Infrastructure Committee Meeting

Town Council Chambers
Date: August 11, 2026. Time: 6:00 p.m.

Present

Councilor J. Sullivan, Chair
Councillor D. Roberts
Councillor L. MacLellan

Mayor S. Cameron

R. Boucher, Resident of Antigonish
M. Grant, Resident of Antigonish
K. Meisner, Director of Infrastructure & Engineering
L. Basinger, Projects Manager
D. Halfpenny, Infrastructure & Engineering Administrative Assistant

Call to Order

The Chair, Councilor J. Sullivan, called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Additions to the Agenda

Additions to the agenda: Tree branches on Pleasant Street, College Street dash lines, dead tree near bridge.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Councillor D. Roberts and seconded by Councillor, L. MacLellan to approve August 11 ,2026, agenda with the additions. Motion Carried.

Acceptance of Minutes

A motion to accept the minutes of May 27, 2026, as written, was made by L. MacLellan and seconded by R. Boucher. Motion carried.

Business Arising from the Minutes

1. **Grid Mod Project Updates**
   K. Meisner, P. Eng., Director of Infrastructure & Engineering, reported that the final stages of the substation are being completed in preparation for the energizing of the lines in early to mid-September. He advised that Monday, September 1, or Tuesday, September 2 would be possible options for the site visit.

2. **Sewer Plant Updates**
   K. Meisner reported that, despite the hot and humid weather, Facilities staff experienced only one significant odour-related issue. He noted that the new aerator change-outs have helped reduce odour, triple capacity, and improve recirculation. The plant has also recorded improved oxygen levels within the lagoon.

K. Meisner acknowledged that there is more work to get the Sewer Treatment Plant up to optimal capacity and that work will be ongoing to determine the best and most cost-efficient methods to implement the upgrades. He advised that he will be meeting with the contractor onsite for the screening project, with contract signing finalized and work expected to take approximately fifty-four weeks from the date the contract was awarded.

3. **AT Trail**

K. Meisner reported that construction remains on schedule. He advised that, during the work, the contractor discovered three buried manholes. These are being raised back to grade, and one required the removal of a catch basin connection.

Councillor D. Roberts commented that the contractor is doing excellent work.

4. **Source Water Wells**

K. Meisner reported that the well water quality reports have been received and are positive. He explained that negotiations with the landowner will continue as they work toward an acceptable agreement. He noted that the next major step is pump testing to determine the recharge area and the amount of land the Town may need to purchase. The screens are being designed, and the Department of Environment must approve the permitted draw amount. He acknowledged that a three-to-seven-day full flow of the wells would be required to complete the necessary testing and recharge of sixty days. The aim is to have the wells in place by late 2027.

5. **Bay Street**

The Bay Street Project Phase 1 is nearing completion. K. Meisner noted that line painting is almost complete, and a professionally designed retaining wall, developed with input from the homeowner, is awaiting installation and landscaping reinstatement. He commented that approximately 5% of the project remains to be completed.

M. Grant noted that the east end of Main Street looks good and is a significant improvement. However, he expressed frustration with the contractor's traffic-control signage and the delays in addressing deficiencies, including large potholes that could cause serious vehicle damage.

Discussion followed on improving the contractor's accountability. K. Meisner advised that a walk through will take place to determine any deficiencies and note any penalties to the contractor.

6. Sources Water Wells

L. Basinger reported that she had a productive meeting with the landowner and that plans are moving ahead to schedule drilling for a third test well. A screen has been ordered for the second test well, and the drillers are expected to need three to four days to complete the new well. She added that she is awaiting confirmation of the drilling date.

She explained that once the report on the third test well is received, and if the results confirm a reliable water source, the Town will proceed with production pump testing, which is expected to take five to seven days. In late August, planning will begin to determine the transmission requirements needed to bring the well into service by 2027.

7. West Street Update

K. Meisner advised that the West Street Project is wrapped up and that a walk-through is scheduled for August 12 with the contractor to work through the list deficiencies to be addressed. He noted that the sod needs to be replaced, and hydrants are placed at the proper height. He advised that there will be a full review of the West Street and Bay Street projects with the contractor.

New Business

1. Line Painting

R. Boucher advised that the dash lines are missing in sections of the Town line painting.

K. Meisner noted he will check traffic marking plans to ensure that the sections that require dash lines are corrected if they are missing. He stated that the line painting crew has completed phase one application and will complete phase two after asphalt patching is completed.

The Infrastructure Committee acknowledged that the line painting crew have being doing a good job.

2. **Asphalt Patching Schedule**

K. Meisner reported that asphalt patching is scheduled to begin on Tuesday, August 18th The crew were awaiting the milling machine crew to commence the work.

3. **Branches and Trees**
D. Roberts advised that on the right-hand side of Pleasant Street there are trees and shrubs that are causing a visual problem at the corner of Pleasant and College Street.

M. Grant commented that he had removed the trees from the homeowner's property before and will contact him to trim them up again.

Mayor S. Cameron advised of a dead tree that is hanging over a bridge.
K. Meisner commented that he would check with Public Works on getting it scheduled for removal.

4. **Intermunicipal Service Agreement**

   K. Meisner noted that it is being worked on.

5. **Water Source for the Fall Fair**
   K. Meisner advised that the dam is little less than 6" down and that there is rain forecast for the upcoming week. Conditions will continue to be monitored over the next few weeks.

6. **Construction Signs and Materials**

   K. Meisner noted that one of the contractors has failed to pick up their signage materials and left them obstructing sidewalks and confusing motorists and pedestrians. He noted they have been contacted and that when the completed action review is completed this is one of the items that will be highlighted. If the signage and materials are not picked up the materials will be picked up by Public Works and added to their inventory.

   Discussion followed on keeping the contractor accountable for following proper traffic control signage removal and how to ensure that the contractor's supervisor on the site is managing their workers.

7. **Lights on Main Street Crossings**

   Mayor S. Cameron commented that the lights on Main Street have been reset and wondered why.

   K. Meisner advised that he is not sure and will check with the electric utility to determine why the timing was changed.

8. **Municipal Service Policy**

   K. Meisner circulated a copy of the Municipal Service Policy for committee members to review and provide comment by the next meeting. He explained that it was last revised in 2002 and that subsequent changes to the Land Use Bylaw and the Municipal Planning Strategy do not fully align with the changes. He noted that these documents go hand in hand when implementing any new developments in the Town and that Municipal service permits have shown and increase in resent year.

9. **James Street prep work**

   K. Meisner reported that there is a meeting set for later next week to initiate budget discussion for James Street for the number one project for 2027. He commented that

he would need the budget approval in October or early November to ensure that a tender would be posted in early January. The focus will be to get the project completed with minimum disruption for the businesses on James Street

Adjournment.

L. MacLellan called for adjournment. Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned 8:00 p.m.

Next meeting date TBD. Note it can’t be held on a Wednesday night.