

ATTENDING

Mayor Mike Trinacty, Chair
Deputy Mayor Adam Lutz
Councillor Derrick Jamieson
Councillor Ty Walsh
Councillor Johanna Kwakernaak
Councillor Justin Serino
Councillor Chris Goddard
Jen Boyd, Chief Administrative Officer
Katie Verrette, Manager of Community Development
Krista Longmire, Executive Assistant

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Julia Merritt, Annapolis Valley Regional Library
1 Member of the public

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

**New Business
Councillor Announcements**

MOTION CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 13, 2025, COUNCIL MEETING WERE ACCEPTED AS CIRCULATED.

4. REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS

CAO Boyd reviewed the action items. Information on Basic Emergency Management Training will be circulated to all members of Council.

5. PRESENTATION

Julia Merritt, CEO, Annapolis Valley Regional Library

Julia Merritt, CEO of the Annapolis Valley Regional Library, gave an annual update on the overall operations of the Library and its services. She mentioned that the

library funding formula with the Province expired March 31, 2025, and no new funding was included in the 2025/26 Provincial budget. Conversations are continuing with the province for a long-term sustainable funding formula.

Julia Merritt left the meeting at 6:48 pm

6. NEW BUSINESS

Councillor Announcements

Deputy Mayor Lutz mentioned that the West Kings High School senior boys' rugby team won gold, and the senior girls' team earned bronze at the Division 2 Provincial Championship. Congratulations to both teams on their achievements!

Mayor Trinacty reminded everyone that the Sports Hall of Fame ceremony is Saturday evening at the Lions Hall.

a. First Reading Municipal Planning Strategy Plan Review

The presentation prepared for the Plan Review was reviewed, with key changes between the 2024 and 2025 drafts highlighted. The Provincial Statements of Interest and the plan's goals were also discussed. It was noted that the approval process timeline needs to be updated to reflect the additional Council meeting held after the second PAC meeting. The public hearing is scheduled for Monday, July 7th, followed by second reading at the regular Council meeting on Tuesday, July 8th. It was suggested that, in addition to the mailout and other advertising methods, announcements be placed on the local radio station to help promote the public hearing.

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT Council give first reading to the draft Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw documents and proceed with a Public Hearing scheduled for Monday, July 7th at 6:30 p.m, (Location to be determined) and direct staff to notify all property owners of the public hearing, highlighting the significant changes to the draft documents.

MOTION CARRIED

b. RFD17-2025 Deed Transfer Tax Bylaw Repeal & Replace, 2nd Reading

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT Council give 2nd reading to repeal and replace the Town of Berwick's Deed Transfer Tax Bylaw, Chapter 121, to change the rate from 1% to 1.25%.

MOTION CARRIED

c. RFD020-2025 Order to Remedy 109 Marsters Avenue

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT Council hereby determines that the condition of the property known as 109 Marster Avenue in the Town of Berwick is dangerous or unsightly as defined by the *Municipal Government Act*, specifically because the property contains derelict vehicles and other items, including but not limited to motor vehicles that lack license plates or current vehicle registrations, motor vehicles which appear disused by reason of mechanical condition, and a personal watercraft that appears disused by reason of its mechanical condition; and, as a result, the owner(s) of the property (as defined in the *Municipal Government Act*) are ordered to remedy this situation by complying with the following requirements no later than 3 pm on July 17, 2025:

- a. Remove from the property any motor vehicle which does not display a license plate with a current registration for that vehicle and which does not display a current motor vehicle inspection sticker if required for use of the motor vehicle on public streets, and which motor vehicle can be seen from a public street or neighbouring property; and**
- b. Remove from the property any motor vehicle and any personal watercraft which is disused by reason of mechanical condition, and which motor vehicle or personal watercraft can be seen from a public street or neighbouring property.**

MOTION CARRIED

d. RFD021-2025 Development Officer Appointment

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT Council appoints Lauren Isabelle as a Development Officer for the Town of Berwick, pursuant of section 243 of the *Municipal Government Act*.

MOTION CARRIED

e. RFD022-2025: Beautification Project Expense Approval

Manager Verrette provided background on the project, which was initially approved as part of the 2025/26 capital budget with a total allocation of \$25,000. At the time, it was expected that half of the funding would come from the NS Beautification and Streetscaping program. However, with the discontinuation of that program, the project budget has since been reduced to \$12,500.

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT Council support the use of up to \$5,641.98 from operating reserves to the 2025/26 capital budget

to cover costs associated with the installation of beautification elements of the lights and structures at the Town of Berwick entryway.

Deputy Mayor Lutz – NAY

MOTION CARRIED

It was noted that there will be a grand opening of the new bridge with a ribbon cutting in July.

e. RFD023-2025 Charity Events Participation Policy

CAO Boyd reviewed the proposed policy. It was noted that the budgeting component for this policy will need to be brought back to Council for discussion.

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT Council approve the Charity Events Participation Policy as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

f. Council Check In

Mayor Trinacty and CAO Boyd reviewed the summary of the Council survey results, along with the corresponding recommendations. It was suggested that committee members should also receive a similar survey to gather their perspectives on the committee's performance. Additionally, Councillor announcements will now be included as a regular part of Council meetings, with each Councillor allotted two minutes to share items of community interest.

6. CORRESPONDENCE - nil

7. MAYOR'S REPORT – as circulated.

8. IN-CAMERA

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE REGULAR MEETING BE ADJOURNED TO IN-CAMERA AT 9:12 PM.

MOTION CARRIED

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE IN-CAMERA MEETING BE ADJOURNED TO IN-CAMERA AT 9:45 PM.

MOTION CARRIED

Town Council would like to recognize and congratulate Tim Harding on his recent retirement, following 25 years of service with the Town of Berwick.

9. ADJOURNMENT

**IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE REGULAR MEETING
BE ADJOURNED TO IN-CAMERA AT 9:48 PM.**

MOTION CARRIED

Approved by Town Council, July 8, 2025

As recorded by Krista Longmire, Executive Assistant