



NOTICE

- MEETING:** Regular Council Meeting
- DATE:** Wednesday July 15th, 2026
- TIME:** Approximately 5:30pm
(15 Minutes following the conclusion of
Committee of the Whole)
- PLACE:** Council Chambers, 8296 Highway 7, Sherbrooke

Please Advise If Unable To Attend



Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, July 15th, 2026

We acknowledge that we are gathering in Mi'kmaqi the traditional unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Additions to the Agenda
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Approval of Minutes of Council Meeting held Wednesday June 17th, 2026, Emergency Council held June 23rd, 2026, and Emergency Council held July 7th, 2026
6. Business Arising from Minutes
7. Recommendations from Committees of Council
 - a. Committee of the Whole – June 3rd, 2026
 - b. Council – June 17th, 2026 – REMO By-Law Second Reading
 - c. Committee of the Whole – July 6th, 2026
 - d. Committee of the Whole – July 15th, 2026
8. Correspondence
 - a. From the Cruiser May & June 2026
9. External Committee Reports
 - a. Sherbrooke Village Restoration Committee – March 25th, 2026
 - b. Port Bickerton Lighthouse Association – June 29th, 2026
10. Other Matters of Business
 - a. Staff Report – Request for Rezoning - PID 37529856
 - b. Staff Report – Grant Submission
 - c. Staff Report – J-Class Roads Agreement
 - d. Staff report – Transfer Station C&D Water Testing
11. CAO Report

Adjournment

A 10-minute question and answer period pertaining to agenda items.



Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, June 17th, 2026

We acknowledge that we are gathering in Mi'kma'ki the traditional unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

1. Meeting, Date & Time:

The Regular Council meeting of the St. Mary's Municipal Council was called to order on Wednesday June 17th, 2026, at 5:00pm in the Council Chambers Sherbrooke, N.S.

2. Attending:

Warden James Fuller
Deputy Warden Beulah Malloy
Councillor Dana O'Connell
Councillor Scott Beaver
Councillor Emma Tibbo

Also Attending:

Lesley McFarlane, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)
Marian Fraser, Director of Finance/Treasurer
Janelle Fleet, Interim Municipal Clerk

3. Additions to the Agenda:

- There were no additions to the agenda.

4. Approval of Agenda:

On motion of Councillor O'Connell and seconded by Councillor Tibbo, Council approved the agenda as presented.

Motion approved.

5. Approval of Previous Minutes:

Warden Fuller called for errors, omissions, or amendments to the minutes of the Council Meeting held May 20, 2026. The CAO indicated that one non-substantive amendment is reflected in the minutes of the meeting of Council held May 20, 2026, to adjust the amount of the vehicle purchased from \$55,000 plus HST to the actual amount, which was \$55,500 plus HST.

On motion of Councillor Beaver and seconded by Councillor O'Connell, Council approved the minutes of the Council Meeting held May 20, 2026, as amended.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes:

- The CAO advised Council that revisions had been made to the Regional Emergency Management Organization (REMO) By-law and Shared Services Agreement following the June 3rd Committee of the Whole Meeting, as these documents have now received First Reading by all three municipalities involved in the REMO.

- A document was shared with Council which summarized the changes completed through the review process. There were no questions from Council.

7. Presentation: Royal Canadian Mounted Police – Cpl. D’Arcy Doucette, Guysborough County RCMP

- Corporal D’Arcy Doucette provided Council with an overview of policing activities within the Municipality and surrounding area.
- Corporal Doucette clarified there will be new members serving in the local detachment starting this summer.
- Council discussed traffic concerns, including speeding in Liscomb within the 70km/h zone, and within the 50 km/h zone entering Sherbrooke and raised concerns regarding the Port Bickerton area.
- Council and Corporal Doucette also discussed the need for a Cross Walk at the Clover Farm location.
- Corporal Doucette emphasized the importance of residents reporting suspicious or unusual activity to the RCMP, noting that timely reporting assists police in responding effectively and identifying trends within the community. This includes unusual watercraft, or any unusual activity at the shore.
- Council thanked Corporal Doucette for his presentation and ongoing service to the Municipality.

8. Recommendations from Committees of Council:

a. Committee of the Whole - June 3rd, 2026

On motion of Councillor Tibbo, seconded by Councillor O’Connell, Council authorize Warden Fuller to attend the 50th Annual Provincial Seamen’s Memorial Service in Canso on August 9, 2026, as a representative of the Municipality of the District of St. Mary’s, with mileage and related expenses reimbursed in accordance with the Municipality’s Travel and Expense Policy.

Motion approved.

On motion of Councillor O’Connell, seconded by Councillor Tibbo, Council approve entering into the Guysborough County Regional Emergency Management Organization Shared Services Agreement as presented.

Motion approved.

On motion of Councillor Beaver, seconded by Councillor O’Connell, Council give First Reading to the Regional Emergency Management Organization By-law and direct staff to provide notice in accordance with the Municipal Government Act.

Motion approved.

On motion of Councillor Tibbo, seconded by Deputy Warden Malloy, Council authorize the CAO to enter into an agreement with Naviline Central Square Solutions for the Municipal Finance System.

Motion approved.

On motion of Councillor Tibbo, seconded by Councillor Beaver, Council authorize staff to schedule a Public Hearing at 5:00 p.m. on July 15th, 2026, prior to the meeting of Council, for the rezoning request for PID #37529856.

Motion approved.

On motion of Councillor O'Connell, seconded by Councillor Beaver, Council appoint Applicant 1, Applicant 2, Applicant 3 and Applicant 4 to the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Anti-Hate & Accessibility Advisory Committee.

Motion approved.

On motion of Councillor Tibbo, seconded by Deputy Warden Malloy, Council approve hosting a flag raising ceremony to kick off Pride Weekend celebrations on June 12–14, 2026, and annually in years when Pride Weekend celebrations are held.

Motion approved.

9. Outside Committee Reports

- a. Port Bickerton Lighthouse Association – May 25th, 2026
 - Council received the report as presented.
- b. Eastern Region Solid Waste Management – May 28th, 2026
 - Council received the report as presented.

