

**CITY OF IQALUIT
CITY COUNCIL MEETING #03
MARCH 24, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

PRESENT FROM COUNCIL

Mayor Solomon Awa
Deputy Mayor Kimberly Smith
Councillor Amber Aglukark
Councillor Simon Nattaq
Councillor Kyle Sheppard

ABSENT

Alternate Deputy Mayor Harry Flaherty
Councillor Methusalah Kunuk
Councillor Romeyn Stevenson

PRESENT FROM ADMINISTRATION

Steve England, Chief Administrative Officer
Jamie Evic, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Bill Williams, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Brianna Longworth, City Clerk
Katrina Sarmiento, Deputy City Clerk
Carol Nakanwagi, Executive Assistant
Peter Tumilty, Chief Financial Officer
Mathew Dodds, Director of Planning and Development
Kevin Kerr, Director of Engineering and Capital Projects
Geoffrey Byrne, Communications and Customer Service Manager
Jeanie Eeseemailee, Senior Interpreter/Translator

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Awa opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. with a moment of silence.

SWEARING IN

None

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion #26-34

Moved by: Councillor Nattaq
Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Smith

Adoption of agenda as presented.

Unanimously Carried

1. MINUTES

a) City Council Meeting #02 Minutes dated February 10, 2026

Motion #26-35

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Smith
Seconded by: Councillor Aglukark

City Council Meeting #02 Minutes dated February 10, 2026.

Unanimously Carried

b) Planning and Development Committee of the Whole Meeting #02 Minutes dated February 17, 2026

Motion #26-36

Moved by: Councillor Aglukark
Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Smith

Planning and Development Committee of the Whole Meeting #02 Minutes dated February 17, 2026.

Unanimously Carried

c) Finance Committee of the Whole Meeting #01 Minutes dated February 19, 2026

Motion #26-37

Moved by: Councillor Sheppard
Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Smith

Finance Committee of the Whole Meeting #01 Minutes dated February 19, 2026.

Unanimously Carried

d) Governance and Priorities Committee of the Whole Meeting #02 Minutes dated March 3, 2026

Motion #26-38

Moved by: Councillor Aglukark
Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Smith

Governance and Priorities Committee of the Whole Meeting #02 Minutes dated March 3, 2026.

Unanimously Carried

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor Sheppard declared a conflict of interest regarding:

7. BY-LAWS
 - a) Second Reading of By-law(s)
 - i. By-law No. 1031, Amendment to General Plan By-law No. 899 for Lots 1 and 3, Block 239, Plan 4564 (GPA 26-001)
 - ii. By-law No. 1032, Amendment to Zoning By-law No. 898 for Lots 1 and 3, Block 239, Plan 4564 (ZBA 26-001)

Following the In Camera session, Councillor Sheppard declared a conflict of interest regarding:

12. Motion following In Camera Session
 - a) Motion pertaining to awarding a contract to 5581 Nunavut Limited

3. DELEGATIONS

- a) **Iqaluit RCMP Detachment Monthly Reports – January and February 2026**

Staff Sergeant Vlatko Nikolovski, Iqaluit RCMP, was in attendance and presented the January and February 2026 Monthly Reports.

Staff Sergeant Nikolovski provided the following information on a Pilot Project to enhance public safety:

- RCMP, along with Municipal Enforcement, are working together to increase enforcement related to traffic safety, impaired driving and public drinking/intoxication issues in the community
- As part of the initiative, there are increased daily patrols around the Iqaluit Beer and Wine Store
- Conduct traffic safety enforcement
- Working collaboratively, the two agencies will strengthen their partnership and provide a more coordinated approach to provide public safety
- Pilot Project will continue during the summer months
- To-date, Pilot Project has shown good results

- Call volume has significantly reduced between noon and 5 p.m., which relates to the increased patrols around the beer and wine store
- Reporting system will be developed between the two agencies

Deputy Mayor Smith made the following comments and asked the following question, which Staff Sergeant Nikolovski answered:

