Region of Queens Municipality Regular Council
Tuesday, September 22, 2026
4:00 p.m. (Closed Session)
5:30 p.m. (Public Session Begins)

Meeting Recording: 2026-09-22 - Regular Meeting of Council
Please click the time-stamp links below to watch specific portions of the recording.

Minutes

Present: Mayor Scott Christian
Deputy Mayor Maddie Charlton
Councillor Roberta Roy
Councillor Courtney Wentzell
Councillor Vicki Amirault
Councillor Jack Fancy
Councillor Stewart Jenkins
Councillor Wanda Carver
Willa Thorpe, CAO
Alex Wilson, Acting Municipal Clerk
Kate Wong, Recording Secretary

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1.0 Call to Order

Mayor Christian called the Regular Council meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and acknowledged that the meeting was being held in Mi'kma'ki, in Kespukwitk, the traditional and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people. The Mayor recognized that all are Treaty People with responsibilities under the Treaties.

At the beginning of the meeting, the Mayor provided an audio description of Council Chambers and the meeting setup for attendees and viewers who are blind or have low vision.

2.0 Approval of Agenda (0:00)

It was It was moved by Councillor Jenkins, and seconded by Councillor Carver:

THAT Council for Region of Queens Municipality approve the agenda as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED.

3.0 In-Camera

It was It was moved by Councillor Amirault,

4.0 Adoption of Minutes (00:35)

4.1 Regular Council Meeting – September 8th, 2026

It was It was moved by Deputy Mayor Charlton, and seconded by Councillor Amirault:

THAT Council for Region of Queens Municipality adopt the minutes of the September 8, 2026 Regular Council meeting as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED.

5.0 Public Comment (01:42)

5.1 Paul Deveau, District 5

Mr. Deveau expressed concern about the proposed $25,000 allocation to Habitat for Humanity. He questioned the eligibility criteria for the homes and whether families with higher incomes could qualify.

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6.0 Presentations and Delegations (06:11)

6.1 Queens Neighbourhood Co-operative Housing

Michael Blair presented an update on Queens Neighbourhood Co-operative Housing and its Trestle Way development. The 30-unit, mixed-income co-operative will include one-, two- and three-bedroom homes, with an emphasis on affordable and accessible housing for seniors. The presentation highlighted two fully accessible units, adaptable design features throughout the development, and energy-efficient construction. Mr. Blair also outlined the organization's longer-term vision to develop more than 100 homes across multiple neighbourhoods in Queens County. He acknowledged the Municipality's support for Trestle Way and expressed interest in continued collaboration on future housing developments and the co-operative's operational sustainability.

7.0 Unfinished Business (32:05)

There were no Unfinished Business items to discuss.

8.0 Staff Reports

8.1 Financial Statement – Quarter 1 (32:10)

It was moved by Councillor Jenkins, seconded by Councillor Wentzell:

THAT Council for Region of Queens Municipality accept the 2026–2027 Quarter 1 Financial Report as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.

8.2 Strategic Action Plan and Grant Application Summary – Quarterly Update (45:58)

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It was moved by Councillor Jenkins, seconded by Councillor Carver:

THAT Council for Region of Queens Municipality receive the report titled "Quarterly Update – Strategic Action Plan and Grant Application Summary" for information.

MOTION CARRIED.

8.3 Inclusion Queens Committee – Grant Application (53:10)

It was moved by Councillor Roy, seconded by Councillor Fancy:

THAT Council for Region of Queens Municipality approve the recommendation of the Inclusion Queens Committee and allocate $1,000 from the Committee's Diversity and Inclusion Small Grant Program to support the fifth annual National Day for Truth and Reconciliation event taking place on September 30, 2026.

MOTION CARRIED.

9.0 Bylaws and Policies

9.1 Repeal of Bylaw No. 2 – A Bylaw Respecting Burning (48:32)

Council considered this item before returning to Item 8.3.

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Charlton, seconded by Councillor Wentzell:

THAT Council for Region of Queens Municipality repeal Bylaw No. 2 – A Bylaw Respecting Burning.

MOTION CARRIED.

9.2 Bylaw No. 9 – Parking Meters (59:54)

Deputy Mayor Charlton assumed the chair at 6:41 p.m.

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It was moved by Mayor Christian, seconded by Councillor Carver:

THAT Council for Region of Queens Municipality void parking tickets issued to volunteers of local organizations between January 2026 and September 22, 2026.

MOTION DEFEATED, with three (3) in favour and four (4) opposed.

It was moved by Councillor Amirault, seconded by Councillor Carver:

THAT Council for Region of Queens Municipality remove the three-hour parking restriction from the municipal parking lots on Henry Hensey Drive, allowing all-day parking.

MOTION CARRIED.

Council recessed at 7:04 p.m. and reconvened at 7:15 p.m.

