

TOWN OF HARBOUR GRACE

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Town of Harbour Grace Council, held in the Town Hall and via Zoom,
February 16, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present	Mayor	Terry Barnes
	Deputy Mayor	Gary Baker
	Councillors	Christina Hearn Sharon Reynolds Lee Rogers Keith Skinner Gord Stone
Staff Present	Acting Town Clerk	Nancy Pike
	Economic Development Officer (EDO)	Matthew McCarthy
	Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)	Patrick Hearn

Mayor Barnes called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Minutes of the
Regular Meeting for
January 26, 2026

Motioned to adopt the regular council meeting minutes of January 26, 2026, as presented.

MOTION #26-029

CLR. SKINNER/DEPUTY MAYOR BAKER

In favour: Mayor Barnes, Deputy Mayor Baker, Clr. Hearn, Clr. Reynolds, Clr. Rogers, Clr. Skinner, and Clr. Stone

Opposed:

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

Non-Consumption
Order

Mayor Barnes read a statement that was released after the non-consumption order was lifted, thanking everyone involved in providing water to residents during the order.

Arena Rate Increases

Clr. Stone clarified the rate increases as they pertain to private hockey schools. He stated that the daytime rate of \$208.70 would increase by \$10.00 per hour as it is below the \$240.00 minimum threshold stated in the motion made January 26, 2026.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Tax Structure

Clr. Stone advised that there was a fee for non-sufficient funds (NSF) that was not included on the 2026 tax structure.

Motioned to amend motion #26-009 to adopt the 2026 tax structure to include the \$100.00 fee for NSF cheques.

MOTION #26-030

CLR.STONE/CLR. HEARN

In favour: Mayor Barnes, Deputy Mayor Baker, Clr. Hearn, Clr. Reynolds, Clr. Rogers, Clr. Skinner, and Clr. Stone

Opposed:

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORRESPONDENCE

Applications for
Building Permits

Mayor Barnes tabled the following correspondence:

Four applications for building permits: 24-26 Water Street (garage), 137 Thicket Road (house), 284 Southside Road (house), and 410 Harvey Street (storage unit). One business application: 410 Harvey Street. Referred to Housing Committee.

Heritage NL

Heritage Day/Week proclamation.

Motioned for the Mayor of Harbour Grace to proclaim Monday, February 16, 2026, as Heritage Day and February 16-22, as Heritage Week.

MOTION #26-031

CLR.ROGERS/CLR. STONE

In favour: Mayor Barnes, Deputy Mayor Baker, Clr. Hearn, Clr. Reynolds, Clr. Rogers, Clr. Skinner, and Clr. Stone

Opposed:

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Baccalieu Bus	Partner transportation option from Conception Bay North (CBN) to St. John's. Referred to EDO to add to the Town's website.
Family Focus Health Centre	Request for assistance with accessible parking for staff and patients of Family Focus Health Care Clinic. Referred to Public Works.
Intella-Alert	Information about emergency messaging system for residents.
TRIO	2026 pension plan special payments will remain at \$5839.00 for 2026.
Office of Women and Gender Equality	Response to meeting request concerning the Amelia Earhart statue theft from the office of Minister Conway Ottenheimer. Deputy Mayor Baker advised that a meeting has been set.
Kiwanis Club of Carbonear	Advertising opportunity in the 2026 music festival program booklet. Referred to Finance.
FCM-ICLEI Partners for Climate Protection Program (PCPP)	Resolution to join the FCM-ICLEI PCPP, a forum for municipal governments to share their knowledge with other municipal governments on how to reduce GHG emissions. Motioned to join FCM-ICLEI Partners for Climate Protection Program and sign necessary proclamation. MOTION #26-032 CLR. HEARN/CLR. SKINNER In favour: Mayor Barnes, Deputy Mayor Baker, Clr. Hearn, Clr. Reynolds, Clr. Rogers, Clr. Skinner, and Clr. Stone Opposed: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
Dept. of Municipal & Community Affairs, Land & Planning Div.	Confirmation that the Town of Harbour Grace Municipal Plan 2024-2034 and Development Regulations 2024-2034 have been registered. Both will take effect on the date that the notice is published in The Newfoundland and Labrador Gazette.

