

**Regular Council Meeting
November 17, 2025
Town Council Chambers**

Present

Mayor S. Cameron
Deputy Mayor D. Roberts
Councillor L. MacLellan
Councillor A. Murray (appointed Deputy Mayor during the meeting under Item 10.2)
Councillor J. Pelly
Councillor J. Sullivan
Councillor P. McKenna

Also in Attendance

R. Delorey, CAO
M. Fougere, Municipal Clerk
S. Long, Acting Director of Community Development
M. Barkhouse, Director of Corporate Services
K. Meisner, Director of Infrastructure & Engineering

Media

Gallery (In person and online)

1. Call to Order & Land Acknowledgement

Mayor S. Cameron called the meeting to order at 5:04 PM.

2. In-Camera

2.1 Contract Negotiations MGA Sec 22 (2) (e)

Motion: That Town Council move in camera to discuss Contract Negotiations.

Moved by: Councillor MacLellan

Seconded by: Councillor Murray

Motion Carried

Council moved in camera at 5:05 p.m.

Council returned to open session at 5:51 p.m.

A brief recess was called at 5:51 p.m., and the meeting reconvened at 6:02 p.m.

Mayor Cameron acknowledged that the meeting took place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people and recognized that we are all treaty people.

Mayor Cameron took a moment to congratulate the STFX X-Women's Cross Country team on receiving silver medal at the National U Sports Championships held in Sherbrooke, Quebec on November 8th.

3. Approval of Agenda

3.1 Additions/Amendments

Councillor McKenna, moved item 9.1 to Item 5 – Long Service Awards

Councillor MacLellan added item 9.3 - Calder MacKenzie National Support

Motion: That the agenda be approved as amended.
Moved by: Councillor MacLellan
Seconded by: Councillor McKenna

Motion Carried

4. Conflict of Interest

Mayor Cameron & Councillor Pelly declared a conflict of interest regarding Item 8.1 – L'Arche Antigonish.

5. Long Service Awards

Council recognized two staff members for their long service milestones. Kyle Meisner received a certificate for 10 years of service, and Bill Landry received a certificate for 20 years of service. A group photo was taken with Council and the recipients.

6. Acceptance of Minutes

6.1 Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting – October 20, 2025

The minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on October 20, 2025, were accepted as presented.

6.2 Minutes of the Special Council Meeting – November 3, 2025

The minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on November 3, 2025, were accepted as presented.

6.3 Minutes of the Special Council Meeting – November 12, 2025

The minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on November 12, 2025, were accepted as presented.

7. Proclamations

7.1 Gen Well - November 24-30, 2025, as "Talk To A Stranger Week"

Mayor Cameron read a proclamation declaring November 24–30, 2025, as "Talk to a Stranger Week". Councillor Sullivan provided remarks regarding recent GenWell events hosted on the St. Francis Xavier University Campus, noting they were well organized.

8. Business from Committee of the Whole

8.1 L'Arche Antigonish – Funding Request

Mayor Cameron declared a conflict of interest and vacated the chair. Deputy Mayor Roberts assumed the chair. Councillor Pelly also declared a conflict of interest.

Council reviewed the information provided in the agenda package regarding L'Arche Antigonish's request for funding toward the installation of a walkway, vehicle turning area, and drainage improvements at their property. Background information and a project quote were included for Council's consideration.

During discussion, Councillor McKenna suggested that L'Arche explore potential infrastructure grants or funding from other organizations prior to Council making a decision on the request. Council expressed general interest in the project but determined that further information is required.

CAO, R. Delorey noted that staff will reach out to L'Arche Antigonish to obtain additional information before Council considers the funding request.

8.2 Jazz Festival Fundraiser Honoring Inez Forbes – Funding Request

Council reviewed the information included in the agenda package.

Motion: That Town Council approve a donation of \$200.00 from Council's Discretionary Funds, in memory of the late Inez Forbes, to the Jazz Festival for Palliative Care.

Moved by: Councillor MacLellan

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Roberts

Discussion ensued. Mayor Cameron provided background on the event, noting it had already taken place, and that the request is for donations to palliative care in memory of Inez Forbes.

Amendment: During discussion, Councillor Sullivan moved to increase the donation from \$200.00 to \$500.00.

Seconded by: Councillor Pelly

The amendment was adopted.

Motion (as amended): That Town Council approve a donation of \$500.00 from Council's Discretionary Funds, in memory of the late Inez Forbes, to the Jazz Festival for Palliative Care.

