



Town of Oxford
Committee of the Whole
Council Chambers and Zoom
Wednesday, February 11, 2026
6 pm

AGENDA

1. Call to Order

2. Approval of Agenda
Pages 1 -2

3. Approval of the Minutes – January 14, 2026
Pages 3 - 6

4. Town Departments Reports
 - 4.1 Municipal Physical Activity Leader (MPAL) Report – presented by Marion Abbot, MPAL
Pages 8 - 9

 - 4.2 Fire Department – presented by Bruce Rushton, Fire Chief and Kyle Purdy, Deputy Fire Chief
Page 7

 - 4.3 Public Works Report – presented by Larry Reicker, Public Works Supervisor
Page 29

 - 4.4 Administration Reports – presented by Linda Cloney
Pages 10 – 12 – Administrative Assistant Report

5. Council Committees and Boards Reports – Linda Cloney presenting
 - 5.1 All Saints Community Health Care Foundation – January 13th
Pages 13 - 14 – November 4, 2025, approved minutes
Pages 15 - 16 – Brochure

5.2 Police Advisory Board Meeting – January 20

Pages 17 - 20 – October 7, 2025, approved minutes

Pages 21 - 24 – October 1 – December 31 – RCMP Report

5.3 Source Water Protection Committee – January 21

Page 25 – picture of event

5.4 Audit Committee Meeting – January 28

Pages 26 - 27 – September 10, 2025, approved minutes

6. Items of discussion and correspondence

6.1 Letter Regarding Nova Scotia Power Rate Application for 2026/2027 –
Municipality of the County of Antigonish

Page 28

7. Adjournment



Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting

Place: Council Chambers, Zoom, streamed live to Facebook
Date: Wednesday, January 14, 2026
Presiding Officer: Deputy Mayor Chrystal McNutt
Councillors Present: Mayor Greg Henley, Olivia Canning-Sweet, Carla Black, and Paul Jones
Councillor Regrets: Brenton Colborne and Padraic Moore

A quorum was present throughout the meeting.

Staff in attendance: Linda Cloney (CAO), Ruthann Brookins (Manager of Finance), Paul Macdonald (Bylaw Enforcement Officer), and Stan McDougall (Admin Assistant / Recording Secretary)

Staff Regrets: Bruce Rushton (Fire Chief), Kyle Purdy (Deputy Fire Chief), and Marion Abbott (Municipal Physical Activity Leader)

Presenters in attendance: Paul Beazley, Municipal Account Manager and Dion Regular, Assistant Director with PVSC (Property Valuation Services Corporation)

Paul Macdonald left the meeting at 6:48 PM

Media in attendance: Mark Rushton, HelloOxford

Gallery in attendance: Nil

1. Call to Order

At 6:00 PM, Deputy Mayor McNutt called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

2. **Approval of Agenda, Pages 1 -2**

Moved by Councillor Jones and seconded by Mayor Henley, that the agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting for Wednesday, January 14, 2025, be approved, as presented.

Motion Carried

3. **Presentation**

3.1 **Property Valuation Services Corporation** – Paul Beazley, Municipal Account Manager and Dion Regular, Assistant Director presenting. Pages 3 - 17 (a copy of the presentation is in the package)

Deputy Mayor McNutt thanked Paul and Dion for their presentation.

4. **Approval of the Minutes** – December 17, 2025, Pages 18 – 21

Deputy Mayor McNutt, Chair, on January 14, 2025

5. **Town Departments Reports**

5.1 **Fire Department** – presented by Councillor Jones. Pages 22 - 23

5.2 **Municipal Physical Activity Leader (MPAL) Report** – Councillor Canning-Sweet, Page 24

5.3 **Bylaw Enforcement Officer Report** – presented by Paul Macdonald – verbal report

Paul Macdonald reviewed that the Oxford Depot has been very busy in the past few months. An extra pickup was required over the holidays due to volume of recyclable material. A decline in the sorting efforts of recyclable materials has been noticed and improvement is needed. Despite some people being unhappy that bags are being looked at to ensure proper

sorting and that the depot card is required to be shown each time there has been a positive increase overall in the recycling efforts.

Concerning ATVs, it was reported that 4 wheelers have been used to walk dogs and reports are happening later at night.

