

Minutes of a Town of Pictou Regular Council meeting convened 6:30 pm at the deCoste Entertainment Centre 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
Nicole Battist, Deputy Clerk/Minute Recorder

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ryan called the meeting to order.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED: DM Houser

RTC-09-21-20-2445

SECONDED: E Daley

MOTION: To approve the agenda as presented.
MOTION CARRIED

3. PROCLAMATIONS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

a. Right to Know Week – September 28 to October 4

The Mayor proclaimed September 28 to October 4, 2020 Right to Know Week in Pictou.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Regular Council – July 20, 2020

MOVED: D Currie

RTC-09-21-20-2446

SECONDED: N LeBlanc

MOTION: That the Regular Council minutes of July 20, 2020 be approved.
MOTION CARRIED

b. Committee of Council – September 14, 2020

MOVED: DM Houser

RTC-09-21-20-2447

SECONDED: E Daley

MOTION: That the Committee of Council minutes of September 14, 2020 be approved with two corrections:
4f. Change final tax bills due date from “October 27th” to “October 22nd”
6b. Change “three residential and two commercial” to “two residential and three commercial” for COVID-19 Tax Financing Applications
MOTION CARRIED

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- a. Wastewater Conveyance System (Sinclair St.) – Reallocation of Capital Funds
MOVED: E Daley **RTC-09-21-20-2448**
SECONDED: D Currie
MOTION: To reallocate debenture (\$50,000) and operating (\$33,000) funds for work related to repairs at the Sinclair Street lift station.
MOTION CARRIED

- b. COVID-19 Tax Financing Program – Municipal Financing Corporation Borrowing Resolution
MOVED: DM Houser **RTC-09-21-20-2449**
SECONDED: N LeBlanc

MOTION: To approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Municipal Finance Corporation is offering a temporary short-term operating loan to clients who are experiencing cash flow challenges for the 2020-21 fiscal year due to the impact of COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS in accordance with the policy of the Municipal Finance Corporation, the Council of the Town of Pictou has deemed it necessary and expedient to seek approval from the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to take part in this short-term operating loan program offered by the Municipal Finance Corporation; and

WHEREAS pursuant to Section 84 of the *Municipal Government Act*, a Municipality may borrow to cover the annual current expenditures to an amount not to exceed fifty per cent of the combined total of the taxes levied by the Municipality for the previous year and the amounts to be received by the provincial and federal governments; and

WHEREAS the summary amounts and descriptions of the cash flow impact of COVID-19 on the Municipality are contained in Schedules 'A' and 'B' to support analysis by the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing and the Municipality shall provide officials from the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing with reports and information deemed necessary to support this request;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED

That subject to the approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Council of the Town of Pictou borrow a sum or sums not exceeding *Thirty-Eight Thousand, Seven Hundred and Ninety Nine Dollars* (\$38,799) for the purpose set out above; and,

THAT the sum be borrowed for a period not exceeding Thirty-Six (36) Months from the date of withdrawal from the Municipal Finance Corporation; and,

THAT the borrowing will be under the terms and conditions of the agreement as determined by the Municipal Finance Corporation.

MOTION CARRIED

c. Municipal Asset Management Program (MAMP) Stormwater Submission

MOVED: E Daley *RTC-09-21-20-2450*

SECONDED: D Currie

MOTION: To approve the submission of a MAMP application for a Storm Water Masterplan in the amount of \$80,000.

MOTION CARRIED

d. Water Manual Update

MOVED: DM Houser *RTC-09-21-20-2451*

SECONDED: N LeBlanc

MOTION: To approve the annual water manual update.

MOTION CARRIED

e. Wastewater Manual Update

MOVED: E Daley *RTC-09-21-20-2452*

SECONDED: DM Houser

MOTION: To approve the annual wastewater manual update.

MOTION CARRIED

f. Hector Quay Society Request

MOVED: DM Houser *RTC-09-21-20-2453*

SECONDED: D Currie

MOTION: To approve contributing \$8,000 to the Hector Quay Society, for expenses related to winter preparedness for the ship.

MOTION CARRIED

6. RECOMMENDATIONS/REPORTS FROM PRIVATE SESSION

a. Private Session on September 17, 2020 – Land Matters

Direction was given to staff on a land matter.

7. REPORTS

a. Municipal Corporation Reports:

i. Pictou County Wellness Centre

A written report was circulated prior to the meeting.

ii. Pictou County Shared Services Authority

A written report was circulated prior to the meeting.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. Provincial Support for Community Arenas

MOVED: D Currie

RTC-09-21-20-2454

SECONDED: E Daley

MOTION: For Council to forward the following resolution to the Province of Nova Scotia:

Whereas community rinks are a vital part of the recreational infrastructure in small towns and rural areas; and

Whereas community rinks provide opportunities for walking tracks, recreational skating, figure skating and hockey at all levels; and

Whereas community rinks often run on a very tight budget with much volunteer donated labour; and

Whereas if community rinks close, they may never reopen; and

Whereas the restrictions placed by the Public Health Authorities to help control the spread of COVID-19 are significantly impacting the business operations of community rinks causing deficits;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Town of Pictou calls upon the government of the Province of Nova Scotia to bring forward a program of support to help community rinks to survive the 2020-2021 season.

MOTION CARRIED

9. CORRESPONDENCE

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

- Question on procedure for approving Pictou Business and Marketing Society funding.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED: N LeBlanc

RTC-09-21-20-2455

SECONDED: D Currie

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVED

James J. Ryan
Mayor

Dan Troke
CAO