10. Correspondence

- a. ECRL Statement on Library Service – June 8, 2026
 - Council received the correspondence for information. The Warden noted that our region does a lot with very few staff, and manages to stay in good shape financiall.
- b. Rink Revitalization Project Funding Denial Letter – May 26, 2026
 - Council received the correspondence for information.
- c. Environment/Climate Change – Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund – May 28, 2026
 - Council received the correspondence for information.

11. Other Matters of Business:

- a. Staff Report – Ice Edger Replacement
 - The CAO presented the staff report regarding the replacement of the ice edger for the St. Mary's Recplex. Council discussed the proposed purchase, including the funding source following the Municipality's unsuccessful Rink Revitalization Grant application. The CAO clarified that \$11,280 in total had been budged for the Ice Edger, including grant funding as well as funds from the municipal Capital Reserve. The purchase of a unit costing \$6,195, or about half of the original unit planned, has mitigated the impact of the grant funding being denied.

On motion of Councillor O'Connell, seconded by Councillor Tibbo, Council approve the purchase of a Zamboni 10.5HP Electric start, Gas powered Ice Edger from Saunders Equipment Limited, at a cost of \$6,195.00 plus HST and any applicable freight costs, to be funded through the 2026/2027 Capital Budget.

Motion approved.

- b. Staff Report – REMO Committee Appointments
 - The CAO presented the staff report respecting appointments to the Guysborough County Regional Emergency Management Organization (REMO) Executive Committee. Council

discussed the requirement to appoint two members for the duration of the current Council term, with one appointee being either the Warden or Deputy Warden. Council agreed to appoint Warden Fuller and Councillor Beaver.

On motion of Councillor Tibbo, seconded by Deputy Warden Malloy, Council appoint Warden Fuller and Councillor Beaver to serve on the Regional Emergency Management Organization (REMO) Executive Committee for the duration of the current Council term.

Motion approved.

12. CAO Report:

- Please see the Agenda/Package for the report.
- Lesley McFarlane, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) informed Council and provided updates on several municipal initiatives and ongoing projects, including:
 - Progress on water infrastructure and well drilling initiatives.
 - Funding opportunities for current and future municipal projects.
 - Continued work with provincial and federal funding partners.
 - Drought response planning and public education initiatives.
 - Recommendations from the Department of Environment regarding water conservation.
 - Electrical upgrades on the water infrastructure at Clover Farm and other municipal infrastructure projects.
- Council discussed the importance of continuing to pursue available grant funding while educating residents on water conservation and drought preparedness.

Adjournment

There being no further matters of business, Warden Fuller declared the meeting adjourned at 5:41pm.

Recorded By
Janelle Fleet, Interim Municipal Clerk

Approved By
Warden Fuller



Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

Emergency Council Meeting
Wednesday, June 23rd, 2026

We acknowledge that we are gathering in Mi'kma'ki the traditional unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

1. Meeting, Date & Time:

The Emergency Council meeting of the St. Mary's Municipal Council was called to order on Tuesday June 23rd, 2026, at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers Sherbrooke, N.S.

2. Attending:

Warden James Fuller
Deputy Warden Beulah Malloy
Councillor Dana O'Connell
Councillor Emma Tibbo

Absent with Regrets:

Councillor Scott Beaver

Also Attending:

Lesley McFarlane, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)
Marian Fraser, Director of Finance/Treasurer
Teddy Stevens, Director of Public Works
Janelle Fleet, Interim Municipal Clerk

3. Additions to the Agenda:

- There were no additions to the agenda.

4. Approval of Agenda:

On motion of Councillor Tibbo and seconded by Deputy Warden Malloy, Council approved the agenda as presented.

Motion approved.

On motion of Councillor Tibbo and seconded by Councillor O'Connell, Council moved into an in-camera session for contract negotiations at 7:01pm.

Motion approved.

5. In-Camera: Contract Negotiations

On motion of Councillor O'Connell seconded by Councillor Tibbo, Council agreed to reconvene to regular session at 7:28pm.

Motion approved.

Adjournment

There being no further matters of business, Warden Fuller declared the meeting adjourned at 7:29pm.

Recorded By
Janelle Fleet, Interim Municipal Clerk

Approved By
Warden Fuller



Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

Emergency Council Meeting

Tuesday, July 7th, 2026

We acknowledge that we are gathering in Mi'kma'ki the traditional unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

1. Meeting, Date & Time:

Warden Fuller called the Emergency Council Meeting of the St. Mary's Municipal Council to order on Tuesday, July 7th, 2026, at 3:12pm in the Council Chambers, Sherbrooke, N.S.

2. Attending:

Warden James Fuller

Deputy Warden Beulah Malloy

Councillor Dana O'Connell

Councillor Scott Beaver – virtual

Councillor Emma Tibbo

Also Attending:

Lesley McFarlane, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

Marian Fraser, Director of Finance/Treasurer

3. Approval of the Agenda:

On the motion of Councillor O'Connell and seconded by Councillor Tibbo, Council approved the agenda as presented.

Motion approved.

4. IAAC Submission Response – 15 Mile Processing Hub Project

The Warden read the draft municipal response to the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) regarding the 15-Mile Processing Hub Project – Initial Project Description, as revised during the Committee of the Whole meeting held on July 6, 2026.

On the motion of Councillor Tibbo, seconded by Deputy Warden Malloy, Council considered the revised response to the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada regarding the 15-Mile Processing Hub Project – Initial Project Description.

The Warden opened the floor for discussion.

- Council asked whether requesting the highest level of environmental scrutiny for the watershed was equivalent to requesting a federal impact assessment. Other members of Council expressed a preference that a federal assessment should be explicitly included in the submission.

- The purpose of holding the Emergency Council meeting was questioned. The Warden explained that while the matter had been discussed at Committee of the Whole, Council was required to make the formal decision and that this provided an additional opportunity for discussion.
- Some members of Council expressed that they did not feel Council was ready to submit a response, as formal analysis had not been presented by staff, and that additional time should be taken to consider the matter and allow residents an opportunity to provide input before a submission was made.
- Concerns were raised that the 20-day duration for inputs to the IAAC did not provide much time for analysis and input.
- Members of Council indicated that further opportunities would exist to express matters of concern on behalf of Council and the municipality regarding this project.
- A question was raised regarding a potential conflict of interest. The Chair advised that each member is responsible for determining and declaring any conflict of interest. No conflict of interest was declared.