COMMITTEE REPORTS**CAPITAL AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

Clr. Skinner said an update on Bannerman Bridge was requested but no response has been received to date. He also said the consultant for the Southside Road water and sewer upgrading has been surveying the area and hopes to have an early start to the project.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

THG Payables	Motioned to approve the cheque and EFT payments in the amount of \$134,673.32 for the Town of Harbour Grace as per the report submitted by staff for period ending January 31, 2026. MOTION #26-033 CLR. REYNOLDS/CLR. SKINNER In favour: Mayor Barnes, Deputy Mayor Baker, Clr. Hearn, Clr. Reynolds, Clr. Rogers, Clr. Skinner, and Clr. Stone Opposed: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
DCHGCC Payables	Motioned to approve the cheque and EFT payments in the amount of \$1401.12 for the Danny Cleary Harbour Grace Community Centre (DCHGCC) as per the report submitted by staff for period ending January 31, 2026. MOTION #26-034 CLR. REYNOLDS/CLR. STONE In favour: Mayor Barnes, Deputy Mayor Baker, Clr. Hearn, Clr. Reynolds, Clr. Rogers, Clr. Skinner, and Clr. Stone Opposed: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
Teacher Appreciation Week	Motioned to approve the donation of \$186.25 to provide lunch for the teachers at St. Francis School during Education and Teacher Appreciation Week. MOTION #26-035 CLR. REYNOLDS/CLR. ROGERS In favour: Mayor Barnes, Deputy Mayor Baker, Clr. Hearn, Clr. Reynolds, Clr. Rogers, Clr. Skinner, and Clr. Stone Opposed: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Kiwanis Club of
Carbonear

Motioned that Council purchase a half-page ad in the annual Kiwanis Club of Carbonear Music Festival's 2026 program booklet in the amount of \$50.00.

MOTION #26-036

CLR.STONE/CLR. HEARN

In favour: Mayor Barnes, Deputy Mayor Baker, Clr. Hearn, Clr. Reynolds, Clr. Rogers, Clr. Skinner, and Clr. Stone

Opposed:

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Clr. Stone advised that the savings account is in progress, as well as the cost recovery for the water purchased during the non-consumption order. He noted the cost of repairs to the Town's loader in the amount of \$36,653.00 plus HST.

HOUSING, ENVIRONMENT, AND SANITATION COMMITTEE

Clean-up Orders

Motioned for council to grant permission for the Town's Municipal Enforcement Officer (MEO) to take the next steps for enforcing the Town's clean up orders for the following civic addresses by making application to court for non-compliance: 1-5 Harvey Street, 69 Harvey Street, and 326-328 Harvey Street.

MOTION #26-037

CLR.STONE/DEPUTY MAYOR BAKER

In favour: Mayor Barnes, Deputy Mayor Baker, Clr. Hearn, Clr. Reynolds, Clr. Rogers, Clr. Skinner, and Clr. Stone

Opposed:

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

16 Sheppards Lane

Motioned, based on the MEO's report, to approve in principle, the application to construct a 30'x30' Quonset building on the rear of the property located at 16 Sheppards Lane, as it meets all development regulations as set out in the town plan for the Town of Harbour Grace. The approval in principle is to be given with the following conditions:

1. All town development standards.
2. All necessary government permits and/or regulations.
3. Final plans for the location of the building and location of the addition to the building.
4. Pegged out exact location of the building on the property.

*Failure to comply with these conditions may result in the revoking of the permit.

MOTION #26-038

CLR.HEARN/CLR. STONE

In favour: Mayor Barnes, Deputy Mayor Baker, Clr. Hearn, Clr. Reynolds, Clr. Rogers, Clr. Skinner, and Clr. Stone

Opposed:

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

25-27 Alec Moores
Court

Motioned, based on the MEO's report, to approve in principle the application to construct a 34'x42' residential dwelling with an attached garage and a 22'x24' workshop to the rear right of the dwelling located at 25-27 Alec Moores Court, as it meets all development regulations and property line setbacks as set out in the town plan for the Town of Harbour Grace. The approval in principle is to be given with the following conditions:

1. All town development standards.
2. All necessary government permits and/or regulations.
3. Final plans for the location of the dwelling and workshop.
4. Pegged out exact location of the dwelling and workshop on the property followed by final inspection to confirm setbacks before construction commences.

