

TOWN OF NEW GLASGOW

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2026

A regular meeting of New Glasgow Town Council was held on Tuesday, February 17, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Present were Mayor Dicks, Deputy Mayor Peters, Councillors Dorrington, Joe MacDonald, Jessica MacDonald, McKenna, and Fraser. 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; Ryan Leil, NGRP Chief; Michelle Ward, Director of Community Development; Earl MacKenzie, Director of Engineering and Public Works; Mike MacKenzie, Senior Building Official; Alison Tait, Deputy Clerk; Jeff Hamelin, Information Technology Support Services; Frank DeMont, Solicitor; Tony Hessian, Alec Dove and Terry Cornett representing the New Glasgow Kinsmen Club. Absent from the meeting was staff member Derek Eisan, Director of I.T.

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 that 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 TO NEW GLASGOW KINSMEN CLUB AND SIGNING OF PROCLAMATION

Mayor Dicks signed a proclamation proclaiming February 20, 2026, as Kin Kindness Day and February 15-21, 2026, as Kin Canada Week.

Mayor Dicks presented the proclamation to Tony Hessian, Alec Dove and Terry Cornet, representatives of the Kinsmen Club of New Glasgow. Mayor Dicks expressed gratitude for their valuable contributions to our community and the many dedicated volunteers who support our youth.

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 January 19, 2026, and proclamations for:

- i. Kin Canada Day - February 20, 2026, and
Kin Canada Week February 15-21, 2026
- ii. International Mother Language Day – February 21, 2026
- iii. Human Trafficking Awareness Day – February 22, 2026
- iv. Amyloidosis Awareness Month – March 2026
- v. International Women's Day – March 8, 2026

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 February 17, 2026, be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

FINANCE REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Finance Report dated February 17, 2026, be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Engineering and Public Works Report dated February 17, 2026, be accepted as circulated.

Councillor McKenna raised concerns after hearing from residents who were frustrated about having to pay for two plowing job services on consecutive days due to snow being pushed back into their driveways by the Town plows. He asked whether there is an attachment or device that could be fitted to snowplows to prevent driveways from being filled in when the plow passes by.

The Director of Engineering and Public Works advised that these devices are attached to graders but are not suitable for our town usage, due to the narrow, old streets and houses being closer together. Widening is necessary for emergency services and school buses. This work cannot be performed in day due to traffic.

Councillor McKenna asked for an update on the repairs for the bridge on the Pioneer Trail.

The Director of Engineering and Public Works advised that there is a significant amount of work to be done involving cranes to repair the bridge. This project will be submitted for budget consideration.

Motion carried.

SOLID WASTE REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Solid Waste Report dated February 17, 2026, be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

POLICE REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Police Report dated February 17, 2026 be accepted as circulated.

Councillor Jessica MacDonald commended the Community Resource Officer, Rebecca Heighton for her work with the Downtown businesses.

Councillor Jessica MacDonald requested that the article "Why Police Share Information with the Public" be reposted to clarify what information police do and do not release when an occurrence takes place, as well as the reasoning behind it.

Chief Leil explained the operational directive related to mitigating risk to the public and advised that the article will be shared to the Town's social media via the New Glasgow Regional Police page.

Councillor McKenna recommended that the Community Resource Officer visit the businesses adjacent to Viola's Place Society.

Councillor McKenna inquired about the anomaly of one driver's speed of 150 kms/h on Almont Avenue and if that speed would skew the overall average.

Chief Leil advised to look at the average speed not the anomaly and stated that the recorded speed of 150 kms would not skew the average over a 14 day analysis.

Deputy Mayor Peters recognized the excellence of the traffic analysis report.

Motion carried.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Community Development Report dated February 17, 2026, be accepted as presented.

Motion carried.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Business Development Report dated February 17, 2026, 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 dated February 17, 2026, be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

BUILDING REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Building Report dated February 17, 2026, be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Information Technology Reports dated February 17, 2026, 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 dated February 17, 2026, be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES AND PROJECTS REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Strategic Initiative and Projects Report dated February 17, 2026, be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

ACCOUNTS

It was regularly moved and seconded that the accounts dated February 17, 2026, be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 6:24 p.m.



Mayor Nancy Dicks
Approved – March 23, 2026