MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF
ANTIGONISH

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AGENDA

Tuesday, October 13, 2026, 5:30pm
Council Chambers
Municipal Administration Building
285 Beech Hill Road
Beech Hill, NS B2G 0B4

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1. Call to Order – Chair, Warden Nicholas MacInnis
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Review of September 22, 2026 Committee of the Whole Minutes
4. Business Arising from the Minutes
5. Delegations
    a. Presentation of the Audited Financial Statements
6. Continuing Business
    a. There is no continuing business
7. New Business
    a. Accessibility Fund
    b. Tender Award - Supply and Installation of Sanitary Sewer Liner
8. Staff Reports
9. Community Events

    This item provides Councillors with an opportunity to briefly bring to the attention of Council events that are taking place in their communities.
10. Additions to the Agenda
11. In-Camera
    a. Acquisition, Sale, Lease and Security of Municipal Property
    b. Acquisition, Sale, Lease and Security of Municipal Property
    c. Personnel
12. Adjournment

COUNCIL PRIORITIES (FEBRUARY 2026)

NOW

1. **TOWN/COUNTY UTILITY**
2. **5 YEAR CAPITAL PLAN**
3. **BOUNDARY REVIEW**
4. **COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY**
5. **HOUSING: HAF**

Next

- POLICY REVIEW POLICY: Ongoing
- SOURCE WATER
- RECREATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT
- ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION
- LONG TERM SEWER STRATEGY
- MUNICIPAL PLAN: Six MPS Review

ADVOCACY

- *Communication Tower: Installation (BNS)*
- *Communication Towers: Dead Zones (BNS)*
- *ATV Corridors: Map (ATV Club)*

PARTNERS

- *Housing Needs: Status (AAHS)*
- *PFN Collaboration: Meeting*
- *Shelter Providers: Forum*

Guiding Principles

Maximize Community Engagement & Communication
Ensure Fiscal Responsibility & Sustainability
Realize Collaboration with Town
Pursue Partnerships with Local & External Organizations
Enhance Livable Community Opportunities
Preserve an Accessible, Inclusive & Safe Place to Live

Strategic Themes

RELIABLE UTILITIES - INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY- COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS – STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP

OPERATIONAL INITIATIVES

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. **TOWN/COUNTY UTILITY**
2. **HOUSING: HAF Action Plan Review**
3. Town/County Relations: Ongoing /Bi-weekly
   - Bylaw Enforcement Proposal

COMMUNIUTY SUSTAINABILITY

1. Accessibility Plan: Review
2. Equity/Anti-Racism: Action Plan
3. Net Zero: Building Review
   - Climate Resilience Plan (HAF initiative)
   - Source Water Planning & Protection: (HAF initiative)

FINANCE

1. **5 YEAR CAPITAL PLAN**
2. 2026-27 BUDGET
   - Water Rate Study
   - 2025 -2026 Audit

PUBLIC WORKS

1. County Water I & I: Ongoing
2. Source Water: (HAF initiative)
3. EPR
   - Asset Management

ADMINISTRATION

1. **BOUNDARY REVIEW**
2. COMMUNICATION STRATEGY
   - POLICY REVIEW POLICY
   - Gateway Signage
   - Tourism Strategy

COMMUNITY PLANNING

1. Eastern Antigonish MPS
2. Density Review: (HAF initiative)
3. MUNICIPAL PLAN: Overview
   - Subdivision Bylaw: Scope

RECREATION

1. ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION
2. Recreation Management Software
3. Mini-Pitch Phase II: Accessible Washrooms
   - RECREATION NEED ASSESSMENT: RFP Community Use of Schools & Facility Allocation Policy

CODES: **BOLD CAPITALS = NOW PRIORITIES**; CAPITALS = NEXT Priorities; Italics = Advocacy; Regular Title Case = Operational Strategies

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF
ANTIGONISH

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 22, 2026, 5:30pm
Municipal Administration Building
285 Beech Hill Road
Beech Hill, NS B2G 0B4

Present were:	Warden Nicholas MacInnis Deputy Warden John Dunbar Councillor Mary MacLellan Councillor Richelle MacLaughlin Councillor Shawn Brophy Councillor Wayne Melanson Councillor Gary Mattie Councillor Harris McNamara Councillor Sterling Garvie
Absent:	Councillor Adam Baden-Clay
Staff Present:	Shirlyn Donovan, CAO Beth Schumacher, Municipal Clerk Cole MacIsaac, Director of Public Works

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Call to Order- Warden MacInnis

Warden MacInnis called the meeting to order at 7:19pm.

Approval of Agenda

Warden MacInnis called for approval of the Committee of the Whole meeting agenda.

Moved and Seconded

That the agenda be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

Consideration of the September 8, 2026 Committee of the Whole Minutes

Warden MacInnis called for any errors or omissions in the minutes of September 8, 2026. Hearing none, the minutes were accepted as presented.

Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

Continuing Business

Community Evacuation Plan

Mrs. Donovan spoke to the revised community evacuation plan, noting where the errors cited when the committee reviewed the document on September 8th have been corrected. Discussion about the opportunity of holding training sessions at community centres followed.

Moved and Seconded

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council approved the Community Evacuation Plan as presented.

Motion Carried.

New Business

Fire Letter

Mrs. Donovan spoke to the memo included in the agenda package, for a write-off of taxes for a mini home that was destroyed by fire. A question was asked for clarification about mini homes and properties with respect to assessments and write-offs. A question was asked about whether the municipality could compel the owner to clean up the fire damage. Staff noted that they would follow-up regarding options.

