

TOWN OF NEW GLASGOW
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 2025

A regular meeting of New Glasgow Town Council was held on Monday, August 18, 2025, at 5:15 p.m. at Glasgow Square. Present were Mayor Dicks, Deputy Mayor Dorrington, Councillors Joe MacDonald, Jessica MacDonald, McKenna, Fraser and Peters (participated virtually via MS Teams). 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; Inspector Blair Bannerman, NGRP; Rebecca Lewis-MacNeil, Director of Human Resources and Corporate Communications; Michelle Ward, Director of Community Development; Kim Dickson, Director of Strategic Initiatives; Kaila Reid, Planning and Development Officer; Alison Tait, Deputy Clerk; Jeff Hamelin, Information Technology Support Services; 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 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.

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 June 16, 2025 and proclamations for July and August 2025:

- i. Nelson Mandela International Day – July 18, 2025
- ii. National Drowning Prevention Week – July 20-26, 2025
- iii. Acadian Heritage Month & Acadian Heritage Day – August 2025 & August 15, 2025
- iv. Emancipation Day – August 1, 2025
- v. International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples – August 9, 2025
- vi. New Glasgow Black Gala Homecoming Week – August 8-15, 2025
- vii. World Humanitarian Day – August 19, 2025
- viii. International Day for People of African Descent – August 31, 2025
- ix. Arthritis Awareness Month – September 2025
- x. Prostate Cancer Awareness Month – September 2025
- xi. Suicide Prevention Day – September 10, 2025
- xii. International Celiac Disease Awareness Day – September 13, 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 dated July 14, 2025, be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

FINANCE REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Finance Report dated July 31, 2025, be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Engineering and Public Works Reports dated August 18 and July 14, 2025, be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

SOLID WASTE REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Solid Waste Reports dated August 18 and July 14, 2025, be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

POLICE REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Police Reports dated August 18 and July 14, 2025, be accepted as circulated.

Councillor Jessica MacDonald inquired about the new guidelines under the Simple Drug Possession Act under s.4(1), do the police require approval from the PPSC to charge under this act. She expressed concerns about the open illicit drug usage in public.

Inspector Bannerman advised that approval is required to charge under s.4(1).

Councillor Peters recommended having an open citizen engagement meeting with provincial representatives and community organizations to address the increase in homeless and drug use in the Town and discuss solutions as she feels that our police are at their capacity.

Mayor Dicks recommended waiting until the Viola's Place survey is completed, and the results could be used as a starting point for conversations with other partners.

Deputy Mayor Dorrington stated that there is a need for provincial standards for homeless shelters across the province as they appear to be operating independently.

Councillor Peters noted that the Viola's Place survey does not provide open dialogue about the community concerns that we are hearing.

Motion carried.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Community Development Reports dated August 18 and July 14, 2025, be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Business Development Reports dated August 18 and July 14, 2025, be accepted as presented.

Motion carried.

FIRE REPORT AND FIRE INSPECTION REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Fire Reports and Fire Inspection Reports dated August 18 and July 14, 2025, be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

The Mayor commended the Fire Department for their successful presentation of the return of the Lulan to the Town.

BUILDING REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Building Reports dated August 18 and July 14, 2025, be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Information Technology Reports dated August 18 and July 14, 2025, 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 Reports dated August 18 and July 14, 2025, be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Strategic Initiatives Reports dated August 18 and July 14, 2025, be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

ACCOUNTS

It was regularly moved and seconded that the accounts dated August 18 and July 14, 2025, be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Motion carried.