The Warden called for the vote.

Motion defeated.

Councillor Beaver voted in the minority.

As a result, the draft response was not approved for submission.

- Council discussed whether an alternative response would be submitted. It was agreed that no submission would be sent at this time, pending additional information regarding the federal impact assessment process.

5. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Warden declared the meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Recorded By
Marian Fraser, Director of Finance

Approved By
Warden Fuller

Municipality of the District of St. Mary's
Submission to the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
15-Mile Processing Hub Project – Initial Project Description

The Municipality of the District of St. Mary's has reviewed the Initial Project Description for the 15-Mile Processing Hub Project and respectfully provides the following comments for consideration as the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) determines the scope of the impact assessment. The Municipality recognizes that the authority to approve or reject the project rests with the federal and provincial regulatory agencies, not with the Municipality. Council's intent is not to express support for or opposition to the project at this stage, but rather to ensure that matters of importance to our residents are fully considered throughout the assessment process.

Environmental Protection

The Municipality of the District of St. Mary's is deeply committed to environmental stewardship. The St. Mary's River watershed, Atlantic salmon, clean water, forests, wetlands, wildlife and healthy ecosystems are fundamental to our identity, quality of life, recreation, tourism and long-term sustainability. Residents rightly expect that any project with the potential to affect the watershed will be subject to the highest level of environmental scrutiny.

Council recognizes that the Initial Project Description identifies a number of design changes made in response to previous feedback, including reducing impacts on waterways and wetlands, eliminating certain project components, improving water treatment, and proposing remediation of historic mining impacts. These changes are positive and demonstrate the value of an iterative planning process. However, Council expects the impact assessment to rigorously examine potential impacts on surface water, groundwater, water quality, fish and fish habitat, species at risk, wastewater management, tailings management, cumulative effects, long-term monitoring, closure planning and adaptive management. Protecting the ecological integrity of the St. Mary's River watershed must remain a paramount consideration throughout the assessment process.

Infrastructure and Public Safety

The Municipality requests that the assessment clearly identify anticipated heavy truck volumes, routes, timing, bridge and roadway impacts, traffic safety considerations and responsibilities for infrastructure upgrades or maintenance resulting from project-related traffic. Council also encourages consideration of emergency response requirements throughout construction, operation and closure, particularly in light of Nova Scotia's ongoing Fire Services Review and recent requirement to implement Regional Emergency Management Organizations. Council welcomes opportunities for the project to strengthen local emergency preparedness and fire prevention and response.

Economic and Community Benefits

Council recognizes the project's potential to generate meaningful economic benefits through employment, local procurement, business growth, housing investment and broader regional development. Given that many of the project's environmental and infrastructure impacts will be experienced within the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's, Council encourages the assessment process to clearly identify and, where possible, quantify anticipated local and regional benefits. The Municipality also expects Community Benefits Agreements or similar initiatives that provide lasting, measurable and equitable benefits for the communities most directly affected. Council strongly recommends the project focus on hiring local and buying local products where possible.

Ongoing Engagement

Council appreciates the opportunity to participate at this early stage and has confidence in IAAC's impact assessment process. The Municipality welcomes continued engagement throughout the review, including clear information regarding project milestones, public consultation opportunities and regulatory timelines. Council would also welcome opportunities for IAAC to meet with Council and the community to explain the assessment process and how public input will be considered.

Conclusion

The Municipality thanks IAAC for considering these comments and looks forward to working constructively with IAAC, the Province, the proponent, Indigenous communities and other stakeholders to ensure that any future decision reflects a careful balance between environmental protection, responsible economic development and the long-term interests of the residents of the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's.



Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

Wednesday, July 15th, 2026
Council Meeting

Recommendations from Internal Committees of Council

Committee of the Whole – June 3rd, 2026

On recommendation of Councillor O'Connell seconded by Councillor Tibbo, Council repeal the existing municipal Emergency Measures By-Law, such repeal to take effect upon the coming into force of the Regional Emergency Management Organization By-Law.

Recommendation approved.

Council – June 17th, 2026

On motion of Councillor _____ seconded by Councillor _____, Council give Second Reading to the Regional Emergency Management Organization By-Law.

Committee of the Whole – July 6th, 2026

Type of Award	Recognition by	Category
Years of Service in 10-Year Increments	Pins	First Responders (Reported by Organization) Healthcare (Reported by Organization)
Valour and Outstanding Service	Award/Plaque	First Responders (Nominated by Organization) Maximum of Three Total Nominations per Organization (13 Organizations) (Max 39 awards)
Outstanding Service and Leadership/Mentoring	Award/Plaque	Health care (Nominated by Organization) Maximum of Three Total Nominations per Organization (4 Organizations) (Max 12 awards)
Volunteer of the Year	Award/Plaque	One Award

On recommendation of Councillor Beaver, seconded by Deputy Warden Malloy, Council approve the proposed Community Heroes Appreciation Event award categories, nomination process, and number of awards per category as outlined in this report.

Recommendation approved.

On recommendation of Councillor Tibbo, seconded by Councillor Beaver, Council appoint Councillor Dana O'Connell as a member and Chair of the Source Water Protection Committee for the remainder of the current Council term or until a successor is appointed by Council.

Recommendation approved.

On recommendation of Councillor O'Connell, seconded by Councillor Beaver, Council ratify the expenditure of \$6,500 plus HST to Strait Engineering for professional fees to prepare a submission to the Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund, to provide water resiliency for the Recplex and a public potable water filling station, to be funded from the municipality's capital reserve.

Recommendation approved.

Committee of the Whole / Planning Advisory Committee – July 15th, 2026

Council will have three possible courses of action arising from the recommendation of Planning Advisory Committee, as follows:

On motion of Councillor _____, seconded by Councillor _____, the Committee of the Whole acting in the capacity of the Planning Advisory Committee recommend that Council authorize staff to schedule a public hearing at 5pm on July 30th, 2026, at 5pm, for the Rezoning request for PID #37503547.