Moved and Seconded

The Committee recommends that Municipal write-off the taxes for AAN 07202199, which was destroyed by fire, in the amount of $212.21.

Motion Carried.

Reports from Inter-Municipal Boards, Committees, and Commissions

- Antigonish Heritage Museum Board – nothing to report. Next meeting on the first Monday of October.
- Antigonish Arena Association – nothing to report.
- Eastern District Planning Commission – a meeting was held on September 10th, where there was a discussion about the Coastal Protection Planning Project, and there is an upcoming EDPC information session for members of Council at PACs on October 15th.
- Eastern Regional Solid Waste Management – nothing to report. Next meeting is on September 24th.
- Pictou Antigonish Regional Library – nothing to report.
- RK MacDonald Nursing Home AGM on Thursday, September 24th. Executive meeting held last week. The new building project is on budget and on schedule, with recognition of Antigonish County representative (Fran Haley), as well as Terry and Camilla for all of their hard work on that Board.

- Helping Healthcare in Antigonish– notified the group that the County was going to be signing on for another 3-year term. Their coordinator reviewed the summer events, as well as those that are identified for the fall and winter. They are looking at opportunities for moving the theatre night event to the spring.
- Antigonish Affordable Housing Society – nothing to report.
- Antigonish County Adult Learners Association – nothing to report.
- Antigonish Community Transit Society – the new route report is being presented at the Joint Council meeting on September 23rd.
- Antigonish Regional EMO – nothing to report
- Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities –Fall conference November 3-6 in Halifax.

Additions to the Agenda

There were no additions to the agenda.

Adjournment

Moved and Seconded

That Committee of the Whole meeting adjourns at 7:33 pm.

Motion Carried

Warden Nicholas MacInnis

Shirlyn Donovan, CAO

MEMO FOR INFORMATION

From:	Tammy Feltmate, Director of Sustainable Communities
To:	**Council & CAO**
Subject:	**Accessibility Committee update and Fund Pilot 2026-27**
Date:	05/10/2026

Overview, update and proposal for new project.

During the 2026-27 Budget there was $30k approved for a new Accessibility Fund to support community groups making Accessibility improvements to their buildings, programs, systems, or business models. This year given high demands for funds, the Chair, Warden, and I met to discuss the funds. The asks for financial support outweigh the availability. Currently, we have decided to focus the funds on built environment, starting with access to buildings. This makes the most sense, to access resources, and accessibility inside people must get in the building. We have two organizations we have been communicating with and working with to support accessibility improvements, both have completed applications, and qualify for the funds.

At this time, we have divided the funds and awarded accordingly:

1. Antigonish Legion - $15,000 for creating accessible entrance and the work at the back of the building. Budgeted at $90k for the total project.
2. SASHA - $15,000 for a basic audit and improvements for entrances to improve accessibility.

Through this process we recognized the need in our community for support in this area, 2030 is coming fast and very few community buildings have the resources to do accessibility upgrades on their own. Chair Mattie, Warden MacInnis, and I discussed developing a project for community buildings like the model of our ICIP community buildings net zero project. This fall and winter project development will start with identifying (with Council input) community organizations and buildings that need support, developing our wish list and then doing the reviews, audits and other data collections needed to develop the project. This fall we will engage with interested parties who want to join the committee. update membership and start this project which will provide the committee with a practical project to focus on. Following that work, in January 2027 an

application submission(s) to Enabling Accessibility Canada Fund and other funds to find financial support for the project with facilitation of the changes/ projects between 2027-28.

This focus will support the development of a strong accessibility committee with true goals and timelines. It is a way to access funds that are unreachable to individual community centres and groups. We partner to learn, build, and improve accessibility together.

At this time staff and committee would like councils' approval to work on development of the proposed project to increase accessibility in our community and approve the committee's recommendation for 2026-27 Accessibility Fund.

Asking for Council to approve the following motion:

Motion:

Municipal Council awards the 2026-27 Municipal Accessibility Fund year one, as recommended by the Accessibility Committee. Council approves the committee's recommendation to provide $15,000 to the Antigonish Royal Canadian Legion Branch 59 and $15,000 to SASHA, to enhance and increase accessibility at their entrances and access points to their buildings.

MEMO FOR DECISION

TO:	COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
FROM:	COLE MACISAAC, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS
SUBJECT:	TENDER AWARD: SUPPLY AND INSTALL OF SANITARY SEWER LINER
DATE:	OCTOBER 13, 2026

Background:

The Municipality was awarded funding from the Provincial Capital Assistance Program to do some mitigation work related to Inflow and Infiltration. We received just under $50,000 from the Province and have budgeted for the remaining $50,000 to conduct the work that was identified through the Design Point I & I Study.

Staff released on tender on September 18 and closed on October 2nd looking for quotes from qualified contractors for the supply and installation of a cured-in-place pipe (CIPP), or approved equal trenchless liner, for an existing sanitary sewer main at Wrights River Crossing Before the end of March 2027. Approximately 65 metres of existing 16" Asbestos Concrete (AC) sanitary sewer pipe, located at Wrights River Crossing, are to be rehabilitated by trenchless lining.

Two tenders were received and evaluated:

Eastern Trenchless	$65,720.20 +HST
G.R. Kelly	$152,000 +HST

Staff would like to make the following recommendation:

Proposed Motion:

The committee recommends that Municipal Council award the tender for the Supply and Install of Sanitary Sewer Liner to Eastern Trenchless for a cost of $65,720.20 + HST.