Regarding dogs, there was one complaint of a dog chained outside for extended periods of time. The RCMP and SPCA are involved in this.

Paul has filled in for the crossing guard when needed.

5.4 Administration Reports – presented by Linda Cloney. Pages 25 – 27

Deputy Mayor McNutt thanked all town departments for their respective reports.

6. Council Committees and Boards Reports – Linda Cloney presenting

6.1 Update of upcoming Committee Meetings, Verbal report

Linda reported that there have not been any meetings since the last council meeting due to the holidays and vacations.

However, there are a few council committee meetings coming up. All council committee meetings are open for the public to attend.

Tuesday, January 20, 2026, there will be a Police Advisory Board meeting in the Council Chambers at 6:00 PM.

Wednesday, January 21, 2026, at 6:00 PM at the Oxford Fire Department there will be a Public Information Session regarding the Source Water Protection Plan. Light refreshments and a chance to see and speak with subject matter experts (Town Planners, Dillon Consulting, Department of the Environment, Source Water Protection Committee members) regarding the plan and to gather input and offer information on the Source Water Protection Plan, zones of protection and other information including the possibility for property owners within zones to qualify for free water well testing as part of the Source Water Protection Plan. All property owners within the zones of protection have

received a letter of invitation and a map depicting the zones of protection for the information session.

Tuesday January 27, 2026, at 6:00 PM there is an Audit Committee Meeting in Council Chambers

7. Items of discussion and correspondence

7.1 nil

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:52 PM.

Deputy Mayor McNutt

Stan McDougall, Admin Assistant

Date Approved

Since our last report the fire department has responded to 7 emergency calls in February.

- 2 Motor Vehicle Collisions
 - 1 Electrical Fire
 - 1 Trash fire
 - 1 Commercial Vehicle fire
 - 1 Medical
 - 1 Assistance to RCMP with our drone
-
- 1 Call in Town
 - 4 Calls in our coverage area
 - 2 call assisting other departments (mutual aid)

Captain Bruce Beattie and I recently attended a session for Fire Modernization Implementation Planning that was held in Springhill. This included folks from the Fire Service Association of Nova Scotia, Dept. of Emergency Management, fire dept.'s from our area as well as Colchester County.

We are planning our annual Awards Banquet that is scheduled for Feb. 28th.

On Jan. 14, 7 of our members attended an excellent training session with one of our mutual aid partners in Pugwash. Spent the evening training on interior searching, SCBA, Accountability.

On our last training session held on Jan 15, members trained on portable pumps, pumping with trucks, drafting from the dry hydrant, and reviewing various safety equipment.

Our regular training night is coming on Thursday, Feb 19. We have a lot on the agenda this year for training.

Respectfully submitted,

Fire Chief, Bruce Rushton

Deputy Chief, Kyle Purdy

MPAL Report – January 2026

Capitol Theatre

Bye Bye Birdie happens this weekend! Please join us to support live theatre and the incredible cast of twenty young artists from our area. Rehearsals were severely disrupted by the snowstorms, but thanks to the support of the cast members' families, we were able to add extra time and get the show ready on time. I'm also pleased to report that students from OREC will be able to see the show, thanks to the generosity and leadership of Principal Duane Starratt.

Rehearsals for our Taylor Swift concert have begun! We have 15 ladies, ages 8 to north of 60, all singing their favourite Swiftie songs. There's a wonderful feeling of empowerment in the room. Tickets are already on sale at Home Hardware and the Pharmacy.

Musical Theatre Classes have started again, preparing for their showcase performance in May. We're currently working on scenes that precede the songs they've been learning, and we're having a ton of fun doing so.

Next up are our productions of *No Safe Harbour* and *Anne and Maud*, plus the announcements of summer theatre plans.

I was thrilled to welcome members of Blake's Electrical team to the theatre, where they disconnected and removed the old theatre lighting system that was a worrisome fire hazard. They also made some small repairs and will be back soon to fix the two 'house lights' that have been out for a long while.

We also got some concrete information about why our furnace doesn't work consistently. It's a lengthy explanation, but basically, some clever ductwork will circumvent the issue and keep the furnace running more efficiently. Right now I'm waiting on a quote for the ductwork.

