

TOWN OF NEW GLASGOW
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2025

A regular meeting of New Glasgow Town Council was held on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in Chambers. Present were Mayor Dicks, Deputy Mayor Dorrington, Councillors Peters, McKenna, Fraser, Joe MacDonald 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; Jeff Turnbull, Senior Planner; Ryan Leil, NGRP Chief; Alison Tait, Deputy Clerk; Jeff Hamelin, Information Technology Support Services; Frank DeMont, Solicitor; Steve Cleroux, Local Artist; Rebecca Whiffen, Ship Hector Society Tourism Manager; Wes Surrett, Ship Hector Society Chairperson and Vern Shay, Ship Hector Society Restoration Manager. Absent from the meeting were staff members Audrey Buchanan, Assistant Director of Engineering and Public Works, and Derek Eisan, Director of IT.

Mayor Dicks stated that as we gather this evening, we pause to remember that in this province we live and work on lands that are by law the unceded territories of the Wabanaki peoples – predominantly the land of the Mi'kmaq. May we live with respect on this land and live in peace and friendship with its people. We also recognize the African Nova Scotians whose culture, heritage, and history have been and remain a key part of our province for more than 400 years.

AGENDA

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

Motion carried.

PETITIONS/DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

PRESENTATION AND UNVEILING OF NG 150 ARTWORK

As part of the Town's 150th anniversary celebrations, Mayor Dicks and Town Council unveiled a watercolour painting by local artist Steve Cleroux.

PRESENTATION SHIP HECTOR SOCIETY

Rebecca Whiffen, Ship Hector Society Tourism Manager, Wes Surrett, Ship Hector Society Chairperson and Vern Shay, Ship Hector Society Restoration Manager provided a presentation to council. The Society requested funding support from the Town to achieve their goal of becoming a landmark designation by creating a sustainable attraction on the Pictou waterfront.

Mayor Dicks thanked the representatives from the Ship Hector Society for their presentation.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

It was regularly moved and seconded that the consent agenda including the Council and Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes of April 14, 2025, and proclamations for:

- i. VON Week – May 18-24, 2025
- ii. Access Awareness Week – May 26-May 31, 2025
- iii. World Menstrual Health Day – May 28, 2025
- iv. Recreation and Parks Month – June 2025
- v. PRIDE Month – June 2025
- vi. National Indigenous Peoples History Month – June 2025 & National Indigenous Peoples Day – June 21, 2025
- vii. National Day Against Gun Violence – June 6, 2025
- viii. National Health and Fitness Day – June 7, 2025
- ix. International Trails Day – June 7, 2025

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

Motion carried.

REPORTS

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Committee of the Whole Report be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Engineering and Public Works Report be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

SOLID WASTE REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Solid Waste Report be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

POLICE REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Police Report be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Community Development Report be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Business Development Report be accepted as presented.

Motion carried.

FIRE REPORT AND FIRE INSPECTION REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Fire Report and Fire Inspection Report be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

BUILDING REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Building Report be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Information Technology Report be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

HUMAN RESOURCES AND CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Human Resources and Corporate Communications Report be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES & PROJECTS REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Strategic Initiatives & Project Report be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

PRESENTATION OF BUDGETS FOR FISCAL 2025-2026

TAX RATE RESOLUTION/OPERATING BUDGET

Councillor Fraser presented the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the estimated expenditures of the Town of New Glasgow for the period of April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2026 be approved, accepted, and adopted in the amount of \$25,776,599 and after making allowance for estimated revenue in the amount of \$7,741,099, the amount of \$18,035,500 is required from the general taxation of the assessed valuation of \$770,463,600.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the tax rate for the Town of New Glasgow for the period April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2026, be set at \$1.84 per \$100 of assessment for Residential and Resource properties and \$4.45 per \$100 of assessment for Commercial property.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the pollution control rate of \$1.40 per cubic meter of water be applied as the current pollution control charge.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a solid waste uniform charge of \$183.00 per residential dwelling unit be applied as a solid waste charge for all dwelling units of four (4) or less.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the rate of taxes for the current period may be collected by Warrant and Distress, without further notice if not paid on or before the 31st day of March 2026 together with all costs and expenses of levy and sale of good on all proceeding's incidental thereto, and further if the said taxes are not paid before June 1st, 2025, for the interim tax bill and November 1st, 2025, for the final billing, an added penalty charge will be payable at a rate of 15% per annum on the balance of all outstanding tax accounts.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the 2025-2026 Operating Budget be approved as presented, a copy of which forms part of these minutes.

Motion carried.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the 2025-2026 Water Utility Operating Budget be approved as presented, a copy of which forms part of these minutes.

Motion carried.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the 2025-2026 Capital Budget be approved as presented, a copy of which forms part of these minutes.

Motion carried.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the 2025-2026 Water Utility Capital Budget be approved as presented, a copy of which forms part of these minutes.

Motion carried.

MOTIONS AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS

FIRST READING – NOTICE OF MOTION TO ADOPT DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT – BELOVED HOMES AND RENTALS, PID 01006337

Councillor Joe MacDonald presented for first reading the Notice of Motion to Adopt a Development Agreement – Beloved Homes and Rentals, 211 North Avenue PID 01006337. The purpose of the amendment application by Beloved Homes and Rentals is to permit the subdivision of the subject lands and the construction of (2), four (4) unit residential buildings designed and configured in a townhouse, single level style.

It was regularly moved and seconded by Council that a Public Participation Meeting and Public Hearing with respect to this Land-Use Bylaw Amendment and that the proposed amendment proceed to second reading in accordance with the procedures set out in the Municipal Government Act.

Motion carried with 5 yeas and 1 nay.

