



Minutes of the Regular Town Council Meeting

Place: Council Chambers, Zoom, streamed live to Facebook
Date: Wednesday, June 24, 2026
Presiding Officer: Mayor Greg Henley
Councillor Present: Councillors Carla Black, Padraic Moore, Olivia Canning-Sweet, Paul Jones, Brenton Colborne, and Deputy Mayor Chrystal McNutt.
Councillors Regrets: Nil

A quorum was present throughout the meeting.

Staff in attendance: Linda Cloney – CAO, Ruthann Brookins – Manager of Finance, and Stan McDougall (Admin Assistant and Recording Secretary)

Presenters in attendance: Nil

Gallery (media and public) in attendance: Mark Rushton - Hello Oxford, Mervil Rushton, and Arnold MacDonald

1. Call to Order

Mayor Henley called the regular council meeting to order at 6:00 PM and welcomed all in attendance.

2. Approval of Agenda, Pages 1 – 2

Moved by Councillor Jones and seconded by Deputy Mayor McNutt to approve the agenda of the regular council meeting for Wednesday, June 24, 2026, as presented.

Motion Carried

- 3. Approval of Minutes** – Regular Council Meeting – April 22, 2026, pages 3 - 6
Special Council Meeting – May 13, 2026, pages 7 - 8
Special Council Meeting – June 10, 2026, pages 9 - 12

Approved by



Mayor Greg Henley, on June 24, 2026

4. Business

4.1 Library Board Additions– *Letter from Cumberland Regional Library Board, Pages 13 - 14*

A letter from the Cumberland Regional Library Board was reviewed with Council concerning changes to additions on the library board.

Currently the board was made up of 5 appointed members, Councillors from each of the municipalities of Cumberland, Amherst, and Oxford, and 2 citizen members appointed by the province of Nova Scotia.

Changes would be reflected in a new board comprised of:

- 1 Town of Amherst councillor;
- 1 Town of Oxford councillor;
- 1 Municipality of Cumberland councillors;
- 1 Equity, Diversity, Inclusion or Accessibility community member;
- 3 community members at large;
- and 2 provincially appointed representatives,

leading to a board of 9 individuals. A board of that size would allow for much more responsible governance, give the Library Board the ability to create subcommittees, and to allow for more perspectives.

Section 10 (2c) of the Libraries Act specifies that the appointment of additional members requires agreement from all parties:

(2) A regional library board shall consist of
(a) one member appointed by each city, town and municipality that is a party to the agreement;
(b) two members appointed by the Governor in Council; and
(c) additional members appointed in such manner and number as the parties to the agreement agree.

Moved by Deputy Mayor McNutt and seconded by Councillor Jones that the motion, which was approved at the February 25, 2026 Regular Council Meeting, whereby the Council agrees with expanding the composition of the Library Board by three members: one municipal councillor from Cumberland and two members at large and that the two additional members at large to be appointed by the municipal councils, be rescinded.

Motion Carried

Moved by Councillor Black and seconded by Councillor Canning-Sweet that the Council approves the request from the Cumberland Regional Library Board as presented.

Motion Carried

4.2 Road Trails Designation By-law – first reading, Pages 15 – 16

The first reading of the Town of Oxford By-law No. 06-2026 Road Trails Designation By-law was tabled.

Pictou Nova Scotia was referenced as having passed a similar By-law that opened all streets to ATV traffic and making Pictou an ATV Friendly community for a 12-month trial term.

There had been some complaints that had been received in writing to the office concerning the current bylaw.

During discussion, council raised concern that Oxford should follow Pictou in adding a 1-year period to the new bylaw. Linda reviewed with Council that the current and updated By-law could be changed at any time. Council suggests that including the year term will remind

Council to review the By-law prior to the end of that term more readily than not including the term.

Moved by Councillor Jones and seconded by Deputy Mayor McNutt that Council gives first reading to Bylaw #06-2026 the Road Trails Designation Bylaw for a period of 12 months.

Mayor Henley – Yes
Councillor Jones – Yes
Deputy Mayor McNutt – Yes
Councillor Colborne – Yes
Councillor Moore – Yes
Councillor Black – Yes
Councillor Canning-Sweet – **No**

4.3 Changes to membership of the Accessibility Advisory Board, *Page 17*

Linda discussed with the Council that at the last Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting, Councillor Canning-Sweet had been elected chair, Ashlynn Brownell had been elected vice chair (both through acclamation), and that the committee further recommended that Carly Oickle and Stephen Thompson be appointed as members of the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

Moved by Deputy Mayor McNutt and seconded by Councillor Black that Council approves the changes made to the 2026 / 2027 Boards and Committees as presented.

Motion Carried

4.4 Accessibility Advisory Board – Achievement Report Card, *Pages 18 – 21*

Prior to the report card presentation, Councillor Canning-Sweet read a poem that was presented and read to the Accessibility Advisory Committee titled “Stronger Together” by Theresa Ryan, Oxford resident and Self-advocacy of North Cumberland president. At the last Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting, the updated Accessibility Achievement Report Card for the various departments

of the Town of Oxford was reviewed, accepted, and recommended for acceptance by the Accessibility Advisory Committee to the Oxford Town Council.

Moved by Councillor Black and seconded by Councillor Jones that Council accepts the recommendation from the Accessibility Advisory Board to approve the Achievement Report Card as presented.

Motion Carried

5. Correspondence

5.1 – 12 Month Notice Letter to Municipalities, Pages 22 – 24

The June 9, 2026, letter from the Nova Scotia Department of Municipal Affairs – Office of the Minister was reviewed with the Council. The letter is intended to provide notice of changes for fiscal year 2027-28 and beyond.

Highlights included:

- Department of Emergency Management – Fire Protection Services fire protection service review, training review, and participation in common records management system.
- Nova Scotia Comprehensive Policing Review, released in June 2025, implementation steps including municipalities to meet established provincial policing standards, continued modernization of policing standards, procurement of province-wide records management system (RMS) in 2026-27, and work toward the development of a new municipal billing model for provincial police services during fiscal year 2026-27.
- Nova Scotia's new FOIPOP Act will come into effect on April 1, 2027, with regulations currently under development to support the new Act including the requirement for municipalities to adopt new privacy policies, practices and reporting, and personnel to undertake privacy assessments for new projects or programs collecting personal information.

6. In-Camera

6.1 pursuant to MGA 22 (2) (a) and (e)

At 6:16 PM it was Moved by Deputy Mayor McNutt and seconded by Councillor Jones to go in-camera.

Motion Carried

At 6:49 PM it was moved by Deputy Mayor McNutt and seconded by Councillor Black to come out of in-camera and resume the Regular Council Meeting.

Motion Carried

7. Adjournment

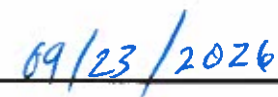
The meeting adjourned at 6:52 PM



Mayor Greg Henley



Stan McDougall, Admin Assistant



Date Approved