I was thrilled to find some unused curtains and give them to Majed's Tailoring, right here in Oxford. Majed used it to create new curtains for the front of the stage. These curtains not only hide what we're storing under the stage, but also keep the cold air from the back wall from seeping into the theatre space. Thanks, Majed!

We've seen an increase in rentals by groups like the Nova Scotia Cattle Association, Municipality of Cumberland and other community-based entities. This not only increases our theatre revenue, but also sends the message that our theatre is truly for all members of the community to use and enjoy.

Other Programming

Craft Clubs started up again, and we're happily crafting winter and Valentine's themed pieces.

Our Art Class is working on their pieces in preparation for their Art Show at the Capitol Theatre on Saturday, February 28th. Come by between 11 am and noon to view the art and enjoy cheese and sparkling juice!

I will announce March Break activities shortly. And yes, the Magical Shamrock challenge will be returning! As will the Tiny St Paddy's Day Party!

Jr NBA will open for registration at the end of this month and will take place at the Arena starting in April.

After taking an informal poll, it was overwhelmingly clear that Oxford wants its own farmers' market. Consequently, I have started to put together our 2026 Oxford Summer Market, to be held at the arena, on eight Saturdays in June and July. (August, of course, is reserved for our own Cumberland Exhibition.) Registration is now open to vendors. Anyone who cultivates, creates, bakes, and crafts locally is welcome. Oxford, please spread the word so that we can fill our Saturdays with vendors you love to support. Big thanks to Jordan Burkhardt, Shannon Hanna and the Arena Committee, and Linda Cloney and Ruthann Brookins for your advice, guidance and support of this project.

As we near the end of this fiscal year, I'm gathering quotes for the new budget and determining how best to allocate any remaining funds.

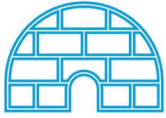
Due to the success of our first Community Karaoke Night in January, we will be offering these monthly in partnership with the Sunset Community. The next one is Friday, February 27th. The Sunset Thrift store supplied 95% of the costumes for Bye Bye Birdie and will continue to do so for all Capitol Theatre productions. The Sunset Community continues to decorate the Town Hall for various holidays throughout the year and enjoys a monthly afternoon movie at the Capitol. Following a recent meeting with Manager Amanda Purdy, we are working to expand and deepen this valuable partnership. Massive thanks to Brittany Stevens, Patti Beaton and Rodney Howse for the work you've done to make this partnership viable and thriving.

I am in desperate need of some support in areas like marketing, ushering, program assistance and - wait for it - soccer coaches! Watch for postings about these opportunities, and please share or apply!

Although it doesn't feel like it right now, summer is just around the corner, and I've begun implementing programming. This summer will include two types of soccer, a return of Games In The Park, day camps and more productions at the Capitol. I've also got a few other ideas up my sleeve that I'm working on.

This past stretch has been a personal challenge for me, as I battled a sinus infection for the first part and then came down with a severe flu for the second part. Ick. I'm so grateful for the support of staff and the families of the kids involved in various programs, and your patience as I regained my voice! You're the best.

Marion Abbott
MPAL - Recreation Director



January 2026 – Admin Assistant Report

Communications (social media, website, posted notices, etc.):

- **Proclamations:**
 - January 2026 – Alzheimer’s Awareness Month
- Shared **public works roadwork** information as provided via Voyent Alert which shares additionally to the website, and to our FB pages
- **Cumberland Region Solid Waste** shared posts to our FB pages (what’s new, new sorting guide, dual-stream recycling, etc.)
- **PVSC Valuation Assessment notices** – 5 posts regarding assessments in the mail, deadline to appeal, questions regarding the assessments on our Voyent Alert, FB pages, website and our website calendar
- **Cumberland County Community Volunteer Celebration 2026 Post** shared to our website and FB pages
- **Updated the Fire Department page on our website** to add to the contact information and add a current picture of the department as posted on their Facebook page showing all the fire fighters
- **Oxford Frozen Foods Alarm Test** notice posted on Voyent, Website and social media for Jan 20, 2026, at noon for 3 minutes
- **PVSC Capped Assessment Program:** Shared information via Voyent, Website and FB pages on the capped assessment program as a result of an inquiry to be proactive.