OR

On motion of Councillor _____, seconded by Councillor _____, the Committee of the Whole acting in the capacity of the Planning Advisory Committee, deny the application for the Rezoning request for PID #37503547.

OR

On motion of Councillor _____, seconded by Councillor _____, the Committee of the Whole acting in the capacity of the Planning Advisory Committee does not have sufficient information to make a decision at this time, and therefore refers the matter of the Rezoning request for PID #37503547 back to _____ for more information.

FROM THE CRUISER

GUYSBOROUGH COUNTY DISTRICT RCMP-GRC

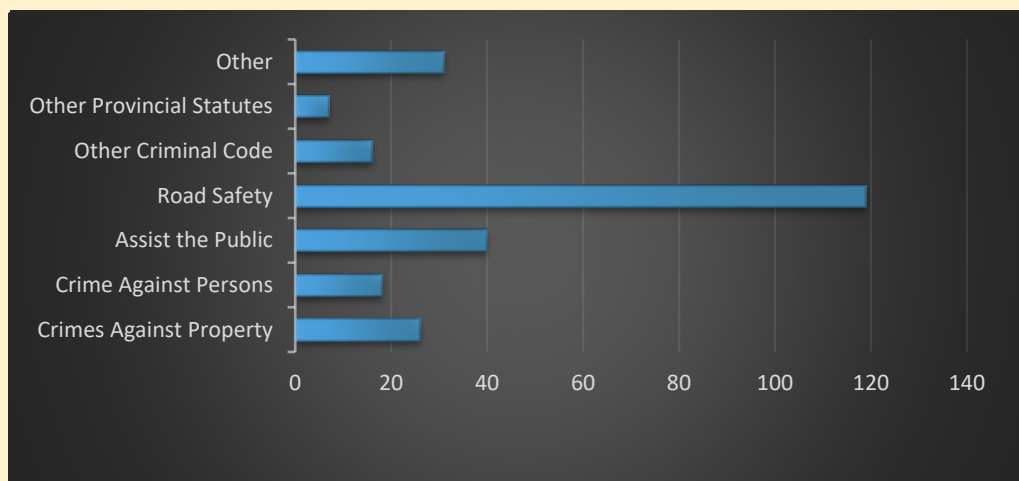
May & June 2026



Canso

The Month in Review

Guysborough County District RCMP responded to 140 calls for service during the month of May and 146 during the month of June 2026. Below is a chart showing the nature of those calls:



****Some calls of a sensitive nature are not included in the above chart***

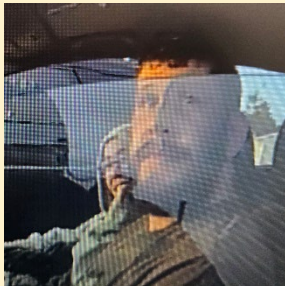


News Stories

A man and women in Canso are facing charges following an altercation at a residence on School Street on May 6th. 34-year-old Travis Doyle has been charged with Assault with a Weapon, Failing to Comply with conditions x 2, Possession of a Weapon for a Dangerous Purpose, & Mischief after damaging a vehicle & striking a male with a wrench. 47-year-old Tina Norman has been charged with assault on a female at the residence. Norman will appear in Antigonish Provincial Court on July 8th. Doyle was located in Cape Breton on May 12th, arrested & brought before a Justice for these charges. He was later released for a court date on June 3rd at Antigonish Provincial Court.

On May 23 at approximately 7:00 PM, Guysborough County District RCMP responded to a report of a person in distress in St. Francis Harbour. The person was located at a residence and safely taken into custody. Police are not anticipating charges and the investigation is concluded. Investigators who were on scene appreciated cooperation from the public especially while Hwy. 344 was temporarily closed.

On May 5th at 4:30 AM RCMP responded to reports of a suspicious vehicle in the Canso area. An Officer located the vehicle, approached & spoke to a male driver & female passenger who were non cooperative & sped off from the stop. An arrest warrant has been sought for the driver; Scott David Creamer, 36 years old, for Obstructing a Police Officer in the execution of her duties & Operating a Conveyance while



prohibited from doing so. If you know the whereabouts of Creamer or his female passenger pictured below, contact Guysborough District RCMP at 902-533-2728.

Crime Prevention

Guysborough District RCMP responded to fifteen mental health calls in May & June.

Under the Involuntary Psychiatric Treatment Act Police can take a person into custody for the purpose of a medical examination if they meet specific criteria; Specially if they are a danger to themselves or someone else or they are committing or about to commit a criminal offence. The police then bring the person to the nearest hospital for medical assessment.

Guysborough County District RCMP have officers on shift that are trained in crisis intervention and de-escalation.

If you, or someone you know, needs assistance, the following numbers can put you in contact with someone to help:

Need Help Now?

The hotlines listed here are toll-free and available to help 24/7, or go to your closest emergency department.

**Provincial Mental Health
and Addictions Crisis Line:
1-888-429-8167**

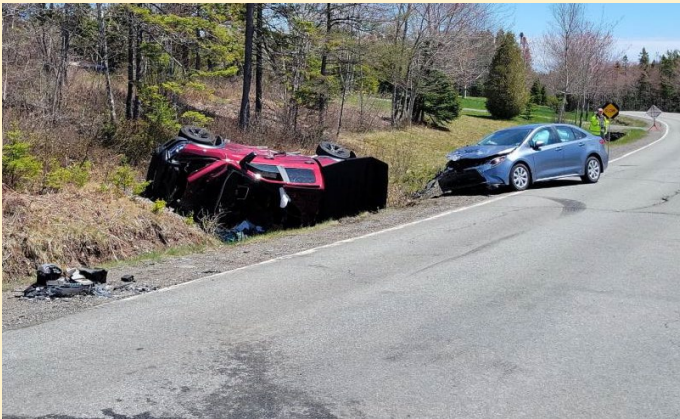
**Kids Help Phone: 1-800-668-
6868
Text CONNECT to 686868**

Emergency: 911

**Additional Community Resources
can be found by calling 211.
Someone is always available 24/7.
It's free & confidential**

Road Safety

On May 16th at noon, Guysborough County District RCMP were dispatched to a collision at the intersection of Highway 16 and Larry's River Road. Three vehicles were involved in the crash, all passengers walked away with non-life-threatening injuries after medical treatment. One of the drivers, a 46-year-old Dartmouth man, was arrested at the scene and brought to an instrument to provide a sample of his breath. He was released with charges of Impaired Operation of a Conveyance, Impaired Operation of a Conveyance over 80 mg of Alcohol, & Impaired Operation Causing Bodily Harm. The man is scheduled to appear in Antigonish Provincial Court on July 15, 2026, to enter a plea.



On May 21st just before 8:00 AM, Guysborough County District RCMP stopped a vehicle that was reported to have been driving in an unsafe manner near Boylston northbound on Highway 16 toward Antigonish County. The vehicle had minor damage to it and the police officer, upon contact with the driver, suspected the driver to be impaired. A youth driver was arrested and transported to detachment to provide a sample of breath. The test determined that the youth was driving while under the influence of alcohol. The young driver was released to their guardian with a court date.

Northeast Nova Scotia Traffic Services has been in the area assisting local detachments with Road Safety Initiatives during the month. Thirteen check stops were set up in May & June throughout the County.

Rain or shine, your local Mounties are out on the roads ensuring travellers are being safe.



In Our Community



Cst. James Dunlop is our newest RCMP member in Guysborough County District. We feel fortunate to have Cst. Dunlop joining our team. Look for him at upcoming events throughout the summer!

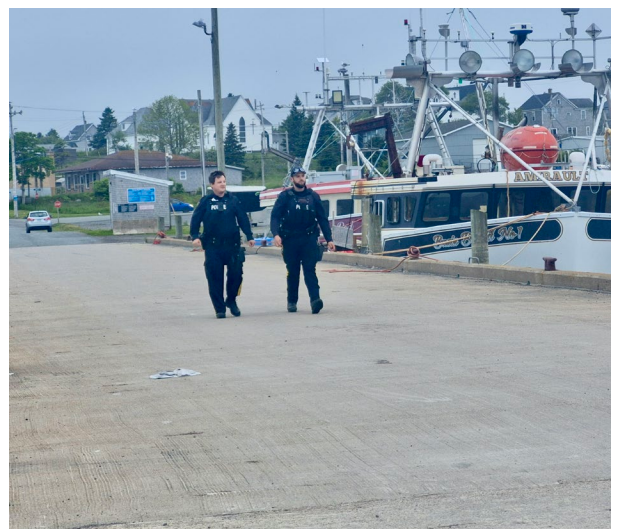


Detachment Assistant Denise Wood & Cst. Garfield Levy attended Government House in Halifax in May in recognition of their service to their community.



Cst. Fink worked his last shift in Guysborough District. We wish him well in his new post in Cumberland County.

Thank you for your service to Guysborough County Antony!



Cst. Dunlop and Cst. Nudo on foot patrol in Canso



Report to Council

Member of Council: Dana O'Connell

Board/Agency/Organization: Sherbrooke Village
Restoration Commission

Date Attended: March 25 2026

Location: Sherbrooke Village

SHERBROOKE RESTORATION COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MEETING

March 25, 2026

REGULAR MEETING

Present: Rennie Beaver, Chair; John Watson, Vice Chair; Dana O'Connell; York Lethbridge, Executive Director; and Lisa Myers, Recording Secretary.

TEAMS: Leigh Ellen Walsh Stephanie Smith, Executive Director, Archives, Libraries & Museums.

Regrets: Meghann Jack

Call to Order: 1:00 pm by Rennie Beaver Chair.

Territorial Acknowledgement

Sherbrooke Restoration Commission would like to begin by acknowledging that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People. This territory is covered by the "Treaties of Peace and Friendship" which Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) Peoples first signed with the British Crown in 1725.

Agenda:

Motion to approve the amended agenda for March 25, 2026, was made by Dana O'Connell and seconded by John Watson. Motion carried.

Minutes:

Motion to approve minutes for February 27, 2026, and amended minutes for March 11, 2026, was made by John Watson and seconded by Dana O'Connell. Motion carried.

Business Arising from the minutes: No Business Arising from the minutes.

Correspondence:

Executive Director, York Lethbridge, confirmed that there has been no response from the Ministry to the letters sent by Commission to request a meeting to discuss the impact of cuts to Sherbrooke Village's operating grant.

Stephanie Smith commented that the House is still sitting and the Commission will not have reply until they have completed.

Executive Director, York Lethbridge, has also been CC'd on a letter to MLA Greg Morrow from the NSGEU informing him of the impact of cuts on Sherbrooke Village employees.

Action Plan:

York Lethbridge reviewed the Action Plan. There are no changes.

Executive Director's Report:

The Executive Director, York Lethbridge, presented a report on recent activities to the Commission.

Request for the Commission to accept the Executive Director's Report as presented, was made by York Lethbridge. Motion made by John Watson and seconded by Dana O'Connell. Motion carried.

Financial Report:

Lisa Myers presented the financial report for the period ending February 28, 2026.

Request for a motion for the Commission to accept the financial report for February 28, 2026, as presented, was made by Lisa Myers. Motion made by Dana O'Connell and seconded by John Watson. Motion carried.

The Commission discussed options for funds to further its mandate through Historic Sherbrooke Village Development Society, citing deferred maintenance concerns and delayed repair projects.

Motion to contribute residual funds (to the nearest thousand) to Historic Sherbrooke Village Development Society on March 31, 2026. The Commission wishes to direct funds generally and may request support from these funds from HSVDS for projects in 2026-27. Moved by John Watson, seconded by Dana O'Connell. Motion carried.

Lisa Myers confirmed that all source deductions have been paid to date.

New Business:

New Business to be discussed in-camera.

History Minute:

No History Minute.

In-Camera

A motion was made by Dana O'Connell to go in camera at 1:18pm to discuss personnel matters, seconded by John Watson. Motion carried.

Lisa Myers left the meeting at 1:18pm.

The Commission came out of in camera at 1:51PM.

Commissioners expressed concern for impending expiration of individual terms without replenishment of vacant seats by the Ministry. Stephanie Smith explained that Commission appointment process is not open to her office but she will enquire with the Ministry on the progress of applications previously discussed with the Commission Chair, Rennie Beaver.

