



COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

October 6, 2026, 6:00 p.m.
Trenton Town Hall
120 Main Street, Trenton, Nova Scotia

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

At the Town of Trenton, we acknowledge that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people. This land is governed by the treaties of Peace and friendship, first signed by the Mi'kmaq. We reside by Pictou Landing First Nation, which is governed by a Chief and Council.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Recommendation:

That the October 6, 2026, Council Meeting agenda be adopted.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Recommendation:

That the following meeting minutes be adopted:

- August 25, 2026 - Council Meeting
- September 1, 2026 - Council Meeting
- September 29, 2026 - Council Meeting

5. CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 Pictou County Firefighters Association – Request for Letter of Support

6.2 Pictou County Christmas Fund – Funding Request

6. BYLAWS

None

7. REPORTS

7.1 Water Utility Pilot Program

8. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

8.1 Lindsay Hurley

8.2 Alison Elsworth-Cameron

9. CLOSED SESSION

Per the NS Municipal Government Act, Council is permitted to meet in closed session to discuss topics of a confidential nature.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Upcoming Meetings (6:00 pm)

- October 27, 2026 - Council Meeting
- November 10, 2026 - Council Meeting

TOWN OF TRENTON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES



August 25, 2026
Trenton Town Hall

Council Present: A. Dove, S. Cameron, D. Cullen, N. LeBlanc, S. MacKinnon

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Dove called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mayor Dove acknowledged that the Town of Trenton is in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved: D. Cullen

Seconded: S. MacKinnon

That the August 25, 2026, Council Meeting agenda be adopted with the following changes:

- *Deletion of Item 8.2 - Delegation*

In Favour (4): A. Dove, D. Cullen, N. LeBlanc, S. MacKinnon

Opposed (1): S. Cameron

Motion Carried

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved: N. LeBlanc

Seconded: D. Cullen

That the following meeting minutes be adopted with the following corrections changes:

- *November 25, 2025 - Committee of the Whole*
- *June 16, 2026 - Council Meeting (Special)*
- *June 16, 2026 - Council Meeting**
- *June 23, 2026 - Council Meeting*
- *July 2, 2026 - Council Meeting (Special)*
- *July 14, 2026 - Council Meeting***

*Correction – The minutes should say that the Pictou Antigonish Regional Library has formed a Revenue Committee, not the Trenton Library.

**Correction – The minutes should say that the Pictou County Partnership is looking for a new CEO, not that Healthy Pictou County has hired a CEO.

In Favour (5): A. Dove, S. Cameron, D. Cullen, N. LeBlanc, S. MacKinnon

Motion Carried

5. CORRESPONDENCE

None

6. BYLAWS

None

7. REPORTS

7.1 Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library Financial Statements

This item was provided for information only. No motions arose from this item.

7.2 Administration Update

The Chief Administrative Officer provided the following updates:

- The 2026 paving tender for Chestnut Street has closed and the Town is in the process of awarding that tender.
- RCMP costs for 2026-2027 are expected to be lower than originally anticipated. Initial indications are that the Province would like those savings used for community safety initiatives, but details still have to be confirmed.
- The Town Budget and Budget Open House will be taking place in September, announcements on final dates will be forthcoming.
- Staff hope to open the pool from Aug 28th – Sept 13th. There have been a significant number of issues getting the pool ready to open this year. A full report will be coming in the fall.

7.3 Councillor Updates

This item was provided for information only. No motions arose from this item.

8. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

8.1 Lindsay Hurley – Addressed Council regarding communication with residents and Town infrastructure.

8.2 This item was deleted from the agenda.

8.3 Carol MacDonald – Addressed Council regarding community improvement suggestions.

9. CLOSED SESSION

Moved: S. MacKinnon

Seconded: D. Cullen

That in accordance with the MGA, Council move into closed session (6:18 pm).

In Favour (5): A. Dove, S. Cameron, D. Cullen, N. LeBlanc, S. MacKinnon

Motion Carried

Council returned to the open portion of the Council Meeting at 8:08 pm.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Moved: D. Cullen
Seconded: N. LeBlanc

That the May 12, 2026, Council meeting be adjourned. (8:09 p.m.)

