

**PORT HAWKESBURY TOWN COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING
Shannon Studio
Minutes of Meeting
February 3, 2026**

Present

Mayor, Brenda Chisholm-Beaton
Deputy Mayor, Todd Barrett
Councillor, Iaian Langley
Councilor, Paula Hart
Councillor, Blaine MacQuarrie
Chief Administrative Officer, Terry Doyle
Director of Finance, Brian Luciano
Water Resource Manager, Jason MacMillan
Communications and Administrative Officer, Melissa Warner

1. Call to Order

A Public Meeting of the Port Hawkesbury Town Council was held in the Shannon Studio and virtually on Tuesday, February 3, 2026, and called to order at 7:00p.m. by Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton.

2. Additions to Agenda

There were no additions to the agenda.

3. Approval of Agenda

**MOVED by Councillor. I. Langley, and SECONDED by Deputy Mayor, T. Barrett
“THAT the Town of Port Hawkesbury approve February 3, 2026, Public Meeting
Agenda as amended.” MOTION CARRIED.**

4. Gallery Presentations

There were no gallery presentations.

5. Acknowledgements

Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton made the following acknowledgements for the month of February:

- Black History Month
- February 15 - National Flag of Canada Day
- February 21 - International Mother Language Day

6. Approval of Council Minutes

- i. Public Meeting of Council – January 6, 2025
There were no errors or omissions.

7. Business Arising from Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

8. Council Committee Reports

i. Report from Committee of the Whole

i. PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

MOVED by Councillor, B. MacQuarrie and SECONDED by Councillor, I. Langley “To approve the appointment of Maris Freimanis to the Planning Advisory Committee as presented at the January 20th Committee of the Whole.” MOTION CARRIED.

ii. Request from the Town of Antigonish

MOVED by Deputy Mayor, T. Barrett and SECONDED by Councillor, I. Langley “To write a letter of support requesting a secondary entrance to Saint Martha’s Regional Hospital and indicate that a fully staffed Strait Richmond Hospital is essential to support access issues to Saint Martha’s. MOTION CARRIED.

iii. Request from the Town of Mulgrave

MOVED by Councillor, B. MacQuarrie and SECONDED by Deputy Mayor, T. Barrett to write a letter of advocacy to the Minister of Nova Scotia Public Works on behalf of the Town of Mulgrave in support of the Town of Mulgrave seeking financial assistance to re-pave Highway 344 through Mulgrave highlighting the importance of the road for industrial development.” MOTION CARRIED.

iv. Approval of Committee of the Whole Minutes

MOVED by Deputy Mayor, T. Barrett and SECONDED by Councillor, P. Hart “That the Committee of the Whole Minutes of January 20th are approved as presented.” MOTION CARRIED.

9. Motions from In-Camera Session

SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

MOVED by Councillor, B. MacQuarrie and SECONDED by Councillor, P. Hart “That the Town of Port Hawkesbury approve the donation of surplus equipment to the Port Hawkesbury Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion.” MOTION CARRIED

SUPERCHARGERS

MOVED by Deputy Mayor, T. Barrett and SECONDED by Councillor, I. Langley “That the Town of Port Hawkesbury approve the Supercharger License Agreement subject to final legal review.” MOTION CARRIED.

10. Correspondence

There was correspondence that was reviewed in response to letters that were circulated prior to the meeting.

11. Proclamations/Resolutions

There were no Proclamations/Resolutions.

12. Other Business

i. Donation of Land Public Hearing – CAO, T. Doyle

CAO, T. Doyle noted that a notice of a Public Hearing has been issued regarding the donation of land (PID 50155795) related to the former Port Hawkesbury Arena and Lions Club property, proposed for sale at nominal consideration to New Dawn Enterprises, a not-for-profit social enterprise, to support the construction and operation of a 55-unit housing development. The notice has been shared on social media, the Town's website and Facebook page, will appear in Wednesday's edition of The Reporter, and the public consultation is scheduled for February 17 at 6:00p.m prior to the Committee of the Whole meeting.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor, T. Barrett and SECONDED by Councillor, I. Langley to ratify the holding of a Public Hearing on Tuesday, February 17th, 2026, at 6:00p.m. in the Shannon Studio.” MOTION CARRIED.

ii. Update on Staff Meeting Between Inverness and Town of PH – Councillor, I. Langley

Council requested a review and update on all intermunicipal agreements between the Town and the Municipality of Inverness following a previous presentation regarding the former Mabou Asylum commemoration initiative. CAO, T. Doyle noted that staff have identified numerous existing partnerships, including agreements related to the sewage treatment plant, Eastern District Planning Commission, Eastern Counties Regional Library services, Allan L. MacEachen Regional Airport advisory committee, Strait Area Transit, Strait IT Group, the Diamond Group, joint public works initiatives, fire services mutual aid, policing, and ongoing efforts such as a shared bylaw enforcement officer and the development of a regional EMO service with neighboring municipalities. A meeting with Inverness County staff is scheduled for February 13 to further review, clarify, and expand this list, with a more comprehensive update to follow.

iii. Council Expenses – CAO, T. Doyle

CAO, T. Doyle, reviewed the expenses for the month of January. He noted that Council's Expenses are posted on the Town's website.

13. Approved Additions

CAO, T. Doyle indicated that staff are bringing forward, for public notice this evening, three policies that were recommended by the Bylaw & Policy Committee prior to this meeting: The Civic Naming Policy, the Commercial Naming Rights and Sponsorship