- Pilot Project has been successful but there are some challenges
- Majority of the officers working on the Pilot Project are retired officers and there are no dedicated resources
- Pilot Project falls under the First Nations and Inuit Policing Program
- Does the RCMP have a permanent position for the First Nations and Inuit Policing Program?
 - Pilot Project is operated on the availability of reservists who are coming to Iqaluit to run the program
 - Position for the First Nations and Inuit Policing Program is vacant
 - Members are currently fulfilling other commitments
 - Reservists are supplementing support
- Gap in providing policing
- Suggested formal communications with the RCMP and Government of Nunavut to establish a schedule and structured system for the Pilot Project
- Work together to find clarity related to funding allocation
- Pilot Project is valuable for the community

Bill Williams, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, made the following comment:

- Council can direct Administration to meet with the Deputy Minister and Assistant Deputy Minister at the Government of Nunavut Department of Justice

Motion #26-39

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Smith

Seconded by: Councillor Aglukark

Council directs Administration to meet with the Deputy Minister and Assistant Deputy Minister at the Government of Nunavut Department of Justice in relation to increasing support and funding for the public safety pilot project between Municipal Enforcement and the RCMP.

Unanimously Carried

Staff Sergeant Nikolovski made the following comments:

- First Nations and Inuit Policing Program is a community driven initiative
- Pilot Project falls under the First Nations and Inuit Policing Program
- Additional staffing will benefit the Pilot Project

Deputy Mayor Smith made the following comment, to which Staff Sergeant Nikolovski replied:

- Important initiative and hopefully an additional staff member can be appointed
 - Council's support will assist in obtaining an additional staff member that can be dedicated for the Pilot Project

4. AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

None

5. STATEMENTS

Councillor Nattaq commented that he heard on the radio that there were not enough elders to teach the children and youth at the high school. He noted that it was later expressed that a school educator did not want elders to visit the school to teach the children and youth.

Councillor Nattaq indicated that other elders wanted to teach children and youth in a classroom setting. He expressed concern regarding the unfairness to the community and the positive outcome when working together.

Deputy Mayor Smith acknowledged the Hockey Helps the Homeless (HHTH) event that was held in Iqaluit on the weekend. She noted that the event was very successful and raised a lot of money for the Qajuqturvik Community Food Centre and Annauma Community Foundation, which will have a direct impact in the community. Deputy Mayor Smith noted that the Arctic Winter Games Arena was full and had a lot of energy. She went on to thank everyone involved who helped make the event possible, as well as all of the sponsors.

Councillor Sheppard advised that he attended the Arctic Winter Games and acknowledged the incredible athletes in Iqaluit. He noted that the Nunavut girl's hockey team made history winning a bronze medal. He stated that the Under 15 boy's hockey team won a gold medal.

Councillor Sheppard stated that he looked forward to the potential of Nunavut hosting the Arctic Winter Games in 2032. He noted that Council has a role to play in advocating to host the winter games and laying the ground work in submitting a bid.

Councillor Sheppard went on to recognize and thank the following individuals for their contributions, whether competing or volunteering:

- Breton McNeil, Director of Recreation, won the first medal of the games for Nunavut in Arctic sports
- Naja Pearce, Recreation Department, competed in Arctic sports and spends time advocating and training for Arctic sports
- Matilda Pinksen, Recreation Department, mission staff personnel
- Mathew Dodds, Director of Planning and Development, coaching badminton
- Councillor Romeyn Stevenson, coaching boys' futsal

6. **DEFERRED BUSINESS AND TABLED ITEMS**

None

7. **BY-LAWS**

a) **First Reading of By-law(s)**

None

b) **Second Reading of By-law(s)**

- i) By-law No. 1031, Amendment to General Plan By-law No. 898 for Lots 1 and 3, Block 239, Plan 4565 (GPA 26-001)

Councillor Sheppard declared a conflict of interest and left the meeting.

