

Minutes of a Town of Pictou Business Advisory Committee meeting in Pictou Town Hall 6:30 pm on the above date. Kevin Nokes presiding.

**PRESENT:** Councillor Krista Fulton, Members, Kevin Nokes, David Craig, Helen Buchan, Vivianne LaRiviere

**REGRETS:** None

**ALSO PRESENT:** Michelle Young, Community Development Officer (Ex-officio)

**1. WELCOME**

Kevin Nokes offered to be meeting chair and welcomed all present; Vivianne LaRiviere attended the meeting virtually.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION: To approve the agenda with addition 5b. Bill 24 and 5c. Vendor Village.  
MOVED, SECONDED AND APPROVED **BAC-02-27-25-001**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the December 5, 2024 meeting as circulated.  
MOVED, SECONDED AND APPROVED **BAC-02-27-25-002**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING**

a. Committee Role and Mandate

Committee members felt that the current policy outlines and addresses all points that were outlined in committee correspondence by email. All agreed that the opening statement is clear but felt that this was not the case with how the proposal for Wellington Street was managed.

*The Committee shall advise Council on the development and management of an implementation strategy for Pictou’s Waterfront Plan (March 2022) (“Plan”) and other strategic business initiatives.*

The Committee felt that any decisions that impact implementation of the Plan and other business initiatives need to be communicated to the committee in a timely manner to allow time to provide constructive advice. As per the policy, it was understood that the Committee should have a role in the consideration of business matters as they relate to the Plan. The question raised was: How much involvement does Council and Administration want the Committee to have?

**Action: Council needs to determine the scope of involvement of the Committee. Is the current Policy too broad? Staff and Council Representation on the Committee will take these questions back to Town Administration and Council.**

b. Committee Vacancy

The Committee currently has two vacancies; since the last meeting Peter Fraser has resigned from the Committee.

Suggestions for committee vacancies include:

- To contact a member of the Wellington Street group who has suggestions of potential candidates.
- Invite other types of businesses owners such as: dentist, bed and breakfasts, and representation from larger businesses.

**Action: First clarify the policy. Then contact potential community members and send out an eblast to all businesses to advertise the vacancies.**

**c. Business Mixer**

Members felt that spring is a good time to plan another business mixer. David offered the Northumberland Fisheries Museum as a venue again. The date set is April 24<sup>th</sup>. Planning will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

**5. OTHER BUSINESS**

**a. Funds – from PBMS**

Helen Buchan reported that the bank account was still open from the Pictou Business and Marketing Society with a balance of \$16,000. As the society is dissolved, all present felt that this account needs to be closed and directed towards future projects that fall under the Business Advisory Committee in a Town reserve account.

MOTION: To ask the Town Solicitor to legally dissolve PBMS and that the balance held by the organization be moved to a reserve account held by the Town of Pictou and that the funds be used for business initiatives.

MOVED, SECONDED AND APPROVED

BAC-02-27-25

**b. Bill 24**

(Temporary Access to Land Act and Joint Regional Transportation Agency Act amended)  
Concerns were raised about the amendments outlined in Bill 24, which grant the province the authority to override municipal decisions related to transportation and define areas where the province has no responsibility. It was recommended that the Town develop a plan to address any potential changes resulting from Bill 24.

**c. Vendors Village**

There is concern that when a shipment of windmill equipment is received in port that there would be impacts to the Vendor Village and other businesses during street closures. Discussion followed on an alternative routing.

**Action: A recommendation was made that any shipments through the port that require street closures between May to October, that businesses be given a 7 day advance notice by email and/or other methods of communication.**

Question: What is the current practice in providing notice? At times street closures are within a short window due to type of closure, notice is given as far in advance as possible.

c. **NEXT MEETING**

Date: March 20, 2025 at 6:30pm

Location: CN Station

d. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.

APPROVED

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James J. Ryan, Mayor

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Kyle Slaunwhite, CAO