*Failure to comply with these conditions may result in the revoking of the permit.

MOTION #26-039

CLR.HEARN/CLR. REYNOLDS

In favour: Mayor Barnes, Deputy Mayor Baker, Clr. Hearn, Clr. Reynolds, Clr. Rogers, Clr. Skinner, and Clr. Stone

Opposed:

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

284 Southside Road

Motioned, based on the MEO's report, to approve in principle the application to construct a 32'(W) x 42'(L) residential dwelling located at 284 Southside Road, as it meets all development regulations and property line setbacks as set out in the town plan for the Town of Harbour Grace. The approval in principle is to be given with the following conditions:

1. All town development standards.
2. All necessary government permits and/or regulations.
3. Final plans for the location of the dwelling.
4. Survey of the property
5. Obtainment of demolition permit followed by the demolition of the existing dwelling.
6. Pegged out exact location of the proposed dwelling on the property followed by final inspection to confirm setbacks before construction commences.

*Failure to comply with these conditions may result in the revoking of the permit.

MOTION #26-040

CLR. HEARN/CLR. SKINNER

In favour: Mayor Barnes, Deputy Mayor Baker, Clr. Hearn, Clr. Reynolds, Clr. Rogers, Clr. Skinner, and Clr. Stone

Opposed:

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

24-26 Water Street

Motioned, based on the MEO's report, to approve in principle the application to construct a 16' x 22' addition to the front of the existing dwelling, a 10' x 22' patio on the front, a 12' x 16' patio on the rear, and a 20' x 40' detached garage to the rear right of the house located at 24-26 Water Street, as it meets all development regulations and property line setbacks as set out in the town plan for the Town of Harbour Grace. The approval in principle is to be given with the following conditions:

1. All town development standards
2. All necessary government permits and/ or regulations
3. Pegged out exact location of the proposed dwelling on the property followed by final inspection to confirm setbacks before construction commences.

*Failure to comply with these conditions may result in the revoking of the permit.

MOTION #26-041

CLR. HEARN/CLR. SKINNER

In favour: Mayor Barnes, Deputy Mayor Baker, Clr. Hearn, Clr. Reynolds, Clr. Rogers, Clr. Skinner, and Clr. Stone

Opposed:

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

410 Harvey Street

The application submitted for 410 Harvey Street is deferred as the applicant is required to provide additional information. Council will reach out to the applicant and schedule a meeting with all applicable stakeholders to discuss concerns relating to this building permit.

137 Thicket Road

The application submitted for 137 Thicket Road is deferred as it was not submitted in time for review for this meeting. The MEO will review and advise for the next meeting.

Clr. Hearn reminded residents that if they have any questions concerning the application process to call the Council Office. She also outlined procedures that Council may impose if proper procedures are not followed. Clr. Hearn reiterated that permit applications must be submitted a minimum of one week prior to the regularly scheduled Council meeting (Monday prior to meeting date).

BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM, AND HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Clr. Rogers advised the newsletter has been delayed. Meetings are scheduled with Tennis NL to discuss needed repairs and Heritage NL concerning the next steps for the Collis Parsons building. Correspondence was sent about repairs needed for Bannerman Bridge.

PARKS & RECREATION, DCHGCC, AND S.W. MOORES PARK COMMITTEE

Deputy Mayor Baker noted that the compressor for the DCHGCC has been ordered. Mediation with the union meetings took place, and he hopes that there will be an update in the coming weeks.

CIVIC EVENTS & BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEES LIAISON

Clr. Rogers advised that the committee is still looking for volunteers and recently welcomed a new member.

FIRE DEPARTMENT LIAISON

Deputy Mayor Baker advised that he attended the most recent meeting of the Harbour Grace Volunteer Fire Brigade (HGVFB) and expressed his appreciation for their help during the recent water issues. He commented on the many hours members spend training during evenings and weekends. He also noted that the paperwork to acquire a new pumper truck is done.

