

Minutes of a Town of Pictou Committee of Council meeting convened 6:30 pm via Zoom Teleconferencing on the above date. Mayor James Ryan presiding.

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Nadine LeBlanc; Councillors Dan Currie, Melinda MacKenzie and Shawn McNamara

ALSO PRESENT: Kyle Slaunwhite, CAO
Paul Janes, Fire Department
Addie MacCallum, RCMP
Michelle Young, Recreation Manager
Jonathan Daye, Accountant
Nicole MacDonald – Deputy Clerk/Minute Recorder

1. PRIVATE SESSION – CONTRACT AND PROPERTY MATTERS (6:00 pm)

2. PUBLIC SESSION – CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ryan called the meeting to order.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: To approve the agenda, with the following additions:
8a. Public Sewers Bylaw Policy
10a. Dismissal of a Development Agreement – 104 Front Street
10b. 2023 Update

CARRIED

COC-05-03-21-2561

4. PRESENTATIONS

a. Regional Enterprise Network (REN) – Presentation requested by Town Council

Sarah MacIntosh-Wiseman, CEO of the PC REN made a presentation on the work of the organization. She shared the business plan objectives, strategic priorities, how municipal funds have leveraged additional funds, and progress of the implementation of the regional strategy.

- Question – how many staff currently employed by the organization
- Comment that the Business Unusual Program and support to businesses is appreciated

5. PROCLAMATIONS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

a. Lyme Prevention Awareness Month

Mayor Ryan proclaimed May as Lyme Prevention Awareness month.

6. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

a. Fire Department

A written report was circulated in the agenda packages.

- Station shut down for non-essential activity

- Question about CEF involvement with communications structure and its location
- Question about when the Jaws of Life is used and how often it is needed
- Question on the closest department with a Jaws of Life – Westville; others have them but are not properly trained
- Comment that the Fire Department Foundation purchased the spreader, but two other pieces are required – Chief to provide more details

b. RCMP

A written report was circulated with agenda packages.

- Crime, road safety, maintaining public confidence are current initiatives and goals
- RCMP are asking for public input on policing priorities for the coming year
- Question on mental health calls increase
- Question on why temporary speed sign not used at night – could be vandalized
- Question on where a speed sign could be placed permanently
- Question on whether some speed signs collect data – yes
- Question about sleeping in public areas
- Question about difference between moving and non-moving traffic
- Complaints about loud cars around Cottage St – RCMP need to catch people in the act; if a resident witnesses this, charges may be possible
- Complaints about people parking on sidewalks

c. Administration

A written report was circulated with agenda packages. Highlighted items were:

- Spring Cleanup dates and permitted items
- Planning, development, building inspection and unsightly premises processes are being updated
- Iain MacIsaac has been hired as Public Works Superintendent and begins May 17

d. Public Works

A written report was circulated with agenda packages.

- Pilings needs to be used for the new breakwater
- Question on crosswalks and use of reflective tape
- Comment on advocating for crosswalks painted in bright colors – Local Traffic Authority feels white is the most contrasting color against black asphalt
- Question about Well #18 – pump rate is double the pump rate of best existing well, good news for water supply

e. Recreation and Parks

A written report was circulated with agenda packages.

- All programs have been postponed for two weeks minimum
- Plan to hire summer students for recreation camps
- Acknowledged Town Volunteer Eric LeBlanc and Pictou Patrons Laurie MacDonald, Donna Collins and Stephen MacKenzie
- Question about the operations of marina for this season
- Go Clean Get Green had 44 participants

f. Variance

A written report was circulated with agenda packages.

- Comment by staff that Housing Authority projections are already higher than budgeted for the current year
- Surplus projected to be \$110,000

7. APPOINTMENT COMMITTEES

a. deCoste Centre, Heritage Committee and Hector Arena – M MacKenzie

- Submitted reports electronically

b. Northumberland Fisheries Museum – DM LeBlanc

- Early June opening

c. Police Advisory Board – DM LeBlanc

- Cst Al Dow gave a presentation on intelligence gathering with organized and serious crime; mobile speed sign was borrowed from another jurisdiction

d. Opportunity Shop – DM LeBlanc

- Open by appointment only

e. Pictou Antigonish Regional Library (PARL) – D Currie

- Submitted electronically

f. Pictou Lobster Carnival – S McNamara

- The 2021 Carnival is cancelled

8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

a. Public Sewers Bylaw Policy

When the Public Sewers Bylaw was updated this year, discussion ensued around the homeowner's responsibility for reinstatement of their line to the main line. Council gave direction to staff to prepare a draft policy, over the next month or two, that considers having the Town pay for the reinstatement of street asphalt.

9. RECOMMENDATION/REPORTS FROM PRIVATE SESSION

One contract matter and two property matters were discussed – nothing public to report

10. NEW BUSINESS

a. Dismissal of a Development Agreement (DA) – 104 Front Street

MOTION: For Council at their next regular meeting to dismiss the Development Agreement for 104 Front Street.

CARRIED

COC-05-03-21-2562

This pertains to the interior of the building. The exterior of the building is not part of the DA; historical significance remains unaffected.

b. 2023 Update

- Working on branding
- First meeting will be held online in the coming days
- Signature events being planned
- Question on inclusion of a variety of organizations – that is to come, after initial conversations

11. CORRESPONDENCE

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

APPROVED

James J. Ryan
Mayor

Kyle Slaunwhite
CAO