

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

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Cam Beaton; Councillors Lynn Vigneault, Bob Naylor and Alta Munroe

ALSO PRESENT: Scott Conrod, CAO
Jim Chisholm, Superintendent
Michelle Young, Recreation Coordinator
Eldon MacDonald, Town Accountant
Josh Penton, RCMP
Paul Janes, Fire Chief
Nicole MacDonald Battist, Deputy Clerk and Minute Recorder

1. **PRIVATE SESSION – CONTRACT, PROPERTY AND MATTERS SUBJECT TO SOLICITOR ADVICE (5:30 pm)**
2. **PUBLIC SESSION – CALL TO ORDER (6:30 pm)**

Mayor Joe Hawes called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOVED: C. Beaton
SECONDED: A. Munroe

COC-11-03-14-1372

MOTION: To approve the agenda as circulated with one addition:
6d. Council Appointment of Deputy Mayor
MOTION CARRIED

4. **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

a. **RCMP**

Constable Penton reported an increase in impaired driver infractions in October; upcoming priority to watch for parking violations along Church Street. A special thank you was expressed to the Traffic Authority for looking into Wellington Street crosswalk issue.

b. **CAO**

CAO Conrod highlighted work completed on inter-municipal planning documents, Building Canada application for the Water Utility and upcoming electoral boundary review.

c. **Fire Department**

P. Janes provided explanation on some budget expenditures.

d. Public Works

J. Chisholm provided detail on the timeline of paving priorities.

e. Recreation & Parks

M. Young reviewed highlights from the past month and upcoming priorities.

f. Variance Report

E. MacDonald reported that the forecast for March is now more favourable to no budget overruns. Major reasons are a decrease in paving projects and a deferral of sewer pump repairs to next year.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

a. Building Canada Fund Application – Water Utility Application

Deadline for applications is December 19.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Draft Town Response to Provincial – Municipal Fiscal Review

The Town Accountant provided a summary of his opinion of the document.

Top Recommendations:

- Comprehensive review after three years of exceeding red flag indicators.
- Rural municipalities will pay the full Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (TIR) cost of local roads; the Province will pay a provincial grant for arterial and collector roads (helps address the fiscal imbalance and fairness between towns and rurals).
- New regulations should have clear and measurable outcomes that are regularly reviewed for efficiency and effectiveness, with sun-setting provisions.

Recommendations with Concerns:

- Basing the NS Power Grant on mill rate times assessment – This approach will only work if the province substantially funds the monies lost from those municipalities who will lose grants under this approach. This is recognized in the report by the request of approximately \$21M in extra funding for grants from the Province.
- Expanding the Provincial Capital Assistance Program (PCAP) – The extra funding is critical for future municipal success, however, criteria for disbursement of these funds should be developed.

b. Joint Meeting of Planning Advisory Committees and Town Councils

To be convened November 25 at 7pm at the Pictou County Wellness Centre

c. Draft Policy – Metered Water Accounts

That staff be instructed to prepare a policy for Council consideration that without limitation contains provisions to:

- provide a credit to affected accounts when discoloration occurs; and
- base the credit on consumption.

MOVED: C. Beaton

COC-11-03-14-1373

SECONDED: L Vigneault

MOTION: That the following serve as the required seven (7) day advance notice to adopt a new Town Policy entitled “Metered Water Accounts”:

MOTION CARRIED.

d. Council Appointment of Deputy Mayor

Mayor Hawes thanked Deputy Mayor Beaton for his efforts and assistance over the past year and for filling in at various times.

MOVED: C. Beaton

COC-11-03-14-1374

SECONDED: L. Vigneault

MOTION: That Council, at the next regular session, appoint Councillor Munroe as Deputy Mayor.

MOTION CARRIED.

e. Signing Authority

MOVED: L. Vigneault

COC-11-03-14-1375

SECONDED: B. Naylor

MOTION: That Council, at their next regular session, approve that signing authority be changed from Councillor Cam Beaton to Deputy Mayor Alta Munroe.

MOTION CARRIED.

7. CORRESPONDENCEa. Gary Cornish

A letter of resignation was received from Gary Cornish. Mr. Cornish served on the Police Advisory Board for the past five years. He also served as the ministerial representative and asked that the Town inform the Minister of Justice of his resignation from that appointment. Mayor Hawes thanked Mr. Cornish for his years of service.

b. Provincial Health Authority

Information on the new Provincial Health Authority Executive Structure was distributed for information purposes.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

A citizen indicated he busted a tire on Veterans Drive and wondered when repairs were planned; question about the status of the roundabout

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED: L. Vigneault

COC-11-03-14-1376

SECONDED: B. Naylor

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting.
MOTION CARRIED

APPROVED

Joseph F. Hawes
Mayor

Scott W. Conrod
CAO