

**CITY OF IQALUIT
GOVERNANCE AND PRIORITIES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING #02
MARCH 3, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

PRESENT FROM COUNCIL

Councillor Romeyn Stevenson, Chair
Mayor Solomon Awa
Deputy Mayor Kimberly Smith – via teleconference
Councillor Amber Aglukark
Councillor Methusalah Kunuk
Councillor Simon Nattaq
Councillor Kyle Sheppard

ABSENT

Alternate Deputy Mayor Harry Flaherty
Councillor Samuel Tilley

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
Reiko Kobayashi, Acting Director of Planning and Development /City Planner
Geoffrey Byrne, Communications and Customer Service Manager

Councillor Stevenson opened the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion GP 26-07

Moved by: Councillor Sheppard
Seconded by: Councillor Aglukark

Adoption of agenda as presented.

Unanimously Carried

1. MINUTES

- a) **Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting #01 Minutes dated
February 3, 2026**

Motion GP 26-08

Moved by: Councillor Sheppard
Seconded by: Mayor Awa

Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting #01 Minutes dated February 3, 2026.

Unanimously Carried

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor Stevenson declared a conflict of interest regarding:

5. **NEW BUSINESS**
a) Request for Decision – 2026 Capital Budget Amendment Proposal – Water Infrastructure on Ulu Lane

3. DELEGATIONS

None

4. DEFERRED BUSINESS AND TABLED ITEMS

None

5. NEW BUSINESS

- a) **Request for Decision – 2026 Capital Budget Amendment Proposal – Water Infrastructure on Ulu Lane**

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

Councillor Sheppard took the chair.

Reiko Kobayashi, Acting Director of Planning and Development, presented a Request for Decision for the 2026 Capital Budget Amendment Proposal for Water Infrastructure on Ulu Lane. Ms. Kobayashi explained that the Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA) would be installing a sewer line on Ulu Lane and staff were requesting that the City contribute funds for QIA to install a municipal water line at the same time.

Councillor Nattaq asked the following question, which Councillor Sheppard answered:

- Are there any future plans for expansion?
 - There are plans to expand lots for trucked services and new neighbourhoods that will have piped services.

Motion GP 26-09

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Smith
Seconded by: Councillor Aglukark

Committee recommends that Council amend 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

Following the vote, Councillor Stevenson returned to the meeting and resumed the chair.

b) Discussion Item – Procedures By-law Project – First Iteration of Proposed Updates

Brianna Longworth, City Clerk, presented a Discussion Item regarding the Procedures By-law Project - First Iteration of Proposed Updates. The following are the highlights of her presentation:

- Committee discussed updating the current Council Procedures By-law No. 526 at an earlier meeting
 - Amended in 2002 regarding timing of Council meetings and agenda items
 - Amended in 2015 regarding the Terms of Reference for a number of committees
- Working on the project with a Co-op student from the University of Waterloo
 - Research was carried out from other municipalities
 - Collaborated with Clerk's office to identify areas that could be revised or added
- Summary of some areas to consider for changes and additions
 - Best practices were considered when making the suggested changes
- Requesting feedback from the committee
- Working toward a draft to present to the committee

Councillor Sheppard asked the following question, which Ms. Longworth answered:

- Is it possible to include virtual attendance during an In Camera session so that it is in place in the by-law if or when the *Cities, Towns and Villages Act* is amended to allow virtual attendance?
 - Has been considered, but requires legal opinion

Councillor Stevenson made the following comment:

- Agreed with the suggestion to include reference to virtual attendance

Deputy Mayor Smith made the following comments:

- Also agrees with the remarks in relation to virtual attendance during In Camera session
- By-law does not establish how a committee chair is chosen
 - Having a deputy mayor as a chair may not be an effective use of their role
- Include a mechanism for leadership review
 - Committee chairs, deputy mayor and alternate deputy mayor to determine if the appointments are effective

Councillor Stevenson made the following comment, to which Deputy Mayor Smith replied:

- Suggestion of having a leadership review at mid-term would allow a councillor the opportunity to continue in the position or appoint another councillor
 - Would not require input from staff
 - Councillors would have the opportunity to determine if the appointments should continue or if new appointments would be beneficial

Councillor Sheppard made the following comments, to which Steve England, Chief Administrative Officer, replied:

- Value in having a mid-term review
- May not be necessary to have in the Council Procedures By-law
 - An agenda item later in the meeting relates to committee structure and could include a rotating chair

Councillor Stevenson made the following comments:

- Does not feel a review of effectiveness of leading a committee is a good idea
- Having a rotating chair provides opportunity for all councillors

Councillor Nattaq asked the following question, which Councillor Stevenson answered:

- What would the process be regarding committee participation?
 - Not aware if committee participation is a mandatory role of a councillor
 - Participation at a Council meeting has always been considered as mandatory
 - *Cities, Towns and Villages Act* may make reference to councillor participation at committee meetings

Councillor Aglukark made the following comments:

- Having a mid-term review allows the opportunity to change the chair to a councillor that may be more suitable
- Discussion during a later agenda item may provide more insight regarding committee chair

Councillor Stevenson asked the following question and made the following comment, to which Ms. Longworth replied:

- Will the by-law include the Council agenda outline?