Administration and Payroll Tasks:

- Interest for December 2025 posted
- Deposits posted in Sage50
- Invoicing: bill postings, filing, analysis, coding, and paying online of bills to be paid online.

- Assist CAO with source water protection information for upcoming public engagement session
- Worked with the clerk to upload yearly PVSC update zip file into TownSuite.
- Attended the All-Saints Community Hospital Foundation meeting January 13, 2026.
- **Payroll:**
 - Subcontractor WSIB amounts tallied and sent into payroll provider
 - Mid-Month reporting for payroll for December 2025
 - Paperwork for new casual public works employee, and for the public works supervisor for payroll and health plan
- **Clerk Duties to cover vacation:**
 - checking and printing off Bank Electronic Funds Transfers
 - receipting receivables
 - posting invoices
 - checking and receiving regular mail
 - checking email and re-directing where required
 - customer service at front counter
 - Tracking tonnages for Windsor Salt and Quality Aggregates
 - Deposit creation for end of year and first of 2026.
- Assist in cleanup of continued renovations.
- Assisted Manager of Finance with getting a replacement VISA card for public works.
- Assist Revenue clerk with cheque run to solve an issue where a previous cheque had not processed and allow for the next cheque number and the run to continue.
- **Q4 Water Bills**
 - Worked on initial consumption report and meter analysis for flats and metered.
 - Worked with Public Works Supervisor to have meter re-reads completed and provided a broke list. Also provided

households that have had 0 consumption and updated re-reads sheet.

Technical Support/IT Tasks:

- Tech support assistance for staff for hardware, software, printing, network and file access
- Zoom meeting video and audio setup and operation for various meetings
- Daily server backup monitoring and backup drive swap out
- Assist in organizing review of the Oxford Depot cameras with bylaw officer and Cumberland cameras regarding break-in Jan 8-9.
- Replaced ends on network cables in the server room and downstairs for one connection (broken ends).
- Assist public works supervisor with email and setup of laptop including restoring the drivers and software for Dymo label printer
- Assisted public works with setup for training session.

ALL SAINTS COMMUNITY HEALTH CARE FOUNDATION

Regular Meeting

November 4th, 2025

9:30am

Board Room, All Saints Hospital

Present: Doug Marshall, Bob Spence, Mary-Lou Bourgeois, Carol Brown, Richard Harrison, Stan McDougall, Ken Brownell, Rev'd Dr. Brian Spence, Sashika Ariyaratne

Regrets: Wanda Smith, Dale MacArthur, Dr. Colette Sauveru

1) Call to order: Chairman Doug Marshall called the meeting to order at 9:35am and welcomed our new site manager Sashika to the board.

2) Approval of Agenda

MOTION

Bob Spence/Ken Brownell

To approve Agenda as presented

CARRIED

3) Approval of Minutes:

MOTION

Richard Harrison/Stan McDougall

To accept the minutes of September 9th, 2025, as presented

CARRIED

4) Business arising from the minutes

- a) **Foundation's 50/50** - requires an update to be discussed when available.
- b) **Equipment Purchases Update** –Melissa reported that the NuStep invoice has been received and paid. All equipment purchases for 2025 are now up to date.

5) Reports:

- 1) **Chairman** – No report

2) **Treasurer** – Mary-Lou reported on the Foundations finances.

MOTION

Bob Spence/Carol Brown

To accept the financial report as presented.

CARRIED

3) **Site Manager** – No report.

4) **Coordinator** – With the post office shut down Melissa asked the board members what we should do surrounding our brochure campaign. Melissa has reached out to one of the local flyer delivery people and was told they couldn't just add them to the flyers like they used to back in the day and we would have to contact head office. Ken is going to get that info for Melissa. If that doesn't pan out the board agreed to just skip the brochures for this year.

6) Correspondence: Dialysis Food Pantry Request – Letter attached

MOTION

Rev'd Dr. Brian Spence/Ken Brownell

To approve a \$2000.00 donation to the Kidney Care Cupboard and review it again in the fall.

CARRIED

7) **New Business:** No new business

8) **Other:** Next meeting is Tuesday January 13th, 2026 @ 9:30am.