A motion to allow year-end carryover of all vacation and lieu time for the Executive Director was made by Leigh Ellen Walsh, seconded by Rennie Beaver. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn meeting was made by Dana O'Connell.

Meeting adjourned at 1:52PM.

Next Meeting:

April 22, 2026, 1:00pm in Exhibit Centre.



Report to Council

Member of Council: Deputy Warden Beulah Malloy

Board/Agency/Organization: Port Bickerton Light House

Date Attended: June 29/2026

Location: Port Bickerton Community Center

Port Bickerton and Area Planning Association

Meeting Minutes

Date: June 29, 2026

Location: Port Bickerton Community Centre

Recording Secretary: Diane Zandvliet

Board Members Present: John Zandvliet (chairman), Diane Zandvliet (recording Secretary), Don Dodge (Vice Chair), Jerry Haines, Lauren Ross (treasurer), Beulah Malloy, Brian Gary

In Attendance: Therese Hodgkinson

Meeting Called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Minutes reviewed – Diane motioned for minutes to be adopted as is, seconded by Lauren – carried

Financial report

Lauren has all current numbers balanced but is still waiting for some bills, cheques and other paperwork from Sheila. Nova Scotia Power hasn't been paid since February.

Income \$ 3,605.72

Expenses \$ 2,003.90

Balance as at June 20 \$ 26,305.95

Regarding the question about the maintenance budget – this is actually a threshold meaning any expenditures under \$1,000 need not be brought to a vote. This raised the question by Lauren as to whether or not there is an annual budget in place and if not should there be one? Lauren will be able to provide for next year based on this year's numbers.

Lauren moved the financial statement be adopted as shown. Diane seconded. Carried

Projects and Programming: (updates)

Fundraising updates

1. rain barrel fundraiser update -

We have received the final invoice from Rainbarrel Canada but there appears to be some errors or questionable entries. Lauren will reach out to get this cleared up before paying the invoice. All in all, approx. \$500 was raised for the lighthouse.

2. Chase the Ace

To date, approx. \$772 dollars has been raised for the lighthouse. Attendance is still very minimal. Plan is in place to put up posters in the surrounding area to generate more interest.

3. Art Festival

Date is set for Aug 22 tentatively between 10 am and 6 pm.

Pledges have been received from various parties for sponsorship so that is going well.

Promotion of the event is ongoing. Shona will provide fliers and posters for us. Starting in July posters will be up in the surrounding area and promotions will be made on the radio and on social media

Food truck will be Smash Brothers and also an ice cream truck coming from Paige Hannah.

Events will include musical performances and readings as well as weaving and henna tattoos.

Vendors will be required to pay \$10 to reserve their place.

New Business/ Round Table

Jerry – have students been hired? His son Liam would like to do volunteer work to boost his resume..

Don – all fees from board members have been received

- directors list is complete

- deposit to be made shortly for rent from cottage for \$962 which represents a stay of just over a week

- current tenants leaving Friday – Heidi comes on Sunday. All paint and equipment purchased for Heidi to paint the bedrooms in the cottage

- received a request from the insurance company to list a value on assets. Don says he will ask them to use last year's numbers

Lauren – when is the ferry closing? Consensus is late August or early September based on what we have been told but no definite dates given yet.

John – we should update the website but as there is a charge lets all have a look and put forward any suggestions so we can have everything done at the same time. Suggestions can be put forth at next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Next meeting Monday July 27 , 2026, 7 pm

Request for Rezoning – PID 37529856

SUMMARY

Further to the Public Hearing, which was held on Wednesday, July 15th, 2026 regarding an application from Steven Pye to have PID #37529856 in Ecum Secum rezoned from Rural Resource (RR) to General Commercial (GC) to allow operation of a Motor Vehicle Inspection Station on the subject property, Council has three options for consideration.

BACKGROUND

On May 12th, 2026, an application for rezoning this property was received by the municipal office.

On June 3rd, 2026, Planning Advisory Committee recommended approval of the application to Council.

On June 17th, 2026, Council approved the application and authorized staff to schedule a public hearing on July 15th, 2026.

CONSIDERATIONS

The Public Hearing took place on July 15th, 2026. Three options are presented for Council's consideration:

- Option #1 – Recommendation to approve rezoning application
- Option #2 – Recommendation to deny rezoning application
- Option #3 – Recommendation to refer matter back for further review and consideration

RECOMMENDATIONS

The following three pages outline the wording of each option.

OPTION #1 – Recommendation to Approve the Request

RESOLUTION - REQUEST FOR REZONING

STEVEN PYE (MODSM)

MOVED:

SECONDED:

MOTION:

THAT WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's passed a motion instructing Municipal Staff to schedule a Public Hearing in accordance with the Municipal Government Act (MGA) for the purpose of considering the rezoning of a parcel of land in Ecum Secum from Rural Resource to General Commercial;

AND WHEREAS the land to be rezoned is identified as PID 37529856 in Ecum Secum, Guysborough County;

AND WHEREAS a Public Hearing was called for Wednesday, July 15th, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 8296 Highway 7 in Sherbrooke, in accordance with the MGA;

AND WHEREAS the Public was informed of the Public Hearing through advertisements on the Municipal Website and in a local paper in accordance with the MGA;

AND WHEREAS there were no written objections and no oral presentations with respect to this rezoning;

BE IT THEREFORE MOVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's approve the request to rezone property identified as PID #37529856 in Ecum Secum, Guysborough County, from Rural Resource to General Commercial to allow operation of a Motor Vehicle Inspection Station on the subject property.

This is to certify that this is a true and exact copy of an amendment passed by the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's at a duly called meeting held on the 15th day of July A.D., 2026.

