

**Regular Council Meeting
September 15, 2026
Town Council Chambers**

Present

Mayor Sean Cameron
Deputy Mayor Andrew Murray
Councillor Leon MacLellan
Councillor Patrick McKenna
Councillor Diane Roberts
Councillor Juanita Pelly

Regrets

Councillor Jack Sullivan

Also in Attendance

Randy Delorey, CAO
Melanie Fougere, Municipal Clerk
Shannon Long, Marketing and Communications Officer
Kyle Meisner, P. Eng., Director of Infrastructure and Engineering
Meaghan Barkhouse, Director of Corporate Services

Media

Gallery (in person and online)

1. Call to Order & Land Acknowledgement

Mayor Cameron called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. 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 following additions were made to the agenda:

- Item 10.6 – Volunteer Fire Department – New Member Appointment
- Item 11.5 – Letter from the Office of the Prime Minister (Deputy Mayor Murray)
- Item 7.5 – Dolly Parton Imagination Library Proclamation

Motion: That the agenda be approved as amended.

Moved by: Councillor MacLellan

Seconded by: Councillor McKenna

Motion Carried.

Motion: That Council move In-Camera to discuss:

- the acquisition, sale, lease, and security of municipal property pursuant to Section 22(2)(a) of the Municipal Government Act; and
- contract negotiations pursuant to Section 22(2)(e) of the Municipal Government Act.

Moved by: Councillor MacLellan

Seconded by: Councillor Roberts

Motion Carried.

Council entered the In-Camera session at 5:05 p.m.

3. In Camera

3.1 Acquisition, sale, lease and security of municipal property MGA Sec 22(2)(a)

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

Motion: That Council rise from the In Camera session and return to Regular Council.

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Murray

Seconded by: Councillor Pelly

Motion Carried.

Council returned to open session at 6:00 p.m.

Council recessed at 6:00 p.m.

Council reconvened at 6:06 p.m.

Additions/Amendments to the Agenda

Motion: That the agenda be amended to add Contract Negotiations as Item 13 at the end of the agenda.

Moved by: Councillor Roberts

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Murray

Motion Carried.

4. Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

5. Acceptance of Minutes

5.1 Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting – August 18, 2026

5.2 Minutes of the Special Council Meeting – September 1, 2026

The minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of August 18, 2026, and the Special Council Meeting of September 1, 2026, were accepted as presented.

6. Recognitions

6.1 Community Recognitions

Mayor Cameron presented Certificates of Recognition to the following individuals in acknowledgement of their recent achievements and contributions:

- **Arnie Farrell**, recipient of Hockey Canada's Order of Merit (Atlantic Region), in recognition of more than two decades of volunteer leadership and service to the sport of hockey in Nova Scotia.
- **Ryan Kearney**, who represented Team Nova Scotia at the 2026 Special Olympics Canada Summer Games and earned a silver medal in golf.

- **Lisa Leuschner**, who represented Team Nova Scotia at the 2026 Special Olympics Canada Summer Games in Medicine Hat, Alberta, and earned two silver medals (400m sprint and 4x400m relay) and one bronze medal (200m sprint).

Council congratulated the recipients on their achievements and contributions.

7. Consent Agenda Items

7.1 Virtual Council Meeting Policy

7.2 Town of Antigonish Technology Use Policy

7.3 Letter from Strait Area Chiefs, Mayors, Wardens and CAO's re: Cell Service in Strait Region

7.4 National Forest Week - September 20 to 26, 2026 - Proclamation

7.5 Dolly Parton Imagination Library Proclamation

Motion: That Council approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Moved by: Councillor McKenna

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Murray

Motion Carried.

8. Business from the Committee of the Whole

8.1 Antigonish Regional Emergency Management (AREMO) Evacuation Plan Updated

Motion: That Council approve the updated Antigonish Regional Emergency Management Organization (AREMO) Evacuation Plan as presented.

Moved by: Councillor McKenna

Seconded by: Councillor MacLellan

Motion Carried.

9. Business from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

10. New Business

10.1 Northern Collector (Hospital Way) – Funding Application

The CAO provided an update on the Northern Collector (Hospital Way) project and advised that staff continues to monitor provincial and federal funding opportunities and will submit an application should an appropriate funding program become available.