- In reviewing other municipalities' by-laws, the Order of Business is included
- Some municipalities have the Order of Business in a schedule, which provides flexibility and easier to amend
- City is rigid in the process and does not allow for a "may" situation

Mayor Awa made the following comments and asked the following question, to which Ms. Longworth replied:

- Spoke about meeting frequency, which sometimes is affected by Council and staff's vacation
 - Staff did consider a modified schedule and last year during June, July and August, only one regular Council meeting was held during each of those months
 - General practice is that there is only one Council meeting during December and January
 - Suggestion to include a formal summer and holiday schedule
- Agenda packages are provided 48 hours in advance of a meeting. If a holiday falls on a Monday prior to a meeting, should consideration be given to moving the meeting to Wednesday to meet the 48-hour requirement?
 - Councillor Stevenson commented that having consistent Tuesday meetings is very helpful
 - By-law does address that if a scheduled Tuesday meeting falls on a holiday, the meeting is moved to Wednesday
 - The matter of providing agenda packages 48 hours in advance when a holiday falls on a Monday prior to a Tuesday meeting has been discussed.
 - Staff can consider adjusting the time when agenda packages are issued when a Monday holiday falls prior to a meeting
 - There are efforts made when creating the Council meeting calendar to avoid scheduling committee meetings and workshops immediately preceding or immediately following a holiday.
 - Council meetings are scheduled on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month, as outlined in the By-law, but consideration can be given if a holiday falls on a Monday

Councillor Stevenson made the following comment:

- Was not in favour of changing Council meetings from Tuesdays

Councillor Aglukark asked the following question, which Mayor Awa answered:

- Clarified if agenda packages could be sent earlier if a holiday falls on a Monday before a Tuesday meeting
 - Asked if the meeting could be moved to Wednesday to allow councillors time to review the agenda package

Councillor Nattaq made the following comments:

- Agenda packages are received in advance of meetings

- In the past, Council meetings were changed if all councillors agreed and perhaps this process could be used.

Deputy Mayor Smith made the following comments:

- In favour of keeping consistent Tuesday meetings when possible
- Having consistent Tuesday meetings makes it easier for planning and personal scheduling
- Consistent Tuesday meetings make it easier for residents to know the schedule

Councillor Sheppard made the following comments, to which Steve England, Chief Administrative Officer, replied:

- There are potentially a couple of Council meetings a year that are affected by Monday holidays – May long weekend and possibly Nunavut Day.
- When a holiday falls on a Monday, many people spend their weekends differently and are not always at home.
- Monday holidays prior to a Tuesday meeting does not provide sufficient time to review an agenda package that is received late Friday afternoon
- Consideration should be given when a Monday holiday is followed by a Tuesday meeting and perhaps the agenda packages can be issued on Thursday, which will provide additional time to review the material
 - By-law can be amended to provide flexibility
 - Opportunity to change meeting dates when the Council Meeting Calendar is presented

c) Update to Committee Terms of Reference (TOR) on Becoming a Committee of the Whole

Steve England, Chief Administrative Officer, presented an Update to the Committee Terms of Reference (TOR) on Becoming a Committee of the Whole.

Councillor Sheppard asked the following questions, which Mr. England answered:

- If the next agenda item is approved, will it require substantial revisions to the Terms of Reference as currently proposed?
 - Section 2 Duties of Committee - already includes receiving operational reports from City departments and delegations from the public and community organizations
- Will substantially changing the structure of the Governance and Priorities Committee of the Whole to include stand-alone committees and a rotating chair affect the Terms of Reference or the Council Procedures By-law?
 - Terms of Reference would be amended to reflect the changes

Councillor Stevenson asked the following question, which Mr. England answered:

- Will the Committee Terms of Reference be amended to institute a rotating chair?
 - Legal opinion would have to be obtained to determine what by-law and/or Terms of Reference would have to be amended

- Both documents can be amended at a later date, if Council agrees to a rotating chair

Motion GP 26-10

Moved by: Councillor Sheppard

Seconded by: Councillor Aglukark

Committee recommends that Council approve the Terms of Reference for the Governance and Priorities Committee of the Whole.

Unanimously Carried

d) Discussion Item – Review of Committees and Proposed Governance and Priorities Committee of the Whole Agenda Structure

Steve England, Chief Administrative Officer, presented a Discussion Item regarding the Review of Committees and Proposed Governance and Priorities Committee of the Whole Agenda Structure.