Motion Carried

8.3 Transition House Association of Nova Scotia – Purple Ribbon Campaign

Council reviewed the information included in the agenda package.

Motion: That Council support the Transition House Association of Nova Scotia (THANS) Purple Ribbon Campaign and approve the illumination of the Town Hall in purple from November 25th to December 10th as part of this province-wide initiative, with the exception of Friday, November 28th, when the Town Hall will be illuminated in red for the Christmas on Main event.

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Roberts

Seconded by: Councillor Sullivan

Motion Carried

8.4 Delightful December – Memo

Council considered the memo included in the agenda package regarding the Town's annual Delightful December initiative, which donates December parking meter revenue to two local community organizations.

Motion: That the Town of Antigonish donate \$3,000 to the Antigonish Emergency Fuel Fund and \$3,000 to the Antigonish Community Food Bank in December 2025, as part of the Delightful December initiative, with funding to be provided in advance of final parking revenue collection.

Moved by: Councillor MacLellan
Seconded by: Councillor Murray

Motion Carried

9. Business from the Minutes

9.1 Water & Sewer Update

CAO, R. Delorey provided an update on the Water and Sewer projects, including:
The front-end screening system: tender has been issued, and the design is expected to be completed by February. The project was delayed due to additional geotechnical work.

Water test wells under the Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF): drilling is expected to be completed shortly, with data collection and analysis to follow. Results are anticipated in the new year.

Councillor MacLellan inquired about connection timelines for the test wells, and the CAO explained that system connection depends on successful well results and subsequent analysis of water quality and volume, with results expected sometime in January.

Deputy Mayor Roberts inquired about the well locations, and the CAO noted they are in Brierly Brook, upstream from the dam, with locations based on prior studies recommending four test wells.

This item will continue to appear on the agenda for regular updates to Council.

10. New Business

10.1 Long Service Awards

Council amended the agenda, moving Item 9.1 -Long Service Awards to Item 5. Subsequent items were renumbered accordingly.

10.2 Deputy Mayor – New Term

Deputy Mayor Diane Roberts recently completed her one-year term. Mayor Cameron thanked Deputy Mayor Roberts for her service. Deputy Mayor Roberts expressed appreciation, noting it had been an honor and privilege to serve, having been elected six times during her twenty-seven years on Council.

The floor was opened for nominations for the new term.

Councillor Pelly nominated Councillor Andrew Murray.

Councillor Murray accepted the nomination.

Hearing no further nominations after three calls, Mayor Cameron declared Councillor Andrew Murray elected as Deputy Mayor for the new one-year term.

10.3 Calder MacKenzie – Nationals

This item was added to the agenda by Councillor MacLellan. Due to agenda amendments, it appears as Item 10.3 in the minutes.

Motion: That Town Council approve a \$200.00 Donation to Calder MacKenzie to attend the Cross Country Jr. Nationals in Ontario.

Moved by: Councillor MacLellan

Seconded by: Councillor Roberts

Mayor and Council extended their congratulations to Calder, wishing him a successful experience at Nationals.

11. Correspondence

10.1 Global Medical Brigades – STFX

Mayor spoke to the information that was circulated in Councils Package.

Councillor McKenna questioned if this non-profit group can apply for a grant, Mayor spoke to this noting this is a group of STFX students requesting funding individually.

Motion: That Council approve a contribution of \$600.00 from Council's Discretionary Fund to the Global Medical Brigades in support of their medical services trip to Greece in April 2026.

Moved by: Councillor Sullivan

Seconded by: Councillor MacLellan

Discussions ensued.

Councillor MacLellan asked in the future if staff can provide more information for what the request is and what the funding amount should be and if it should be requested.

Would like to be better informed.

Motion Carried

10.1 Antigonish Visitor Information Centre - Off-Season Tourism & Holiday Event Proposal

Council received a letter from the Antigonish Visitor Information Centre for an upcoming event featuring Charlie A'Court. During discussion, the question was asked why a local musician was not being considered, noting the preference to support local talent when possible. The request was submitted late and that the musician identified by the organizers has not yet been formally secured, which made the timing and details of the request somewhat unclear.

The Mayor informed Council that he had spoken with the event organizers, who indicated that this would be a positive event for the Town and that Charlie A'Court was willing to make himself available.