Municipal Clerk

OPTION #2 – Recommendation to Deny the Request

RESOLUTION - REQUEST FOR REZONING

STEVEN PYE (MODSM)

MOVED:

SECONDED:

MOTION:

THAT WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's passed a motion instructing Municipal Staff to schedule a Public Hearing in accordance with the Municipal Government Act (MGA) for the purpose of considering the rezoning of a parcel of land in Ecum Secum from Rural Resource to General Commercial;

AND WHEREAS the land to be rezoned is identified as PID 37529856 in Ecum Secum, Guysborough County;

AND WHEREAS a Public Hearing was called for Wednesday, July 15th, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 8296 Highway 7 in Sherbrooke, in accordance with the MGA;

AND WHEREAS the Public was informed of the Public Hearing through advertisements on the Municipal Website and in a local paper in accordance with the MGA;

AND WHEREAS there were no written objections and no oral presentations with respect to this rezoning;

BE IT THEREFORE MOVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's deny the request to rezone property identified as PID #37529856 in Ecum Secum, Guysborough County, from Rural Resource to General Commercial to allow operation of a Motor Vehicle Inspection Station on the subject property.

This is to certify that this is a true and exact copy of an amendment passed by the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's at a duly called meeting held on the 15th day of July A.D., 2026.

Municipal Clerk

OPTION #3 – Recommendation to refer the matter back to Committee of the Whole

RESOLUTION - REQUEST FOR REZONING

STEVEN PYE (MODSM)

MOVED:

SECONDED:

MOTION:

THAT WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's passed a motion instructing Municipal Staff to schedule a Public Hearing in accordance with the Municipal Government Act (MGA) for the purpose of considering the rezoning of a parcel of land in Ecum Secum from Rural Resource to General Commercial;

AND WHEREAS the land to be rezoned is identified as PID 37529856 in Ecum Secum, Guysborough County;

AND WHEREAS a Public Hearing was called for Wednesday, July 15th, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 8296 Highway 7 in Sherbrooke, in accordance with the MGA;

AND WHEREAS the Public was informed of the Public Hearing through advertisements in local papers in accordance with the MGA;

AND WHEREAS there were no written objections and no oral presentations with respect to this rezoning;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's does not have enough information to make a decision on the request at this time;

BE IT THEREFORE MOVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's refer this matter to the Committee of the Whole for further review and recommendation.

This is to certify that this is a true and exact copy of an amendment passed by the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's at a duly called meeting held on the 15th day of July A.D., 2026.

Municipal Clerk

Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund Grant Application

SUMMARY

This report provides an update on the funding associated with the municipality's Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund (SCCF) grant application.

Following review of the pre-screening submission, the SCCF advised that the municipality's required contribution would be 30% of eligible project costs, resulting in an estimated municipal contribution of \$95,745. This exceeds the \$60,000 currently included in the 2026/27 capital budget. This report is provided for Council's information while the full grant application is being finalized.

BACKGROUND

In June, a pre-screening application was submitted to the Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund (SCCF) to support two water resiliency initiatives:

- Recplex Water Resiliency Solution; and
- Public Potable Water Filling Station.

The application was developed with assistance from Strait Engineering, who prepared the project scope and cost estimates required for the submission.

At the time the capital budget was approved, the project budget was estimated at \$60,000. Following review of the municipality's pre-screening submission, the SCCF advised that the municipal contribution would be required to equal 30% of the total eligible project cost, or \$95,745.

CONSIDERATIONS

Based on the current project scope and cost estimates, the funding amounts are now as follows:

- Total Eligible Project Cost: **\$319,150**
- SCCF Contribution: **\$223,405 (70%)**
- Municipal Contribution: **\$95,745 (30%)**

The municipality's approved 2026/27 capital budget includes \$60,000 toward this initiative. The current project scope and cost estimates would require an additional \$35,745 to fund the municipality's share.

Staff Report



The deadline for full applications to the SCCF is July 23, 2026. Work continues to prepare and submit a full application, as discussed at COTW on July 7, 2026. Efforts will be made to identify areas where cost can be reduced without significant impact on the scope elements, however given tight timelines it is anticipated that the full application will indicate a municipal contribution of \$95,745.

This report is to inform Council of the revised funding requirements. Should the application be successful, staff will return to Council to outline the funding award, financing options, and any approvals required before proceeding with the project.

RECOMMENDATIONS

For Information.

J-Class Streets Cost-Sharing Agreement

SUMMARY

The Province of Nova Scotia has provided a new three-year Cost Share Agreement for the Paving of Subdivision (J-Class) Streets. Approval is requested to authorize the Municipality to enter into the agreement for the period ending March 31, 2030.

BACKGROUND

The Municipality has participated in the Province's Subdivision (J-Class) Streets cost-sharing program for many years. The current agreement is expiring and the Province has provided a new agreement covering the next three fiscal years. This agreement pertains to just under 5km of Municipal roads.

The agreement establishes the terms under which the Municipality may participate in the program. It does not identify specific roads for paving or commit the Municipality to any construction projects.

CONSIDERATIONS

Entering into the agreement maintains the Municipality's eligibility to participate in the Provincial cost-sharing program should Council wish to submit subdivision streets for consideration during the term of the agreement.

Each year, Council will have the opportunity to consider and approve any proposed road submissions and associated cost estimates before any work proceeds. Entering into the agreement does not create a financial commitment but gives Council eligibility to submit streets over the duration of the agreement.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council authorize the Municipality to enter into the Province of Nova Scotia's Three-Year Cost Share Agreement No. 2026-020 for the Paving of Subdivision (J-Class) Streets, and authorize the Warden and the Chief Administrative Officer to execute the agreement on behalf of the Municipality.

St. Mary's Transfer Station Ground Water and Leachate Sampling Plan

SUMMARY

To be compliant with Section 18 of the Approval to Operate issued by the Department of Environment and Climate Change for the St. Mary's Transfer Station, a groundwater, surface/storm water and leachate monitoring plan must be developed.

On January 21st, 2026, Council awarded Strait Engineering Ltd a contract to develop this plan. Within this plan, more detailed water testing is required to be compliant with Department of Environment and Climate Change regulations.

BACKGROUND

Strait Engineering has been contracted to develop a ground water and leachate monitoring plan for the St. Mary's Transfer Station. This is the next step required by Department of Environment and Climate Change to permanently close the construction and demolition (C&D) disposal site at the Transfer Station.

The findings from the initial investigations resulted in the requirement of quarterly testing for a least the next two years as apposed to the biannual testing that has been completed in the past.

