

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

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

ALSO PRESENT: Dan Troke, CAO
Jonathan Daye, Town Accountant
Kyle Slaunwhite, Public Works
Paul Janes, Fire Chief
Cpl Natasha Farrell, RCMP
Michelle Young, Recreation
Nicole Battist, Deputy Clerk/Minute Recorder

1. PRIVATE SESSION – PERSONNEL MATTER (6:00 pm)

2. PUBLIC SESSION – CALL TO ORDER (6:30)

Mayor Ryan called the meeting to order.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED: E Daley
SECONDED: DM Houser

COC-03-02-20-2378

MOTION: To approve the agenda as presented.
MOTION CARRIED

4. PROCLAMATIONS

5. PRESENTATIONS

a. Hector Arena Commission

Ron Clarke spoke on behalf of the Commission asking the Town to consider matching the County’s contribution of \$15,000 on an annual basis.

- Comment by Mayor Ryan that the building is being maintained and cleaned to high standards
- Councillor Currie commented that the Commission is proud of the condition of the rink and commended Mr. Clarke and his team for their efforts
- Comment by Craig Clarke that because this recreation facility is run by an outside organization, Town taxpayers get the benefits of this hub for a small annual grant, compared to having to run the facility as a Town facility

Mayor Ryan indicated it would be considered with the other grants for this year, but that perhaps it could be considered as a recurring grant in future years.

6. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

a. Fire Department

Chief Janes presented his report.

- Question on animal rescue on the ice
- Question on new standard for decontamination of gear

b. RCMP

Cpl Farrell reviewed the RCMP report.

- Bullying Ends Here Presentation at Pictou Academy on March 12 by Tad Milmine; website BullyingEndsHere.ca

c. Administrative

Deputy Clerk Battist was on hand to answer questions related to her report.

- Question on CAP program
- Question on signage

d. Public Works

Superintendent Slaunwhite presented his report.

- Comment that Wellington Street should have drainage issues addressed in the near future
- Question on dry hydrants

e. Recreation & Parks

M Young presented her report.

- Question on accessible changeroom at the pool
- Question on Town Grants Program

f. Variance

Town Accountant Daye reviewed the Variance Report.

- Question on commercial taxes

7. APPOINTMENT COMMITTEES

a. Hector Quay Society; Riverview Home Corporation; Pictou Business and Marketing Society; deCoste Centre and Heritage Advisory Committee – DM Houser

- DM Houser reviewed the written report he had submitted.

b. Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library (PARL) – D Currie

- Received an increase in annual funding from the Province
- Dining Among the Stacks event this Sunday

c. McCulloch House Museum & Genealogy Centre – D Currie

- Sub-committee established to look at historical value of Victory Heights in Pictou County

d. Municipal Alcohol Project (MAP) – D Currie

- February 24 – meeting
- New Health Coordinator hired
- Vaping regulations being reviewed by the Committee

- e. Regional Enterprise Network (REN) – D Currie
 - Upcoming workshop details distributed to Council

- f. Pictou County Sports Heritage Hall of Fame – E Daley
 - Asking all municipalities for a grant
 - Promotion of hall is a priority
 - Twitter account created
 - March 18 AGM
 - Induction Ceremony planned for fall

- g. Construction Engineering Flight (CEF) – E Daley
 - Roof project for Summer Street application approved
 - In-house projects being worked on

- h. Northumberland Fisheries Museum – N LeBlanc
 - The focus at the last meeting was on plans for replacing hatchery equipment

- i. Pictou Recreation and Parks – N LeBlanc
 - Winter Carnival this weekend

- j. Opportunity Shop – N LeBlanc
 - January 23 AGM; officers were appointed

- k. Pictou Lobster Carnival – N LeBlanc
 - Securing entertainment lineup
 - Chase the Ace event will continue
 - Ham and Salad Dinner – April 2

8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

- a. Electronic Voting in the next Municipal Election

MOVED: D Currie
SECONDED: DM Houser

COC-03-02-20-2379

MOTION: To recommend at a special council meeting to appoint the Municipality of Pictou County’s returning officer as the returning officer for the Town of Pictou; and to cost share in the related expenses with the County and other participating municipal units.
MOTION CARRIED

Electronic Voting will be tabled until further financial information is received.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS/REPORTS FROM PRIVATE SESSION

a. Personnel Matter

MOVED: DM Houser
SECONDED: N LeBlanc

COC-03-02-20-2380

MOTION: To recommend at the next Regular Council meeting a salary increase for non-unionized employees of 1.5%, retroactive to April 1, 2019.
MOTION CARRIED

10. NEW BUSINESS

a. Operating Budget 2020-21

Town Accountant Daye presented the proposed 2021 Town Operating Budget to Council. Council deferred approval until next Regular Council meeting.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

- Question on services provided at Lot D & E
- Comment on Fire Department building drainage issues
- Question on RFP for Lot D & E
- Question on policing services
- Question on marketing and communications
- Question on Cost-of-Living increase for employees

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED: N LeBlanc
SECONDED: E Daley

COC-03-02-20-2381

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 8:25 pm.
MOTION CARRIED

APPROVED

James J. Ryan
Mayor

Dan Troke
CAO