

ATTENDING

Mayor Mike Trinacty, Chair
Councillor Derrick Jamieson
Councillor Ty Walsh
Councillor Adam Lutz
Councillor Johanna Kwakernaak
Councillor Justin Serino (via zoom)
Councillor Chris Goddard
Jen Boyd, Chief Administrative Officer
Katie Verrette, Manager of Community Development
Aaron Dondale, Director of Public Works
Lisa Buchan, Director of Finance
Krista Longmire, Executive Assistant
Chrystal Fuller, BCP & C (via zoom)

ALSO ATTENDING

3 Members of the Public

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS AMENDED.

MOTION CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 14, 2025 COUNCIL MEETING BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED.

MOTION CARRIED

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING ON JANUARY 28, 2025 COUNCIL MEETING BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED.

4. REVIEW ACTION ITEMS

CAO Boyd gave an update on the Action Items from the previous meeting.

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. MPS/LUB Plan Update

Chrystal Fuller gave the background on the MPS/LUB plan review and reviewed the next steps for the updated plan and the projected financial impact. It was proposed that the text from the previous draft be retained as written and create additional policies and supportive mapping to leave some areas of the Town within a single-unit dwelling zone, similar to the existing R-1. For the proposed timeline to be achieved, the scope of the changes is limited to the R-1 changes, except for minor corrections or adjustments.

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED that Council approve the proposed timeline and budget of \$12,000 for Phase 2 of the MPS/LUB Plan review as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

Chrystal Fuller left the meeting 7:11 pm

b. RFD005-2025 - Audit Services

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT Council approve the five-year contract for audited services to Doane Grant Thornton, for fiscal years 2025-2029.

MOTION CARRIED

c. RFD006-2025 – Boxcar Deck Funding

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED that Council approve utilizing \$40,000 from operating reserves to fund the balance owing on the deck project at the box cars.

MOTION CARRIED

d. 109 Marsters Avenue Unsightly Property Update

Since the last Council meeting, staff have not had sufficient time to prepare the order and have requested an extension. It was agreed that staff would return this item to Council once weather conditions are more suitable for a thorough observation of the property.

e. 2025/26 Capital & Operating Budgets

Year 1 of the 2025/26 Capital budget was presented. Staff highlighted some of the recent financial changes that have been updated in the documents. After lengthy discussions, adjustments were made to the timing of significant capital projects to reduce the level of debt required for funding. The projects were prioritized based on their impact on the community and the availability of resources.

Further clarification on the operating budget was requested to assist in preparing version two, particularly regarding the proposed addition of two new positions. Councillor Jamieson noted that the Audit Committee has also requested additional resources to help resolve the deficiencies highlighted in the recent auditor's management letter, specifically concerning bank reconciliations.

Members of the public left the meeting at 8:48 pm

6. CORRESPONDENCE

a. Cassie & Brooke Johnson

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED that Council approve \$100 for each competitor for a total of \$200 to support the synchronized skating team going to the National competition.

MOTION CARRIED

b. Annapolis Valley Apple Blossom Festival

A letter from the Apple Blossom Festival was received requesting financial sponsorship for the 2025 Festival. Staff will review the schedule of events for the festival to assess the Town's involvement and its impact on the local economy. It was agreed to revisit this request when discussing grants to organizations.

c. Vardo Fair

A letter was received from Anna Horsnell regarding the Vardo Fair, the committee has decided not to proceed with the project.

d. Thank you letter

Mayor Trinacty shared the letter of thanks that was received from Zahir Kassam of the Ismaili Council for Canada after their recent visit to Berwick.

e. African Heritage Event

Councillor Kwakernaak gave an update on the African Heritage Month event she attended at the County of Kings on Feb 6, 2025. Councillors Jamieson and Goddard were also in attendance. It was an uplifting and great event.

7. MAYOR'S REPORT

The report was circulated.

8. IN-CAMERA

**IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE REGULAR MEETING
BE ADJOURNED TO INCAMERA AT 9:43 PM.**

MOTION CARRIED

**IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE INCAMERA
MEETING BE ADJOURNED TO REGULAR MEETING AT 10:19 PM.**

MOTION CARRIED

9. ADJOURNMENT

**IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE REGULAR MEETING
BE ADJOURNED AT 10:20 PM**

MOTION CARRIED

**Approved by Town Council
As recorded by Krista Longmire, Executive Assistant**