

The 6th Meeting of the 14th Elected Town Council of the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay was held on Thursday, December 17th, 2025, and called to order by Mayor Bert Pomeroy at 5:00 pm.

Members Present:

Mayor Bert Pomeroy
Deputy Mayor Jackie Compton Hobbs
Councillor Lori Dyson
Councillor Dion O'Dell
Councillor Denise Rumbolt
Councillor Jill Williams
Councillor Todd Winters

Also Present:

Chief Administrative Officer, Nadine MacAulay
Corporate Services Manager, Vikram Malik
Community Development Manager, Margaret Aligbe

Regrets:

Executive Assistant, Kathy Eddy

1. 2026 MUNICIPAL BUDGET SPEECH

Denise Rumbolt

Chair of Finance, Administration of Policy Committee

14th Town Council for the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay

- Thanks to Town staff who helped in the preparation of this budget.
- As the Chair of the Finance Committee, it is my duty to present the Town of Happy Valley–Goose Bay’s 2026 municipal budget.
- This year’s budget is balanced at \$20,370,188.02. Finalizing a municipal budget is never easy. It requires careful consideration, difficult choices, and a clear vision for the future. Council takes this responsibility seriously, and our goal is to balance the books while investing wisely in services, infrastructure, and the residents of our community.

- Like households and businesses across our town, we continue to face rising costs. The cost of living has increased, and so too has the cost of providing essential municipal services. Despite these pressures, I am pleased to share that this budget includes no increases to property tax rates, business tax rates, or water and sewer fees.

2

- Affordability and Relief Programs
 - Low Income Tax Relief remains in place.
 - The three-year property tax exemption for doctors will continue.
 - Supports for young entrepreneurs will continue, including business application fee and business tax exemptions.
- Property and business tax relief programs for not-for-profit organizations and community groups will remain in place.
- Municipal Operations and Equipment Investments
 - We will be purchasing much-needed firefighting equipment.
 - We will be purchasing a new loader to support municipal operations.
 - A portable generator will be purchased for lift stations to help ensure continuity of service during power outages.
 - A multi-purpose utility tractor (with mower, blower, and bucket) will improve our ability to maintain public spaces year-round.
- We are investing in staff training and professional development, recognizing that our employees are one of our greatest assets.
- Arena Upgrades and Facility Improvements
 - We are planning the installation of a centrally hung scoreboard.
 - Upgrades will be made to the arena ice plant.
 - Computer system upgrades will be completed to improve operational reliability and user experience.
- Community Investments and Environmental Support
 - We are increasing our annual support to Healthy Waters Labrador.
 - A one-time investment will be made to install a much-needed washroom facility at the Birch Island Conservation Area, improving accessibility for residents and visitors.
 - A new canopy will be installed at Kinsmen Park.
 - We will be investing in a watering system and fencing at the soccer field to support recreation, youth engagement, and healthy lifestyles.
- Infrastructure and Planning for Future Growth

- A \$1.3 million water and sewer infrastructure loan is proposed as the Town's share of a \$4.775 million project, if approved under the Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund.
 - This investment supports potential new housing development and long-term community sustainability.
 - Design work will be completed for a new, much-needed fire hall as an essential long-term public safety investment.
- Tourism and Economic Development
 - The adoption of a new Tourist Accommodation Tax will provide a dedicated revenue source to support tourism-related projects and activities.
 - This will allow the Town to reinvest directly into initiatives that strengthen the local economy and create new opportunities.
 - In closing, the 2026 budget reflects a careful balance of responsibility and optimism. It maintains affordability, invests in safety and infrastructure, supports economic development, and strengthens quality of life in Happy Valley–Goose Bay.
 - On behalf of Council, I extend sincere thanks to Town staff and our CAO, Nadine McCauley, for their work and dedication throughout the budgeting process. Our success depends on the support of our residents, and we are grateful for the trust you place in us.
 - Together, we will continue building a strong, resilient, and vibrant community that we are all proud to call home. Thank you.

2. 2026 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

RESOLUTION #2025-12-23

Be it resolved that the Town Council of the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay adopt the 2026 Municipal Budget with total revenues of **\$20,370,188.02** and total expenditures of **\$20,370,188.02** as presented. Moved by Councillor Rumbolt and seconded by Councillor Dyson. All in favour. Carried.

3. 2026 MUNICIPAL TAX RATES AND FEES

4

Property Tax

RESOLUTION #2025-12-24

Be it resolved that the Town Council adopt a Residential Property Tax rate of 7.75%, a Recreational Property Tax rate of 7.75%, and a Commercial Property Tax rate of 12% as set out in the Policy, titled **Taxes and Fees**, Policy Number: **F0001** for 2026. Moved by Councillor Rumbolt and seconded by Councillor Williams. All in favour. Carried.

RESOLUTION #2025-12-25

Be it resolved that the Town Council establish a class for Vacant Land with a sub-class of Residential Vacant Land and a sub-class of Commercial Vacant Land. Moved by Councillor Rumbolt and seconded by Councillor Dyson. All in favour. Carried.

RESOLUTION #2025-12-26

Be it resolved that the Town Council adopt a Residential Vacant Land Property Tax of \$50.00 plus 0.1% and a Commercial Vacant Land Property Tax of \$3,750.00 plus 0.1% as set out in the Policy, titled **Taxes and Fees**, Policy Number: **F0001** for 2026. Moved by Councillor Williams and seconded by Deputy Mayor Compton Hobbs. All in favour. Carried.

