

**Committee of the Whole
June 2, 2026
Town Council Chambers**

Present

Mayor S. Cameron
Deputy Mayor A. Murray
Councillor L. MacLellan
Councillor P. McKenna
Councillor D. Roberts
Councillor J. Pelly
Councillor J. Sullivan

Also in Attendance

R. Delorey, CAO
M. Fougere, Municipal Clerk
K. Meisner, P.Eng., Director of Infrastructure and Engineering
S. Long, Marketing and Communications Officer
K. MacInnis, Director of Community Development
M. Barkhouse, Director of Corporate Services
D. Dunn, Housing Accelerator Fund Coordinator (HAF)

Gallery (Online)

1. Call to Order & Land Acknowledgment

Mayor S. Cameron called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. and provided a land acknowledgement recognizing that the meeting took place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people and that we are all treaty people.

2. Additions to the Agenda

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Motion: That Council accept the agenda as presented.

Moved by: Councillor McKenna

Seconded by: Councillor MacLellan

Motion carried.

3. Conflict of Interest

Councillor McKenna declared a conflict of interest with respect to item 7.3 Town Services and Affordable Housing Grant Applications.

4. Acceptance of Minutes

4.1 Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 5, 2026

The minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held May 5, 2026, were accepted as presented.

5. Banner Requests

5.1 Festival Antigonish Summer Theatre

The Festival Antigonish Summer Theatre banner request was presented for information. The item will be brought forward to the June Regular Council meeting for consideration.

Council discussed the possibility of developing a policy for recurring banner requests. It was noted that several requests are presented annually, often with a financial component, and a policy may streamline the approval process for recurring requests.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

Councillor MacLellan requested an update regarding e-scooter operations in the Town. The CAO advised that the current e-scooter company operating in the Town has submitted a vending permit application. Discussion focused on the current lack of restrictions regarding operating locations, including Main Street, sidewalks, and speed limits. Council also discussed the potential use of geofencing to limit where scooters may operate.

Council discussed whether municipalities have the authority to prohibit e-scooter operations. Councillor McKenna expressed the view that the operator should be advised that failure to comply with established limits or expectations could result in restrictions on operating within the Town.

The CAO noted that, in the absence of provisions under the Motor Vehicle Act, e-scooters are intended to operate on streets. The CAO further noted that enforcement presents challenges, including the limited ability of by-law enforcement officers to stop riders.

Mayor Cameron advised that correspondence from the company had been circulated to Council. The letter outlined measures being taken to improve safety, including efforts to address issues related to helmets being removed by users and enhancements to helmet locking systems.

7. New Business

7.1 Branding Memo – Informational

A memo was circulated in Council's agenda package for informational purposes.

Discussion followed regarding the condition and replacement of highway tourism signage. Staff advised that the signs are part of a provincial program developed in collaboration with the former Antigonish Regional Authority and are subject to provincial standards and requirements.

Council also discussed potential future signage options.

7.2 Noise Exemption By-Law for Antigonish Music Festival

Council received information regarding a request from the Antigonish Music Festival for a Noise Exemption By-law extension to 12:00 a.m. on August 7 and 8.

The matter will be brought forward to a future Council meeting for consideration.

7.3 Town Services and Affordable Housing Grant Applications – Memo

Councillor McKenna declared a conflict of interest and excused himself from the discussion.

CAO, R. Delorey provided an overview of the Town Services and Affordable Housing Grant Program, noting that four applications were received, of which two met the eligibility criteria. The program has a budget of \$50,000.

The item was presented for discussion and will be brought forward to a future Council meeting for consideration.

Councillor McKenna returned to the meeting.

7.4 Municipal Finance Corporation (MFC) Borrowing Resolutions

M. Barkhouse reviewed a memo included in Council's agenda package regarding Municipal Finance Corporation borrowing resolutions and the requirement for ministerial approval. The proposed borrowing relates to several capital projects, including the Library project and water and sewer infrastructure initiatives.

The CAO advised that the budgeted amount for the sewer project and current estimates do not align and that additional borrowing may be required. Discussions are ongoing, and recommendations will be brought back to Council for consideration.

7.5 Capital Re-Allocations

A memo regarding capital re-allocations was circulated in the Council package. K. Meisner spoke to the memo.

Council discussed funding considerations related to Hospital Way, including timing of design work and implications for potential funding applications. Questions were raised regarding program eligibility, application timelines, and overall project approach. Discussion also included broader infrastructure considerations, including Bay Street and cost-sharing implications.

The CAO advised that the memo was for information and noted that updated information, including recent tender results, will be brought forward to Council for further consideration at the June 16 Regular Council meeting.

Council expressed appreciation for the information provided.

8. Correspondence

8.1 Recognition – Royal Canadian Legion 100th Anniversary

Mayor Cameron noted that he would like to recognize the Royal Canadian Legion's 100th Anniversary at a future Council meeting.

No further discussion took place.

8.2 President's Night of Xaverian Legacy - June 20, 2026

Council discussed the possibility of booking a table for the event. It was agreed that the matter would be brought forward to a future Council Meeting for consideration.

8.3 Letter from J. Paradis re: Safety Concerns on Proposed Crosswalk Location 23 Main St.

Mayor Cameron spoke to the correspondence received from Mr. J. Paradis regarding safety concerns related to the proposed crosswalk location at 23 Main Street.

Councillor McKenna questioned whether Mr. Paradis understood the mandate of the railway and the recommendations of the professionals involved. The Mayor noted that Mr. Paradis understands the rationale but does not agree with the decision from a safety perspective.

No further discussion took place.

8.4 CACL Ham and Bean Dinner & Auction – June 5, 2026

Council discussed the CACL Ham and Bean Dinner & Auction event to be held on June 5, 2026, and directed the Clerk to circulate the event information to Council members interested in purchasing individual tickets.

No further discussion took place.

9. Councillor & Committee Reports

Councillor Roberts spoke to the Police and License Committee report, which had been circulated to Council, and provided an update on discussions related to civic addressing. Councillor Roberts also presented a recommendation from the Fire Committee respecting access to fuel tanks located at the Towns Public Works Depot through the use of a key swipe card system.

Councillor Pelly provided an update on recent meetings and community events she attended.

Deputy Mayor Murray provided an update on recent meetings and community events he attended.

Councillor Sullivan provided infrastructure updates regarding the GRID Modernization Project, Sewer Treatment Facility upgrades, Bay Street Phase 1, James Street water line design work, West Street Phase 2 construction, source water well development, sidewalk construction projects, and repairs to the Town's street sweeper.

Councillor McKenna provided an update from the Pictou Antigonish Regional Library (PARL) Board, including information on the Donation Station capital campaign and library service changes within the region.

Councillor MacLellan provided his report.

Mayor Cameron provided an update on recent meetings and activities.

Motion: That Council move to go In- Camera at 7:28 p.m.

Moved by: Councillor Pelly

Seconded by: Councillor MacLellan

Motion carried.

10. In-Camera

10.1 Contract Negotiations - MGA Section 22(2)(e)

10.2 Personnel Matters – MGA Section 22(2)(c)

Motion: That Council rise from the In-Camera Session.

Moved by: Councillor Sullivan

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Murray

Motion Carried.

Council rose from the In-Camera Session at 9:04 p.m.

11. Adjournment

With no further business, Deputy Mayor Murray moved for adjournment at 9:04 p.m.



Mayor Sean Cameron



Randy Delorey, CAO