were Councillors Dorrington and Fraser and staff members Ryan Leil, NGRP Chief; Ross White, Director of Fire, Inspection and Emergency Services; and Derek Eisan, Director of I.T.

AGENDA

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

An addition was made to the agenda to add "D" under the Committee Reports section entitled Update - Riverview Home Corporation.

Motion carried.

MATTERS FOR SENIOR STAFF

MEMO WITH RECOMMENDATION – ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC WORKS – EVOTE MOTION NS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS COST SHARE APPLICATION 2026

Council reviewed the memo for the evote recommendation submitted by the Assistant Director of Engineering and Public Works that Council approve the recommendation report and priorities outlined for the provincial cost-shared paving program related to municipally owned trunks and routes.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the recommendation be approved with the priorities outlined as Little Harbour Road (Norma Street to Town Limits), Westville Road Phase II (Western Avenue to Stellarton Road), and Trenton Road Phase I (Town Limits to Rose Auburn Road).

Motion carried.

RECOMMENDATION WATER TREATMENT PLANT SUPERVISOR – ROTORK ACTUATOR REPLACEMENT

Council reviewed a recommendation submitted by the Water Treatment Plant Supervisor recommending that Council approve the award of TNG26-PW-003 Rotork Actuators to Mobile Valve (Source Atlantic), the original supplier, in the amount of \$88,145.65 plus HST [\$91,547 Net HST], to ensure the new actuators are fully compatible and interchangeable with existing infrastructure.

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

Motion carried.

RECOMMENDATION DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES – PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION

2026

Council reviewed a recommendation submitted by the Director of Corporate Services recommending that Council authorize a property tax exemption for the 2026-2027 taxation year in the amount \$414 for income not exceeding \$24,855 and the property must be occupied by that person as their principal residence.

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

Motion carried.

RECOMMENDATION – DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – AWARD RFP VIOLA'S WAY INTERPRETATIVE DESIGN

Council reviewed a recommendation submitted by the Director of Community Development recommending that Council approve the award of TNG26-CD 001 RFP Viola's Way Interpretative Design to the Consortium of Narrative Environments Studio and Duane Jones with the highest qualified evaluation score, in the amount of \$49,000 plus HST for the interpretive media and preliminary content outlines, production files, detailed site/location plan, material/fabrication specs of the project.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the recommendation be approved as presented and award the contract to Narrative Environments Studio and Duane Jones.

Motion carried.

MEMO – NGRP CHIEF – NS DRUG TOXICITY TRENDS AND IMPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY

SAFETY

Council reviewed a memo from the New Glasgow Regional Police Chief which provided a situational overview of recent drug toxicity trends in Nova Scotia, based on data released through the Nova Scotia Drug Alert mailing list and analysis from the Medical Examiner service, and to outline implications for municipal services, public safety, and community partners.

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

Motion carried.

RECOMMENDATION ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY LEAD – GMF APPLICATION FOR URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

Council reviewed a recommendation from the Environment and Sustainability Lead recommending that Council approve the submission of an application to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Green Municipal Fund (GMF) for funding to support the development of an Urban Forest Management Plan; which confirms the Town of New Glasgow's commitment to work with the AIM Network in the development of the plan; and the Town's commitment to provide the required municipal cash and in-kind contributions, including a cash contribution of \$7,000, to support project delivery; and the Urban Forest Management Plan will incorporate sustainability principles, including climate adaptation, biodiversity, and equity considerations, with measurable goals and targets; and that the Urban Forest Management Plan will include an implementation framework to guide actionable outcomes and inform future municipal decision-making, asset management practices, and capital planning.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the recommendation be approved as presented and an application be submitted to the FCM Green Municipal Fund.

Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

MEMO – NOVA SCOTIA DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – FINAL REMO STANDARDS AND NEW PC REMO COORDINATOR (FULL-TIME)

Council reviewed a memo from CAO Lisa MacDonald which provided the final REMO standards released by NS DEM and the announcement of Jon DeCoste as the new full-time assistant director with PC REMO.

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

Motion carried.

MEMO – VIOLA'S PLACE SOCIETY LIAISON COMMITTEE DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE

Council reviewed a memo from CAO which included updates from the past meetings and the DRAFT Terms of Reference prepared by Viola's Place Society and the revised DRAFT Terms of Reference with suggested edits for Council's consideration.

It was regularly moved and seconded to accept the suggested edits made to the Terms of Reference for the Liaison Committee and the memo be received and placed on file.

Motion carried.

TRAFFIC ANALYSIS REPORT – MUNROE AVENUE TRAFFIC DATA

Council reviewed a Traffic Analysis Report submitted by the NGRP Chief for the period of January 29 – February 17, 2026 (20 days) for Munroe Avenue at Eighth Street in the Town of New Glasgow. It was determined that Munroe Avenue demonstrates strong general compliance with the posted 50 km/h maximum and targeted speed enforcement is not warranted at this time.

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

Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMO WITH RECOMMENDATION – COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL UPDATE

Council received a recommendation from the CAO recommending approval to advertise for expressions of interest from qualified residents who may wish to serve on the respective Committees of Council with vacancies as recently the Audit Committee requires a Member At Large and NGRP Commission requires a Ward 2 Representative.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the recommendation be received as presented and the committee vacancies be advertised.

Mayor Dicks encouraged council members to reach out to residents in their respective wards for interest in the committee vacancies.

It was regularly moved and seconded that Deputy Mayor Peters be appointed as the Ward 2 elected member of the NGRP Commission.

Motion carried.

MEMO – SPECIAL MAYORS AND WARDEN COMMITTEE MEETING UPDATE

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO regarding the Special Mayors and Warden Committee Meeting update which took place on Wednesday, March 18, 2026, to discuss the proposed power generating facilities for Marshdale and Saltsprings.