Brianna Longworth, City Clerk, made the following comments:

- In the past, when a conflict of interest was declared which resulted in not having a quorum, the matter was deferred
- Clarified that the *Conflict of Interest Act* does state that when a meeting falls below the required threshold for quorum based on a conflict of interest declaration, as long as two remaining members have not declared a conflict on the item, the matter can proceed

Motion #26-40

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Smith

Seconded by: Councillor Aglukark

Council approves Second Reading of By-law No. 1031, Amendment to General Plan By-law No. 898 for Lots 1 and 3, Block 239, Plan 4565 (GPA 26-001).

Unanimously Carried

- ii) By-law No. 1032, Amendment to Zoning By-law No. 899 for Lots 1 and 3, Block 239, Plan 4565 (ZBA 26-001)

Councillor Sheppard declared a conflict of interest and remained outside of the Council Chambers.

Motion #26-41

Moved by: Councillor Nattaq

Seconded by: Councillor Aglukark

Council approves Second Reading of By-law No. 1032, Amendment to Zoning By-law No. 899 for Lots 1 and 3, Block 239, Plan 4565 (ZBA 26-001).

Unanimously Carried

Following the vote, Councillor Sheppard returned to the meeting.

c) Third Reading of By-law(s)

None

8. OLD BUSINESS

None

9. NEW BUSINESS

a) Appointment of 2026 Members at Large on the Board of Revision – Verbal

Brianna Longworth, City Clerk, made the following comments:

- Annual Board of Revision meeting is to be held on April 30 to address any property tax assessment appeals and corrections
- Members at Large on the Board must be appointed by Council
- Recommendation to appoint three returning members to the 2026 Board of Revision
 - Stephen Johnson
 - Jakub Garbarczyk
 - Curtis Mesher
- Board has two vacant positions
- To fill the two vacant positions, a call-out was issued for individuals to apply as board members and applications would be received until Tuesday, March 31.

Motion #26-42

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Smith

Seconded by: Councillor Sheppard

Council appoints Stephen Johnson, Jakub Garbarczyk and Curtis Mesher as Members at Large on the Board of Revision for 2026.

Unanimously Carried

b) Discussion and Direction Item – Vacant Council Seat – Verbal

Bill Williams, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, made the following comments:

- Mayor formally received and accepted the resignation of Councillor Tilley
- In accordance with the *Cities, Towns and Villages Act*, Council has two options to consider when filling the vacancy

Brianna Longworth, City Clerk, made the following comments:

- Explained the two options available under the *Nunavut Elections Act*
- Council shall fill the vacancy by appointing a person who is eligible to be a candidate for the office
- Council shall:
 - Appoint a candidate from the previous election, who is not elected to the office, but had the highest number of votes from among the unelected candidates, is available, still eligible, and willing to accept the appointment
 - Publicly request applicants for appointment and appoint a person from among them who would be eligible as a candidate for the office
- Appointment would be for the remainder of the current term

Deputy Mayor Smith made the following comment and asked the following question, which Bill Williams, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, answered:

- A public call-out to be held and to be consistent with the same procedure used to fill the previous vacant Council seat
- Can a policy be drafted to ensure consistency when filling a vacant Council seat?
 - Understands that a policy cannot supersede the *Cities, Towns and Villages Act*
 - Staff will refer the request to legal counsel for an opinion

Councillor Nattaq made the following comment:

- Over the years, both options were used

Councillor Sheppard made the following comments:

- A public call-out has been carried out for the past number of vacant seats
- Act does not define when a vacant seat must be filled
- Suggested that filling the vacant seat be deferred to provide community members sufficient time to make a decision in submitting their name
- Ensures there is time for community members to have the opportunity to discuss the roles and responsibilities of a councillor

Deputy Mayor Smith made the following comment:

- Suggested that the public call-out process be started, with a longer submission date being set

Ms. Longworth made the following comment:

- Will obtain the information as it relates to a time requirement in filling a vacant Council seat, and that information will be presented at a later meeting

Councillor Aglukark made the following comments:

- Does not want to wait too long to fill the vacant seat
- Wants to ensure Iqalummiut have sufficient time to consider putting their name forward
- Being a councillor is a very important role, and it takes consideration, time and patience to learn and understand the role of a councillor

Councillor Sheppard made the following comments:

- Suggested that the cut-off date be August 31
- Felt the matter should be deferred until the next Council meeting
- City Clerk will have the opportunity to determine if there is a time limitation to filling a vacant seat
- Hoped that more councillors would be in attendance to make the final decision

Motion #26-43

Moved by: Councillor Sheppard
Seconded by: Councillor Nattaq

Council defers the matter of the Vacant Council Seat until the next Council meeting.