ACCOUNTS

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

Motion carried.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM IN-CAMERA

269 MITCHELL STREET DEMOLITION

It was the recommendation to Council from the May 20, 2025, Committee of the Whole Meeting to proceed with facilitating the demolition of 269 Mitchell Street, PID 00955716, through a contractor and apply the costs to the tax account for the property.

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 6:53 pm.

Motion carried.



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Town of New Glasgow - General Operations Budget Fiscal 2025-2026

	2025-2026	% of Total
Revenue:		
Tax Revenue	\$ 18,275,400	70.9%
Grants in Lieu of Taxes	160,753	0.6%
Environmental Health	1,926,962	7.5%
Sale of Services	1,888,400	7.3%
Revenue from Own Sources	648,200	2.5%
Unconditional Transfers	1,330,984	5.2%
Conditional Transfers	1,043,900	4.0%
Other Transfers	502,000	2.0%
Total Revenues	\$ 25,776,599	100.00%
Expenditures:		
General Government & Corporate Services	\$ 3,197,200	12.4%
Information Technology Services	896,200	3.5%
Police Services	5,850,310	22.7%
Fire Protection Services	2,309,767	9.0%
Engineering and Public Works	4,489,400	17.4%
Environmental Health & Refuse Collection/Disposal	1,969,700	7.6%
Planning and Economic Development	281,300	1.1%
Community Development	1,269,400	4.9%
Recreation	616,794	2.4%
Community Entertainment Service (Glasgow Square)	52,300	0.2%
Regional & Provincial Transfers	3,308,072	12.8%
Fiscal Services	1,536,156	6.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 25,776,599	100.0%
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenditures	\$ -	



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Town of New Glasgow Water Utility- Operations Budget Fiscal 2025-2026

	2025-2026	% of Total
<i>Revenue:</i>		
Meter Sales	\$ 2,770,000	62.2%
Hydrant/Fire Protection	825,017	18.5%
Fire Protection- Other Municipalities	292,700	6.6%
Private Hydrants	8,000	0.2%
Sprinkler Service	16,650	0.4%
Water Sales- Other Municipalities	510,000	11.5%
Bulk Water Sales	6,000	0.1%
Miscellaneous Revenue	24,000	0.5%
Total Revenues	\$ 4,452,367	100.0%
<i>Expenditures:</i>		
Source of Supply	\$ 306,140	5.9%
Pumping	174,100	3.3%
Water Treatment	932,000	17.9%
Transmission & Distribution	1,074,000	20.6%
Administration	2,085,700	40.0%
Non-operating Expenditures	638,114	12.3%
Total Expenditures	\$ 5,210,054	100.0%
<i>Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenditures</i>	\$ (757,687)	



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Town of New Glasgow - General Capital Budget Fiscal 2025-2026

	2025-2026 Approved Total
General Government	
Building Upgrades - Energy Efficiency Program	\$ 2,202,100
Library revitalization	3,000,000
Housing Accelerator Fund- Various initiatives, studies and development assistance	1,133,750
Information technology initiatives	424,300
Total General Government	\$ 6,760,150
Engineering and Public Works	
Capital paving program/TNG support to Canada Community Building Fund projects	1,540,942
Capital sidewalk program	40,000
8th Street sanitary sewer expansion	1,335,402
CSO-Flow meters	210,000
South-End Sewer separation project - Phase IIIb(completion)	40,000
South-End Sewer separation project - Phase IV	1,350,006
Buildings - annual accessibility program	110,000
Street intersection alignment - Vale Rd/Merigomish Rd	40,000
Railway crossing improvement	650,000
Re-construct accessible spaces-Provost St.	10,000
Replace 2014 Freightliner tandem plow	350,000
Improve heat pumps-Town Hall	30,000
Total Engineering and Public Works	\$ 5,706,350
New Glasgow Police Department	
Police equipment (body cameras/in car video/digital evidence)	\$ 55,100
Patrol vehicle - hybrid	88,900
Body armour	10,800
Hardware/Technology-Internet Child Exploitation	31,300
Total New Glasgow Police Department	\$ 186,100
New Glasgow Fire Department	
Replace side door fire hall	\$ 12,000
Equipment-6 sets turn out gear	36,000
Equipment-4 Self contained breathing apparatus	67,275
Equipment- TMR2 Radios - 7 units	30,000
Total New Glasgow Fire Department	\$ 145,275
Community Development and Special Projects	
Ward 1 Accessibility Ramp	150,000
Trail Upgrades - Lighting - Johnny Miles	342,000
Placemaking project	2,063,075
Glasgow Square Energy Retrofit	565,120
Total Community Development and Special Projects	\$ 3,120,195
GENERAL CAPITAL PROJECTS TOTAL	\$ 15,918,070



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Town of New Glasgow Water Utility- Capital Budget Fiscal 2025-2026

	2025-2026 Approved Total
Water Treatment Plant Equipment-backwash pumps	\$ 100,000
Water Meter Replacement	50,000
6" Water Meter Install	30,000
Forbes Lake Spillway, Dam Stabilization, Fish Ladder - Engineering Design	530,000
Forbes Lake Toe stabilization & Pizo meters Geotech	170,000
Forbes Lake Spillway / Dam Construction	100,000
Water Study-THM	30,000
Capital Services	15,000
Annual Valve Program	25,000
Replace 2005 Sterling Tandem Truck	350,000
WTP Culvert Replacement (2 culverts)	60,000
Information Technology Upgrades	30,000
Water Pressure Study - Munroe Ave. Area	100,000
Road Repair-MacPhersons Lake Rd	40,000
Survey and Mark (sign) Transmission Main	25,000
Water Utility Capital Total	\$ 1,655,000