

**Regular Council Meeting
January 19, 2026
Town Council Chambers**

Present

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

Also in Attendance

R. Delorey, CAO
M. Fougere, Municipal Clerk
S. Long, Acting Director of Community Development
M. Barkhouse, Director of Corporate Development
K. Meisner, P.Eng., Director of Infrastructure and Engineering
D. Dunn, Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF)
J. Bain, Director Eastern District Planning Commission

Media

Gallery (In person and online)

1. Call to Order & Land Acknowledgement

Mayor S. Cameron called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM and 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.

2. Approval of Agenda

2.1 Additions/Amendments

The Mayor moved to reorder the agenda, moving item 8.2 to 5.2 (Good Neighbours Working Group – St. Patrick's Day Review).

Motion: That the Agenda be approved as amended.

Moved by: Councillor MacLellan

Seconded by: Councillor McKenna

Motion carried.

3. Conflict of Interest

Councillor McKenna declared a conflict of interest and will recuse himself from item 6.1.

4. Acceptance of Minutes

4.1 Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting – December 17, 2025

4.2 Minutes of the Emergency Council Meeting – December 11, 2025

4.3 Minutes of the Special Council Meeting – January 13, 2026

The above minutes were accepted as presented.

5. Presentations / Proclamations

5.1 African Heritage Month - Proclamation

The Mayor officially read and signed the proclamation declaring February 2026 as African Heritage Month in the Town of Antigonish.

5.2 Good Neighbours Working Group - St. Patrick's Day Review -6:10p

Ms. Elizabeth Yeo, Vice-President Students of St. Francis Xavier University (STFX), and Ms. Jacqueline De Leebeek, Director of Student Life at STFX provided an overview of the Good Neighbours Working Group's review of the 2025 St. Patrick's Day activities, including coordination efforts with STFX departments, the Student Union, Town, County, RCMP, and emergency services. The presentation highlighted planning, risk management, and harm reduction initiatives.

Council discussed considerations arising from the review, including public safety, coordination with residents and enforcement, monitoring of events, and logistical challenges such as portable washroom placement.

Motion: To accept the presentation by the Good Neighbours Working Group.

Moved by: Councillor McKenna

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Murray

Motion carried.

Mayor and Council thanked Ms. Yeo and Ms. De Leebeek for the presentation and the ongoing collaboration with the Town.

Ms. Yeo acknowledged the Town's perspective and expressed appreciation for the partnership.

6. Business from Committee of the Whole

6.1 Coldest Night of the Year (CNOY) – Town Hall Illumination Request

Councillor Patrick McKenna declared a conflict of interest regarding this item and left the Council table.

Motion: That Council approve the Coldest Night of the Year request to illuminate the Town Hall on February 28, 2026

Moved by: Councillor Roberts

Seconded by: Councillor Pelly

Motion carried.

6.2 Pan-African Flag Raising Request

Motion: That Town Council approve a flag-raising request for the Pan-African flag to be raised from February 1 to 28, 2026.

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Roberts

Seconded: Councillor McKenna

Motion carried.

7. Business from the Minutes

**7.1 Second Reading - Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law - HAF
Densification**

J. Bain, EDPC, addressed Council regarding the proposed amendments and the addendum circulated in advance of the meeting. J. Bain also noted a written submission received at the Public Hearing on January 12, 2026.

Council considered the proposed amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law. Council received clarification from staff regarding building heights, zoning, and the scope of the RN-2 amendments.

Motion: That Council adopt the proposed amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law, as presented.

Moved by: Councillor MacLellan

Seconded by: Councillor McKenna

Recorded Vote:

In Favour: Councillors MacLellan, McKenna, Pelly, Roberts, and Deputy Mayor Murray
Opposed: Mayor Cameron and Councillor Sullivan

Motion carried.

7.2 Second Reading – Parking By-Law

Motion: That Council approve the Town of Antigonish Parking By-Law as presented.

Moved by: Councillor Roberts

Seconded by: Councillor McKenna

Motion carried.

7.3 Municipal User Fee Policy

Motion: That Council approve the amendments to the Municipal User Fee Policy.

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Murray

Seconded by: Councillor McKenna

Motion carried.

7.4 Parking Policy

Motion: That Council approve the Town of Antigonish Parking Policy as presented.

Moved by: Councillor MacLellan

Seconded by: Councillor McKenna

Motion carried.

8. New Business

8.1 Nominations Committee Recommendation – Accessibility Committee Vacancies

Mayor requested that Deputy Mayor Murray assume the chair for this item.

Council considered the Nominations Committee's recommendation regarding Accessibility Committee vacancies.

The following appointments were made:

Jason McDonald – Voting Member, 3-year term, beginning January 19, 2026

Sally Huffman – Non-Voting Member, 3-year term, beginning January 19, 2026

Cassandra Quik – Non-Voting Member, 2-year term, beginning January 19, 2026

8.2 Good Neighbours Working Group - St. Patrick's Day Review

The agenda was amended at the start of the meeting to move this item to 5.2. It was considered at that time.

9. Correspondence

No correspondence was received this month.

10. Staff Reports

Council received and reviewed the staff reports.

The following matters were noted for follow-up by staff:

- Ensure resident-reported concerns are addressed promptly, and that Public Works prioritizes early repairs to potholes to minimize traffic impact.
- Provide an update on the AREA audit once the review with the new auditors is complete.
- Provide follow up on the Beaverbrook flood analysis and related site concerns.

11. Adjournment

With no further business, Councillor MacLellan moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m.



Mayor Sean Cameron



Randy Delorey, CAO