



*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 COTW Meeting of the St. Mary's Municipal Council to order on Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at 5:55pm. 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  
Mallory Tibbo, Director of Community Development and Recreation  
Janelle Fleet, Interim Municipal Clerk

### **3. Additions to the Agenda:**

The Warden asked if there were any changes to the agenda.

- Removal of In-Camera item as it was not required.
- Addition of a new agenda item 8.i. Staff direction for media release regarding the upcoming provincial budget cuts.

### **4. Approval of the Agenda:**

*On the motion of Councillor Beaver and seconded by Councillor O'Connell, Council approved the agenda as revised.*

***Motion approved.***

### **5. Approval of Minutes:**

*Warden Fuller called for errors, omissions or amendments to the minutes of the Council meeting held February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Hearing no errors or omissions to the minutes, the Warden declared the minutes were approved.*

***Motion approved.***

### **6. Business Arising from the Minutes:**

- There was no business arising from the minutes.

### **7. Correspondence:**

- a. Correspondence dated February 24, 2026, from NSFM Communications re: Bill 186 – Support for Fire Protection Services Act
- b. Correspondence dated February 24, 2026, from NSFM re: NS Provincial Budget 2026-27

## 8. Other Matters of Business:

- a. Staff Report - Health Care Appreciation
  - Please see the agenda/package for the staff report.

*On recommendation of Councillor Beaver seconded by Councillor Tibbo, Council approve the selection of the St. Mary's District Lion's Club to provide catering services for the provision of monthly snacks, at a maximum cost of \$9,072 for the term of March 2026 to February 2027, with funding to be provided from the Office of Health Care Professionals Recruitment Fund received by the Municipality.*

**Recommendation approved.**

- b. Staff Report - 2026 2027 General Government Grants
  - Please see the agenda/package for the staff report.

*Staff recommend that considering the provincial budget cuts, this item be deferred to a future meeting, at which updated recommendations regarding General Government Grants will be provided to Council.*

- c. Staff Report – Declaring Municipal Land Surplus
  - Please see the agenda/package for the staff report.

*On recommendation of Deputy Warden Malloy seconded by Councillor Beaver, Council declare the property at 8164 Highway 7, PID 37501871, AAN 04147405, to be no longer required for the purposes of the municipality.*

**Recommendation approved.**

- d. Staff Report – Fire Protection Services Act – Bill 186
  - Please see the agenda/package for the staff report.

*On recommendation of Councillor Beaver seconded by Deputy Warden Malloy, Council approve that due to excessive costs of installing dry hydrants combined with ineffective functionality, investment in dry hydrants and the Fire Service Capital Reserve Policy be paused, and considered as part of the broader policy and governance review associated with implementing the Support for Fire Protection Services Act.*

**Recommendation approved.**

- e. MODG Shared Services Verbal Update:
  - Waiting for a response for follow up by the municipality.

- f. Staff Report - Federation of Canadian Municipalities and Nova Scotia Federations of Municipalities Conferences
  - Please see the agenda/package for the staff report.

*On recommendation of Councillor O'Connell seconded by Councillor Tibbo, Council approve that the Warden, Deputy Warden and CAO be approved to attend the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities Spring Conference in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia from April 29 to May 1, 2026.*

**Recommendation approved.**

On recommendation of Deputy Warden Malloy seconded by Councillor Beaver, Council approve that all five (5) members of Council plus the CAO be approved to attend the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities Fall Conference in November 2026, with attendance to be confirmed pending announcement of conference details.

**Recommendation approved.**

On recommendation of Councillor Tibbo seconded by Councillor O'Connell, Council confirms that no members of Council will attend the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Conference in Edmonton, Alberta from June 4 to June 7, 2026.

**Recommendation approved.**

- g. Setting Date for AGM
  - Please see the agenda/package for the staff report.

On recommendation of Deputy Warden Malloy seconded by Councillor Tibbo approve the Annual General Meeting to be set for 5:30pm on Tuesday April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026.

**Recommendation approved.**

- h. Staff Report – RFP Award for Design of Multi-Use Trail – Old Road Hill
  - Please see the agenda/package for the staff report.

On recommendation of Councillor O'Connell seconded by Deputy Warden Malloy approve that Council award the Old Road Hill Multi-Use Trail Design contract to Strait Engineering Limited in the amount of \$25,145.00 (plus applicable taxes), with \$6,286.25 plus applicable taxes to be funded through the approved 2026 Capital Budget and \$18,858.75 plus applicable taxes from the Connect2 funding received from the Province of Nova Scotia.

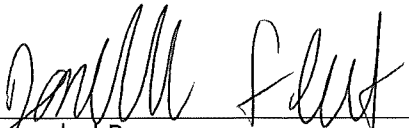
**Recommendation approved.**


i. Media Release for Upcoming Provincial Cuts:  
Staff was directed to prepare a media release for the following day, encouraging the public to voice concerns to local MLA in a respectful, concise manner.

**Adjournment**

On motion of Warden Fuller there being no further matters of business, Council adjourned at 6:35pm.

**Motion approved.**

  
Recorded By  
Janelle Fleet, Interim Municipal Clerk

  
Approved By  
Warden Fuller

