

# MINUTES

Town of Port au Port East  
Regular Council Meeting January 27th, 2026

Minutes of a regular meeting of the council of the  
Town of Port au Port East,  
held in the Town Hall, January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 6:00 P.M.

## *Members*

### *Present*

Mayor	K. DeGroot
Deputy Mayor	A. Barry
Councillor	M. Gale
Councillor	K. Gaudon

### *Also,*

### *Present*

Town Clerk/Manager K. Hunt

## *Members*

### *Not Present*

Councillor	F. Barter
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4 people are present in the public galleries.

**Mayor K. DeGroot called the meeting to order at 6:08 pm.**

## **Meeting Minutes**

### Regular Council Meeting December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Motion # 01 - 26 – A. Barry/K. Gaudon

Mayor K. De Groot asked if there were any errors or omissions to the minutes of the regular meeting on December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025 which had been circulated via email with the agenda and provided in print to council at the public meeting on January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at the request of council.

Be it resolved that the minutes from December 9th, 2025, regular meeting of council, be adopted as circulated.

In favor:	Mayor	K. De Groot
	Deputy Mayor	A. Barry
	Councilors:	M. Gale
		K. Gaudon

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried



**Bank Reconciliations for June, July, August, September, October and November 2025**

Resolution # 03 - 26 – A. Barry/M. Gale

The Town Clerk/Manager provided the reconciled bank statements for the months of June, July, August, September, October and November 2025. The month of June 2025 has a discrepancy of \$ 17.58. Mayor De Groot has been in contact with J. Kennedy, the town accountant, and has informed council that J. Kennedy will reconcile June 2025 bank statement during the upcoming yearly audit for 2025.

Be it resolved that the completed and reconciled bank statements for June, July, August, September, October and November 2025 have been reviewed and accepted as presented.

In favor: Mayor K. De Groot  
Deputy Mayor A. Barry  
Councilors: M. Gale  
K. Gaudon

Opposed: 0  
Abstaining: 0  
Resolution Carried

**Transfer Funds from GIC to Daily Operating Bank Account**

Resolution # 04 - 26 – A. Barry/K. Gaudon

The level of operating monies available in current town bank account is lower than anticipated by council. A suggestion of moving funds from a current GIC into the operating bank account to help cover monthly cost was made, with the plan to transfer the borrowed funds back into a GIC when the town was in a more stable financial position. Concern was expressed by Councillor’s Gale and Gaudon as to why the town was in this position. Councillor Gale is not in favor of transferring money from the town savings to cover, in his opinion, poor decision making. Council asked the town clerk/manager what process was required to complete the transfer, if there would be penalties/fees associated and how would this affect the budget for 2026? The town clerk/manager was unable to provide answers to the councils’ questions. Without these answers council is unable to make a decision on how to proceed in this matter.

Be it resolved that the resolution be tabled until the town clerk/manager is able to gather all the information requested by council.

In favor: Mayor K. De Groot  
Deputy Mayor A. Barry  
Councilors: M. Gale  
K. Gaudon

Opposed: 0  
Abstaining: 0  
Resolution Carried

**Invoices for Business, Property and Water Tax 2026**

Resolution # 05 - 26 – A. Barry/K. Gaudon

The draft budget that was submitted to Municipal and Community Affairs in December 2025 requires revisions. Council is currently working on balancing the budget which is delaying issuing the invoices for 2026. Invoices are sent after the budget is accepted by Municipal and Community Affairs to ensure the mil rate will not change to avoid incorrect invoicing. Council discussed the current mil rate of 5.5 and are in agreement that the mil rate will not change therefore the town clerk/manager can begin the process and issue the 2026 invoices and not wait for approval of the 2026 Municipal Budget.

Be it resolved that the town clerk/manager will prepare and issue business, property and water tax invoices for 2026.

In favor: Mayor K. De Groot  
Deputy Mayor A. Barry  
Councilors: M. Gale  
K. Gaudon

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Resolution Carried

### **Rental Agreement Tourist Chalet**

Resolution # 06 - 26 – A. Barry/M. Gale

The town council and the Port au Port Indian Band council held a closed meeting on Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026 to discuss future use of the town's tourist chalet. The town and the native band have collaborated on numerous ventures in 2025 that have benefited our community. After discussions were held it was decided that the wonderful working relationship that exists between both councils will continue into 2026. The Port au Port Indian Band will help cover a portion of the monthly operating costs and continue to use the tourist chalet as their operation center.

Be it resolved that the Town of Port au Port East and the Port au Port Indian Band will enter into a new lease agreement up to and including June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026, with an option to extend if agreed to by both parties.

In favor: Mayor K. De Groot  
Deputy Mayor A. Barry  
Councilors: M. Gale  
K. Gaudon

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Resolution Carried

### **Permits**

#### **General Repairs and Maintenance Permits**

None

**Shed/Garage/Home Permits**

399 Route 462 – Garage

Motion # 02 - 26 – A. Barry/M. Gale

Be it resolved that the application to build a garage at 399 Route 462 has been reviewed and approved as presented.

In favor:	Mayor	K. De Groot
	Deputy Mayor	A. Barry
	Councilors:	M. Gale
		K. Gaudon

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

**Other**

None

**Discussion:**

**Water Update**

Monthly information was provided to council by D. Flynn. Our water and chlorine are currently maintaining satisfactory levels.

**Fire Department Update**

A representative was unavailable to attend. Things remain status quo with 12 active members and no incidents to report.

