



ATTENDING

- Mayor Jodi MacKay
- Deputy Mayor Jennifer Ingham
- Councillor Mike Butler
- Councillor Wendy Elliott
- Councillor Ian Palmeter
- Councillor Kelly van Niekerk
- Councillor Howard Williams
- CAO Glenn Horne
- Recording Secretary Laura Morrison

ALSO ATTENDING

- Director of Finance and Corporate Services, Beth Hopkins
- Director of Planning & Economic Development, Devin Lake
- Director of Public Works and engineering, Alex de Sousa
- Manager of Communications & Strategic Initiatives, Barb Shaw
- Manager of IT, David Hopkins
- Interested members of the community

CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Mayor MacKay called the Town Council Meeting to order at 6:31pm.
Deputy Mayor Ingham read the Land Acknowledgement.

Agenda Item	Discussion and Decisions
1. Approval of Agenda	10-02-25 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS AMENDED. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
2. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• None
3. Approval of Minutes	
a. Town Council Meeting, January 28, 2025	11-02-24 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF JANUARY 28, 2025 BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



Agenda Item	Discussion and Decisions
<p>4. Community Events, Occasions & Acknowledgements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to recognize African Heritage Month – Special Soups and Sides next month recognizing historic figures that represent the African Nova Scotian community. • Thanks to the Legion and Randall House for a successful event at Legion celebrating Heritage Day honoree, Mi'kmaq activist, Nora Bernard. • Stage Prophets are hosting a Youth performance series – please check their socials for details. • Acknowledge this is wear red month in recognition of women’s heart month. Thank you to Ella, Sophie and Saleen for bringing this awareness to our community. • Feb 19th at 11am Regional Emergency Preparedness Session open to the public at the Legion. • ASU Elections completed – congratulations to all those who earned their seat. Council looks forward to meeting you. • Mayor MacKay made the following comments regarding the concerns and emails received this past week regarding closure of the Acadia Pool. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Acadia has been clear the pool is closing. Operational costs and capital repairs that would take two years of shut down and massive financial support are noted. The reports that outline these are now on the Acadia website with the original release documents. Please to their website for this information. ❖ The Town is being asked to act, and we are. Starting with Seirra reports that were done in 2015 with Acadia. When those conversations moved away from being a partner, we moved on and have been working with our partners at Kings County and the Town of Kentville. The work has been ongoing since 2021 and will determine if Regional Recreation Facility is in the best interest of our residents. We are exploring this option because we know how important an aquatics facility and other amenities are to our community. The Acadia pool closing has put more urgency on the discussions with our partners at Kings and Kentville. ❖ The Town will be joining regional partners on Thursday for a renewed conversation about the Regional Recreation Facility.



Agenda Item	Discussion and Decisions
	<p>We will report back with further progress either as part of the CAO reports in our COW agenda packages or if a decision is required with a formal request for decision.</p>
<p>5. Public Input</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAO advised speakers have up to 5 minutes, responses will not be provided tonight. All comments and questions are recorded and questions will be answered in CAO report for March 4th COW. • Caroline Whitby, Maple Ave. Concerned about the pool for a while. Acadia said they can no longer commit to fund and carry the costs. The loss to the students as well as the loss from opportunities that those students could bring to the community are huge. Conversations are ongoing around housing, would like Council to work with regional partners and explore Acadia providing land on their property for whatever a new facility may look like. Community engagement in the budget process has been challenging. The Special Budget meeting was changed. Found the packages that were posted on the website were confusing. A draft operational plan was presented but not shared as part of the agenda package. Please look at how you are getting information out to the community. • In response the CAO shared that the timeline has changed. The second version of the budget is planned to be presented to Council March 25th with approval in first week of April.
<p>6. Motions from Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 4, 2025.</p>	
<p>a. RFD 003-2025: Aerial Fire Truck</p>	<p>12-02-25 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT COUNCIL APPROVE AN INCREASE IN THE CAPITAL BUDGET FROM \$2 MILLION TO \$3.3 MILLION FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE 2001 TOWER 41 AERIAL FIRE TRUCK.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY</p> <p>13-02-24 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT COUNCIL DIRECT STAFF TO PROCEED WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF A TENDER, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TOWN'S PROCUREMENT</p>



Agenda Item	Discussion and Decisions
	<p>POLICY 140-001, TO SOLICIT BIDS FROM QUALIFIED VENDORS FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE NEW AERIAL FIRE TRUCK. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillor Elliott advised a resident shared that the aerial truck was purchased with help from Acadia as it was for the Tower residents. CAO will clarify and report back to Council. • The truck is used for more than just the Tower. • CAO clarified the first motion on the floor is to increase the capital budget based on updated figures for the cost of the truck. Second motion is to go to tender.
7. NEW BUSINESS	
<p>a. Draft Equity & Anti-Racism Plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of the Draft Equity and Anti-Racism Plan with a final draft coming back to Council for approval next month. • Presentation to Soups and Sides was put on by Acadia’s African Heritage Month Committee. • Councillor Elliot asked about previous residents of the Town that might be included in the presentation. • Living Lab being run by Dalhousie with participation from Acadia to be trained as facilitators. No cost to the Town. More information to come. • Town has been prescribed by legislation. Encouraged to start by looking at policies/procedures and how we spend money. • Acadia is not prescribed at this time. Towns, Villages and Municipalities only currently.
<p>8. Adjournment of Regular Meeting</p>	<p>14-02-25 IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE REGULAR MEETING ADJOURN AT 7:10PM</p>

Approved by Council Motion 19-03-25, March 2025

As recorded by Laura Morrison, Town Clerk and Manager of Administration