

TOWN OF NEW GLASGOW
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2026

A regular meeting of New Glasgow Town Council was held on Monday, March 23, 2026, at 6:00 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; Sean O'Connor, By-Law Enforcement Officer; 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.

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

ORDER TO APPEAR – DEMOLITION – 166 EDWARD STREET

Mayor Dicks called three times for anyone wishing to speak regarding the Order to Appear for consideration of an order for the demolition of 166 Edward Street house.

The property owner was not present and there was no one present wishing to speak on the matter.

It was regularly moved and seconded to follow the recommendation and approved an order to have the owner demolish the house at 166 Edward Street within 30 days.

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 February 17, 2026, and proclamations for:

- i. National Poison Prevention Week – March 15-21, 2026
- ii. International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination – March 21, 2026
- iii. Purple Day for Epilepsy – March 26, 2026
- iv. Earth Hour – March 28, 2026
- v. International Day of Transgender Visibility – March 31, 2026
- vi. World Autism Acceptance Month – April 2026
- vii. Sexual Assault Awareness Month – April 2026
- viii. National Poetry Month – April 2026
- ix. National Medical Laboratory Week – April 12-18, 2026
- x. National Volunteer Week – April 19-25, 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 March 23, 2026, be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

FINANCE REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Finance Report dated March 23, 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 March 23, 2026, be accepted as circulated.

Councillor McKenna asked that the work for the ramp for Ward One be coordinated with members of the board to reduce the interruption to summer activities.

Director of Engineering and Public Works ensured that dates and times would be coordinated with the board.

Motion carried.

SOLID WASTE REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Solid Waste Report dated March 23, 2026, be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

POLICE REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Police Report dated March 23, 2026 be accepted as circulated.

Councillor McKenna asked for an update on the Drug Toxicity Trends report.

Inspector Bannerman advised there was no update available at this time.

Councillor McKenna asked for more information relating to the recent sudden death that occurred within the Town.

Inspector Bannerman advised that the matter was still under investigation.

Councillor Jessica MacDonald asked whether there are any concerns regarding the decline in reported incidents for Viola's Place Society in February. Could this decrease be related to staff being discouraged from contacting police, potentially to avoid reflecting the calls in the statistics? If so, is this a concern for the police. Are there alternative tools or methods available to accurately capture these incidents?

Inspector Bannerman advised that the Department is aware of the concerns and will encourage the Community Response Officer to reinforce the reporting message with the downtown business core.

The Council commended Constable Heighton's efforts within the downtown and the work at the shelter.

Motion carried.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Community Development Report dated March 23, 2026, be accepted as presented.

Councillor Jessica MacDonald commended the Department on the creation of the Flourish After Dark event, showing support for the arts.

Mayor Dicks advised that she participated in the Canadian Race Relations sponsored Engagement 2.0 – Pathways to Progress event initiated by the Community Development Department and GALMA on March 20, 2026, and suggested it would be a good example of a success story to be shared at the NSFM Fall conference.

Motion carried.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Business Development Report dated March 23, 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 March 23, 2026, be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

BUILDING REPORT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Building Report dated March 23, 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 March 23, 2026, be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried.

MOTIONS AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS

NOTICE OF MOTION TO ADOPT POLICY – TAX EXEMPTION

It was regularly moved and seconded that at the meeting to be held on Monday, April 20, 2026, Council intends to pass a motion to adopt policy pursuant to Section 69 of the Municipal Government Act, that a property tax exemption is the amount of \$414 for the taxation year 2026-2027 be granted to a person whose property is assessed as taxable property in the Town of New Glasgow and is occupied by that person as his/her principal residence and whose total income for the calendar year 2025 from all sources, including the income of a spouse or partner and other family members residing at the same property but excluding an allowance or pension paid pursuant to the War Veterans Allowance Act, is equal or less than \$24,855.

Motion carried.


ACCOUNTS

It was regularly moved and seconded that the accounts dated March 23, 2026, be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

It was regularly moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 6:13 p.m.


Mayor Nancy Dicks
Approved April 20, 2026