
Committee of the Whole Meeting

Tuesday, June 23, 2026

Berwick Town Hall Council Chambers

6:30 pm

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Approval of the Agenda**
- 3. Approval of the Minutes**
 - a. COTW Minutes, May 26, 2026
- 4. Review of Action Items**
- 5. Councillor Announcements**
- 6. New Business**
- 7. Management Report**
- 8. Committee Reports**
 - a. AREA
 - b. Annapolis Valley Homelessness Committee
 - c. Annapolis Valley Regional Library Board
 - d. Community Development Committee
 - e. Diversity Kings Committee
 - f. Police Services Advisory Committee
 - g. Valley REN LOC
 - h. Valley Regional Services (Tidal Transit/Valley Waste)
- 9. Correspondence**
- 10. Mayor's Report**
- 11. Adjournment**

Meeting Date	Action Item	Status	Comments
2025-12-09	Update on 109 Marsters Avenue Dangerous or Unsightly Property	In-Progress	Order ends on June 24, 2026.
2024-12-10	Electricity Regulations, educational materials to provide to Council on the Council SharePoint site.	In-Progress	The manual has been uploaded to Council SharePoint. An orientation for Council, BEC and staff will be scheduled following the Special Election.
2025-02-11	Review Snow Removal Policy prior to next winter plowing season with input from Accessibility and Active Transportation.	In-Progress	Public Works is preparing an information report for Council regarding the last winter's snow removal operations and will provide an update on the policy at that time. Proposed review is July/August.
2026-04-14	Add pictures and colour to the Strategic Plan document to create a promotional version to communicate to the public.	In-Progress	Target date to complete is end of June.
2024-12-10	Reach out to other municipalities to understand how they are assessing the Code of Conduct criteria for establishing the sanctions.	Not Started	Are we required to report annually on the number of investigations? Is some tracking this information?
2026-04-14	Send thank you letters to the community members who assisted with the strategic plan development. Include a copy of the promotional version of the document and copy of strategic plan to committee members	Not Started	To be completed after the promotional version of the Strategic Plan is complete. Send Thank You by end of June if promotion version is not ready.

Committee of the Whole Monthly Report



Department: Management

Date: June 2026

COMMUNITY WELL-BEING AND INCLUSION

- **Provincial Policing Services Review:** Department of Justice (DOJ) provided two virtual sessions to review the new funding formula. The new formula is anticipated to come into effect in October 2026. There will be a phased in cap established for years 1 – 5, with a minimum net zero change to billing. The following years will be capped at a 5% increase/decrease in municipal costs. DOJ is scheduling one on one meetings with municipal units to review the formula in more detail. No date has been scheduled for Berwick at this time.
- **Fire Services Sub-Committee:** the committee met to review an amended agreement between the Fire Commission, Fire Department and the Town. A new draft will be distributed to the partners for review and brought to Council for approval.
- **Berwick Blooms, Garden Club:** Ongoing communications on supporting their needs as time and resources allow.
- **Heritage Station Park:** All planned capital work on the boxcars for this fiscal has been completed. Staff are now planning to launch bike loans as well as plan a kickoff event.
- **Built Environment Standards:** Community Development staff attended a webinar on the new built environment standards.
- **Brave the Bike:** This new adult women's cycling program has completed its first week with strong participation and will continue to occur throughout the summer.
- **Play Boxes:** Play boxes have been distributed throughout our parks and playgrounds and are fully stocked.
- **Volunteer of the Year:** An invitation has been sent to this year's selected volunteer. If accepted, this nominee will be highlighted and celebrated at the provincial event in September as well as the local volunteer event occurring in the fall.
- **Sports Hall of Fame:** The Sports Hall of Fame ceremony was a huge success and received positive community feedback for being a celebrated, inclusive, and welcoming event.
- **Summer Concert Series:** Kicks off July 2nd at 7pm in Centennial Park and features 8 weeks of Thursday evening fun.

INFRASTRUCTURE

- **Factorydale Rehabilitation:** A capital application to the Nova Scotia Energy Board (NSEB) is underway. BEC received 42 information requests regarding the application and responded on June 18. There were not registered intervenors.
- **Strategic Road Map:** Met with SJ Energy Engineering (Andrew Ahearn) and spent a day looking at our assets, stations, solar farm etc. They took lots of notes and made lots of observations. This visit and the results of the benchmarking will help to build a long-term capital plan for BEC.
- **Engineering Specifications:** DesignPoint proposal received on 12 June and accepted 16 June. Kick off meeting scheduled for 23 June.
- **Streets and Sidewalks:**
 - Paving work began in late April with the following priorities completed at the time of reporting:
 - Sewer / storm cuts on Main St, Union St, Spartan Ave
 - Foster St triage
 - Main St (Cottage to Morse Pond)
 - Industrial Park (roadway)
 - Commercial St mill & pave (GVM to Orchard)
 - MacIntosh St pulverize & pave (Cortland to Bezanson).
 - Next priorities:
 - Commercial St crack sealing, Orchard St, Front St, Bezanson Dr, Veterans Dr, elsewhere as budget allows.
 - Line painting underway throughout June and into July.
 - Street sweeping on Commercial St completed 17 June.
- **Wastewater Treatment (WWT) Operations:**
 - Intermittent odours coming from Lagoon 1 over the past month in part due to:
 - aeration shut downs required for install of the new blowers;
 - pre-treatment by-pass from Industrial User leading to very high organic load entering the treatment plant;
 - multiple power outages due to vandalism at the BEC substation.
 - Intermittent noises coming from the treatment plant due to the (ongoing) commissioning of new blowers.
- **WWTP Upgrades – Aeration & Blowers (Phase 2):** Commissioning underway since the week of 19 May and continuing through June; substantial completion is anticipated before end of June.