9) **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn this meeting was offered by Carol Brown.

Did You Know?

...that the Foundation funded the following...

\$31,400.00 – Bariatric Beds

\$17,000.00 – Wander Guard System helps prevent patients wandering and sets off an alarm if entering off limit areas.

\$36,000.00 – Lite Gait Trainer & Treadmill for the Physio Department

\$1000.00 – for 2 ipads so patients can facetime loved ones

\$10,000.00 – towards the purchase of the new outdoor washroom facilities at the Springhill Lions Park.

\$60,000.00 – towards the purchase of 2 Omni Cell single-dose dispensing systems.

\$25,000.00 – to the Community Centre for the walking track.

\$17,500.00 – for a new ECG Cart

\$21,000.00 – to purchase a Bladder Scanner.

\$76,785.00 – Haematology Analyzer and Meditech Interface.

\$49,142.00 – Whirlpool tub with hydraulic chair. lift

Under the leadership of Nova Scotia Health, a Scholarship Program was initiated to offer students who are being educated in the medical field. For each year the selected students are awarded a scholarship, they make a commitment to work within the health care system upon their graduation. The Foundation has contributed **\$100,000.00** to this program since its inception in 2005 and will continue to be a partner along with many other Foundations in our area.

\$7,000.00 NuStep Machine purchased for the Springhill Community Centre accessible to the public. This offers a safe and effective exercise option for all fitness and ability levels.

\$500.00 – given each year to the Addiction Services program, located in the All Saints Hospital.

\$10,000.00 – to purchase Industrial Dryer.

\$61,000.00 – to purchase beds & chairs.

\$32,999.00 – to purchase 5 transitional beds for the All Saints Hospital.

\$17,000.00 – to purchase 6 Heart Start Defibrillators for public use in the Springhill & Oxford Arenas, Springhill Senior Citizens Rec Centre, GOVRC, Miner's Museum, and the Springhill Centennial Golf Course.

All Saints Community Health Care Foundation



Give Us A Hand



All Saints Springhill Hospital

PO Box 220, 10 Princess St.
Springhill, NS B0M 1X0
(902) 597-2634

Email: Melissa.terris@nshealth.ca

Did You Know

That the All Saints Hospital has a Foundation?

The All Saints Community Health Care Foundation was incorporated in 1993 to assist in the provision of the medical or health care equipment, services, and education in the area presently serviced by All Saints Springhill Hospital.

A Board of Directors governs the Foundation. Each Director represents a specific area or appointment from within the catchment areas of Southamptton, Springhill, Collingwood, Oxford, and Wentworth.

ASCHCF has partnered with the Nova Scotia Healthcare Foundations in the raffle box monthly 50/50 draw. Funds raised will be equally distributed among the 24 participating healthcare foundations in Nova Scotia. Please help support our foundation by purchasing your tickets at <https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/nshf>

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the amazing clients at the GOVRC workshop for folding all our brochures. They have been doing this for many years and it's very much appreciated.

"Working together in support of our communities"

Over the years the All Saints Community Health Care Foundation has donated hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of equipment for the All Saints Springhill Hospital. Some equipment includes:

\$28,000.00 Floor lift, tables & Mattresses.

\$40,000.00 For the Dorothy Scheinfeldt Helipad.

\$20,000.00 Handheld Ultrasound Machine

\$20,000.00 Piccolo machine, a portable diagnostic analyzer to offer a blood chemistry test at the point of care.

\$10,800.00 Vein viewer flex uses HD imaging to illuminate veins so clinicians can avoid complications.

Most recent the Foundation has approved the following purchases for the All-Saints Hospital.

\$30,000.00 Patient TV's as most of the old ones were not functional. Patients will continue to receive TV's without charge.

\$20,000.00 Towards the SHS fitness & wellness equipment center project. Supporting our youth's mental & physical health.

Our goal is to keep the All Saints Hospital supplied with the necessary equipment that will enable it to operate as efficiently as possible when needed by the community. You can help us reach our goal by using the form on this brochure and enclosing it with your donation. All donations will be honored with a charitable tax receipt for the fiscal year in which it is given. Your generosity will help the Foundation ensure that All Saints Hospital continues to be a strong component in the provision of health care for the people in our area. We thank you for your support.

