MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF
ANTIGONISH

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

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

DRAFT

Present were:	Warden Nicholas MacInnis Deputy Warden John Dunbar Councillor Mary MacLellan Councillor Adam Baden-Clay Councillor Shawn Brophy Councillor Wayne Melanson Councillor Gary Mattie Councillor Harris McNamara Councillor Sterling Garvie
Absent with Regrets:	Councillor Richelle MacLaughlin
Staff Present:	Shirlyn Donovan, CAO Beth Schumacher, Municipal Clerk Tammy Feltmate, Director of Sustainable Communities Cole MacIsaac, Director of Public Works Jackie Cleary, Acting CFO
Others Present	Kyle Musial, CPA, CA, MNP Gallery (virtual)

Call to Order- Warden MacInnis

Warden MacInnis called the meeting to order at 5:34pm.

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 22, 2026 Committee of the Whole Minutes

Warden MacInnis called for any errors or omissions in the minutes of September 22, 2026. Hearing none, the minutes were accepted as presented.

Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

Delegations

Kyle Musial, CPA CA, MNP

Mr. Musial provided the committee with a high-level review of the results of the financial statements, noting that he had met with the Audit Committee earlier in the afternoon. He spoke to the overall financial position of the municipality, looking at cashflows, net financial assets, the debt load of the municipality, and surpluses resulting from the investment of the reserves. A question was asked about an investment balance being the same between 2025 and 2026, and Mr. Musial noted that it was due to the choice not to adjust the figure to market value.

Mr. Musial then reviewed the draft water statements for the committee. He reviewed how the operating fund for the utility ended with a deficit, which has been seen in other utilities as costs increase. However, with revenue being set by the water rate study approved by the NSUARB, revenue cannot be adjusted until a new study has been done. Mrs. Donovan noted that the municipality has been in the queue for a water rate study for about a year. Warden MacInnis asked if there was staff capacity to undertake the study, and Mrs. Donovan noted that there was not the expertise on staff to do that review. Mr. Musial noted that there is a small surplus in the utility that can buffer the deficit until the rate study is done.

Mr. Musial thanked management and the staff team, as well as the Audit Committee and Council, for their time and help with undertaking the audit.

Continuing Business

There was no continuing business.

New Business

Accessibility Fund

Ms. Feltmate provided members of the committee with an update on the Accessibility Fund that was approved as part of the 2026/2027 budget. She spoke to the two projects that were looked at by Councillor Gary Mattie, as Chair of the Accessibility Committee, the Warden and herself, to make access improvements to two buildings in the community.

Ms. Feltmate asked if the committee was interested in looking at a project model similar to what was used for the Net-Zero green energy project that just finished, to help smaller organizations access funding for accessibility updates. Councillor Mattie added that, by working with several organizations together, the municipality could help more spaces meet accessibility targets. Ms. Feltmate noted that with the

DRAFT

committee's direction, staff could put together a formal proposal in December in advance of the January opening date for the fund. The committee gave their direction to staff to prepare this proposal for their consideration.

Moved and Seconded

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council awards the 2026/2027 Municipal Accessibility Fund year one, as recommended by the Accessibility Committee, 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.

Motion Carried.

Tender Award – Supply and Installation of Sanitary Sewer Liner

Mrs. Donovan provided a brief background on the project and noted that staff is recommending awarding the tender to Eastern Trenchless. A question was asked about why there was such a big difference between the two bids that were received, and Mr. MacIssac provided his input, noting that Eastern Trenchless has done a lot of work with the Town. Clarification of the location of the expected work, being up near the golf course, was discussed.

Moved and Seconded

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

Motion Carried.

Staff Reports

This item was deferred to the October 28th meeting.

Community Events

- Councillor Mattie attended the turkey dinner at the Tracadie Baptist Church on October 11th, and noted that it had a great turnout. He passed around a book that was published by Ainlee and Langston Dorrington, who are two young residents in the community, about the history of school segregation in Nova Scotia. Councillor Mattie also attended to 90th birthday celebrations for residents in his district
- Councillor McNamara shared that Havre Boucher had a four-wheeler run on Oct 3rd, with over 200 machines participating in the event. He also noted that the annual Veterans Day of Remembrance is being held in Havre Boucher on November 1, 2026.
- Councillor Brophy shared information about the Clydesdale Chicken and Turkey fundraiser where they raised $55k for the Antigonish Palliative Care Society. He asked to have a letter of congratulations sent to them. Mrs. Donovan suggested having them attend an upcoming Council meeting.

DRAFT

- Warden MacInnis shared that on Sunday Oct 18th St. Andrews Partnership is holding a harvest festival happening, including a Veteran's memorial video display.

Additions to the Agenda

There were no additions to the agenda.

In-Camera Business

Moved and Seconded

That the Committee move into an in-camera session to discuss the Acquisition, Sale, Lease, and Security of Municipal Property and Personnel Matters at 6:21pm.

Motion Carried

Moved and Seconded

That the Committee adjourns the in-camera session at 7:24 pm.

Motion Carried

The following motions came forward from the in-camera session:

Moved and Seconded

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council grant an easement to CAW Developments for PID 10033173.

Motion Carried

Moved and Seconded

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council purchase 50 acres of PID 01313022 from RK Holdings for a purchase price of $100,000 + HST.

Motion Carried

Adjournment

Moved and Seconded

That Committee of the Whole meeting adjourns at 7:25 pm.

Motion Carried

Warden Nicholas MacInnis

Shirlyn Donovan, CAO

DRAFT