- **WWTP Upgrades – Tertiary Filtration (Phase 3):**

- Indigenous consultation is complete following site visits Sipekne'katik First Nation to learn more about the project.
- Contract documents to begin the work are being review.

- **WWTP Upgrades – Pre-Treatment (Phase 3):** Design Proposal received from Dillon Consulting on 8 May; signed 02 June. Headworks building assessment by Dillon Consulting scheduled for 17 June.

- **WWC:** Gravity line repaired via epoxy liner on Cottage St on 08 June (Eastern Trenchless). Higher cost than anticipated for Brown St repair using epoxy liner based on revised quote dated 10 June. Requires further cost analysis of lining vs trenching.

- **Substation Copper Theft:** Our 4kv station (52V Brown St) was hit multiple times over a 72hr period. Thieves stripped everything they could cut from the ground. This included the system neutral from the power transformer.

The neutral is the main reference point for the power system. Without it, the voltage swings around and causes very unsafe conditions for our employees and homes in the general area. Due to this we had to quickly shut off power to the area and make repairs.

Since then, we have removed substantial amounts of vegetation from around and in front of the station. This increases sight lines from the main road and eliminates places for anyone to hide. We have also increased lighting within the station, are getting a quote for a security camera, and have reported the incidents to the RCMP.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

- **Conservation (OS2) Zone Discussion:** consultation with property owners who may be impacted by a proposed change to the OS2 Zone boundary is underway. The feedback will be summarized and presented to Planning Advisory Committee with considerations for direction.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- **Town Wide Yardsale:** Set for July 18th, registration opens by the end of the month and will be shared on social media.
- **Developer Brochure:** A one-page promotional document has been created to distribute to potential developers/investors to promote future development in the Town.

ADMINISTRATIVE

- **Utility Benchmarking:** Staff met with the Maritime Municipal Electric Utility Alliance (MMEUA) and SGIN to review the questionnaires completed by each utility. The expectation is to have a final report to review in August.
- **BEC Regulations Review:** We have met multiple times to identify areas where research/data is required for decision making, as well as make notes of housekeeping changes. Some of the proposed changes will need to come in advance to a final draft for direction from the Commission. The goal is to have the regulations ready to submit with the general rate application in late July/August.
- **26/27 BEC Budgets:** The draft operating and capital budgets for BEC will be presented to the Commission for approval on June 23rd.
- **BEC Flow Through Application:** The Flow Through has been reviewed by staff and will be discussed at the Commission meeting on June 23, 2026, for approval to submit to the Nova Scotia Energy Board.
- **2024/25 Audit Status:** The auditors completed the field work and are continuing to work through the audit. Things are progressing well. As it is the first year with the new auditors, there is a significant amount of work to do to transition between audit firms. The draft statements will be presented at an audit committee meeting in the future, then forwarded on for approval at Council.
- **Federal and Provincial Financial Reporting:** The Annual Expenditure Report and Pre-Construction report for Canada Community Building Fund have been completed and submitted.
- **Grid Modernization, Kraken Implementation:** We have bi-weekly meetings with the project management team as we work through implementation of the utility software. A list of 500 requirements has been reviewed and confirmed by staff to inform us of our transition. We have chosen to defer the purchase of AMI capable meters until such time that Kraken is up and functioning. This breaks the project into smaller financial and implementation blocks.
- **Staffing Updates:**
 - **Powerline Technician:** Eric Peck accepted the offer to return as a full-time PLT and started on June 15th.
 - **Skilled Labourer Position:** The position has been filled. Tyler Welch will join the team on 29 June.
 - **Crossing Guard Position:** Active Job Posting for a part-time Crossing Guard to start next school year; application deadline 15 August.
 - **Active Living Coordinator (ALC) Position:** The ALC position is vacant as of June 15 with the current job posting closing on June 19th.



Committee Report Template

Committee Name: Alternative Resource Energy Authority (AREA)

Date of Meeting: Wednesday, May 27, 2026

Name: Councillor Jamieson

Key Agenda Items

The key agenda items covered in the meeting.