JOINT COUNCILS LIAISON

Deputy Mayor Baker spoke about the recent Joint Councils meeting highlighting the issue of limited resources of the RCMP, noting that they responded to 8300 calls in 2025. There are plans to bring back 24-hour coverage with the addition of 4 to 5 officers. There are also plans to have a meeting concerning the strain of regional facilities on municipalities.

HARBOUR GRACE CULTURE, INNOVATION, AND BUSINESS LIAISON

Clr. Hearn advised that the date for the unveiling of the Earhart statue is set for May 20, 2026, noting that because it is a weekday they have been in touch with schools and plan to have students involved. She also noted that they have been in contact with interested parties and have many ideas on how to mark the occasion.

EARHARTS 50+ COMMITTEE

Clr. Stone stated that the Harbour Grace is very fortunate to have so many volunteers. He mentioned the times for the open house at Otterbury Schoolhouse and advised that more information on events can be found on the Earhart's 50+ Club's Facebook page.

BRISTOLS HOPE LIAISON

No report.

COMMUNITY NEWS

No report.

REPORTS

Town Manager
Report

Tabled.

Motioned to adopt the Acting Town Clerk/Manager's report as presented.

MOTION #26-042

CLR. STONE/CLR. REYNOLDS

**In favour: Mayor Barnes, Deputy Mayor Baker, Clr. Hearn, Clr. Reynolds, Clr. Rogers
Clr. Skinner, and Clr. Stone**

Opposed:

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

EDO Report

Tabled.

Motioned to adopt the EDO's report as presented.

MOTION #26-043

CLR. HEARN/CLR. ROGERS

**In favour: Mayor Barnes, Deputy Mayor Baker, Clr. Hearn, Clr. Reynolds, Clr. Rogers
Clr. Skinner, and Clr. Stone**

Opposed:

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PW Superintendent
Report

Tabled.

Motioned to adopt the Public Works Superintendent's report as presented.

MOTION #26-044

CLR. SKINNER/CLR. STONE

**In favour: Mayor Barnes, Deputy Mayor Baker, Clr. Hearn, Clr. Reynolds, Clr. Rogers
Clr. Skinner, and Clr. Stone**

Opposed:

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DCHGCC Manager
Report

Tabled.

Motioned to adopt the DCHGCC Manager's report as presented.

MOTION #26-045

DEPUTY MAYOR BAKER/CLR. HEARN

**In favour: Mayor Barnes, Deputy Mayor Baker, Clr. Hearn, Clr. Reynolds, Clr. Rogers
Clr. Skinner, and Clr. Stone**

Opposed:

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MEO Report

Tabled.

Motioned to adopt the MEO's report as presented.

MOTION #26-046

CLR. HEARN/CLR. STONE

**In favour: Mayor Barnes, Deputy Mayor Baker, Clr. Hearn, Clr. Reynolds, Clr. Rogers
Clr. Skinner, and Clr. Stone**

Opposed:

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Parks & Rec. Report

No report.

COUNCILLORS SUGGESTIONS AND CONCERNS

Staff

Clr. Skinner sent the Recreation and Maintenance Supervisor well wishes on a speedy recovery and the Town's new CAO in his new role.

HGVFB Emergency
Calls

Clr. Rogers spoke about an alarming incident while the HGVFB were responding to a call. He reminded everyone the importance of pulling over for emergency vehicles and asked people not to chase or impede emergency vehicles.

Librarian

Mayor Barnes spoke about the retirement of the Ms. Quinn, the librarian at the Harbour Grace War Memorial Public Library.

Next regular meeting of council is scheduled for March 23, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motioned to adjourn the regular meeting of Council at 8:00 p.m.

MOTION #26-047

DEPUTY MAYOR BAKER/CLR. SKINNER

**In favour: Mayor Barnes, Deputy Mayor Baker, Clr. Hearn, Clr. Reynolds, Clr.
Rogers, Clr. Skinner, and Clr. Stone**

Opposed:

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Confirmed:

Terry Barnes, Mayor

Nancy Pike, Acting Town Clerk

NP