

The regular scheduled meeting of Trenton Town Council was held in the Council Chamber on Tuesday, May 13, 2025, beginning at 6:00 PM.

Present: Mayor Alec Dove
Deputy Mayor Scott Cameron
Councilor Donald Cullen
Councilor Nicole LeBlanc
Councilor Stephanie MacKinnon
Alanna Grover, CAO
Marilou Sutherland, Deputy Clerk

Also in Attendance: Jodi MacKay,
Ray Anderson, Stephanie Anderson
Danny MacGillivray, MLA
Rory & Shaun Anderson

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Alec Dove.

Land Acknowledgement – Mayor Alec Dove

At the Town of Trenton, we acknowledge that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people. This land is governed by the treaties of Peace and friendship, first signed by the Mi'kmaq. We reside by Pictou Landing First Nation, which is governed by a Chief and Five Council.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councilor LeBlanc
Seconded by Councilor Cameron
To approve the Agenda as presented
Motion carried.

Presentation: Brenda MacKay – Finance Director

Ms. MacKay presented the 2025-26 General Operating Budget, the Water Utility Operating Budget for 2025-26, General Capital Budget for 2025-26 and Water Utility Capital Budget for 2025-26.

Approval of Minutes

Regular Council Minutes – April 08, 2025
The minutes are accepted as presented.

Reports

Public Works Report
Water Report
Fire Report
Parks and Recreation Report
Police Report
The reports are approved as submitted by Department Managers

Proclamations

VON – Acknowledge VON Week – Flag Raising May 18-24

Moved by Councilor MacKinnon

Seconded by Councilor LeBlanc

To proclaim VON week May 18-24, 2025 in Trenton.

Motion carried.

Lyme Disease Awareness Month – Proclamation & Flag Raising May 6-9

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cameron

Seconded by Councilor Cullen

To proclaim Lyme Disease Awareness Month.

Motion carried.

Gaelic Nova Scotia Month – Proclamation and Flag Raising May 12-16

Moved by Councilor LeBlanc

Seconded by Councilor MacKinnon

To proclaim Gaelic Nova Scotia Month and raise the Gaelic Nova Scotia Flag May 12-16.

Motion carried.

Correspondence

- Letter from Minister John Lohr, Municipal Affairs
- Healthy Pictou County April 2025 Report
- Pictou County Chamber Newsletter – May 2025

The CAO reviewed the three items under correspondence. They are received for information only.

Council Committee Reports

Police Commission Package Reports – March 2025 and April 2025

The reports are received for information only.

Recommendation from Committee of the Whole

Recommendation #1

Moved by Councilor Cullen

Seconded by Councilor MacKinnon

On the recommendation of Committee of the Whole, Council approved the Signage Policy OTH-2025-05-13-02.

Motion carried.

Recommendation #2

Moved by Councilor Cullen

Seconded by Councilor MacKinnon

On the recommendation of Committee of the Whole, Council approved the Property Tax Exemption 2025-26, maximum exemption that will be granted is \$279.00 for person with total household income less than \$29,315 in 2024.

Motion carried.

Recommendation #3

Moved by Councilor Cullen

Seconded by Councilor MacKinnon

On recommendation of Committee of the Whole, Council approve the Comfort Centre Policy OTH-2025-05-13-01.

Motion carried.

New Business

Budget 2025-26

Moved by Councilor LeBlanc

Seconded by Councilor MacKinnon

Be it, resolved by the Council of the Town of Trenton that the General Operating Budget for April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026 be \$5,782,715.

Motion carried.

Water Utility Operating Budget

Moved by Councilor MacKinnon

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Cameron

Be it, resolved by the Council of the Town of Trenton that the Water Utility Operating Revenue be \$1,352,270 and Water Utility Operating Expenditures be \$1,097,572 for April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026.

Motion carried.

General Capital Budget

Moved by Councilor Cullen

Seconded by Councilor MacKinnon

Be it, resolved by the Council of the Town of Trenton that the General Capital Budget for April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026 be \$3,173,110.

Motion carried.

Water Utility Capital Budget

Moved by Councilor MacKinnon

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Cameron

Be it, resolved by the Council of the Town of Trenton that the Water Utility Capital Budget for April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026 be \$314,250.

Motion carried.

Tax Resolution 2025-26

Resolution File Number: 2025-05-13

Moved by Councilor LeBlanc

Seconded by Councilor Cullen

The General Operating Budget for the Town of Trenton for the period of April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2026, be approved, accepted, and adopted in the amount of \$5,782,715.

Be it, resolved that the tax rate for the Town of Trenton for the period April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026 be set at \$2.04 per \$100 of assessment for Residential and Resource properties at the assessed valuation of \$118,823,100, \$4.10 per \$100 of assessment for Commercial property at the assessed valuation of \$6,315,200, the Solid Waste annual user fee rate of \$146.00 per dwelling unit and fire protection rate \$0.145 per \$100 of assessment.

Be it, further resolved that the rate of the taxes for the current period may be collected Warrant and Distress, without further notice if not paid on or before the 31 day of March 2026 together with all costs and expenses of levy and sale of goods on all proceeding's incidental thereto, and further if they said taxes are not paid before May 31, 2025 for the interim tax bill and October 31, 2025 for the final billing, an additional penalty charge will be payable at a rate of 15% per annum on the balance of all outstanding tax account.

Motion carried.

Trenton Fire Chief

Acting Fire Chief Raymond Anderson was photographed with Mayor Dove.

Mayor Dove thanked Chief Anderson's family for their support.

Round Table

- Deputy Mayor Cameron stated that the Ad Hoc Committee reviewing camping in Trenton Park will be ready to present to Council within the next two weeks.
- Councilor MacKinnon recently attended the Volunteer Recognition Reception, she stated it was heart warming.
- Councilor Cullen congratulated the Town of New Glasgow on their 150 years milestone. Pat Dunn's Retirement was well attended. Councilor Cullen is participating in the ZaFest in the pizza box making skills. At June's Council meeting Councilor Cullen is a regret, his daughter is graduating from Dalhousie University.
- Councilor LeBlanc thanked Ground Search and Rescue it's been a rough time. Congrats to the Town of New Glasgow on their Flag Raising. Congrats to True Colors on their re-opening. So Be Eat will be opening soon at the former Steeltown Take Out building. Congratulations to Greg MacDonald for 50 years of practicing law.
- Mayor Dove stated that it is great to see Express Yourself Café open again. An achievement for East Cut for reaching the 100 employees mark. Go Clean Get Green event Trenton had the highest garbage tonnage. Cohen's Cones is open again this season at Trenton Park. Congrats to Walter Smith as volunteer of the year. Thank you to Town staff for the Volunteer Recognition Reception.

- Jodi MacKay, Grandview Avenue resident is requesting a Street light at the top of her Street.

Adjournment

Moved by Councilor LeBlanc to adjourn meeting

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Alec Dove
Mayor

Alanna Grover
CAO