

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON JANUARY 28, 2026**

Present were: Mayor Gerry Brenton
Deputy Mayor Robert Warr
Councillor Joan Brown
Councillor Georgina Brushett
Councillor Andy Edwards (via telephone)
Councillor Keith Keating
Councillor Gary Myles

Also present: Greg Osmond, Town Manager
Melanie Kilfoy, Director of Finance & Administration
Ray Nolan, Director of Planning & Economic Development
Justin Bolt, Manager of Emergency Operations, Health & Safety (Fire Chief)
Petrina Power, Town Clerk

Mayor Brenton called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. and noted the purpose of the meeting was to bring down the Town's 2026 budget.

Motion

MMC 2026 01 27/001S

Moved by Councillor Myles, seconded by Councillor Brown

“BE IT RESOLVED the meeting be declared a special meeting.”

In favour: 7 (Brenton, Warr, Brown, Brushett, Edwards, Keating and Myles)

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

Motion carried.

As Councillor Edwards was attending the meeting via telephone, Mayor Brenton advised that Councillor Keating, as Co-Chair of the Finance Committee, would be bringing forward the 2026 budget.

Councillor Keating took a moment to thank the Director of Finance & Administration and other management staff for their work on the budget. Councillor Keating also thanked Councillor Edwards in his role on the Finance Committee as well as the rest of Council for their input and review.

Councillor Keating brought forward the following highlights from the budget.

The budget is a balanced budget for the 2026 Taxation Year with Revenues of \$9,553,216.47 and Expenditures of \$9,553,216.47.

All mil rates, sewer rates, minimum taxes, and fees for permits, licenses, and development will remain the same.

The mil rate for residential property will remain at 7.0 mils and the mil rate for commercial properties will remain at 8.5 mils, with a \$450.00 minimum tax for residential and a \$550.00 minimum tax for commercial.

There is one small increase in rates for this year. The rate for water will increase \$5.00 per month, or \$60.00 for the year, for both residents and businesses. The cost of chemicals for the Water Treatment Plant has increased significantly, resulting in the increase.

The fee from the Burin Peninsula Regional Service Board for garbage collection has increased per household from \$185.00 to \$200.00, a \$15.00 per household increase for the year. The Town absorbs the cost of waste management within property taxes and does not charge a separate fee.

The Town will continue the 10-month interest free equal payment plan for residents without arrears. Anyone on the plan for 2025 will be automatically enrolled going forward. The deadline to sign up is February 22, 2026. Additional information on this preauthorized debit plan will be posted on the Town's website and social media sites and at the bottom of the 2026 invoices in February.

The rate for overdue accounts will remain the same at 12% annually, compounded monthly.

The Town will continue to accept all major credit cards and email money transfers (EMT's).

The Town will continue the \$100 senior's reduction to residents without arrears.

The YMCA Operating Grant is set at \$462,400.00, which is the same as 2025.

Councillor Keating tabled the following recommendations.

Motion

MMC 2026 01 27/002S

Moved by Councillor Keating, seconded by Councillor Brown

“BE IT RESOLVED that in accordance with Sections 84 and 85 of the *Towns and Local Service District Act, 2023*, Council adopt the Budget for the Year 2026 showing Revenue of \$9,553,216.47 and Expenditures of \$9,553,216.47.”

In favour: 7 (Brenton, Warr, Brown, Brushett, Edwards, Keating and Myles)

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

Motion carried.

Motion

MMC 2026 01 27/003S

Moved by Councillor Keating, seconded by Councillor Myles

“BE IT RESOLVED that in accordance with Section 106 of the *Towns and Local Service District Act, 2023*, Council adopt the 2026 Tax Structure.”

In favour: 7 (Brenton, Warr, Brown, Brushett, Edwards, Keating and Myles)

Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried.

Motion

MMC 2026 01 27/004S

Moved by Councillor Keating, seconded by Councillor Brushett

“BE IT RESOLVED that in accordance with Section 106 of the *Towns and Local Service District Act, 2023*, Council set the due date for payment of 2026 taxes at April 30, 2026.”

In favour: 7 (Brenton, Warr, Brown, Brushett, Edwards, Keating and Myles)

Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried.

Motion

MMC 2026 01 27/005S

Moved by Councillor Keating, seconded by Deputy Mayor Warr

“BE IT RESOLVED that in accordance with Section 109 of the *Towns and Local Service District Act, 2023*, Council set the interest rate for overdue taxes at 12% annually, compounded monthly.”

In favour: 7 (Brenton, Warr, Brown, Brushett, Edwards, Keating and Myles)

Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried.

Motion

MMC 2026 01 27/006S

Moved by Councillor Keating, seconded by Councillor Brushett

“BE IT RESOLVED that in accordance with Section 113 of the *Towns and Local Service District Act, 2023*, the 2026 Tax Structure be published by Public Notice in the Town.”

In favour: 7 (Brenton, Warr, Brown, Brushett, Edwards, Keating and Myles)

Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried.

Councillor Keating noted it's a lot of hard work to do a budget and thanked the Director of Finance & Administration for her hours of work on it.

Councillor Edwards also offered his thanks to everyone who worked on the budget and thanked the residents for paying their taxes to ensure programs and services can continue to be offered.

Mayor Brenton also thanked everyone for their work on the budget.

Motion

MMC 2026 01 27/007S

Moved by Councillor Keating, seconded by Councillor Brushett

“BE IT RESOLVED the meeting be adjourned at 6:16 p.m.”

In favour: 7 (Brenton, Warr, Brown, Brushett, Edwards, Keating and Myles)

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

Motion carried.

Gerry Brenton
Mayor

Petrina Power
Town Clerk