

Report to Council

Report Title:	2026 Budget and Council Meetings Schedule		
Prepared By:	Sarah Johnson, Deputy Clerk and Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk)		
Department:	Clerk's		
Date:	August 12, 2025		
Report Number:	CLK2025-10	File Number:	C11CL, C03
Attachments:	Draft 2026 Council Meeting Calendar		

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number CLK2025-10 – 2026 Budget and Council Meetings Schedule, prepared by Sarah Johnson, Deputy Clerk and Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk) and in doing so approves holding a Budget Meeting on Wednesday, December 17, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. at the Bruce County Council Chambers and electronically through Zoom/eScribe;

And further approves the following regular Council Meeting dates for 2026 to be held at 7:00 p.m. at the Bruce County Council Chambers and electronically through Zoom/eScribe, unless otherwise noted in accordance with the Municipality of Brockton's Procedural By-Law:

Monday, January 12, 2026 (Budget Meeting) at 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Tuesday, January 27, 2026 (Budget Meeting at 6:00 p.m. if required) and Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, February 10, 2026

Tuesday, February 24, 2026

Tuesday, March 10, 2026

Tuesday, March 24, 2026

Tuesday, April 14, 2026

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Tuesday, May 12, 2026

Tuesday, May 26, 2026

Tuesday, June 9, 2026

Tuesday, June 23, 2026 (Cargill Community Centre)

Tuesday, July 14, 2026

Tuesday, August 11, 2026

Tuesday, August 25, 2026

Tuesday, September 8, 2026

Tuesday, September 29, 2026

Tuesday, October 13, 2026

Tuesday, November 3, 2026

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 (Inaugural Council Meeting for 2026-2030 Council Members)

Tuesday, December 8, 2026

Wednesday, December 16, 2026 (2027 Budget Meeting at 10:00 a.m.)

And that these dates be circulated to all Council members and posted on the Municipal website.

Report:

Background:

Changes to Budget Process Due to Strong Mayor Powers

As of May 1, 2025, the Province of Ontario expanded Strong Mayor Powers for several municipalities in Ontario, including the Municipality of Brockton. Under the Strong Mayor Powers authority, the Mayor is responsible for preparing and proposing a budget to Council by February 1st of each year.

After the budget is proposed, Council has 30 days to pass resolutions to amend the Mayor's budget. If there are no amendments passed within the 30-day period, the Mayor's budget is adopted.

If Council passes resolutions to amend the Mayor's budget, the Mayor can decide to veto Council's resolutions within 10 days of the expiry of the time period for Council to pass a resolution.

If the Mayor doesn't veto any amendments within the 10-day period, the budget as amended by Council resolutions is deemed adopted.

If the Mayor vetoes Council's resolutions to amend the Mayor's budget, Council can vote to override the veto within 15 days of the expiry of the time period for the Mayor to veto a resolution. In the vote to override a veto, two-thirds (2/3) of the members of Council must vote to override the veto or the vote will fail. If Council overrides the Mayor's veto, the amendment passed by Council will continue to have effect. If Council does not vote to override the Mayor's veto, then the budget is deemed adopted by the Municipality after the expiry of the time period for Council to override the Mayor's veto.

As a result of this change, staff have proposed a schedule for the 2026 Budget Meetings, including the time limits for presenting the Mayor's budget, meetings to consider the budget, and deadlines for vetoes, and final adoption of the budget.

2026 Council Meeting Schedule

In accordance with the Municipality of Brockton's Procedural By-Law, staff have compiled a draft calendar of the 2026 Council Meeting dates.

Analysis:

2026 Budget Meetings

Due to the Strong Mayor Powers, the process for the 2026 Budget has changed. Staff have prepared a draft schedule for consideration, which includes the required timelines for budget presentation, consideration of amendments, vetoing, and final adoption of the budget.

In discussions with Mayor Peabody, staff have proposed that the Mayor's Budget will be provided to Council for review on Monday, December 15, 2025, with a 2026 Budget Meeting being held on Wednesday, December 17, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. where the Mayor's Budget will be presented.

Following the presentation of the Mayor's Budget (which must occur by February 1st), Council have a period of 30 days to pass resolutions to amend the Mayor's Budget, and the Mayor then has 10 days to veto Council's amendment resolutions. Council can also override the Mayor's veto within 15 days.

To ensure there is enough time to consider any amendments, vetoes, and pass the final budget, staff have proposed the following Budget Meeting dates for 2026:

- Monday, January 12, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, January 27, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. (If required) prior to the 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting

If the 2026 Budget is passed prior to any of these dates, the Budget Meetings may be cancelled.

For the 2027 Budget, staff are proposing that the Mayor's Budget be provided to Council for review on Monday, December 14, 2026, with a 2027 Budget Meeting being held on Wednesday, December 16, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

Staff propose that all budget meetings continue to be held in hybrid format, in-person at the Bruce County Council Chambers, and electronically through Zoom Video Conferencing and eSCRIBE livestreaming.

2026 Council Meetings

The meetings have been scheduled for the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Bruce County Council Chambers, unless specified. A draft schedule has been attached to this report for review.

As per Council's direction to remove off-site meetings at the Elmwood Community Centre, only one date has been determined for the off-site meeting at the Cargill Community Centre (June 23, 2026) to accommodate Brockton's rural residents.

Staff propose that the Council Meetings continue to be held in hybrid format, in-person at the Bruce County Council Chambers, and electronically through Zoom Video Conferencing and eSCRIBE livestreaming.

Due to the 2026 International Plowing Match & Rural Expo starting on September 22nd, the second September Council Meeting has been rescheduled to Tuesday, September 29, 2026.

Due to the 2026 Municipal and School Board Election, only one Council Meeting has been scheduled on Tuesday, October 13, 2026 as the Election/Voting Day will be held on Monday, October 26, 2026, and staff plan to hold advanced voting the week of October 19-23, 2026.

The 2022-2026 Council Term will end on Saturday, November 14, 2026 with the new 2026-2030 Council Term beginning on Sunday, November 15, 2026. Staff have rescheduled the first Council Meeting in November to Tuesday, November 3, 2026 which will be the final meeting of the 2022-2026 Council Members. The Inaugural Council Meeting for the new 2026-2030 Council Members has been scheduled for Tuesday, November 17, 2026.

Only one meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, December 8, 2026, with the 2027 Mayor's Budget to be tentatively presented to Council on December 14, 2026 and a 2027 Budget Meeting to occur on Wednesday, December 16, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. (these dates may be subject to change depending on the Mayor's preferences for the next year).

Staff recommend that Council approve the proposed Budget Meetings and 2026 Council Meeting Schedule.

Strategic Action Plan Checklist:

What aspect of the Brockton Strategic Action Plan does the content/recommendations in this report help advance?

- Recommendations help move the Municipality closer to its Vision Yes
- Recommendations contribute to achieving Heritage, Culture, and Community N/A
- Recommendations contribute to achieving Quality of Life N/A
- Recommendations contribute to achieving Land Use Planning and the Natural Environment N/A
- Recommendations contribute to achieving Economic Development N/A
- Recommendations contribute to achieving Municipal Governance Yes

Financial Impacts/Source of Funding:

- Do the recommendations represent a sound financial investment from a sustainability perspective?
N/A

Reviewed By:



Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer

Respectfully Submitted by:



Sarah Johnson, Deputy Clerk



Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk)

Reviewed By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sonya W.' with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer