

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – JULY 8, 2026

TOWN OF EASTPORT HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON JULY 8, 2026, AT 7:00 PM

ATTENDANCE:

Council Members

Mayor Peter Moss

Councillor Linda Babstock

Councillor Shannon Powell

Deputy Mayor Amanda Handcock

Councillor Sheila Dyke

Councillor Jackie Crisby

Councillor Karen Powell

Staff

Town Clerk – D. Hickey

Town Manager – G. Moss

Delegates

Wanda Heffern and Jody Williams – Terra Nova Wholistic Health Center

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by Mayor Moss.

2. DELEGATES

Wanda Heffern and Jody Williams made a short presentation to council regarding the status of her new business, Terra Nova Wholistic Health Center. She plans to have the grand opening in September 2026.

Wanda and Jody left the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: 084-26

Councillor S. Powell / Councillor Dyke

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted as presented.

In favour – 7: Mayor Moss, Deputy Mayor Handcock, Councillors: S. Powell, S. Dyke, J. Crisby, K. Powell, L. Babstock

Opposed – 0

4. ADOPTION OF COUNCIL MINUTES

MOTION: 085-26

Councillor Crisby / Councillor K. Powell

Be it resolved that the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on 10 June 2026 be adopted as presented

In favour – 7: Mayor Moss, Deputy Mayor Handcock, Councillors: S. Powell, S. Dyke, J. Crisby, K. Powell, L. Babstock

Opposed – 0

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5. BUSINESS ARISING

a. Asset Management Policy – Climate Readiness Initiative

MOTION: 086-26

Deputy Mayor Handcock / Councillor Crisby

Be it resolved that the *Asset Management Policy* be adopted as presented. This policy is part of the recommendations received from Tract Consulting during the Climate Readiness Initiative project.

In favour – 7: Mayor Moss, Deputy Mayor Handcock, Councillors: S. Powell, S. Dyke, J. Crisby, K. Powell, L. Babstock

Opposed – 0

b. Memorial Benches

Consensus was to offer the residents an opportunity to sponsor a memorial bench at a cost of \$200 per bench. Benches will be placed in public areas around the community. Only one style bench will be offered, made with pressure-treated wood (no stain or paint). Cut off to order benches will be July 30, 2026.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Municipal Tax Increases

Councillor Linda Babstock stated that taxes are increasing significantly every year. This is due to the property value increases by the Municipal Assessment Agency, not the mil rate applied by the town. This issue will be tabled again when the 2027 budget is drafted.

b. Development & Building Permit By-Law

Consensus was to not adopt this document as a by-law as all information is included in the existing town regulations. The document will be changed to a “policy” and tabled again at the next meeting.

c. Trees on Samson Road

There are several trees on Samson Road that have low-hanging branches over the road. Public Works employees will coordinate with homeowners to get these trees trimmed.

d. Trees on Bank Road (on the bank)

Council Babstock stated that the trees on the bank of Bank Road are causing a lot of damage to the bank when they fall and roots uplift. After discussion, council asked to review the existing report “Bank Road – Water Flow Issues & Management Storm Drainage Report” completed by Cecon in June 2024. The Town Clerk will locate the report and distribute.

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e. Media Boxes

Councillor S. Powell stated that the old media boxes located next to the post office boxes are in disrepair and are only being used to collect garbage. Further investigation will be done to see who owns the boxes and ask if they be removed.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee

MOTION: 087-26

Councillor S. Powell / Councillor K. Powell

Be it resolved that the following invoices be approved for payment as presented and report tabled:

Cheque Register, Town of Eastport – \$74,162.85

Cheque Register, Fire Department - \$1,458.55

In favour – 7: Mayor Moss, Deputy Mayor Handcock, Councillors: S. Powell, S. Dyke, J. Crisby, K. Powell, L. Babstock

Opposed – 0

Public Works Committee

1. Mosses Road West – Road Extension

Stated conflict of interest: Deputy Mayor Handcock and Councillor K. Powell. Both remained in the meeting but did not participate in the discussion.

A permit application was received for “approval in principle” to extend the road at Mosses Road West to allow the development of a new property. After discussion, it was decided to go back to the resident and request proof of ownership of the easement. If proof is provided, the next step would be to get the selected contractor to meet with Town employee(s) to ensure everyone agrees with the development plan.

2. 20 Beach Road – New Garage & Fence Extension

Stated conflict of interest: Deputy Mayor Handcock and Councillor S. Powell. Both remained in the meeting but did not participate in the discussion.

This application will remain on hold until it is determined if the new garage will be built in the town water shed.

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8. TOWN MANAGER REPORT

a. Fire Department Furnace

There has not been a consensus with other towns regarding a way forward on this issue. Some want to proceed with the central heating upgrades; others want to replace the oil tank. Town Manager G. Moss stated that there may be a grant available for the upgrade, he will follow up with Tract Consulting.

b. High Tide Trail

To expedite the reopening of this trail, it was decided to not proceed with the engineering of a bridge at this time. Consensus was to proceed with a new plan – cut some trees to gain access to an existing trail and install a new custom aluminum step ladder with handrail to complete trail access to Northside Beach. Signage for this trail will also need to be updated, including “use at your own risk”.

c. Donation – Damnable Trail

A \$1,000 donation was received from the Damnable Trail Committee for upkeep of the trail.

MOTION: 088-26

Councillor S. Powell / Councillor Crisby

Be it resolved to enter a closed meeting, as per section 41.(1) of the TLSDA, at 9.05 p.m.

In favour – 7: Mayor Moss, Deputy Mayor Handcock, Councillors: S. Powell, S. Dyke, J. Crisby, K. Powell, L. Babstock

Opposed – 0

MOTION: 089-26

Councillor S. Powell / Councillor Dyke

Be it resolved to return to an open meeting at 9:10 p.m.

In favour – 7: Mayor Moss, Deputy Mayor Handcock, Councillors: S. Powell, S. Dyke, J. Crisby, K. Powell, L. Babstock

Opposed – 0

MOTION: 090-26

Councillor Dyke / Councillor Babstock

Be it resolved to issue clean-up order letters, as per “Trailer Occupancy & Nuisance Property Control By-law” to PAR ID numbers 056457 and 056382.

In favour – 7: Mayor Moss, Deputy Mayor Handcock, Councillors: S. Powell, S. Dyke, J. Crisby, K. Powell, L. Babstock

Opposed – 0

8. CORRESPONDENCE

a. Barbara Case – Bank Road, Traffic Danger

Barbara Case, with support from other residents, wrote a letter regarding the area immediately before and beyond the junction at Bank Road, Church Street, and Beach Road. This junction

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has obstructed sight lines due to trees/brush and makes it very dangerous for traffic. Consensus was to call the Department of Highways in Eastport and request that this area be flagged when they complete brush cutting this summer.

MOTION: 091-26

Deputy Mayor Handcock / Councillor K. Powell

Be it resolved that the meeting adjourn at 9:17 PM

In favour – 7: Mayor Moss, Deputy Mayor Handcock, Councillors: S. Powell, S. Dyke, J. Crisby, K. Powell, L. Babstock

Opposed – 0

Next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, August 12, 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.**



Mayor, Peter Moss



Town Clerk, Denise Hickey