

Minutes of a Town of Pictou Public Meeting convened 6:30 pm in Council Chambers on the above date. Mayor James Ryan presiding.

**PRESENT:** Deputy Mayor Dan Currie; Councillors Eric Daley, Malcolm Houser and Nadine LeBlanc

**ALSO PRESENT:** Dan Troke, CAO  
Nicole Battist, Deputy Clerk/Minute Recorder

The Mayor welcomed everyone. He reviewed the purpose of the meeting and provided an overview of the history that led to today's meeting. He also clarified the format for public input at this evening's meeting.

**Brenda Chisholm**

- Hears squealing tires at her house
- Has problems with guests finding her B&B
- In the beginning of the changes, traffic did not appear less
- Speeding is an issue on other streets in town, so why single out this street?
- Seniors are confused with roundabout; can avoid it with a two-way street
- Newly paved streets increase speeds
- Question: who is the Local Traffic Authority? RCMP

**Kevin Pettipas**

- Suggestion: add white lines for a path on the road for walkers
- Question: what was the cost in last 18 months on this issue?

**Kenny Paquet**

- Question: is the issue related to traffic load or speeding?
- The RCMP need to enforce laws pertaining to the issues
- Question: can an off-ramp be installed at the intersection of Hwy 106 and Halliburton Road?
- Suggestion: install digital speed signs

**Pedro Barreto**

- He originally complained about the speed, not traffic counts
- Partners Construction proposal/offer to install other options still stands

**Francis Bonaparte**

- The street has no sidewalks; used as a through-way now because more businesses on either end
- A photo from 40 years ago shows a yellow speed sign of 30 km; currently speed is 50 km
- Cars park on both sides of the street; hard for pedestrians to maneuver
- Has a safety concern
- Installing speedbumps is an issue for scooters; some cars might slow down, some might speed through
- Deputy Mayor Currie asked a question about street access when Mr. Bonaparte first moved to the neighbourhood – barriers blocked off the entire street to the Blink Bonnie Plaza
- Comment by Councillor LeBlanc: no accidents ever reported on this street according to the RCMP

Sarah Bronson

- Current access makes for less snowbanks and less traffic
- Safer to walk and cross street
- Scooters and wheel-chair users like it more

Lynn Plexman

- Impacts Haliburton residents living to the west of Veterans Drive the most
- Financial impact as it is 0.4 km more to drive around
- Neighbourhoods change overtime with growth; residents have an alternative to move if they do not like the changes

Fred MacCarthy

- Will not go near roundabout unless he must
- Lots of children on streets in the Heights; why is this street being targeted?
- Drivers need a second way into Town

James Caldwell

- Concerned about child safety and speed
- A three-way stop can slow traffic – drivers travel 500 metres then stop versus 1.26 kms
- The Mayor questioned whether he was concerned about new measures increasing traffic on Dunromin Terrace; Mr. Caldwell is not

Rika MacDonald

- To encourage progress, residents need to be able to easily access businesses from downtown
- Make the street all one way

Irene Limburg

- There is more wear on cars and drivers must put more gas in cars because they have to drive around
- Parking near intersection is a problem
- Speed limit is an issue
- Winter snow removal is now less of a priority
- Cost CHAD bus more to drive around

Lisa Smith

- Appreciate opportunity for public input
- When she bought her house nine years ago, it was purchased in part based on road access
- Union Street traffic is heavy and lots of children live on that street; why is nothing being done there?
- Corner of Haliburton Rd/High Street/West River Road now has higher volume
- Suggestion: install stop signs or more speed signs
- Speeding is a concern on many streets; why is this one targeted?

Bruce MacDonald

- The Town should try to have the speed limit changed; approach the Provincial government
- Get RCMP to lay more valid charges for speeding on all streets

Sayer Poirier

- Used to live on Veterans Drive
- Not an issue 25 years ago
- Issue with ambulance access to seniors homes

Margie Barreto

- Cars still drive through barricade
- People have a problem because they do not want to take scenic route
- Question on Council's authority to lower the speed: currently the Town cannot under the Motor Vehicle Act; the Mayor lobbied for this authority when the Act was reviewed recently, but it does not appear this will happen

James Doiron

- Parents have a responsibility to stop their children from playing in the streets
- New route is an inconvenience
- Put the street back to the way it was a year ago and have RCMP enforce the law

Joyce Talbot

- Inconvenience
- Barrier is a safety issue at narrowest part of street
- Pot holes along sides of street
- Turning lane needed at intersection of Haliburton/High/West River
- Feels a minority of people have pressured Council into making this decision
- Barrier is an eye-sore

The Mayor thanked all those present for attending and for providing input. Barring any unforeseen circumstances, the plan will be to take the matter to Council for review at the November meeting. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED

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James J. Ryan  
Mayor

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Dan Troke  
CAO