

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 Melinda MacKenzie; Councillors Dan Currie, Nadine LeBlanc and Shawn McNamara

ALSO PRESENT: Kyle Slaunwhite, CAO
Curtis MacKinnon, RCMP
Michelle Young, Community Development
Iain MacIsaac, Public Works
Sally O’Neill, Recreation
David Nicholson, Finance
Nicole MacDonald, Deputy Clerk/Minute Recorder

ABSENT: Wayne Robinson, Fire Chief

1. PUBLIC SESSION – PUBLIC HEARING (5:30 pm)

2. PUBLIC SESSION – CALL TO ORDER

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

3. CHANGES/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: To approve the agenda with four additions:

- 4a National Day for Truth and Reconciliation & Mi’kmaq History Month
- 4b National Disability Employment Awareness Month
- 9a Off-Highway Vehicles By-law
- 9b Purchase of Land

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED

COC-10-03-23-2695

4. PROCLAMATIONS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

a. National Day for Truth and Reconciliation & Mi’kmaq History Month

The Pictou Landing First Nations (PLFN) students were thanked for their contribution to our local event and their efforts in organizing a Knowledge Keepers walk. They demonstrated pride in their heritage and sharing their culture. Thanks goes out to the PLFN community, and their teachers Deputy Mayor MacKenzie and Councillor LeBlanc for helping to organize the event.

Thanks goes out to Master Stone Carver Marcus English and his collaborators, PLFN Elder and artist Don Francis, and Chief Andrea Paul, for the art sculpture and monument that was created to symbolize our connection to nature and the relationship with the PLFN community that goes back to 1773.

Mi'Kmaq History Month was acknowledged. The purpose is to raise public awareness about the Mi'kmaw culture and heritage for all citizens of Nova Scotia.

b. National Disability Employment Awareness Month

On October 19, the Town will be lighting up the gazebo at Market Square in support of National Disability Employment Awareness Month.

5. PRESENTATIONS

6. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

a. Fire Department

- No questions

b. RCMP

Staff Sergeant MacKinnon was welcomed to his new posting and first meeting with Council. He highlighted some of the more serious files from the past month; 1 member is back from sick leave; another member started Friday.

- Comment that he is reviewing safety aspects of 3-way stop in Town to help prevent injury
- Question on who to call for anonymous non-emergency behaviour – 902-485-4333, but name may come up on phone; caller should let dispatcher know that they do not want an officer to come to their house for follow-up

c. Community Development

- Contributors to the Brown's Point and Victory Heights legacy projects were thanked

d. Public Works

- Question on status of VIC move – no bids received for tender, need to break it down into smaller parts
- Question on excess rain impacting town distribution water – indirectly, not a concern
- Question on crosswalk installation at roundabout – will happen this fall, waiting on contractor availability
- Question on why we are paving St. Andrews Street when there are only 4 houses on it – terrible pavement with new waterlines; has no design requirements and healthy sewer and water lines
- Is the street sweeper being rented out? – some, but some towns already had contractors in place by the time the vehicle arrived; more rentals should take place next year
- Are surplus trucks divested? – yes
- Cottage Street repair – the bump is going to be looked at again

e. Parks and Recreation

- Members of the public are invited to participate on the Christmas Events Committee

f. Variance

- Question on operating reserve

7. APPOINTMENT COMMITTEES

- a. Northumberland Fisheries Museum – Councilor LeBlanc
 - The Museum is now closed for the season
 - Volunteers worked at the Hector 250 celebrations
 - Rentals are still available for the large room space
- b. Pictou Lobster Carnival – Councilor LeBlanc
 - AGM October 17; looking for volunteers
- c. deCoste Centre – Deputy Mayor MacKenzie
 - Commended staff for the great season of shows
- d. Hector Arena – Deputy Mayor MacKenzie
 - 50th Anniversary is coming up
 - Woody’s Slice fundraiser missed
- e. Regional Library, McCulloch Genealogy Centre, Pictou County Partnership, Volunteer Celebration – Councillor Currie
 - Report shared electronically
- f. 144 CEF – Councillor McNamara
 - Pushing recruitment
 - 2 small projects on the go

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- a. Business Advisory Committee Policy – 7 days’ Notice of Intent to Consider

MOTION: That the following serve as the required seven (7) day advance notice to consider the Policy titled “Business Advisory Committee”.

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED *COC-10-03-23-2696*
- b. Tax Collection Policy Amendments – 7 days’ Notice of Intent to Consider

MOTION: That the following serve as the required seven (7) day advance notice of Intent to Consider Amendments to the Policy titled “Tax Collection”

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED *COC-10-03-23-2697*
- c. Code of Conduct Policy Amendments – 7 days’ Notice of Intent to Consider

MOTION: That the following serve as the required seven (7) day advance notice of Intent to Consider Amendments to the Policy titled “Code of Conduct”.

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED *COC-10-03-23-2698*
- d. Pictou County Partnership Agreement – Interim Agreement

MOTION: For Council at their next regular meeting to proceed with support for the interim agreement; and to give the Mayor permission to vote to this effect on the Town’s behalf this at the next Shared Services meeting.

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED *COC-10-03-23-2699*

e. Temporary Borrowing Resolution – Various Capital Projects

MOTION: For Council at their next regular meeting to pass the following motion:

TEMPORARY BORROWING RESOLUTION

Amount: \$4,667.650 Capital Projects: Detailed in Schedule “A”

WHEREAS Section 66 of the Municipal Government Act provides that the Council of the Town of Pictou, subject to the approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, may borrow to expend funds for a capital purpose as authorized by statute;

WHEREAS the Council of the Town of Pictou has adopted a capital budget for this fiscal year as required by Section 65 of the Municipal Government Act and are so authorized to expend funds for capital purposes as identified in their capital budget;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED

THAT under the authority of Section 66 of the Municipal Government Act, the Council of the Town of Pictou borrow a sum or sums not exceeding Four Million Six Hundred Sixty Seven Thousand Six Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$4,667,650) for the purpose set out above, subject to the approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing;

THAT the sum be borrowed by the issue and sale of debentures of the Council of the Town of Pictou to such an amount as the Council deems necessary;

THAT the issue of debentures be postponed pursuant to Section 92 of the Municipal Government Act and that a sum or sums not exceeding Four Million Six Hundred Sixty Seven Thousand Six Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$4,667,650) in total be borrowed from time to time from any chartered bank or trust company doing business in Nova Scotia;

THAT the sum be borrowed for a period not exceeding Twelve (12) Months from the date of approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing of this resolution;

THAT the interest payable on the borrowing be paid at a rate to be agreed upon; and

THAT the amount borrowed be repaid from the proceeds of the debentures when sold.

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED

COC-10-03-23-2700

9. DISCUSSIONS

a. Off-Highway Vehicles (OHV) By-law

Recent changes by the Province were made to the OHV Act, to pilot some options for:

- Designating routes along provincial highways for off-road vehicles to access to trails
- Giving municipalities the power to allow use of off-road vehicles on certain streets and roads

Council may want to think about discussing this topic in the future.

b. Purchase of Land

The Town is required to report any sale or purchase of land once it is complete. The Town purchased Lot 23-1 Front Street on September 12 for \$52,017.62 from Rhonda LaVigne.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

11. COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:10 pm.

APPROVED

James J. Ryan
Mayor

Kyle Slaunwhite
CAO