Unanimously Carried

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

**a) Planning and Development Committee of the Whole Meeting #02 –
February 17, 2026 Report**

Motion #26-44

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Smith
Seconded by: Councillor Sheppard

Council:

1. Gives First Reading to Zoning By-law Amendment ZBA 25-040 with updated conditions related to the proximity of cannabis establishments to sensitive uses.
2. Directs staff to schedule a Public Hearing.

Unanimously Carried

Motion #26-45

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Smith
Seconded by: Councillor Aglukark

Council directs staff to:

General Plan and Zoning By-law as summarized in the Planning Report

1. Proceed with translating draft General Plan and Zoning By-law documents into Inuktitut.
2. Publish the draft General Plan and Zoning By-law documents virtually for Council and public review.

Growth Area A as identified in the Planning Report

3. Initiate a Site Selection Study for the future relocation of Iqaluit's granular quarry.

Growth Area E as identified in the Planning Report – FDA B in General Plan By-law No. 898

4. Update and refine the existing servicing studies to analyze higher density development in Growth Area E, and to confirm water, wastewater, and transportation capacity.

Growth Area F as identified in the Planning Report

5. Accept and process land applications for Growth Area F from government agencies in accordance with the City's Land Administration Policies.
6. Return to Committee with Sketch Plan and Land Disposal approvals.

Growth Area G as identified in the Planning Report – FDA A in General Plan By-law No. 898

7. Initiate community engagement activities to inform future planning of Growth Area G.
8. Undertake feasibility studies to assess land suitability, servicing potential, and development constraints for Growth Area G.

Unanimously Carried

b) Finance Committee of the Whole Meeting #01 – February 19, 2026 Report

Motion #26-46

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Smith

Seconded by: Councillor Sheppard

Council approves the amendments to the Consolidated Fees and Charges By-law No. 813 and to "Schedule A" as presented, with revisions to the aquatic centre membership fees to bring them in line with the current policy, and further, that the amended by-law be presented at the next Council meeting for First Reading.

Unanimously Carried

Motion #26-47

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Smith

Seconded by: Councillor Aglukark

Council approves the 2026 Canada Community-Building Fund - Wastewater System Upgrade Projects as follows:

1. Lift Station #1 and Sewer System Protection Upgrades in the amount of \$3,500,000.
2. Sewer Upgrades to AV205 to AV601 in the amount of \$425,000.

Unanimously Carried

Motion #26-48

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Smith
Seconded by: Councillor Sheppard

Council approves the updated Compassionate Funeral Subsidy Program Policy as presented.

Unanimously Carried

Councillor Sheppard made the following comments:

- Noted the importance of the Funeral Subsidy Program
- Indicated that help was available for funeral costs for residents of Iqaluit

c) Governance and Priorities Committee of the Whole Meeting #02 – March 3, 2026 Report

Motion #26-49

Moved by: Councillor Sheppard
Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Smith

Council amends the 2026 Capital Budget to allow the piped water system in the Ulu Lane area to be completed at the same time as the piped sewer system, in the amount of \$860,000.

Unanimously Carried

Motion #26-50

Moved by: Councillor Sheppard
Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Smith

Council approves the Terms of Reference for the Governance and Priorities Committee of the Whole.

Unanimously Carried

Motion #26-51

Moved by: Councillor Sheppard
Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Smith

Council folds the existing committees of Council into the Governance and Priorities Committee of the Whole.