Mr. England made the following comments:

- Committees do not meet regularly enough to be effective, ensure good public engagement, and allow Council to deal with issues on a timely manner
- Proposed a model for the Governance and Priorities Committee of the Whole
- Proposed model agendas
- Second and fourth Tuesday – Regular Council Meetings
- First and third Tuesday – Governance and Priorities Committee of the Whole meetings
- Themes within the meetings can change
- Proposed to include an agenda item for Public Engagement
 - Residents/community groups/organizations
 - Issue a Public Service Announcement (PSA) to encourage people to present items
 - Report on public engagement activities
 - Strategic approach for public engagement of projects
 - May require budget allocation to hire a contractor who is dedicated to public engagement
- New Business to include Planning and Development business
 - Allows for timely requests
- Department Updates
 - A detailed report will be presented from each department every three months.
- Open Discussion Items
 - Topics that councillors may want to discuss and provide directions to staff to research
- In Camera Items

- Committees would flow through the Governance and Priorities Committee of the Whole and Council meeting structure
- Currently, some committees only meet twice a year, however, with the proposed changes, the updates will come before the Governance and Priorities Committee of the Whole in a timelier fashion.

Councillor Sheppard made the following comments:

- Most effective Governance and Priorities Committee of the Whole is to have all the committees under the same umbrella
- Provides opportunity for a diverse range of subjects to be dealt with prior to going to Council
- Provides the opportunity to present new developments twice a month instead of monthly, which will streamline processes and make things more efficient
- Opportunity to have targeted public committees that residents can participate in on a project basis
- Governance and Priorities Committee of the Whole provides the opportunity for the residents to present their concerns on a regular basis
- Important to have a councillor assigned to a particular portfolio
 - Portfolio based system
 - Councillor would be the contact and responsible for the portfolio
- Structure for accountability for certain topics for certain councillors

Mr. England made the following comments:

- Some councillors have expertise for specific items
- Staff will consider the comments and provide input

Mayor Awa made the following comments:

- Agreed some committees do not meet regularly
- Planning and Development Committee of the Whole meets on a regular basis
- Having all committees under the Governance and Priorities Committee of the Whole allows any item to be brought forward

Councillor Stevenson made the following comments and asked the following question, which Mr. England answered:

- Expressed concern that items previously presented at the committee level may no longer be presented
- Important to have a structured agenda so that things are not forgotten, like the Cemetery Committee
- Will Council Workshops continue, as it enables Council to discuss items when they are not in public?
 - There is value in Council Workshops, and they will remain but could be less frequent, as regular department updates will be provided at the Governance and Priorities Committee of the Whole meeting.
 - Recommend holding a Council Workshop once per quarter

Mayor Awa asked the following question, which Mr. England answered:

- What will the new structure look like under the Governance and Priorities Committee of the Whole?
 - All committees will come under the Governance and Priorities Committee of the Whole
 - Second and fourth Tuesday – Council meeting
 - First and third Tuesday – Governance and Priorities Committee of the Whole meeting
 - Once per quarter – Council Workshop
 - Better for planning and be more effective for conducting business
 - All other committees will be dissolved

Councillor Sheppard made the following comment:

- Requested that no meetings be scheduled on the fifth Tuesday of any month

Councillor Nattaq made the following comments:

- This month, meetings are scheduled for five Tuesdays.
- The proposed Governance and Priorities Committee of the Whole is a new way of conducting business.

Councillor Stevenson made the following comments:

- Council Meeting Schedule will be developed and approved by Council
- Holidays and fifth Tuesdays will be taken into consideration

Mayor Awa asked the following question, which Councillor Stevenson answered:

- Will the Board of Appeal and Development Appeal Board fall under the Governance and Priorities Committee of the Whole?
 - Those are both separate structures governed by separate acts and will continue to be held independently of Council.

Councillor Sheppard asked the following question, which Mr. England answered:

- What is the next step?
 - Staff have been working on the proposed Governance and Priorities Committee of the Whole structure for one and a half years and feel that the proposal is ready for a motion
 - Staff is open to any change that provides specific direction

Councillor Stevenson made the following comment:

- Council Meeting Calendar will be presented separately for approval and will consider holidays

Motion GP 26-11

Moved by: Councillor Sheppard

Seconded by: Councillor Aglukark

Committee recommends that Council fold the existing committees of Council into the Governance and Priorities Committee of the Whole.

Unanimously Carried

Deputy Mayor Smith made the following comments:

- Important to determine how the rotational chair or chairing of different parts will work
- Requested that this matter be presented at the next meeting

6. **IN CAMERA SESSION**

() as per Section 22 (2) (a) CTV Act and By-law No. 526 Section 67

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion GP 26-12

Moved by: Councillor Aglukark

Seconded by: Councillor Sheppard

Committee adjourns at 7:14 p.m.

Unanimously Carried





Councillor Romeyn Stevenson
Chair



Brianna Longworth
City Clerk

Approved by City Council on the 24th day of March 2026.