Yes - I would like to give a hand!

Here is my gift of: \$ _____
(Please do not mail cash)

Name: _____

Street address: _____

P.O. Box: _____

City/Town: _____

Province: _____

Postal Code: _____

Telephone: (____) _____

E-transfer accepted @ melissa.terris@nshealth.ca
(Please email your name and address for receipt.)

All Saints Community Health Care Foundation, PO Box 220, 10 Princess St. Springhill, NS B0M 1X0



All Saints Springhill Hospital



Minutes of the Police Advisory Board

Place: Council Chambers

Date: Tuesday, October 7, 2025

Chair: Thomas Shears

Members Present: Mike Masters, Myra Thiemann, Brenton Colborne, and S/Sgt. Andrew Clarke

Regrets: Padraic Moore

A quorum was present throughout the meeting.

Staff in attendance: Linda Cloney - CAO and Stan McDougall – Admin Assistant (recording secretary), and Paul Macdonald – Bylaw Enforcement Officer.

Gallery in attendance: Nil

1. **Call to Order – Welcome**

At 6:00 PM, Thomas Shears called the meeting to order and welcomed all who attended the meeting.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

Moved and seconded that the agenda of the Police Advisory Board Meeting for Tuesday, October 7, 2025, be approved, as presented.

Motion Carried

3. **Approval of the Minutes – April 8, 2025**

Approved by _____
Thomas Shears, Chair, on October 7, 2025

4. **Business**

4.1 **RCMP Report – S/Sgt Andrew Clarke**

S/Sgt. Clarke presented the April 1, 2025 – June 30, 2025, and the July 1 to September 30, 2025, RCMP report to the members.

Moved and seconded to accept the RCMP reports for April 1 – June 30 and July 1 – September 30, 2025, as presented.

Motion Carried.

4.2 **Board Member Issues**

4.2.1 – **Round Table – all members**

Question regarding the speed signs. It was explained that the grant applied for had not been awarded it would be revisited as a budget wish item for the 2026-2027 budget.

A member discussed that recent police patrols were helping to reduce speeding on town streets. Having members visible has helped people be more cautious.

NO Stopping vs. NO Parking signs – the bylaw officer Inquired to have NO stopping signs on both sides of the road from the Irving gas station. The NO stopping sign is currently on the opposite side of the highway to Irving. S/Sgt. Clarke discussed that it is not the Town’s responsibility for traffic – the driver is responsible for their actions. Reasonable signage is all that is required. Any complaints should be called in to the RCMP as they arise.

Parking is still an issue around the area of the post office on Main Street. Sign visibility, legibility, adherence to the code, and clear presentation, is necessary for enforcement.

4.3 Municipal Issues

4.3.1 – Bylaw Enforcement Officer – Part Time – Paul Macdonald

Paul Macdonald was introduced to the committee. Paul has been hired to work as the Town’s bylaw enforcement officer on a part-time basis. Paul is currently working on enforcement of the Oxford Depot recycling materials, dangerous and unsightly properties, and town bylaw development closely with the CAO.

Members discussed that the town employees are doing a great job at the Oxford Depot to help get the process of recycling fully adopted and enforced. Most people are adhering to it and have taken better steps to sort their materials. There are only a few that have had enforcement steps taken to get them on the correct path.

4.4 Correspondence – *NIL*

4.5 Date and time for next meeting

The next Police Advisory Board Meeting was tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at 6:00 PM.

5. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:37 PM

Thomas Shears, Chair

Stan McDougall, Admin Assistant

Date Approved

DRAFT



Town of Oxford

Police Advisory Board

October 1 to December 31, 2025

S/Sgt. Andrew Clarke

Town of Oxford

Calls for Service October 1 to December 31, 2025

Criminal Code Offences

		Cleared by Charge	Cleared Other	Insufficient Evidence	Unfounded	SUI
Assault	6	3		2	1	
Breach	0					
Criminal Harassment	2			2		
Disturbing the Peace	0					
Failure to Comply	2	1				1
Firearms Act	1			1		
Harassing Communications	0					
Fraud	1			1		
Mischief	4		1	3		
Sexual Assault	0					
Theft of Vehicle	0					
Theft - other	1		1			
Unsafe Storage of Firearm	0					
Uttering Threats	2	1		1		