In Favour (4): A. Dove, D. Cullen, N. LeBlanc, S. MacKinnon
Absent (1): S. Cameron

Motion Carried

Alec Dove
Mayor

Gabryel Joseph
Chief Administrative Officer

TOWN OF TRENTON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES



September 1, 2026
Trenton Town Hall

Council Present: A. Dove, S. Cameron, D. Cullen, N. LeBlanc, S. MacKinnon

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Dove called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mayor Dove acknowledged that the Town of Trenton is in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved: N. LeBlanc
Seconded: S. MacKinnon

That the September 1, 2026, Council Meeting agenda be adopted.

In Favour (5): A. Dove, S. Cameron, D. Cullen, N. LeBlanc, S. MacKinnon

Motion Carried

4. CLOSED SESSION

Moved: D. Cullen
Seconded: S. MacKinnon

That in accordance with the MGA, Council move into closed session (6:01 pm).

In Favour (5): A. Dove, S. Cameron, D. Cullen, N. LeBlanc, S. MacKinnon

Motion Carried

Council returned to the open portion of the Council Meeting at 7:51 pm.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Moved: D. Cullen
Seconded: N. LeBlanc

That the September 1, 2026, Council meeting be adjourned. (7:53 p.m.)

In Favour (5): Dove, S. Cameron, D. Cullen, N. LeBlanc, S. MacKinnon

Motion Carried

Alec Dove
Mayor

Gabryel Joseph
Chief Administrative Officer

TOWN OF TRENTON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES



September 29, 2026
Trenton Town Hall

Council Present: A. Dove, S. Cameron, D. Cullen, N. LeBlanc, S. MacKinnon

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Dove called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mayor Dove acknowledged that the Town of Trenton is in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved: D. Cullen
Seconded: N. LeBlanc

That the September 29, 2026, Council Meeting agenda be adopted.

In Favour (5): A. Dove, S. Cameron, D. Cullen, N. LeBlanc, S. MacKinnon

Motion Carried

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

None.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

6. BYLAWS

None.

7. REPORTS

7.1 **2026-2027 Budget**

The Chief Financial Officer presented the General Operating and Capital Budgets for both the Town of Trenton and the Town of Trenton Water Utility. The Chief Financial Officer and Chief Administrative Officer answered Council's budget questions.

Moved: D. Cullen
Seconded: N. LeBlanc

1. *BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Town of Trenton that the General Operating Budget for April 1, 2026, to March 31, 2027, be \$5,941,089.*

In Favour (4): A. Dove, D. Cullen, N. LeBlanc, S. MacKinnon
Opposed (1): S. Cameron

Motion Carried

Moved: D. Cullen
Seconded: N. LeBlanc

2. *BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Town of Trenton that the Water Utility Operating Revenue be \$1,398,825 and Water Utility Operating Expenditures be \$1,069,222 for April 1, 2026, to March 31, 2027.*
3. *BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Town of Trenton that the General Capital Budget for April 1, 2026, to March 31, 2027, be \$350,300.*
4. *BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Town of Trenton that the Water Utility Capital Budget for April 1, 2026, to March 31, 2027, be \$249,250.*

In Favour (5): A. Dove, S. Cameron, D. Cullen, N. LeBlanc, S. MacKinnon

Motion Carried

Moved: N. LeBlanc
Seconded: S. MacKinnon

BE IT RESOLVED that the General Operating Budget of the Town of Trenton for the period of April 1, 2026, to March 31, 2027, be approved, accepted and adopted in the amount of \$5,941,089.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the tax rate for the Town of Trenton for the period April 1, 2026, to March 31, 2027, be set at \$2.04 per \$100 of assessment for Residential and Resource properties at the assessed valuation of \$126,159,700, \$4.10 per \$100 of assessment for Commercial property at the assessed valuation of \$7,104,300, the Solid Waste annual user fee rate \$146.00 per dwelling unit and fire protection rate \$0.145 per \$100 of assessment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the rate of taxes for the current period may be collected by Warrant and Distress, without further notice if not paid on or before the 31st day of March 2027 together with all costs and expenses of levy and sale of good on all proceeding's incidental thereto, and further if the said taxes are not paid before May 29, 2026 for the interim tax bill and October 30, 2026 for the final billing, an additional penalty charge will be payable at a rate of 15% per annum on the balance of all outstanding tax account.