10.2 Nominations Committee Recommendations - Antigonish Heritage Museum Board

Mayor Cameron stepped down from the Chair to allow the nominations process to proceed. Deputy Mayor Murray assumed the Chair.

As Chair of the Nominations Committee, Mayor Cameron nominated Peggy Thompson and Caleb Marshall for appointment to the Antigonish Heritage Museum Board for two-year terms commencing September 15, 2026.

As no further nominations were received, Peggy Thompson and Caleb Marshall were declared appointed by acclamation.

10.3 Nominations Committee Recommendations - Accessibility Committee

As Chair of the Nominations Committee, Mayor Cameron nominated Jillian Swinkels for appointment to the Accessibility Committee for a two-year term commencing September 15, 2026.

As no further nominations were received, Ms. Swinkels was declared appointed by acclamation.

Mayor Cameron resumed the Chair.

10.4 Council and Staff Clothing – Deputy Mayor Murray

Deputy Mayor Murray raised the matter of Council-branded clothing for members of Council.

Council discussed the availability of funding within the current budget for Council and staff apparel. Staff advised that funds remain available within the budget allocation.

10.5 Appropriate and timely responses to Council – Councillor Roberts

Councillor Roberts raised concerns regarding response times to inquiries submitted to staff and emphasized the importance of timely communication to enable Council members to respond to residents.

Councillor Roberts suggested that, where possible, staff provide an estimated timeframe for responding to inquiries or addressing concerns raised by Council.

The CAO acknowledged the concerns and advised that staff would continue to work toward timely responses while recognizing that response timelines may vary depending on the nature and complexity of each matter.

10.6 Volunteer Fire Department – New Member Appointment

Motion: That Council appoint Timothy Jason Kell, a resident of the Town of Antigonish, as a member of the Town of Antigonish Volunteer Fire Department, as recommended by the Fire Chief and Executive, effective September 15, 2026.

Moved by: Councillor Roberts

Seconded by: Councillor MacLellan

Motion Carried.

11. Correspondence

11.1 StFX Global Medical Brigade- Funding Request

Council agreed to assist in promoting the event through municipal communication channels and social media.

11.2 Antigonish Parents In Action Education Committee – Funding Request

Motion: That Council approve a contribution of \$100.00 to the Antigonish Parents In Action Education Committee for their upcoming Back to School Bash.

Moved by: Councillor Roberts

Seconded by: Councillor MacLellan

Motion Carried.

11.3 Special Olympics Canada Summer Games 2030 (Letter of Support)

Council reviewed a request for support of the bid to host the 2030 Special Olympics Canada Summer Games in Antigonish. It was noted that no financial commitment was being requested at this time.

Motion: That Council authorize staff to prepare and send a letter of support for the bid to host the 2030 Special Olympics Canada Summer Games in Antigonish.

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Murray

Seconded by: Councillor MacLellan

Motion Carried.

11.4 Chamber of Commerce Business Gala (October 22, 2026) – Informational

Council was advised that tickets for the Chamber of Commerce Business Gala scheduled for October 22, 2026, had been purchased by the Municipal Clerk for members of Council who expressed interest in attending.

11.5 Letter from the Office of the Prime Minister

Deputy Mayor Murray advised Council that he had received correspondence from the Office of the Prime Minister and shared the letter for information.

12. Staff Reports

Council discussed traffic, parking, and road maintenance concerns raised by members of Council. CAO provided updates on ongoing reviews related to parking enforcement, signage, pavement maintenance, and line painting. No action was taken.

CAO advised that the concerns would be reviewed and addressed as appropriate, including referral to the Traffic Authority where necessary. Council was also reminded of the upcoming winter parking ban.

Council recessed from the Regular Council Meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Council reconvened at 7:05 p.m.

Motion: That Council move In Camera to continue discussion regarding Contract Negotiations pursuant to Section 22(2)(e) of the Municipal Government Act.

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Murray

Seconded by: Councillor McKenna

Motion Carried.

Council entered the In Camera session at 7:06 p.m.

13. In Camera

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

Council rose from the In Camera session at 7:58 p.m.

14. Adjournment

With no further business, Councillor Pelly moved for adjournment at 7:58 p.m.



Mayor Sean Cameron



Randy Delorey, CAO