Water and Sewer Fees

RESOLUTION #2025-12-27

Be it resolved that the Town Council adopt the Sewer Fee of \$327.00 per year and the Water Fee of \$256.00 per year, as set out in the Policy, titled **Taxes and Fees**, Policy Number: **F0001** and **Water and Sewer Fees**, Policy Number: **F0008** for 2026. Moved by Councillor Williams and seconded by Councillor Rumbolt. All in favour. Carried.

RESOLUTION #2025-12-28

Be it resolved that the Town Council adopt the Water Meter Fee of \$3.85 per 1000 gallons of water consumed and the Sewer Meter Fee at \$2.25 per 1000 gallons of water consumed, for clients using water meters, as set out in the Policy titled **Taxes and Fees**, Policy Number: **F0001** and **Water and Sewer Fees**, Policy Number: **F0008** for 2026. Moved by Councillor Williams and seconded by Deputy Mayor Compton Hobbs. All in favour. Carried.

Business Tax**RESOLUTION #2025-12-29**

Be it resolved that the Town Council adopt the **Business Tax Rates** as set out in the Policy titled **Taxes and Fees**, Policy Number: **F0001** for 2026. Moved by Councillor Winters and seconded by Councillor O'Dell. All in favour. Carried.

Discount**RESOLUTION #2025-12-30**

Be it resolved that the Town Council sets the discount for 2026 as 3% with respect to **Property and Business Tax** if paid in full by **March 31st** and all the arrears are paid in full prior to March 31st. Moved by Councillor Winters and seconded by Councillor Williams. All in favour. Carried.

Interest Rate**RESOLUTION #2025-12-31**

Be it resolved that the Town Council sets the interest rate for 2026 as 1% per month as **simple interest**, which will be charged on all unpaid arrears invoices that are not paid in full by their due date. Moved by Councillor Winters and seconded by Councillor Williams. All in favour. Carried.

Town Fees for Services and Equipment Rental**RESOLUTION #2025-12-32**

Be it resolved that the Town Council adopt the Arena Fees set out in the Policy titled **Arena Fees**, Policy Number: **F0002** for 2026. Moved by Deputy Mayor Compton Hobbs and seconded by Councillor Dyson. All in favour. Carried.

RESOLUTION #2025-12-33

Be it resolved that the Town Council adopt the Ballfield Rental Fees set out in the Policy titled **Ballfield Rental Fees**, Policy Number: **F0003** for 2026. Moved by Deputy Mayor Compton Hobbs and seconded by Councillor Williams. All in favour. Carried.

Miscellaneous Rates and Fees**RESOLUTION #2025-12-34**

Be it resolved that the Town Council adopt the Miscellaneous Rates and Fees set out in the Policy titled **Miscellaneous Rates and Fees**, Policy Number: **F0005** for 2026. Moved by Deputy Mayor Compton Hobbs and seconded by Councillor Dyson. All in favour. Carried.

RESOLUTION #2025-12-35

Be it resolved that the Town Council adopt the Municipal Rates – Equipment Rates set out in the Policy titled **Municipal Rates – Equipment Rates**, Policy Number: **F0006** for 2026. Moved by Councillor Dyson and seconded by Councillor Rumbolt. All in favour. Carried.

RESOLUTION #2025-12-36

Be it resolved that the Town Council adopt the Animal Control Services Rates set out in the Policy titled **Cost of Animal Control Services**, Policy Number: **F0007** for 2026. Moved by Councillor Dyson and seconded by Deputy Mayor Compton Hobbs. All in favour. Carried.

Property Tax (Residential and Business) and Business Tax Exemption**RESOLUTION #2025-12-37**

Be it resolved that the Town Council adopt the Property Tax Low Income Relief Policy, Business and Property Tax Non-Profit Organizations and Groups Exemption Policy, Doctors Property Tax Exemption, and Young Entrepreneurs Business Application and Business Tax Exemption as set out in the Policy titled **Residential Property Tax, Doctor's Property Tax, Young Entrepreneurs Business Application and Business Tax, Business and Property Tax Non-profit Organizations and Groups Exemption**, Policy Number: **F0009** for 2026. Moved by Councillor Dyson and seconded by Deputy Mayor Compton Hobbs. All in favour. Carried.

Recreational Property Tax Rebate Policy

RESOLUTION #2025-12-38

Be it resolved that the Town Council adopt the Recreational Property Tax Rebate Policy as set out in the Policy titled **Recreational Property Tax Rebate Policy**, Policy Number: **F0010** for 2026. Moved by Councillor O'Dell and seconded by Councillor Williams. All in favour. Carried.

Fire and Emergency Services Rates

RESOLUTION #2025-12-39

Be it resolved that the Town Council adopt the Fire and Emergency Services Rates as set out in Policy titled **Fire and Emergency Services Rates Policy**, Policy Number: F0030 for 2026. Moved by Councillor O'Dell and seconded by Councillor Dyson. All in favour. Carried.

4. MOTION TO ADJOURN

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Deputy Mayor Jackie Compton Hobbs and seconded by Councillor Denise Rumbolt. Meeting adjourned at 5:19 PM.

MAYOR BERT POMEROY

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER NADINE MACAULAY