In Favour (5): A. Dove, S. Cameron, D. Cullen, N. LeBlanc, S. MacKinnon

Motion Carried

8. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

None.

9. CLOSED SESSION

Moved: S. MacKinnon

Seconded: N. LeBlanc

That in accordance with the MGA, Council move into closed session (6:44 pm).

In Favour (5): A. Dove, S. Cameron, D. Cullen, N. LeBlanc, S. MacKinnon

Motion Carried

Council returned to the open portion of the Council Meeting at 7:23 pm.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Moved: N. LeBlanc

Seconded: D. Cullen

That the September 29, 2026, Council meeting be adjourned. (7:24 p.m.)

In Favour (5): Dove, S. Cameron, D. Cullen, N. LeBlanc, S. MacKinnon

Motion Carried

Alec Dove
Mayor

Gabryel Joseph
Chief Administrative Officer

Pictou County Firefighters Association letter for support

Dear CAO's, Mayor, Warden, Council Members and Municipal Staff:

The Pictou County Firefighters Association currently operates a live fire training facility in Parkdale, across from North Nova Education Centre. For nearly 25 years, this facility has provided firefighters throughout Pictou County and the surrounding region with an important venue for realistic, hands-on fire training.

Unfortunately, the facility's age and location have created several significant challenges. In recent years, it has experienced repeated incidents of vandalism, resulting in increasing repair and replacement costs. After nearly 25 years of continued use and live fire training, the structure is also showing considerable wear, and the costs associated with ongoing maintenance and repairs continue to rise.

The Live Fire Training Committee of the Pictou County Firefighters Association initially explored relocating the existing structure to a more suitable and secure location. However, following an assessment of the building's condition, it was determined that the structure would not withstand relocation. Continuing to invest in the existing facility would therefore provide only a short-term solution while exposing participating departments to increasingly unpredictable repair and maintenance expenses.

As a result, the committee has been working toward a long-term and more cost-effective solution: the construction of a new regional live fire training facility within the Town of Pictou. With the support of the Town of Pictou, we are now in a position to advance this important project.

Although the construction of a new facility will require an initial investment, it is expected to provide significant long-term savings. A new purpose-built facility would reduce the ongoing repair, maintenance and vandalism-related costs associated with the current structure. It would also provide a more reliable training location, helping departments avoid the financial impact of cancelled, postponed or relocated training due to facility repairs or safety concerns.

The proposed facility would provide firefighters from Pictou County and surrounding counties with a safe, controlled and reliable environment for realistic live fire training. A modern regional facility would help departments maintain and improve their skills, enhance firefighter safety and preparedness, strengthen cooperation among departments, and improve emergency response capabilities for residents throughout the region.

The facility would also help reduce training-related costs for participating fire departments. By providing training locally, departments would avoid or reduce expenses associated with transportation, accommodations and meals. Local training would also reduce the amount of time members must spend travelling outside the region, helping departments limit lost volunteer hours and the need to arrange additional coverage while members are away.

A shared regional facility would allow participating departments to benefit from the same infrastructure rather than each department having to develop or maintain separate training resources. This cooperative approach would help maximize the value of public and volunteer resources, reduce duplication and ensure that the costs of operating and maintaining the facility can be shared among the departments and communities that benefit from it.

The Pictou County Firefighters Association intends to apply to the Province of Nova Scotia through the Emergency Services Provider Fund to assist with the development and construction of the new facility. Provincial funding would help reduce the financial burden on local municipalities, fire departments and volunteer organizations while supporting a facility that will provide long-term regional benefits.

As part of this application, we respectfully request a Letter of Support from your municipality for this important regional project.