CONSIDERATIONS

Under the municipal standing offer for engineering services, Strait Engineering Ltd has provided a quote for the initial sampling and testing of the ground water and leachate. The quoted price from Strait Engineering Ltd for the first quarterly monitoring as well as surveying and mapping of all well and cell locations is \$13,120+HST.

The amount budgeted for transfer station monitoring in 2026/27 is \$8,000. Approximately \$13,000 of additional operating funding was carried over from 2025/26 for any activities that may be required to achieve compliance with the closure of the C&D disposal site, as outlined in the Staff Report presented to COTW January 7th, 2026.

Pending completion of the first quarterly monitoring, Strait will provide pricing for future quarterly monitoring.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommend Council approve Strait Engineering Ltd to complete the first quarterly transfer station ground water and leachate testing to fulfill the requirements of the NS Department of Environment and Climate Change, for the quoted price of \$13,120+HST, sourced from operating funds budgeted in 2026/27 and carried forward from 2025/26.



2026-2027

CAO Report – Project Summary

For the period of June 1st to June 30th, 2026

The Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

MAJOR PROJECT SUMMARY

1. Housing Initiatives –

CMHC- Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF)

A three-year project, funded through the HAF, has been initiated to design and replace the west side water main. In 2026/27, the design will be completed; the replacement work will be scheduled over the following two fiscal years. A Request for Proposals for construction will be issued later this year. The municipality's contracted design firm, Strait Engineering, is preparing the design to allow the RFP to be issued.

2. Climate Change Projects –

The municipality continues to work closely with CLEAN Foundation to address priority actions from the municipality's approved Climate Change Action Plan. In June, the consulting firm came on site for two days to conduct field studies. The outcomes of their visit and subsequent research will be a study and roadmap of potential sources of funding to reduce energy costs for the Recplex.

3. EMO/REMO –

- In June, Council approved entering into a REMO shared services agreement and gave First Reading to the Emergency Management By-Law.

4. Tourism Promotion & Electronic Content/Advertisements –

- Significant updates to the Visit St. Mary's Tourism website were completed in early June in preparation for the upcoming tourist season.

5. Economic Development and Business Support–

- The municipality's Expression of Interest to identify proposals for long-term pharmacy services within the municipality concluded in June. There were a number of inquiries throughout the process from developers as well as pharmacy operators, however no formal responses were received.
- The municipality has supported the creation of a prescription delivery service through the Antigonish Superstore Pharmacy, for pickup at the Sherbrooke Library. SmartGO is also able to deliver prescriptions.
- As with all commercial development, the municipality remains open to requests from developers interested in pursuing pharmacy services in the municipality, in the form of rezoning requests or other development supports.

6. Upcoming Municipal Events

- Canada Day Parade and Celebration planning is ongoing
- Recreation Staff is assisting in planning for River Days in August
- 55+ Games planning has started
- Community Heroes Appreciation Event planning has started

7. Community Development and Recreation Programs

- a. Before and After School Program concluded, great attendance and positive feedback from participants
- b. Eco Explorers concluded in June
- c. T-Ball, Youth and Adult softball are underway for June, all three programs have great attendance
- d. Summer Day Camps program planning is ongoing
- e. Sherbrooke Pride Youth Tie Dye event was successful
- f. Equipment Loan program is ongoing with lots of watersports being loaned out
- g. Pickle Ball has concluded until September

8. Capital projects supporting Community Development and Recreation

- a. Connect 2 – Multi Use Trail Design –Strait Engineering Limited provided the initial trail design in June. Staff evaluation and assessment of next steps are underway.

9. Accessibility & Inclusion

- a. On June 17th, Council appointed four members to the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Anti-Hate & Accessibility Advisory Committee following the recent public call for applications. The Committee will now begin meeting to make recommendations to Council regarding the implementation of the municipality's 2026-28 Inclusion Plan.

10. Public Works

Municipal Utilities & Infrastructure

- The ice edger for the St. Mary's Recplex has been purchased and arrived on site in late June.
- The outside storage for chemical barrels has been completed and work done by staff.
- The water main replacement has been completed in the Clover Farm parking lot. The electrical aspect of this job remains outstanding and is currently awaiting permitting from Nova Scotia Power.
- A total of 25 new water meters have arrived and the installation of these meters has begun and will continue throughout the summer months.
- The agitator tank and associated equipment has arrived and is currently being installed by staff.

Capital Projects

Description	Update
16 Main Street Washroom Accessibility Renovations	Request for proposals scheduled to be issued by fall 2026.
Old Road Hill Multi-Use Path Construction Ready Design	Draft design received from consultant and assessment of next steps is underway.
Cushion Tank Replacement	Complete.
Filter #1 Overhaul	Scope revised to complete some work in house. Requesting quotes for trough extension and Council approval if required in fall 2026.
Agitator and Tank for Soda Ash Mixing	Project completed in June 2026.
West Side Water Main Replacement	Survey work has been completed, the first draft of the design will be completed in early July for staff review.
Water Main Replacement (Clover Farm Parking Lot)	Complete.
Water Meter Replacement	Meters being installed throughout the year.
Water Treatment PLC Replacement	Meeting with Strait Engineering, Lynk Electric, Suburban Electric and AH Roy to determine steps forward of completing this project.
Outside Storage for Chemical Barrels	Project completed in June 2026.
Hospital Road Lift Station Pedestal Replacement Village Lift Station Check Valve Replacement Main Street Lift Station Overflow Gasket Replacement	Work is planned for fall 2026.
I&I Recommendations – Flushing and Videoing Sewer Lines, Lift Station Clean Outs	Work is scheduled to be completed by October 2026.
Lift Station Electrical Panel Upgrade – Two Year Project	Confirming procurement approach and budget estimate; project scheduled to be completed by late fall 2026.
Sewer Plant Exterior Aeration Piping	Project planned to be completed in late fall 2026.
Sewer Blower Replacement	Awaiting installation scheduling confirmation.
Ice Edger	Ice edger purchased in June 2026. Project complete.
Drilled Well for St. Mary's Recplex	Pre-screening for grant application to Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund submitted in June.
Recplex Surge Protector	Project planned for completion by fall 2026.
Solar RFP	Recplex Energy Transition Study underway and planned to be completed in summer 2026.
Truck Purchase	Complete.