

Minutes of a Town of Pictou Committee of Council 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: Scott Conrod, CAO
Eldon MacDonald, Town Accountant
Michelle Young, Recreation
Cpl Deagle, RCMP
Jason MacLeod, Fire Dept
Nicole MacDonald Battist, Deputy Clerk/Minute Recorder

REGRETS: Jim Chisholm, Public Works
Paul Janes, Fire Department

1. PRIVATE SESSION – CONTRACT MATTER (moved to end of meeting)

2. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ryan called the meeting to order.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED: M. Houser
SECONDED: DM Currie

COC-03-06-17-1812

MOTION: To approve the agenda with the following changes –
Delete:
9c – Fire Dept Communications Tender
Changes:
10 Private Session – Contract Matter
11 Public Session – Reconvene
12 Recommendations from Private Session
13 Public Comments/Questions
14 Adjournment
MOTION CARRIED

4. DELEGATIONS

a. CHAD Transit

A presentation was made by Faus Johnson, Danny McGillivray and Jamie Stewart (consultant). An overview of CHAD Transit was provided and a Pictou County Fixed Transit Route was also presented. Details on the fixed route include:

- an 18-passenger van would be purchased
- there would be three routes per day in Pictou

- Financial Request of \$9,805 for 2017-18 (Operational \$3,096; Capital \$6,709) in addition to regular Council funding (\$20,000 for 2017-18).
- A decision is requested by June 30, 2017 in order to meet other funding deadlines.

Question on number of people that filled out survey from Pictou – 10%.

5. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

a. Fire Department

Member Jason MacLeod was on-hand to represent the department

- Tonight’s training will focus on fentanyl and how to deal with it
- Councillor LeBlanc noted the good job of the fire department in shoveling out hydrants

b. RCMP

Cpl Deagle provided highlights on the RCMP report

- Question on drug offense numbers
- All officers are trained on hazards of fentanyl
- Question on what “other files” means

c. CAO

CAO Conrod provided highlights on work completed over the past month; upcoming priorities were discussed.

d. Public Works

Jim Chisholm was unavailable.

- Question on pump at Public Works Building

e. Recreation and Parks

M. Young reported on a number of grants applied for and received recently; and a number upcoming activities being worked on.

- Councillor LeBlanc commented on the number of grants received by Recreation Department in recent months.

f. Variance Report

Operations are \$50,000 under budget. Major variances include:

- Sewer plant – new pumps are more efficient than anticipated
- Transportation – there was overspending on roads

6. APPOINTMENT COMMITTEES

a. Pictou Lobster Carnival – N LeBlanc

- Had fundraiser with Lions Club during Winter Carnival
- Finalizing entertainment for 2017 Carnival

b. Fisheries Museum – N LeBlanc

- Successful fishcakes and beans supper

- c. deCoste Centre – M Houser
 - meeting postponed to tonight
 - a documentary on John Newton, who wrote Amazing Grace, will show at the deCoste in May

- d. Riverview Home – M Houser
 - Changes are being made to reports to better reflect finances

- e. Pictou Business Marketing Society – M Houser
 - Media Ladder has been contracted to promote PBMS and town businesses

- f. Regional Economic Development Committee – Mayor Ryan; DM Currie
 - Met with twenty different groups to date to get their input on economic development in Pictou County
 - Currently in talks with eight businesses on possible business opportunities

- g. Hector Arena – DM Currie; E Daley
 - A presentation was made accepting ACOA funding
 - Operating in the black
 - Working to enhance mezzanine area
 - Ice comes out at the end of March
 - LED lights are being installed throughout building

- h. Pictou County Hall of Fame
 - Their computer data has been compromised

7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- a. Commercial Assessment Phase-in By-Law

N Battist reviewed the briefing note that was circulated to Council. Discussion ensued. Council concurred that a special meeting should be held to further discuss the different options and get public input.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Purchasing and Tender Policy

MOVED: DM Currie

COC-03-06-17-1813

SECONDED: N. LeBlanc

MOTION: That seven-day notice be given to replace the existing Procurement Policy.
MOTION CARRIED

b. 55 Water Street – Request for reduction in taxes due to fire destruction

MOVED: E. Daley

COC-03-06-17-1814

SECONDED: M. Houser

MOTION: That Council at their next regular session approve a reduction of \$313.89 in taxes (pro-rated for 10 months) for 55 Water St. due to fire destruction.

MOTION CARRIED

9. CORRESPONDENCE

None

10. PRIVATE SESSION – CONTRACT MATTER

Council convened in private session to discuss a contract matter.

11. RECONVENE – PUBLIC SESSION

Council reconvened in public session.

12. RECOMMENDATIONS/REPORTS FOR PRIVATE SESSION

Fire Dept Communications Tender

Two tenders were submitted:

\$37,255.00 plus \$5,588.25 HST (\$42,843.25) – Hi-tech

\$35,350.50 plus \$5,302.58 HST (\$40,653.08) – LMR

Fire Chief Janes recommended Hi-tech because their response to maintenance is faster and is a lower rate. However, only \$10,000 was approved in the 2016-17 Capital Budget.

MOVED: E. Daley

COC-03-06-17-1815

SECONDED: N. LeBlanc

MOTION: That Council at their next regular meeting approve the issuance of a purchase order to Hi-tech and commit \$10,000 towards the project from the Town's 2017-18 Capital budget provided that: the financing plan presented by the Fire Chief (Town: \$34,000; Dept: \$3,000; Foundation: \$2,500) will be followed; and that the Town in collaboration with the Fire Dept design a financing plan for fire fighters equipment, light vehicles/equipment and heavy equipment prior to the adoption of the Town's 2017-18 annual budget.

MOTION CARRIED

13. PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

- Comment that it is nice to see Pictou Town Council being a leader in NS on implementing the Commercial Assessment Phase-in
- Question on where to get copy of Procurement Policy

14. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED: M Houser
SECONDED: DM Currie

COC-03-06-17-1816

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting.
MOTION CARRIED

APPROVED

James J. Ryan
Mayor

Scott W. Conrod
CAO