Where applicable, we would appreciate the letter addressing the following:

- **Your municipality's support for the proposed Pictou County Firefighters Association Live Fire Training Facility;**
- **The anticipated safety, operational and financial benefits the facility would provide to your municipality, the fire service and the broader Pictou County region;**
- **The potential for long-term savings through reduced repair, maintenance, travel, accommodation and training-related costs;**
- **Your municipality's participation in and support for regional coordination, cooperation and collaboration among fire departments and emergency service providers; and**
- **Any operational, maintenance or financial commitments associated with the project, where applicable.**

This project represents much more than the replacement of an aging structure. It is a practical, long-term investment intended to reduce ongoing costs, improve the reliability of regional training and make better use of the financial resources available to local fire departments and municipalities.

A modern regional training facility would allow departments to train together under realistic conditions, strengthen working relationships before responding to an actual emergency, reduce travel and training expenses, limit future repair and vandalism costs, and provide current and future generations of firefighters with a dependable facility close to home.

By investing in a new facility now, the region can avoid continuing to spend increasing amounts on an aging structure that is no longer suitable for relocation and may require significant ongoing repairs. A purpose-built facility would provide greater predictability in operating costs and better value over its useful life.

On behalf of the Pictou County Firefighters Association and the Live Fire Training Committee, we thank you for considering our request and for your continued support of the fire service throughout Pictou County.

We look forward to working with you to make this important and cost-effective regional project a reality.

Sincerely,

**Pictou County Firefighters Association
Live Fire Training Committee
William Chace Westville Fire Department**



Pictou County Christmas Fund

Dear Friends at the Town of Trenton,

On **Sunday, November 22nd, 2026**, we will be celebrating the **52nd annual Pictou County Christmas Fund** telethon!

The telethon will air from **1pm to 6pm on Eastlink Community TV**. Audio streaming of the show will be made available by **Lucas Technology & Analytics** online at: pictoucountychristmasfund.ca

Over the past 51 years the Pictou County Christmas Fund has supported *over 30 thousand families* in Pictou County. The PCCF with its many volunteers, performers and supporters is one of the largest and truly meaningful showcases of the year. Support from our local community is extremely strong from all sectors, with individuals, businesses large and small, churches, towns, schools and community groups all playing important roles in the success of the Fund.

Last year we distributed over **\$100,000**. And this year, our goal is as always, to raise as much money as possible to help those in need have an easier time at Christmas. We are asking that you once again consider incorporating the Pictou County Christmas Fund into your community giving. The PCCF appreciates your ongoing support for families in need in our community.

The telethon will once again be held at the **deCoste Performing Arts Centre** in Pictou. We are so pleased and grateful for this ongoing partnership. We are also excited that although a portion of the show and entertainment will be pre-recorded, there will also be live performances throughout the program.

If you or a member of your organization would like to do an on-air cheque presentation, we would be happy to have you join us live, **between 2pm and 5pm**. If you would like to pre-record a cheque presentation to be aired during the live TV broadcast, please let us know by **October 30th** and we will be happy to set up a time in early November to record a quick segment for Eastlink.

Sincerely,
Monique Sobey
PCCF Chair

902 759 2228
Email rmjmofs@gmail.com

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PCCF
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174B Archimedes St.
New Glasgow, NS
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COUNCIL REPORT

Date: October 6, 2026
To: Council
From: Gabryel Joseph, Chief Administrative Officer
Subject: Water Utility Pilot Program – Low Water Flow Response

RECOMMENDATION

There is no Council action required at this time.

DISCUSSION

Like many municipalities, the Town of Trenton requires capital upgrades to its water distribution system to ensure adequate maintenance for proper functioning and service delivery. However, given the magnitude of required updates, limited availability of government grants and a small, local tax base, it could take the Town many years to catch up to current infrastructure maintenance demands. At the same time, it is important for the Town to find a way to ensure adequate levels of water service to its residents. The attached pilot program aims to strike a balance between maintenance requirements and current realities, while providing a fair and transparent process to address individual resident concerns while long-term capital planning and repairs are completed. The attached outline is not complete, but is provided to gauge Council's opinion of the program's intended direction of action. A completed pilot program will come forward in the future for approval after garnering feedback from Council.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Town's Water Utility will incur costs associated with repair of its infrastructure in cases where maintenance and/or repair of Town infrastructure is required.

