

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

**ALSO PRESENT:** Kyle Slaunwhite, CAO  
Nicole MacDonald, Deputy Clerk

**1. PRIVATE SESSION – PROPERTY MATTERS**

**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 addition:  
6a. Municipal Physical Activity Leadership (MPAL) Presentation  
MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED *RTC-03-18-24-2757*

**5. PROCLAMATIONS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**6. PRESENTATIONS**

- a. Municipal Physical Activity Leadership (MPAL) Presentation  
Leighton Hayden, Municipal Physical Activity Leader for the Town and County of Pictou provided an update on the work he has been busy with in his first year. He covered current activities/events, the priorities and successes from 2023-24, and the 2024-25 working partnerships and goals.
- Question on number of MPAL staff
  - Question on school program
  - Question on how he might be able to help with a ball hockey league

**7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- b. Regular Council Minutes – February 20, 2024  
There being no corrections, the Chair approved the circulated Regular Council minutes of February 20, 2024.
- c. Committee of Council – March 4, 2024

There being no corrections, the Chair approved the circulated Committee of Council minutes of March 4, 2024.

**8. REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS FROM PRIVATE SESSION**

Direction was given to the CAO on the sale of town owned land.

**9. RECOMMENDATIONS**

a. Pictou Youth and Family Center

Staff provided a briefing on the Youth and Family Center presentation made at the March Committee of Council meeting. The Town Solicitor, recreation and community development managers provided input into the proposed partnership.

The main difference between the request and the recommendation from the Solicitor are that he is advising the formation of a separate organization as opposed to it forming part of the recreation department.

Direction was given to staff to communicate to Youth Center representatives that Council would like to see the group:

- form a registered society
- enter into a lease agreement with the Town for use of a town-owned building
- obtain liability insurance with the Town named as an additional insured

Direction was given to the CAO to share the recommendation information with the group and to collaborate with them on details.

b. 2024-25 Capital Budget

MOTION: To approve the addition of \$3,990,926 in funds to the current approved Capital Budget for Coleraine Street and Caladh Avenue; \$1,995,463 to come from both debt and grants, with the understanding that these projects will take place as part of both the 24/25 and 25/26 fiscal years.

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED *RTC-03-18-24-2758*

c. Committee of Council Appointments – Business, Parks & Recreation, Audit

MOTION: To approve the appointment of the following people to the Business Advisory Committee – Tabitha Coleman, Kevin Nooks, Peter Fraser, Helen Buchan, David Craig and Derek Forsyth.

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED *RTC-03-18-24-2759*

MOTION: To approve the appointment of the following people to the Parks and Recreation Committee – Matt Harris and Jason Rankin.

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED *RTC-03-18-24-2760*

MOTION: To approve the appointment of Jason Rankin to sit on the Audit Committee.

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED *RTC-03-18-24-2761*

d. Hector Heritage Society Partial Tax Exemption Policy

MOTION: To approve the tax reduction from Commercial to Residential during the months the Ship Hector Gift Store is in operation.

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED ***RTC-03-18-24-2762***

Staff were directed to update the current policy per this motion. Taking this step would reduce taxes from Commercial to Residential year-round under the current circumstances.

e. Tax Exemption Requests – Foodbank, Curling Club

Foodbank

MOTION: To direct staff to develop a policy that will write off the Pictou West Food Bank Society’s property taxes on Twining Street.

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED ***RTC-03-18-24-2763***

Curling Club

Deputy Mayor Currie declared a conflict and excused himself from the discussion.

MOTION: To direct staff to update the New Caledonian Curling Club Partial Tax Exemption Policy to reflect the tax reduction from Commercial to Residential year-round.

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED ***RTC-03-18-24-2764***

Deputy Mayor Currie returned to the meeting.

**10. DISCUSSION**

a. Sale of Spruce Street Announcement (PID 00984294)

The CAO is announcing the sale of Spruce Street (PID 00984294) to Woohoo Industries for \$45,000, with the intent of building four units within three years (by 2028), or a 70% buy-back clause.

**11. REPORTS**

a. Municipal Corporation Reports

i) Pictou County Shared Services Authority

- Next meeting March 25

ii) Pictou County Wellness Centre

- AGM was held this morning, March 18 – audited statements were presented by MNP; the year ended with a surplus of \$45,042
- Request for Proposals being issued for Auditing Services for the 2023-24 fiscal year
- Mayor Dicks was re-elected as Chair; Mayor Ryan as Vice-Chair
- Regular Board meeting took place following the AGM
- The first draft of the 2024-25 budget was presented

- Proposals for the funding of a generator to make the Wellness Centre a comfort centre are currently in development

iii) Riverview Home

- Still working on the implementation of the Remedy Report
- Financially remain in good condition
- Property appraisals for the Riverton facilities are being sought as future uses are being considered

iv) Mayors and Warden

- No meeting

**12. CORRESPONDENCE**

**13. PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS**

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:35 pm.

APPROVED

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James J. Ryan  
Mayor

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Kyle Slaunwhite  
CAO