9.3 Solid Waste Collection – Draft Level of Service Policy (1:42:11)

It was moved by Councillor Amirault, seconded by Councillor Jenkins:

THAT Council for Region of Queens Municipality not adopt Administrative Policy No. 102 – Level of Service – Curbside Solid Waste Collection at this time and continue current curbside solid waste collection practices.

MOTION CARRIED.

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Charlton, seconded by Councillor Carver:

THAT Council for Region of Queens Municipality direct staff to further develop Administrative Policy No. 102 with consideration for residents residing in temporary structures.

MOTION CARRIED.

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10.1 Correspondence for Action

10.1 Fixed-Roof Accommodation Operators – Joint Submission (2:13:29)

It was moved by Councillor Jenkins, seconded by Councillor Carver:

THAT Council for Region of Queens Municipality defer the effective date of Bylaw No. 29 – Accommodation Levy to December 31, 2026, to allow Council additional time to review the concerns raised in the joint submission from fixed-roof accommodation operators.

MOTION WITHDRAWN.

It was moved by Councillor Carver, seconded by Deputy Mayor Charlton:

THAT Council for Region of Queens Municipality receive the joint submission from fixed-roof accommodation operators for information.

MOTION CARRIED.

11.0 Correspondence for Information

11.1 Bat-friendly Community Certification (2:31:35)I

It was moved by Councillor Wentzell, seconded by Councillor Carver:

THAT Council for Region of Queens Municipality direct staff to express the Municipality's interest in the Bat-friendly Community Certification program and request further information on the program and certification requirements.

MOTION CARRIED.

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12.0 Reports from In Camera (2:33:35)

There were no reports coming from In Camera.

13.0 Mayor's Report (2:33:49)

- September 10: Council emergency management training and discussion concerning regional emergency management participation.
- September 14: A meeting of mayors, wardens and senior administrators concerning regional economic partnerships.
- September 15: The Queens County Fair parade.
- September 16 and 17: The community safety and well-being pilot project and related provincial announcement.
- September 17: A fundraising dinner in support of the Kidney Foundation.
- September 18: The Meet Me on Main event.

14.0 Committee Business (2:39:35)

14.1 Police Advisory Board (2:39:43)

Councillor Amirault presented an update from the Police Advisory Board. The report addressed Bylaw No. 12 and potential provincial rules concerning electric scooters and bicycles; the RCMP quarterly report; the provincial police billing model; gender-based violence; concerns about a provincial emergency alert; and road safety concerns on Beach Meadows Beach Road.

It was moved by Councillor Amirault, seconded by Deputy Mayor Charlton:

THAT Council for Region of Queens Municipality write to the Province requesting safety improvements to Beach Meadows Beach Road, including widening the road, reducing the current 50 km/h speed limit to a more suitable speed limit, clearing overgrown roadside vegetation, and clearing the two culverts obstructed by vegetation.

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MOTION CARRIED.

14.2 Planning Advisory Committee (2:45:42)

Deputy Mayor Charlton reported that the Planning Advisory Committee met with the land use review consultants on September 14 to hear a summary of public engagement feedback. The consultants will prepare potential revisions for the Committee's consideration. Further public engagement is anticipated as the review progresses.

15.0 New Business

15.1 NSFM Fall 2026 Conference Attendance (2:47:23)

Councillor Wentzell, Councillor Jenkins and Councillor Carver have all indicated that they would like to attend.

It was moved by Councillor Jenkins, seconded by Councillor Roy:

THAT Council for Region of Queens Municipality authorize the associated unbudgeted expenditure for one additional member of Council to attend the NSFM Fall 2026 Conference, in addition to the six attendees provided for in the 2026–2027 budget.

MOTION CARRIED.

15.2 Main Street and Market Street Intersection (2:53:21)

Council discussed planned changes to the intersection of Main Street and Market Street. Staff explained that the changes are intended to improve pedestrian visibility and shorten the crossing distance while accommodating typical vehicle movements. Questions were raised about the removal of the right-turn lane and the turning space available to larger vehicles. No motion arose from the discussion.

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16.0 In Camera

It was moved by Councillor Roy, seconded by Councillor Amirault:

THAT Council for Region of Queens Municipality move in camera at 8:38 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED.

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Charlton, seconded by Councillor Wentzell:

THAT Council for Region of Queens Municipality move into public session at 9:21 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED.

It was moved by Councillor Jenkins, seconded by Councillor Carver:

THAT Council for Region of Queens Municipality direct staff to proceed with contract negotiations as discussed in camera.

MOTION CARRIED.

It was moved by Councillor Roy, seconded by seconded by Councillor Wentzell:

THAT Council for Region of Queens Municipality direct staff and the Mayor to proceed as discussed in camera.

MOTION CARRIED.

17.0 Adjourment

Meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

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