

Minutes of a Town of Pictou Committee of Council meeting convened at the CN Station – Council Chambers on the above date. Mayor James Ryan presiding.

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

ALSO PRESENT: Kyle Slaunwhite, CAO
Iain MacIsaac, Public Works
Michelle Young, Recreation
David Nicholson, Finance
Paul Janes, Fire Department
Nicole MacDonald, Deputy Clerk/Minute Recorder

REGRETS: Addie Maccallum, RCMP

1. PRIVATE SESSION – PERSONNEL MATTER (6:00 pm)

2. PUBLIC SESSION – CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:40pm.

3. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It was acknowledged that Town Council was meeting in the unceded territory of Mi’kma’ki, the ancestral and unceded land of the Mi’kmaq people.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: To approve the agenda with one addition:
5c. D-Day

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED

COC-06-06-22-2554

5. PROCLAMATIONS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

a. Pride Month

The Chair recognized June as Pride Month. It is a time to celebrate the contributions of persons from the 2SLGBTQ+ community and increase efforts to build awareness and foster belonging.

b. National Indigenous History Month

The Chair recognized June as National Indigenous History Month and acknowledged National Indigenous Peoples Day on June 21. This month provides an opportunity to learn about Indigenous traditions, languages, arts and experiences to work towards necessary transformative change.

c. D-Day

D-Day was recognized as the day that Canadians landed on the beaches of Normandy and helped begin the liberation of Western Europe. The heroism and sacrifice of Canadian soldiers who stood for freedom and democracy will be forever remembered.

6. PRESENTATIONS

a. Splash Pad Presentation

Jennifer Boyce made a presentation on behalf of the Pictou Splash Pad Society. Based on the Society's research, she presented information on two options for splash pads that use water recycling systems. Costs range from \$408,000 to \$465,000 for capital, and \$11,000 (assuming 1000 G water/season) to \$22,000 (assuming 5000 M3/season) for operations. It appears the pad recently built in Stewiacke would be comparable to the proposed model for Pictou.

She asked for Council to reiterate their definitive support of the project as rumours that the project is no longer supported is hurting fund raising efforts.

Council comments/questions:

- A significant concern is whether the town water supply can support the water demand of the facility
- The safety of those using the facility must be considered, including Public Health recommendations/regulations around water quality
- Gathering detailed engineering specifications on operating systems will be imperative
- Given Stewiacke will only become operational this coming season, receiving a report on actual water consumption and maintenance costs in the fall would be useful
- Council is concerned that the efforts exerted by the group might be in vain should the project not be viable

Council consensus is that it supports the concept of a splash pad being built in Pictou, while recognizing the significant challenges. Water supply, facility location and operations/maintenance costs will need to be thoroughly considered before a final decision can be made to construct.

7. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

b. Fire Department

- Question on training of fire equipment
- Question on what approved fire pits means
- Question on communications building completion

c. RCMP

- No one was available to attend the meeting
- Comment on number of loud and fast cars in town – call 902-485-4333 to report

d. Administration

- 3 new administrative staff hired – 2 in Town Office, and 1 with RCMP

- Spring Cleanup is complete – residents are asked to remove remaining articles as they did not meet collection criteria

e. Public Works

- Denoon St project awarded to SW Weeks for \$1.4M; will begin after Lobster Carnival
- Cold and hot patching to take place prior to the Pictou Lobster Carnival
- Question on Jitney Trail work completion – trail should be opened by mid-week
- Question on funding for sidewalks on Veterans Drive
- Question on breakwater report and when it might start
- Question on when more crosswalk painting will continue – 20 degree weather and no wind needed
- Question on handicap parking painting – will happen after crosswalk painting is completed; not done last year due to shortage of paint supply

f. Recreation and Parks

- Question on how long pool will be closed this summer – 2 months
- Question on accessibility from Norway Point to Jitney Trail

g. Variance

- Question on budget

8. APPOINTMENT COMMITTEES

a. Pictou Antigonish Regional Library (PARL), McCulloch House & Genealogy Centre – D Currie

- Reports submitted electronically

b. Pictou Lobster Carnival – N LeBlanc

- Wrestling event made \$4000

c. Northumberland Fisheries Museum – N LeBlanc

- Need to fill 2 summer positions
- Curator starts July 1

d. Heritage Advisory Committee – N LeBlanc/M MacKenzie

- One committee opening
- The Heritage Trust of NS awarded the Town \$3000 to assist with repairs to the CN Station

e. Police Advisory Board – N LeBlanc

- Two new members joined the Committee
- Brainstormed new committee work ideas with Cpl Natasha Farrell

f. Ship Hector Foundation – DM McNamara

- AGM – June 19

- g. Municipal Alcohol Project (MAP) – M MacKenzie
 - Exploring ways to make alcohol not the focal point of events

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- a. Splash Pad Project

The CAO reinforced Council comments made earlier in the meeting, that water supply, location and operations need to be taken into account. If the system chosen is a 100% recycle, then there would not be any water concerns. He thanked the committee for their efforts to research alternative solutions.

 - Question on location at park and possible buried infrastructure – a Geotech report would take this into account in determining suitability

10. DISCUSSIONS

- a. NSFM Survey

The CAO reviewed a NSFM survey regarding exchange of services and changes to the MGA. Council provided input and direction on how the CAO was to respond to the survey.
- b. CEF Airplane

The CEF airplane that was once housed where the roundabout is now situated had severe structural rot when it was taken down. It would need considerable work to re-mount it on a pedestal. CEF Bridgewater is asking for it to be donated to them; they have resources to restore and a connection to this type of plane.

Council directed the CAO to gather more information on the Pictou plane connection and to determine the intended future usage. He was asked to consult with the committee that was originally tasked with relocating Veterans Park and report back.

- c. Dates for August Meetings

August 2 and 15; September 6 and 19

11. RECOMMENDATIONS/REPORTS FROM PRIVATE SESSION

MOTION: For Council at their next regular meeting to pay out accrued vacation pay for five long term employees, to be in line with current policy.
MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED *COC-06-06-22-2555*

12. CORRESPONDENCE

13. QUESTIONS

14. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:10 pm.

APPROVED

James J. Ryan
Mayor

Kyle Slaunwhite
CAO