Non-Criminal Code Offences

Motor Vehicle Act – Speeding	0
Motor Vehicle Act – Use of Electronic Hand-held Device	0
Traffic Collision	11
Demonstrations / Protests	0
Check stops *	1
Other Provincial Traffic Offences	3
CDSA	2
Items Lost/Found – except passports	2
Municipal Bylaws	0
Parking Offences	0
Mental Health Act	6
Suspicious Person/Vehicle/Property	2
Trespass Act	0
Wellness Checks	3
Total	30
Total Criminal Code and Non CC calls for Service	79

* Total individual Checkstops

Oxford Detachment Occurrences October 1 to December 31, 2025

20251769266 – Break and Enter – Forced entry into the new community center under construction. Nothing was stolen and neighborhood checks found no witnesses or evidence.

20251707416 – Fraud - Senior citizen received a text from someone posing as daughter stating they needed \$1950. Money transferred before hoax realized. The complainant is working with bank to try and have transfer reversed.

20251552171 – Luring a Child – Male sending nude photos to 14-year-old female. Turns out there was no young female but someone posing as an underage female to “Catch a Predator”. Charges laid but withdrawn by Crown as they will not prosecute vigilante group files like this.

20251645464 – Mischief – Staff from the Town of Oxford report youths burning books from the community book exchange. Youths identified and given verbal warning.

20251860572 – Police Assist - Elderly female called because her table broke and she had been holding it up for 15 minutes so the items on the table would not fall and break. Member attended and helped prop up the table until a friend could attend and fix the broken table

20251491342 – Uttering Threats / spousal dispute – Female complainant reporting male her partner damaged her tv, was locked out of the house and threatened to break the windows, break the door down and burn the house down. The complainant and her son were inside the house during the threats. The complainant stated the male threatened to kill her, saying "I'm going to kill myself and take you with me." The male was located, arrested, and held for Court. SUI

20251761976 – Assault with a Weapon - Complainant reported last night his female partner assaulted him with Christmas ornaments, an ashtray and a knife. The complainant has defensive marks on his hands and arms, as well as cuts to his face and head. The female threatened to slit the complainant's throat if he went to sleep. The complainant has a safe place to stay and has left the home. The suspect was located, arrested and released on an Undertaking. SUI

20251858189 - Assault with a Weapon - Complainant reports that her male partner brandished a butcher's knife at her, placed his hands on her neck and threatened her saying she could not tell anyone if she wanted to see Christmas. Members obtained a statement from the complainant and then located and arrested the male suspect. He was arrested without issue and held in custody. SUI

20251565330 – Theft Under \$5000 - Complainant reports 2 high school youths had shoplifted, and one of them was still in the store. The complainant did not want to pursue charges but agreed to participate in Restorative Justice (pre-charge referral.) Both youths warned and were served PPA notices to ban them from the location for a year. Both youths acknowledged responsibility and agreed to the RJ process.

RCMP Cumberland District Human Resources

District Management:

District Commander (S/Sgt)
Operations NCO (Sgt)
Springhill NCO (Sgt)
Community Policing (Cst) currently off duty sick

Street Crime Enforcement Unit:

RCMP Team Leader (Cpl)
RCMP Investigators (2X Cst)
APD Investigators (2X Cst)

General Duty:

Supervisors / Team Leads
(4X Cpl – 2 currently off duty, one back in March, one being replaced via promotional process)
Investigators
(26X Cst – 4 currently off duty, 2 new members identified coming to Cumberland – lateral Csts)

Public Service Employees:

Amherst (2 detachment Assistants and 1 Court Liaison Officer)
Oxford (1 Detachment Assistant)
Parrsboro (1 Detachment Assistant)
Pugwash (1 Detachment Assistant)
Springhill (1 Detachment Assistant)





Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting

Place: Council Chambers
Date: Wednesday, September 10, 2025
Presiding Officer: Chrystal McNutt
Councillors Present: Paul Jones, and Greg Henley
Members Present: Milton Wood
Regrets: Nil

A quorum was present throughout the meeting.

