

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

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

**ALSO PRESENT:** Scott Conrod, CAO  
Eldon MacDonald, Town Accountant  
Michelle Young, Recreation  
Jim Chisholm, Public Works  
Paul Janes, Fire Department  
Cpl Murphy, RCMP  
Nicole MacDonald Battist, Deputy Clerk/Minute Recorder

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Ryan called the meeting to order.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOVED: N. LeBlanc

*COC-02-06-17-1774*

SECONDED: DM Currie

MOTION: To approve the agenda with the following additions/deletions –

Additions:

- 3b. Delegation – Pictou Lions Club
- 5n. Northumberland Fisheries Museum Report
- 6e. Proclamation – African Heritage Month
- 8a. MORE Run
- 8b. Request by Town of Stellarton

Deletions:

- 8a. Correspondence – Pictou Lions Club

MOTION CARRIED

**3. DELEGATIONS**

a. Media Ladder Digital Marketing – Louise Dixon and Andrew Loscher

- As co-owners, they have a passion for community development, small business and marketing
- Proposing to be a Marketing and Growth Partner with the Town of Pictou
- Cost would range anywhere from \$5,000-\$15,000, depending on the work
- Would like to develop a Pictou Tourism website

The Mayor thanked Louise and Andrew for their presentation and said they would get back to them on their presentation.

b. Pictou Lions Club – Shawn McNamara and Robbie Forbes

- The club would like to turn the quarry into an accessible park with fish pond
- Willing to maintain the park after it is developed
- Would like to lease the property and the club has insurance for these purposes
- Some upgrades/activities would include archery, skating, boardwalk, upgraded wharf work

The Mayor indicated the area is listed as Industrial on the Town’s Generalized Future Land Use Map (GFLUM). The Town will require more time to consider the request in conjunction with staff reports.

Question on washroom facilities as part of plan.

Comment on how zoning plays a role in land development/usage.

**4. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

a. Fire Department

- The Mayor wanted to acknowledge the professionalism and dedication of the members for efforts in a recent fire; as well as neighbouring fire departments as part of mutual aid.
- The Fire Chief reported on the fire located on Water Street.

b. RCMP

Cpl Murphy added to the report by indicating impaired drivers and mental health files are very time intensive; and that the fire is looking like an electrical issue.

- Question on checkpoints and why they are down this year
- Clarification that parking offenses are up because of winter parking ban efforts
- Difference between moving traffic and non-moving traffic explained

c. CAO

CAO Conrod was on-hand to answer questions related to his report.

- Question on signed contract with Water Treatment Plant design  
Deadline for this project is March 31, 2018, with possibility of going into the next quarter

d. Public Works

- Does not appear to be a water break on Caladh Avenue as first thought
- Question on water levels at standpipe

e. Recreation and Parks

- A lot of deadlines for grants for summer programs coming up
- Work-to-rule has lowered the numbers for school swim lessons dramatically
- Comment that there are plenty of activities for Winter Carnival this coming weekend

f. Variance Report

Operations are \$8,000 under budget. Major variances include:

- Transportation – maintenance and abundance of salt
- Waste Water – more estimated for power because of increase numbers of pumps online; however, new pumps are more efficient

Town Capital and Town Water budgets were also presented to Council

**5. STANDING COMMITTEES**

- a. Pictou Business & Marketing Society (PBMS) – M Houser
  - a number of new projects are underway
  - prepared to move forward with signage project
- b. Ship Hector Society – M Houser
  - turned down for Canada 150 funding
  - seeking funding to help with capital projects
- c. Riverview Home – M Houser
  - M. Houser has been appointed Chair of the Riverview Home Finance and Audit Committee
  - making changes to budget layout
- d. deCoste Centre – M Houser
  - it was noted that the deCoste has a well prepared and hard-working staff and board
  - slight surplus anticipated this fiscal year
- e. Lobster Carnival – N LeBlanc
  - in final stages of confirming artists for this year’s lineup
  - February 15 is the next meeting if anyone wants to attend and volunteer
- f. Pictou Fire Department- DM Currie
  - at the last meeting, DM Currie thanked the firemen directly for their professionalism and dedication to their work
  - Gary Cornish has been appointed as medical officer
  - training plan is progressive and intense
- g. Municipal Alcohol Project – DM Currie
  - project is under Addictions Services – mandate is to de-normalize alcohol or drink responsibly
- h. McCulloch Genealogy Centre – DM Currie
  - recently developed a new website
  - “Pieces of Pictou” exhibit on now – celebrating Canada 150
  - new book launch will take place on February 26
  - volunteer training workshop will be held in March
- i. Pictou Antigonish Regional Library – DM Currie
  - toured Antigonish library – amazing facility
- j. Regional Economic Development Committee – Mayor Ryan; DM Currie

