

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

PRESENT: Councillors Cam Beaton, Lynn Vigneault and Bob Naylor

ALSO PRESENT: Scott Conrod, CAO
Michelle Young, Recreation Coordinator
Eldon MacDonald, Town Accountant
Jim Chisholm, Public Works
Blake Sarson, Fire Department
Nicole MacDonald Battist, Deputy Clerk/Minute Recorder

REGRETS: Mayor Joe Hawes
RCMP Department

1. PRIVATE SESSION – CONTRACT, PROPERTY AND MATTERS SUBJECT TO SOLICITOR ADVICE (5:30 pm)

2. PUBLIC SESSION – CALL TO ORDER

Deputy Mayor Munroe called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED: C. Beaton
SECONDED: B. Naylor

COC-04-07-15-1463

MOTION: To approve the agenda with one addition:
6c Hector Arena Commission
MOTION CARRIED

4. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

a. RCMP

The monthly report was circulated at the meeting. No one was available from the RCMP as they were called to an emergency.

b. CAO

A verbal report was given by Scott Conrod. Following are highlights of work completed over the past month:

- Funding has been received from ACOA to complete a feasibility study on the viability of adding onto the deCoste Centre to house the Pictou Library (topics to be studied include facility design, staff, programming and related costs)
- The intent of the Roundabout Project is go to tender in April
- An accountant has now been hired for the PCSSA

- MOU on Municipal Reform – A public meeting was held at the Odd Fellows Home last week; an RFP will soon be awarded to complete an independent report related to the sizing and costs associated with administration and Council; prepared information for Pictou’s operational profile related to operations and water utility; sold two of 15 properties at the March Tax Sale (the next Tax Sale is May 20, 2015 at 2:00 pm).

Question on status of regional planning documents approval – PAC is scheduled for April 16, 2015; a Public Hearing will be held toward the end of the month

c. Fire Department

The report was provided in Council’s package. Blake Sarson attended the meeting on behalf of Paul Janes.

Question on the Fire Department assisting with removing snow around fire hydrants – Fire Department members have been completing this work after Monday night training.

d. Public Works

The report was circulated during the meeting.

Question on plan to repair potholes and priorities – Public Works employees started cold patching last week but the pavement needs to be dry for the asphalt to seal.

e. Recreation & Parks

Michelle Young reviewed highlights from the past month.

- Pool – planning for summer shutdown and related capital work
- Looking at applying for an accessibility grant for parks
- Sharon Cheverie attended the Provincial Volunteer Banquet in Halifax today as the Representative Volunteer for Pictou
- Working on final plans for local volunteer reception
- Cruise – Two committee members went to Miami for the annual industry trade show; busy preparing for first cruise visit in April
- A Pictou County contingent will have a booth in the Saltscapes Expo
- Deadline for summer student applications is April 24th

Question on private businesses setting up booths during the cruise visits.

The Mayor will send a letter to Gerard MacIsaac congratulating him on his retirement and to thank him for his contributions to our community.

f. Variance Report

Eldon MacDonald reported that:

- As of the end of February, the Town is \$50,000 ahead of budget
- A quick review of the March forecast shows the Public Works budget will be in deficit (mainly due to snow removal), but the Town’s overall budget will be close to break even
- Spent some time re-stating the Town’s financial statements to reflect the format of as FIR (provincial government reporting format)

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

- a. Repeal of Derelict Buildings and Unsightly Premises By-law

MOVED: L. Vigneault *COC-04-07-15-1464*
SECONDED: B. Naylor

MOTION: To recommend that Council repeal the Derelict Buildings and Unsightly Premises By-law
MOTION CARRIED

6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Recommendations from Private Session

MOVED: C. Beaton *COC-04-07-15-1465*
SECONDED: L. Vigneault

MOTION: To recommend that Council write-off the water accounts listed per recommendation report for a total of \$22,089.91.
MOTION CARRIED

- b. Pictou County Municipal Economic Development Committee

Deputy Mayor Munroe and Councillor Vigneault will represent the Town on this committee.

- c. Hector Arena Commission

Councillor Vigneault provided a brief report on the arena's year. The organization will end the year in the black; the New Year's Eve Ice Party was a success; money has been set aside to complete renovation upgrades to the refrigeration plant; Female Subway Selects were host to a successful provincial tournament held the final weekend; re-introduction of ringette this year was successful and plans are to continue with this program; a donation of \$10,000 was made in memory of Wayne Woodacre by former co-workers.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

None

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

- Question on roundabout construction dates and related costs
- Comment on potholes on Veteran's Drive
- Question on Veteran's Drive being a cul-de-sac or one
- Question on Lions Soccer Field consultant report
- Comment on soccer numbers and usage of existing fields

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED: B. Naylor
SECONDED: C. Beaton

COC-04-07-15-1466

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting.
MOTION CARRIED

APPROVED

Alta Munroe
Deputy Mayor

Scott W. Conrod
CAO