

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. Call to Order**

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

**2. 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.

**3. Changes/Approval of Agenda**

Motion: To approve the agenda with the addition of three acknowledgements:

- Stonehouse Property – Historical Significance
- Flag Raising – Pride Month
- Pictou County Students and Graduations

Moved, Seconded and Carried

***RTC-06-17-24-2801***

**4. Proclamations & Acknowledgements**

a. Stonehouse Property – Historical Significance

Congratulations were extended to Tabitha Coleman and Company who will be recognized for efforts to preserve the historic significance of her Water Street property. The Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia will recognize the former Stonehouse property as a significant historic infrastructure in the Province of Nova Scotia in the commercial category.

b. Flag Raising – Pride Month

There will be a flag raising tomorrow at noon at Market Square in recognition of Pride Month.

c. Pictou County Students and Graduations

The Chair acknowledged all Pictou County students and wished them a safe summer. Special congratulations was expressed to graduates from Pictou Academy, Northumberland Regional and North Nova High Schools.

**5. Presentations**

a. John Howard Society

Leisha Seymour and Susan Hughes provided an update on the John Howard Society's move of Berma's Place to Front Street. The presentation covered who they are and who they serve, an overview of what the Society is doing throughout the Province; the Elliott Street property and reasons for re-locating.

Questions/comments:

- Why was the Heritage Bed & Breakfast purchased? – needed a large property with lots of beds, the home creates dignity and wellbeing
- Do you know what is planned for Elliott Street? – no, the Province owns the property
- Do you vet your clients? – program is a self-referral process, then they are interviewed and triaged, then a determination is made on whether the person's profile matches the Society's mandate
- The Society made 24 calls in the last 3.5 years
- Under what circumstances would someone be removed from the premises? – person needs to be participating in programs, meet court conditions and no violence
- Will there be extra security during the Pictou Lobster Carnival? – they must follow certain conditions
- Do you have any responsibility for people if they are asked to leave? If there are no court conditions, then participants just leave the premises; if they breach conditions then the RCMP would be notified.
- Did the Society ever consider consulting with the community prior to purchasing this home? They plan to maintain the heritage aspect and character; was a complex business decision that was made whereby communication was limited for specific reasons
- Where did the funds come from to purchase this property? Department of Community Services, Homeless Division
- What is the average stay for a client? 1 year
- How many clients do you currently have? 8
- Are people on federal charges allowed to live there? Eric Neilson, Department of Justice, was in the audience and explained the probation process for different charges.

**6. Approval of Minutes**

a. Regular Council Minutes – May 21, 2024

There being no corrections, the Chair approved the circulated Regular Council Minutes of May 21, 2024.

b. Committee of Council Minutes – June 3, 2024

There Chair approved the circulated Committee of Council Minutes of June 3, 2024 with two amendments:

- Under RCMP Report – Cpl Parsons will be joining “this month” not “for the month”
- Street Sweeper – add “per business plan, contracting of services to other

**7. Reports/Recommendations from Private Session**

**8. Recommendations**

a. Resolution for Continuous Improvement – Municipal Innovation Project Grant

Motion: To authorize the Mayor and CAO to submit an application with the Municipal Innovation Program for the purposes of the project titled Continuous Improvement Collaborative Initiative; and further, for Council to support the project and commit to provide its share (\$5,000) toward the \$80,000 project cost.

Moved, Seconded and Carried **RTC-06-17-24-2802**

b. Business Advisory Committee Appointment

Motion: To appoint Vivianne LaRiviere as a member of the Business Advisory Committee.

Moved, Seconded and Carried **RTC-06-17-24-2803**

c. Dawson Street Closure Policy – Approval

Motion: To approve the Town of Pictou Policy titled “Dawson Street Closure.”

Moved, Seconded and Carried **RTC-06-17-24-2804**

d. Resolution for Alternative Trucking Route Exploration – Provincial Capital Assistance Program (PCAP) Grant Application

Motion: To authorize the Mayor and CAO to submit an application to PCAP for the purposes of designing an alternative trucking route; and further, Council supports the project and commits to provide its share (\$65,476) toward the \$130,951 project cost.

Moved, Seconded and Carried **RTC-06-17-24-2805**

**9. Discussion**

**10. Reports**

a. Municipal Corporation Reports

i) Pictou County Shared Services Authority

- A balanced proposed budget was approved for 2025
- No tipping fee increase to municipalities
- Increase in transportation rates to the Kemptown recycling facility from \$155 to \$165/metric ton

ii) Pictou County Wellness Centre

- 2025 fiscal budget was approved

iii) Riverview Home

- Closure date for the Adult Residential Centre as a result of the Remedy Report has been set for November 20, 2026
- Closure plan is currently being developed
- Riverview Corporation will become a landlord to residents as funding will be funneled directly through individual clients
- The Board continues to look for housing purchase options to accommodate residents

- Looking for commercial space for offices and social enterprises
- Discussions continue with government on possible uses for the current facility

iv) Mayors and Warden

- Updates on the progress of the expanded public transit and on the new Pictou County Affordable and Supportive Housing Association were shared; they will hold their AGM on June 19 at Summer Street Industries

**11. Correspondence**

**12. Public Comments/Questions**

- Question on permitted institutions in a waterfront zone
- Berma's Place:
  - Concern about the location
  - Can the Town instill a certain amount of security given the sport field is across the street?
  - Why wasn't the money used to buy land invested in the Elliott Street property?

**13. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:00 pm.

Approved

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James J. Ryan  
Mayor

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Kyle Slaunwhite  
CAO