- focus of recent meeting was to re-look at possibility of becoming part of a REN
- k. Pictou Cruise Committee – DM Currie
  - working on promoting Pictou County as small cruise destination
- l. Hector Arena – DM Currie; E Daley
  - finances are strong
  - changed all existing lights to LED lighting
  - working on improving mezzanine – \$20,000 project
- m. Construction Engineering Flight – E Daley
  - completed three major projects recently throughout Province
  - proposals are now being considered for upcoming year
- n. Fisheries Museum – N LeBlanc
  - received artifacts from Lunenburg Museum that will be displayed
  - fundraiser this coming Friday – fishcakes and beans meal

**6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

a. Crosswalks Recommendation Report

MOVED: DM Currie

*COC-02-06-17-1775*

SECONDED: E. Daley

MOTION: To recommend to Council to complete an assessment of crosswalks identified as problematic in accordance with criteria outlined within the Pedestrian Crossing Control Guide (PCCG) as published by the Transportation Association of Canada. More specifically it is recommended that the Town:

1. Immediately assess any crosswalks that have been part of previous traffic incidents and correct deficiencies.
2. Develop an initial list of problem or concern sites. This information can be sourced from the RCMP, Council, and public complaints that have been addressed to the Town or RCMP.
3. Categorize crosswalks by PCCG criteria.
4. Undertake the installation (or changes to) the highest priority categories this year. Changes that may be required include signage, painting, sidewalks, curbs and illumination adjustments. Council should consider this plan as a priority (safety) expenditure within the 2017/2018 capital budget.
5. Update all existing crossing signage to ensure compliance with PCCG.

MOTION CARRIED

b. Annual Review of OH&S Policy

For Council’s information, an updated version was circulated that must go back to the OHS Committee for a recommendation.

c. Commercial Assessment Phase-in By-law Briefing Note

Instruction was given to staff to develop a draft by-law based on recommendations outlined in the briefing note presented; but with different formulas for the downtown and highway commercial areas.

Question on whether Town of Yarmouth included entire town or certain zones in their phase-in.

d. Veterans Drive

MOVED: DM Currie

*COC-02-06-17-1776*

SECONDED: M. Houser

MOTION: To recommend Council approve the engagement of WSP – a consulting engineering firm specializing in traffic/road design per the proposal dated February 3, 2017.

MOTION CARRIED

1 nay – N LeBlanc

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

a. Water Manual Update

MOVED: N. LeBlanc

*COC-02-06-17-1777*

SECONDED: E. Daley

MOTION: To recommend Council approve the Water Manual Update.

MOTION CARRIED

b. Authority for Mayor to participate in discussions with Eastern Strait Regional Enterprise Network

MOVED: M. Houser

*COC-02-06-17-1778*

SECONDED: DM Currie

MOTION: To recommend Council authorize the Mayor to participate in discussions with the ESREN.

c. Temporary Borrowing Resolution – Water Treatment Plant

MOVED: M. Houser

*COC-02-06-17-1779*

SECONDED: N. LeBlanc

MOTION: To recommend that Council approve a Temporary Borrowing Resolution for \$5M related to the construction of a water treatment plant and two pressure zones.

MOTION CARRIED

d. Planning Advisory Committee – New Committee Member

MOVED: E. Daley *COC-02-06-17-1780*  
SECONDED: M. Houser

MOTION: To recommend Council accept Gary Schell as a member of the Planning Advisory Committee.  
MOTION CARRIED

e. Re-scheduling of Regular Council Meeting for February

The February Regular Council Meeting will be held on Monday, February 27. Council agreed to hold meetings the following Monday when there is a holiday.

f. Proclamation – African Heritage Month

MOVED: M. Houser *COC-02-06-17-1781*  
SECONDED: DM Currie

MOTION: To proclaim February 2017 as African Heritage Month in the Town of Pictou.  
MOTION CARRIED

**8. CORRESPONDENCE**

a. MORE Run

MOVED: N. LeBlanc *COC-02-06-17-1782*  
SECONDED: DM Currie

MOTION: To recommend that Council endorse the MORE Run Event and encourage active participation by staff and the community.  
MOTION CARRIED

b. Request by Town of Stellarton – Letter of Support

MOVED: E. Daley *COC-02-06-17-1783*  
SECONDED: N. LeBlanc

MOTION: To recommend Council write a letter of support to the Minister of Health in regard to accelerating the review for the potential cannabis facility plant at 114 Acadia St., Stellarton.  
MOTION CARRIED  
2 nays – DM Currie; M Houser

**9. PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS**

- Comment that there should be time for comments after each section in the minutes
- Comment on Veterans Drive street changes effecting traffic on Dunromin Terrace
- Question on OHS Policy

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED: DM Currie  
SECONDED: N. LeBlanc

***COC-02-06-17-1784***

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting.  
MOTION CARRIED

APPROVED

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James J. Ryan  
Mayor

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Scott W. Conrod  
CAO