**ATTENDING**
Mayor Mike Trinacty
Deputy Mayor Johanna Kwakernaak
Councillor Ty Walsh
Councillor Chris Goddard
Councillor Adam Lutz (VIA Zoom)
Councillor Derrick Jamieson
Councillor Carolynn Roberts
Adam King, Director of Electric Utilities
Aaron Dondale, Director of Public Works
Katie Verrette, Manager of Community Development
Jen Boyd, CAO
Krista Longmire, Executive Assistant

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
   The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

2. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**
   **IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED.**

   **MOTION CARRIED**

3. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**
   **THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF AUGUST 25, 2026 WERE ACCEPTED AS CIRCULATED.**

4. **REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS**
   CAO Boyd highlighted that the thank-you letters were sent to community members who participated in the strategic plan, with a link to the new document. Also, the unsightly property order at 109 Marsters Avenue has been completed, and work is continuing on the Land Use bylaw compliance.

   The Mayor requested to add establish a Land Acknowledgement and Respectful Conduct Acknowledgement to the Action Items.

5. **COUNCILLOR ANNOUNCEMENTS - Nil**

6. **NEW BUSINESS - Nil**

7. **MANAGEMENT REPORT**
   CAO Boyd highlighted from the Management report that a crossing guard has been hired.

Director Dondale mentioned that they are waiting for the red paint to complete the commemorative crosswalk design; it is expected this week. He will look into signage for the speed bump at the crosswalk.

***Strategic Plan – Q2 update***

CAO Boyd provided an update on the ongoing provincial police services review. Discussions with the Department of Justice have continued regarding the proposed reinvestment of municipal savings into public safety. The Town is seeking clarification on what expenditures will be eligible for reinvestment before bringing the matter forward to Council for direction.

Manager Verrette advised that, as approved in the current capital budget, funding has been allocated for improved signage and parking lot upgrades at Rainforth Park. Staff are developing options in-house and will present a proposal to the Accessibility Committee for review.

Director Dondale provided an update on the Wastewater Treatment Capital Phase 2 blower upgrades. The project was determined to have reached substantial completion on June 23, 2026. Initial feedback from wastewater operations indicates a positive impact on effluent quality due to the more consistent aeration provided by the upgraded blowers.

Director King updated that the preliminary work on the hydro project is expected to proceed. Staff have contacted Rick Balser regarding the timing for crews to clean out the powerhouse and remove the existing turbine. Once the clean-out and removal of the existing turbine is complete, Canadian Hydro can conduct the required measurements and proceed with preliminary engineering. The goal is to have the work completed before winter.

CAO Boyd provided an update on discussions with Emily Boucher regarding the proposed REN restructuring. Emily will present its proposed structure to Council on November 10, 2026. A future special Council meeting may be required to determine the Town's direction regarding the proposed restructuring.

## 8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

**a. AREA –** circulated.
b. **Annapolis Valley Regional Library –** circulated. Councillor Walsh reviewed the report from the last AVRL board meeting. He highlighted that with the $300,000 donation from Rachel Reed, all 10 branches will remain operational until March 31, 2027.
c. **Berwick Electric Commission -** circulated.
d. **Community Development Committee-** circulated. Councillor Walsh reviewed the report from the last CDC Meeting. He highlighted that Councillor Roberts will take over as Chair of the committee. It was noted

that although residents are aware of the Apple Fund, most thought it was only available for students/youth.

***e.*** **Diversity Kings Committee –** circulated. Deputy Mayor Kwakernaak highlighted that this was the annual joint meeting of Kings Accessibility and Diversity Kings. She also highlighted that on October 2nd is the opening celebration of Mi'kmaq History Month and there is the Mi'kmaq Art Exhibition at the Kings County municipal building in Coldbrook.

f. **Valley Regional Services** – circulated.

**9. MAYOR'S REPORT –** circulated**.** Mayor Trinacty highlighted that the Provincial volunteer celebration is Monday, Sept 28th and Tim Steadman is the Town of Berwick's 2026 representative.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE REGULAR MEETING BE ADJOURNED TO A SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING AT 7:46 PM.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Approved by Committee of the Whole, October 27, 2026**
**As recorded by Krista Longmire, Executive Assistant**