**Winter Newsletter**

Motion # 03 – 26 – A. Barry/M. Gale

The economic development officer has been working hard to keep our residents up to date on what is happening in our town. The Winter Newsletter has been drafted and ready for review by council. Council has asked for the addition of 211, and noted a few small changes.

Be it resolved that the Winter Newsletter can be issued to residents with the addition of 211 and the noted changes.

In favor:	Mayor	K. De Groot
	Deputy Mayor	A. Barry
	Councilors:	M. Gale
		K. Gaudon

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

**Schedule for 2026 Monthly Meetings**

Motion # 04 – 26 – A. Barry/K. Gaudon

According to the current Procedure for Meetings the monthly public meeting is to be held on the second Tuesday of each month. It was decided that the meetings in 2026 will remain on the second Tuesday of each month and held in the meeting room of the Town Hall beginning at 6:00pm. Public will be made aware of any changes to this schedule as soon as it is known to council.

January 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2026	July 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2026
February 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2026	August 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2026
March 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2026	September 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2026
April 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2026	October 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2026
May 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2026	November 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2026
June 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2026	December 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2026

Be it resolved, that the dates listed above become the official schedule of public meeting to be held during the 2026 calendar year.

In favor:	Mayor	K. De Groot
	Deputy Mayor	A. Barry
	Councillors:	M. Gale
		K. Gaudon

Opposed: 0  
Abstaining: 0  
Motion Carried

**Steering Committee Representative**

Motion # 05 – 26 – A. Barry/M. Gale

The Territorial Steering Committee has space for only one representative from each town council. Previously our council were represented by Councillor Gale and Councillor Gaudon. Mayor De Groot called for nominations for a new representative for the committee. Councillor Gale nominated Councillor Gaudon and was seconded by Councillor Barry. Councillor Gaudon accepted the nomination. Mayor De Groot made a second call for nominations for a new representative for the committee. No other nominations were made.

Be it resolved that Councillor K. Gaudon will be the new Steering Committee Representative.

In favor:	Mayor	K. De Groot
	Deputy Mayor	A. Barry
	Councillors:	M. Gale
		K. Gaudon

Opposed: 0  
Abstaining: 0  
Motion Carried

**Territorial Steering Committee Meeting Update**

Councillor K. Gaudon was in attendance at a meeting of the Territorial Steering Committee, held virtually on January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Councillor Gaudon informed council and residents that training is still being done by Red Cross to provide guidance and knowledge on what to do in the event of a hurricane, fire or other natural

disaster. Our beautiful local beaches being underutilized and not supported by government was brought up and discussed. As well it was brought to attention that Professor Derek Richard of MUN University has students available to aid in research for various fields such as effects of wind or fire. A future meeting will be arranged with Professor Richard to explore what he has to offer our communities. Councillor Gaudon will continue to attend these meetings and keep everyone updated on events.

### **Additional Street Lighting Romaine's Bridge**

Motion # 06 – 26 – A. Barry/K. Gaudon

Discussion began with the comment of how dangerous this section of roadway has become since the completion of the new bridge. During the winter storm on Saturday, January 24th, 2026 four (4) vehicles ended up in the ditch along various sections of this roadway. In an effort to make this section safer for everyone NL Power has been approached regarding the current street lighting in this area. NL Power has made a suggestion of installing a new pole with lighting closer to the actual bridge, on two existing corners. These poles would be installed without any initial cost to the town but the town would receive a monthly rental charge of \$ 6.74 per pole plus the monthly rental of the streetlight and HST. Council is happy with the cost and location of the proposed streetlights.

Be it resolved that the town clerk/manager will follow up with NL Power and begin the process to have two (2) new streetlights installed at Romaine's Bridge.

In favor:	Mayor	K. De Groot
	Deputy Mayor	A. Barry
	Councillors:	M. Gale
		K. Gaudon

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

### **Appointment of Assessment Review Commissioner**

Motion # 07 – 26 – A. Barry/K. Gaudon

An assessment review commissioner is needed for our town. The commissioner would aid in any municipal assessment appeals that may occur. A commissioner cannot be an employee or councillor of the town but municipalities can have a common commissioner and share cost. Before appointing a commissioner for our town, council would like to table this motion to allow the town clerk/manager to contact other towns to inquire about this possibility.

Be it resolved that the motion be tabled until the town clerk/manager is able to gather all the information requested by council.

In favor:	Mayor	K. De Groot
	Deputy Mayor	A. Barry
	Councillors:	M. Gale
		K. Gaudon

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

## Other Business

Mayor K. DeGroot asked councillors if there was any other business to discuss before adjourning.

Councillor Gaudon mentioned that live meetings recorded on Facebook are only available for a short time before being removed. We need to begin backing up these meetings and possibility find a method to link to our webpage.

Mayor K. DeGroot once again asked councillors if there was any other business to discuss before adjourning.

Councillor Barry expressed concern about financial trouble for the town. He mentioned being short on this year's budget and the importance of the public being aware.

Mayor K. DeGroot once asked councillors if there was any other business to discuss before adjourning. No other councillor came forward.

## Adjournment

Motion # 08 – 26 – A. Barry/K. Gaudon

Be it resolved that Council do now adjourn to meet again on Tuesday, February 10th, 2026 at 6:00 PM

In favor:	Mayor	K. De Groot
	Deputy Mayor	A. Barry
	Councillors:	M. Gale
		K. Gaudon

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

The meeting adjourned at 7:17 P.M

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Kimberly De Groot

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Town Clerk/Manager – Koren Hunt