Council expressed interest in learning more about the event, including the proposed date, location, and overall logistics.

CAO spoke that a motion can be made with some conditions where there is time strain.

Motion: That Council conditionally approve a contribution of \$1,000.00 from Council's Discretionary Fund to the Antigonish Visitor Information Centre in support of their Off-Season Tourism Holiday Event, with the following conditions:

1. A signed contract with Charlie A'Court; and
2. An identified venue and confirmed performance date on or before December 20, 2025.

Moved by: Councillor McKenna
Seconded by: Councillor MacLellan

Motion Carried

12. Staff Reports

Council had the opportunity to ask questions regarding the reports circulated in the agenda package.

East Main St: Councillor MacLellan asked whether the planned 12-inch elevation is sufficient and expressed concern about potential ice damming. K. Meisner noted that the consultant set the elevation to exceed the relevant flood level and confirmed that potential impacts on ice dams were considered.

St. Patrick's/Good Neighbours Report: Councillor MacLellan asked whether Council would have access to the report. CAO advised that the report will be forthcoming and a meeting is scheduled.

Temporary Internal HR Support: Councillor MacLellan questioned this temporary support. CAO, R. Delorey and M. Barkhouse explained this support is to assist with scheduling and interviews; a business case will be reviewed before the next budget.

Active Transportation Trail: Councillor Roberts noted approval from the Knights for the alignment through Columbus Field; CAO confirmed the lane will be located between the bike lane and the Cenotaph.

Good Neighbour / St. Patrick's Subcommittee: Deputy Mayor Murray asked about the subcommittee. CAO confirmed it is under the Good Neighbour group and recommendations will return to the Police and Licensing Committee.

Good Neighbour Report: Councillor Roberts inquired about the status of the report and suggested that, once finalized, could it be circulated to all Council members. CAO noted the report is still in draft form, a meeting is scheduled for Wednesday to review it and clarified that it is managed through the Good Neighbour group, with the Town providing support and information.

Parade Planning: Councillor McKenna asked about the upcoming Town Christmas parade logistics, including parking and marshalling. CAO provided clarification.

Greening Drive: Councillor McKenna asked about the end date; CAO indicated completion expected by the end of December.

Circular Materials: Councillor McKenna asked about communications regarding circular materials. CAO confirmed ongoing social media updates, noted provincial changes including depot pickups, and clarified that GFL remains the service provider with no change to the schedule. Residents experiencing issues should contact GFL or Circular directly rather than the Town.

Garbage App Update: Councillor Sullivan asked if the collection app would be updated with the Circular materials; CAO confirmed to his understanding it will be.

Bay Street Traffic: Councillor McKenna inquired about periods when traffic is stopped but no work is occurring. K. Meisner noted that staff will investigate.

Sewer Work Budget: Councillor MacLellan asked about budget status; CAO confirmed it is on track and thanked staff and residents for their cooperation.

Highway 4/Church St. Roundabout Completion: Councillor Sullivan asked about the project timeline. Staff indicated the roundabout is nearly finished, with approximately two more weeks of work remaining, and noted that this is a provincial project, not managed by the Town.

Mayor's Remarks

Mayor Cameron noted that the roundabout project is not under the Town's jurisdiction and that completion was initially promised for the end of October; Council made decisions based on the information available at the time. He offered apologies to residents for the inconvenience and encouraged Council and the public to support local businesses affected by the project.

Mayor advised that temporary traffic measures will be in place on Hawthorne Street on November 18 between Whidden Street and Viewville Street for a new water connection. Work will begin at 4:30 a.m. and traffic will be reduced to one lane.

He reminded residents that overnight parking restrictions will begin on December 1.

Mayor encouraged the public to attend the Christmas Parade on November 22, which will follow a new route beginning on Hawthorne Street, down Main Street to Church Street, and ending at the Antigonish Marketplace. He also invited the public to attend the Christmas on Main on November 28, noting Council's participation is requested.

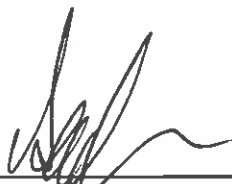
Mayor noted that a Joint Council Meeting will be held on November 19 at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers, open to the public.

He also reminded Council that on Sunday, December 7, they will assist with the Community Soup event.

13. Adjournment

With no further business, Councillor Roberts moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:02p.m.

Motion Carried



Mayor Sean Cameron



Randy Deloey, CAO