Unanimously Carried

d) Planning and Development Committee of the Whole Meeting #03 – March 17, 2026 Report

Motion #26-52

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Smith
Seconded by: Councillor Sheppard

Council directs Administration to conduct a risk assessment on running a boat storage facility by the City versus a private sector operator, with the results of the risk assessment then being presented to the Governance and Priorities Committee of the Whole.

Unanimously Carried

Motion #26-53

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Smith
Seconded by: Councillor Sheppard

Council approves:

1. Development Permit Application DP 25-041 for Lot 609, Plan 1571 to change the use of 117-A Nipisa Street to include a home-based business (daycare centre).
2. Variance to permit a daycare centre in a stacked row dwelling, despite Section 5.2 of Zoning By-law No. 899.

Unanimously Carried

Motion #26-54

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Smith
Seconded by: Councillor Sheppard

Council approves:

1. Development Permit and Variance Application DP 25-049 for Lot 461, Plan 876 to permit the addition of gravel fill and the construction of a 3-metre retaining wall.
2. Variance to permit an accessory structure 0.3 metres from the rear and interior side lot line, despite Section 4.1 of Zoning By-law No. 899.

Unanimously Carried

Motion #26-55

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Smith
Seconded by: Councillor Sheppard

Council approves Survey Sketch Application SK 26-003 for Lot 394, Plan 768 to establish an access easement in favour of the City for the Pump Station #1 drive aisle.

Unanimously Carried

11. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) **Inuit Heritage Trust (IHT) – Archaeology Permit Application – Kaylee Baxter, Nunavut Nukkiksautitut Corporation (NNC)**

Motion #26-56

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Smith
Seconded by: Councillor Aglukark

Inuit Heritage Trust – Application: “Archaeology Investigations would Survey Three Potential Routes for an Access Road that will Connect the Iqaluit Substation to the Reservoir”, proposed to take place between June and September 30, 2026 over the course of 45 days, Kaylee Baxter, Campfire Archaeology and Heritage Ltd., on behalf of Nunavut Nukkiksautitut Corporation (NNC).

Unanimously Carried

- b) **Inuit Heritage Trust (IHT) – Archaeology Permit Application – Katelyn O’Keefe, Government of Nunavut Department of Transportation and Infrastructure**

Motion #26-57

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Smith
Seconded by: Councillor Sheppard

Inuit Heritage Trust – Application: “Archaeological Impact Assessment in Relation to the Kivalliq-Baffin Connector Project”, proposed to take place between June and September 30, 2026, Katelyn O’Keefe, Dynamic Ocean Consulting Ltd., on behalf of the Government of Nunavut Department of Transportation and Infrastructure.

Unanimously Carried

c) Inuit Heritage Trust (IHT) – Archaeology Permit Application – Jennifer Tischer, Stantec Consulting, on behalf of Defence Construction Canada

Motion #26-58

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Smith
Seconded by: Councillor Aglukark

Inuit Heritage Trust – Application: “Archaeological Impact Assessment in Relation to Potential Upgrades to the Forward Operating Location (FOL) on Lands around the Iqaluit Airport”, proposed to take place over the course of four days, between June 16 and August 28, 2026, Jennifer Tischer, Stantec Consulting, on behalf of Defence Construction Canada.

Unanimously Carried

d) Inuit Heritage Trust (IHT) – Archaeology Permit Application – Margaret Bertulli, Silversea Cruises (Nuuk to Iqaluit)

Motion #26-59

Moved by: Councillor Sheppard
Seconded by: Councillor Aglukark

Inuit Heritage Trust – Application: The ship “Silver Wind” is proposed to depart on August 2, 2026 from Nuuk and arrive on August 16, 2026 in Iqaluit, Margaret Bertulli, Silversea Cruises.

Unanimously Carried

e) Inuit Heritage Trust (IHT) – Archaeology Permit Application – Margaret Bertulli, Silversea Cruises (Iqaluit to Nuuk)

Motion #26-60

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Smith
Seconded by: Councillor Aglukark

Inuit Heritage Trust – Application: The ship “Silver Wind” is proposed to depart on August 16, 2026 from Iqaluit and arrive on August 30, 2026 in Nuuk, Margaret Bertulli, Silversea Cruises.