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

Motion carried.

MEMO – RELOCATION AND REDESIGN COMMITTEE UPDATE

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO regarding the 1st Relocation and Redesign Committee meeting update, which was held on Thursday, March 12, 2026.

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

Motion carried.

UPATE – RIVERVIEW HOME CORPORATION

Councillor McKenna gave a verbal update regarding the Remedy report, which directs the closure of Riverview Home and the relocation of residents currently residing there into purchased homes. He outlined the challenges of working with the provincial department responsible for the Remedy.

Mayor Dicks thanked Councillor McKenna for the report.

NEW BUSINESS

MEMO – BILL 186 – FIRE SERVICES PROTECTION ACT

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO regarding Bill 186, the Support for Fire Protection Services Act, which proposes establishing an Office of the Fire Commissioner, requiring accreditation for fire service training programs, and mandating municipal fire protection service reviews.

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

Motion carried.

CREATIVE PICTOU COUNTY 2026 FUNDING SUPPORT REQUEST

Council reviewed a letter from Creative Pictou County regarding a fiscal 2026-2027 funding request of \$7500 for consideration.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the request be referred for 2026-2027 budget consideration.

Motion carried.

PICTOU COUNTY PRIDE 2026 FUNDING SUPPORT REQUEST

Council reviewed a letter from Pictou County PRIDE regarding a fiscal 2026-2027 funding request of \$500 for consideration.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the request be referred for 2026-2027 budget consideration.

Motion carried.

PICTOU COUNTY VOLUNTEER GROUND SEARCH AND RESCUE 2026 FUNDING SUPPORT REQUEST

Council reviewed a letter from Pictou County Volunteer Ground Search and Rescue regarding a fiscal 2026-2027 funding request of \$1500 for consideration.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the request be referred for 2026-2027 budget consideration.

Motion carried.

NOVA SCOTIA MILITARY VETERANS GROUP 2026 FUNDING SUPPORT REQUEST

Council reviewed a letter from Nova Scotia Military Veterans Group regarding a fiscal 2026-2027 funding request of \$1000 for consideration.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the request be referred for 2026-2027 budget consideration.

Motion carried.

CARMA 2026 FUNDING SUPPORT REQUEST

Council reviewed a letter from CARMA regarding a fiscal 2026-2027 funding request of \$1000 for consideration.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the request be referred for 2026-2027 budget consideration.

Motion carried.

RIVERVIEW HOME VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATION 2026 FUNDING SUPPORT REQUEST

Council reviewed a letter from Riverview Home Volunteer Association regarding a fiscal 2026-2027 funding request of \$250 for consideration.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the request be referred for 2026-2027 budget consideration.

Motion carried.

ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY OF PICTOU COUNTY 2026 SPONSORSHIP REQUEST FOR FESTIVAL OF THE TARTANS

Council reviewed a letter from St. Andrew's Society of Pictou County regarding a fiscal 2026-2027 sponsorship request for consideration of the annual Festival of the Tartans event.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the request be referred for 2026-2027 budget consideration.

Motion carried.

LETTER PICTOU-ANTIGONISH REGIONAL LIBRARY

Council reviewed a letter from the Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library regarding Provincial Budget Impacts.

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

Motion carried.

LETTER FROM PICTOU-ANTIGONISH REGIONAL LIBRARY

Council reviewed a letter from the Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library regarding the Operating Budget for Fiscal 2026-2027 as it relates to the municipal budget allocations.

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

Motion carried.

LETTER FROM NOVA SCOTIA DEPARTMENT OF GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Council reviewed a letter from Nova Scotia Department of Growth and Development, Deputy Minister, regarding Regional Enterprise Network funding changes.

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

Motion carried.

LETTER FROM THE CULTURAL FEDERATIONS OF NOVA SCOTIA

Council reviewed a letter from the Cultural Federations of Nova Scotia requesting support regarding the 2026 Provincial Budget cuts to Arts, Culture and Heritage.

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

Motion carried.

MEMO – NOVA SCOTIA PROVINCIAL BUDGET CUTS

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO outlining the Province of Nova Scotia's announced budget cuts and subsequent restoration of some grants and funding, as well as providing an overview of the recent NSFPM meeting held with Mayors, Wardens, and CAO's on February 26, 2026.

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

Motion carried.

LETTER FROM MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF ANTIGONISH

Council reviewed a letter from the Municipality of the County of Antigonish regarding the Antigonish Coalition to End Poverty.

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

Motion carried.

LETTER FROM THE TOWN OF DIGBY

Council reviewed a letter from the Town of Digby regarding support for the Antigonish Coalition to End Poverty.

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

Motion carried.

MEMO – PICTOU COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY/CARMICHAEL STEWART HOUSE MUSEUM

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO regarding Provincial Budget cuts in relation to the operations, programming, and long-term sustainability of the Pictou County Historical Society, which manages and operates the Town owned Carmichael Stewart House Museum. It was recommended that Council consider the impacts during budget discussions.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the memo be received and placed on file and consideration be given at the upcoming budget discussions.

Motion carried.

MEMO – PETITION FOR PRIVATE WAY – STEVEN POINTON

Council reviewed a memo from the CAO recommending that Council receive the petition dated March 3, 2026, regarding the laying out of a private way at 211 North Avenue and obtain a legal review and briefing with Council.

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

Motion carried.

LETTER FROM JAKE CHISHOLM – MUSEUM FUNDING CUTS

Council reviewed a letter from Jake Chisholm advocating for support regarding the provincial museum funding cuts.

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

Motion carried.

IN-CAMERA

The meeting concluded at 6:45 p.m., at which time Council moved to an in-camera session.

ADJOURNMENT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 8:10 p.m.



Mayor Nancy Dicks
Approved April 20, 2026