Staff present: Linda Cloney (CAO), Ruthann Brookins (Manager of Finance), and Stan McDougall (Admin Assistant, recording secretary)

Presenters: *Emma Young, Senior Manager, Assurance & Advisory Services with Baker Tilly Nova Scotia*

1. Call to Order – Welcome

Councillor McNutt called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and welcomed all in attendance.

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved and seconded to approve the September 10, 2025, agenda as presented.

Motion Carried

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

3.1 Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting May 14, 2024

Approved by: _____

Chrystal McNutt, Chair, on Sept 10, 2025

4. New Business

4.1 Presentation of the 2024/25 Consolidated Financial Statements,

Emma Young, Baker Tilley

During the presentation, consensus was given by the Audit Committee to move schedules to the back of the statement with a separate index. Ruthann Brookins to confirm with Scott at the Province regarding the necessity for the schedules in the statement. It was noted that Baker Tilley does not use the separate schedules in their presentation. It was proposed to separate them with an index or remove them entirely.

Moved by Mayor Henley and seconded by Councillor Jones to recommend to the Council of the Town of Oxford to accept the Consolidated Financial Statements for 2024-25 as amended during the meeting with Baker Tilly Nova Scotia.

Motion Carried

5. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:28 PM

Chrystal McNutt

Stan McDougall, Admin Assistant

Date Approved

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF
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January 22, 2026

The Honourable Tim Houston
Premier of Nova Scotia
Office of the Premier
7th Floor, One Government Place
1700 Granville Street
Halifax, NS B3J 1X5

Dear Premier Houston,

RE: Nova Scotia Power Rate Application for 2026/2027

At our recent meeting of Municipal Council, a discussion was put forward and a motion made to reach out to express concerns with respect to the General Rate Application (GRA) filing for 2026-2027 customer rates by Nova Scotia Power (NSP), currently under review at the Nova Scotia Energy Board. Specifically, the concerns raised were regarding the proposed increases in residential energy rates, proposed at 3.8% in 2026 and 4.1% in 2027 for residential customers. With the proposed rate increases for other customer classes being lowered or reduced, the optics of this proposed rate change is that the residents of our communities are shouldering the bulk of the operating and capital cost increases of this corporation.

This past year's cybersecurity incident at NSP, which exposed the sensitive information of hundreds of thousands of their customers, shook the trust that many of our residents have in this corporation. Combined with the billing difficulties that resulted from this incident, where residents were questioning estimates and finding it difficult to get answers when contacting customer service, there is a hesitancy from those around our table in believing that residential customers who were hit hardest in the 2025 disruptions should bear the highest percentage of rate increases. Through discussion amongst our council, there was a suggestion to ask for a five-year rate freeze for NSP customers, and even a call for the exploration of how this utility could return to public ownership to ensure that residents are put ahead of profits.

Having reviewed the GRA made by NSP late last year, I can appreciate that, like with utilities provided by our municipality, the operating and capital costs have risen significantly over the past few years due to tariffs, inflation, and several other factors. I also appreciate that NSP opted to maintain their current ROE at 9% to consider its customers, instead of increasing it as recommended in the studies done to support their GRA. However, I encourage the regulatory board and those that have the ability to have input in a decision on this application to consider whether there is a better way to distribute the proposed rate increases across the customer classes so that it does not appear that our residents, as domestic class customers of NSP, are bearing the brunt of the changes put forward.

Sincerely,



Nicholas MacInnis
Warden

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

January 2026

- During this month Public Works have been out on various weather events, salting, sanding & plowing streets, roads, sidewalks, and parking lots.
- Cleaned snow along Lower Main St. after various weather events.
- Repaired a Branch Sewer on Water St.
- Updated & Read water meters for billing.
- Repaired 3 water meters.
- Repaired Broken Planks on Bridge Sidewalk.
- Repaired lights & toilet at Medical Center.
- Removed Dangerous Icicles from Medical Center.
- Weekly Water quality checks & lagoon sampling for end of the month.
- Experienced Several break downs with our John Deere Loader, trackless and Kubota tractor.
- Busy at the Transfer Site with after Christmas garbage & regular weekly load.
- Handled various freeze and potential sewer issue calls.
- Out various times filling potholes, removing trees, and checking into complaints.