

Minutes of a Town of Pictou Regular 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
Nicole MacDonald, Deputy Clerk/Minute Recorder

1. PUBLIC SESSION – PUBLIC HEARING (6:00 pm)

2. PUBLIC SESSION – CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

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. CHANGES/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: To approve the agenda with one change:
8c. Change Public Hearing Recommendation to Variance Decision

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED *RTC-03-20-23-2640*

5. PROCLAMATIONS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

6. PRESENTATIONS

a. Pictou County Transit

The Manager of Pictou County Transit, Danny MacGillivray made a presentation to the Town regarding the present program running within the Towns of New Glasgow and Stellarton, and how the Town of Pictou could feed into it. The price range would be between \$20,000 and \$40,000 depending on the number of days or trips. Mr. MacGillivray was looking to see if Council would be interested in a 3-year pilot program; if so, he will prepare a formal proposal with a number of options based on the range.

Questions/Comments:

- Fees – \$3 per ride, \$7.50 per day or monthly fees
- Ridership statistics – NSCC, work, mall, some use it to socialize
- More trips on less days works better than fewer trips on multiple days
- Vehicle is accessible – one door for all
- Ridership revenue would remain with Pictou County Transit, with subsidization by the Town

- What would be the difference between an investment of \$20,000 vs \$40,000? – a proposal will be developed for Council consideration

Council expressed interest in this service and asked Mr. MacGillivray to further research the options. More details will be worked out and an official proposal made for the 2024-25 year.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

b. Regular Council – February 21, 2023

There being no corrections, the Chair approved the circulated Regular Council minutes of February 21, 2023.

c. Committee of Council – March 6, 2023

There being no corrections, the Chair approved the circulated Committee of Council minutes of March 6, 2023.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

a. Second/Final Reading – Sidewalk Café Bylaw

The CAO reported that Mrs. MacGregors and The Nook and Cranny expressed their enthusiasm for the bylaw.

- Comment that it is not necessary with existing patios
- Comment that considerable financial investment and planning is required so not everyone will use this opportunity

MOTION: To approve the Second/Final Reading of a Bylaw titled Sidewalk Café.

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED – 4 yes; 1 no ***RTC-03-20-23-2641***

b. Repeal – Pictou Business Improvement District and The Pictou Business Improvement District Committee Bylaw

MOTION: To approve First Reading of Amendments to the Repeal Bylaw to include the Pictou Business Improvement District and the Pictou Business Improvement District Committee Bylaw.

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED ***RTC-03-20-23-2642***

- Comment about creating a separate line item for a business budget
- There are business reserve funds from previous years; it will be proposed to use these funds this year, rather than increase the commercial tax rate

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED ***RTC-03-20-23-2643***

c. Variance Decision

MOTION: To approve a 5 foot height variance from the Height Requirements of the Pictou County Common Land Use By-Law – Property Located at: Beeches Road, Pictou, NS (PID #00970715).

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED ***RTC-03-20-23-2644***

Councillor McNamara abstained from voting as he was not present at the Public Hearing.

9. DISCUSSION

10. REPORTS

a. Municipal Corporation Reports:

- i) Pictou County Shared Services Authority
Shared electronically.
 - Question on bio-degradable material odor
 - Question on how green bins can be replaced – contact Pictou County Solid Waste
 - Question on Construction and Demolition expansion and tipping fees

- ii) Pictou County Wellness Centre
Shared electronically.
 - Question on surplus for Wellness Centre

- iii) Riverview Home
Shared electronically.

11. PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting.

APPROVED

James J. Ryan
Mayor

Kyle Slaunwhite
CAO