Unanimously Carried

- f) Nunavut Research Institute (NRI) – Scientific Research License
Application – Amy Caughey, School of Public Health, University of
Alberta**

Motion #26-61

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Smith
Seconded by: Councillor Aglukark

Nunavut Research Institute – Application: “Community Perspectives on Tuberculosis Screening and Care in Nunavut”, proposed to take place from June 3, 2026 to December 31, 2026, Amy Caughey, School of Public Health, University of Alberta.

Unanimously Carried

- g) Nunavut Research Institute (NRI) – Scientific Research License
Application – Ysaline Bacon, Centre Eau Terre Environnement Institut
national de la recherche scientifique**

Motion #26-62

Moved by: Councillor Sheppard
Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Smith

Nunavut Research Institute – Application: “Evaluation of the Geothermal Potential of Iqaluit”, proposed to take place from July 23, 2026 to August 8, 2026, Ysaline Bacon, Centre Eau Terre Environnement Institut national de la recherche scientifique, Quebec.

Unanimously Carried

- h) Qajuqturvik Community Food Centre (QCFC) – Request for Support
Letter – Funding Application to Nunalingni Piruqpaalirut Fund**

Motion #26-63

Moved by: Councillor Sheppard
Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Smith

Council provides a letter of support to Qajuqturvik Community Food Centre (QCFC) for the Funding Application to Nunalingni Piruqpaalirut Fund to embark on a Feasibility Study for Building Staff Housing for Qajuqturvik Community Food Centre.

Unanimously Carried

i) Iqaluit Hockey League (IHL) – Request for Support Letter – Beer Garden at Brian Twerdin Toonik Tyme Memorial Hockey Tournament

Motion #26-64

Moved by: Councillor Sheppard
Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Smith

Council provides a letter of support to the Iqaluit Hockey League for the beer garden for the Annual Brian Twerdin Toonik Tyme Memorial Hockey Tournament to be held from April 16 to 19, 2026.

**For – Nattaq
Opposed – Smith, Aglukark, Sheppard
Defeated**

Deputy Mayor Smith made the following comments:

- Beer garden has been held yearly
- Feedback has been received from the community
- Recreation Department has experienced some concerns
- Facility is not set up to support a beer garden
 - Does not provide separation
 - Only one bathroom

j) Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK) – Consideration for Regional Knowledge Centre for Inuit Nunangat University

Brianna Longworth, City Clerk, clarified that a letter was received from Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami advising that Arviat was selected as the main campus location for Inuit Nunangat University.

Motion #26-65

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Smith
Seconded by: Councillor Sheppard

Council supports sending a letter of congratulations to Arviat for being the successful proponent of the main campus location of Inuit Nunangat University.

Unanimously Carried

12. IN CAMERA SESSION

(1) as per Section 22 (2) (a) *Cities, Towns and Villages Act* and By-law No. 526
Section 67

- a) Legal
- b) Personnel

Motion #26-66

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Smith
Seconded by: Councillor Nattaq

Council goes In Camera at 7:04 p.m.

Unanimously Carried

Motion #26-67

Moved by: Councillor Sheppard
Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Smith

Council returns to Regular Session at 7:20 p.m.

Unanimously Carried

Councillor Sheppard declared a conflict of interest and left the Council Chambers.

Motion #26-68

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Smith
Seconded by: Councillor Aglukark

Council awards 5581 Nunavut Limited a contract for the 2026 Apex Supplemental Pumping Project in the amount of \$599,200 plus GST.

Unanimously Carried

Following the vote, Councillor Sheppard returned to the meeting.


13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion #26-69


Moved by: Councillor Sheppard
Seconded by: Councillor Aglukark

Council adjourns at 7:23 p.m. **Unanimously Carried**





Mayor Solomon Awa
Chair



Brianna Longworth
City Clerk

Approved by City Council on the 14th day of April 2026.