ATTACHMENTS

1. 1-Year Pilot Program Outline

TOWN OF TRENTON
ONE-YEAR PILOT PROGRAM PROPOSAL - LOW WATER FLOW RESPONSE

1. PURPOSE

This outline proposes a 1-year pilot program for the Town of Trenton Water Utility for the purpose of establishing a standardized, transparent and equitable procedure for investigating and responding to resident complaints of low water flow rates in residential homes.

2. BACKGROUND & OBJECTIVE

Currently, inquiries regarding reported low household water flow rates require a clear operational framework to determine whether the restriction originates from the Town's municipal infrastructure or within private property components. The primary objective of this 1-year pilot program is to streamline investigations, define cost responsibilities and establish clear service level benchmarks for water delivery.

Note: The Nova Scotia Regulatory and Appeals Board has confirmed that a pilot program of this nature does not require Board approval.

3. PROTOCOL & WORKFLOW

When a resident reports a low water flow rate in their home, the following protocols would be implemented:

a) Initial Resident Application:

- Upon a resident reporting a low flow water rate, Town staff will arrange an appointment to verify the flow rate in the home, measured at several fixtures. If the flow rate in the home is measured to be below the acceptable Town standard flow rate, then the resident can proceed with making an application to the pilot program.
- The resident will make an application for the program to have their water flow measured externally and submit the required \$--- deposit (TBD) with the Town prior to the commencement of any excavation or testing.
- As part of the application, the resident (and owner, if the owner is not also the resident) will be required to confirm the process being followed and must sign a waiver limiting the Town's potential liability to damage caused by the Town's own negligence and to the limit of the cost to replace any damaged water line infrastructure and refilling the hole.

b) Excavation and Testing Procedure:

- The Town will excavate the resident's standpipe.
- The Town will disconnect the water line from the standpipe to the house to directly measure the flow rate coming from the municipal supply line. Following testing, the water line will be reconnected to the standpipe.
- Timing of the excavation and testing will depend on the availability of Town resources (i.e. staff and equipment), as well as environmental factors such as weather.

Scenario A - Flow Rate Meets Standard:

- If the measured flow rate is # gallons per minute (TBD) or above, the flow rate is determined to meet the Town's acceptable standard.
- The resident will be informed in writing of the test results, confirming that any reduction in flow is located downstream of the standpipe and is therefore the homeowner's responsibility to repair or improve at their discretion.
- Deposit: The deposit is retained by the Town to offset the costs of excavation, testing and reconnection of the water line.
- Open Excavation Option: If the resident wishes the Town to leave the excavation open (i.e. to facilitate immediate private contractor repairs and avoid duplicate excavation costs), the Town will leave the hole open. However, the resident must have a contractor confirmed to complete the work quickly and assumes full legal and physical responsibility for the open hole and its eventual repair.
- Subject to the resident's request to leave the hole open, the Town will refill the hole and no further action will be taken by the Town.

Scenario B - Flow Rate Falls Below Standard:

- If the flow rate is less than the standard, the Town will attempt to improve the flow rate up to the standard using methods such as pipe reaming or service line replacement back to the water main if necessary.
- Deposit: The deposit will be returned to the resident.

c) Restoration and Landscaping Responsibilities:

- Following excavation, the Town will only backfill the hole on the resident's property to restore basic ground level at the site.
- Any and all subsequent repairs, restorations or landscaping work required to restore the property to its previous condition for lawns, flower beds or other aspects of the property (e.g. patios, walkways, retaining walls, structures, driveways, fences, decks, water features, etc.) remain strictly the responsibility and cost of the homeowner.

d) Re-Testing:

- A resident may participate in this pilot program once during the 1-year pilot period.

4. REVIEW

At the conclusion of this 1-year pilot period, a report will be made to Town Council with a recommendation for next steps. This program may be reviewed and revised by Town Council at any point during the initial pilot period if required. Upon the recommendation of the Town's Public Works Superintendent, the CAO may pause the program at any point during the pilot period until such time as it may be reviewed by Town Council.