	Description
#1	Operational Update
#2	Financial Sustainability Project Update
#3	Future Energy Supply option Update
#4	Audited Financial Statements FY 2024/25
#5	
#6	

Key Discussion or Decisions:

Give a brief overview of the key discussions or decisions from the meeting.

- Key performance indicators of the operations of eye wind farm was discussed.
- Received an update from Deloitte regarding the Financial Sustainability Project. The project will establish clear policies for dividends, cash management, reserve funds and Asset Retirement Obligation funding, while developing financing, risk mitigation and PPA restructuring strategies to strengthen long-term sustainability, reduce risk exposure and optimize returns for municipal owners.
- An update was given on an exploratory meeting that occurred with Port Hawkesbury Paper and Stern Partners representatives that may be a Future Energy Supply Option.
- reviewed and approval of the audited financial statements for FY 2024/25, along with the MNP Independence Communication and Management letters occurred.
- Next meeting will be virtual on June 25, 2026



Committee Report Template

Committee Name: AV Homelessness Committee

Date of Meeting: Monday, June 15, 2026

Name: Deputy Mayor Kwakernaak

Key Agenda Items

The key agenda items covered in the meeting.

	Description
#1	Launch of the Website
#2	Sub Committee mandate discussion
#3	Other Business - Things happening update
#4	
#5	
#6	

Key Discussion or Decisions:

Give a brief overview of the key discussions or decisions from the meeting.

On June 11 the Kings County Homelessness Advisory Committee Launched its website; www.kvhomeless.com. Please check it out. It provides an overview of the work of the committee and in particular the answers to the questions raised by the Public at the January Town Hall on Homelessness. The following Subcommittees have formed and all have had initial meetings: Communications, Housing, Community Integration, and Mental Health and Addictions. each of the committees are working on understanding their mandate and quickly developing Terms of Reference. The Mental Heath and Addictions Subcommittee has met twice. Work thus far includes understanding the resources available in Kings County and defining the gaps, finding ways to ensure we hear from those with lived experience. At yesterday's subcommittee meeting the importance of 211 as a resource was emphasized. This subcommittee will be meeting by-weekly.



Committee Report Template

Committee Name: Diversity Kings Committee

Date of Meeting: Monday, June 1, 2026

Name: Deputy Mayor Kwakernaak

Key Agenda Items

The key agenda items covered in the meeting.

	Description
#1	Allyship Beyond Pride Month
#2	The difference between Gender/Sexuality Identity and Expression
#3	June Observance Months
#4	New Committee Members
#5	
#6	

Key Discussion or Decisions:

Give a brief overview of the key discussions or decisions from the meeting.

Diversity Kings Committee welcomed 2 new community members to the committee, Yiyun Zhou and Mark Albano. Christian Quirvan has also returned to the committee. I also want to acknowledge the attendance from Berwick of our Alternate Heather Morse and Kings West Community Health Board Chair Jennifer Deslauriers. The diversity of this committee results in robust discussion of very difficult topics in a very safe space. Attendance for me means I am always learning more and appreciating the strength that comes from this discussion.

The June meeting included informative three presentations, "Allyship Beyond Pride Month", "The difference between Gender/Sexuality and Expressions" and "Tips for Accessible Meetings". Each of these inform discussions at the Accessibility meeting.

June observance Months of note: Indigenous History Month, Pride Month, Canadian Men's Mental health Month, June 12 World Day against Child Labour, June 15, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, June 21, the 30th anniversary of Indigenous Peoples Day are just some of the many days of observance this busy month.



Committee Report Template

Committee Name: Police Services Advisory Board

Date of Meeting: Tuesday, May 19, 2026

Name: Councillor Goddard

Key Agenda Items

The key agenda items covered in the meeting.

	Description
#1	Department of Justice Training
#2	Business Community RCMP Survey
#3	DOJ Policing Service Recipient Update, April 2026
#4	
#5	
#6	

Key Discussion or Decisions:

Give a brief overview of the key discussions or decisions from the meeting.

- #1) A police training presentation by Charcy Marchand and Danielle Desjardins from the DOJ.
 - #2) The Business Community RCMP Survey results were presented, a subcommittee will review the data and report back to the Board.
 - #3) The purpose of these updates is to keep service recipients informed of changes related to policing.
- Next meeting - July 21, 2026.
Respectfully submitted by;
Councillor Goddard

MAYOR'S REPORT

FROM ____June 9____ TO ____June 23____

Date	Lead	Purpose
June 9	Town Council	Regular council
June 10	Public Safety Workshop	Elder Abuse, 23 attended
June 13	Hall of Fame event	Great event
June 16	Community Development Meeting	Regular meeting
June 17	Valley Services Board	Chris attended
June 19	Jen Boyd	Performance result areas
June 22	Police Subcommittee	Discuss plans for 26/27
June 23	Berwick Electric Commission	
June 23	Town Audit Committee	
June 23	COTW	
June 25	AREA	
June 25	Council Workshop	
June 30	Valley REN AGM	
July 7	PAC	
July 9	Josh Hoffman -CBC	
July 14	Council	