

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
Michelle Young, Community Development Officer/Meeting Recorder

2. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:40 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 three additions:
5b. National Day of Truth and Reconciliation
5c. deCoste Centre and Pictou Library Project
5d. Fight League Atlantic

Moved, Seconded and Carried

RTC-09-23-24-001

5. Proclamations & Acknowledgements

a. Right to Know Week

The Chair declared September 23-29, 2024 as Right to Know Week in Pictou.

b. National Day of Truth and Reconciliation Day

The Chair recognized September 30 as National Day of Truth and Reconciliation Day. An event will take place on the waterfront.

c. deCoste Centre and Pictou Library Team

The Chair acknowledged the deCoste Centre and Pictou Library team for their work over the past few years in helping to realize the opening of the new Cultural Hub facility.

d. Fight League Atlantic

The Chair acknowledged and thanked the group who organized the event at the Hector Arena.

6. Presentations

7. Continuation of Service – Councillor MacKenzie

Councillor Melinda MacKenzie moved out of Town on September 16, 2024 and has requested to remain in office until the next municipal election in October. Section 17 (6) per Municipal Government Act, states that a councillor can continue service for up to six (6) months if they do not reside in Town, with approval of Council.

MOTION: To allow Melinda MacKenzie to continue to serve as a Town of Pictou Councillor until the swearing in of the new council this fall.

Moved, Seconded and Carried

RTC-09-23-2024-002

8. Approval of Minutes

a. Business Advisory Committee Minutes – April 30, 2024

The Chair accepted the circulated Business Advisory Committee Minutes of April 30, 2024.

b. Business Advisory Committee Minutes – May 28, 2024

The Chair accepted the circulated Business Advisory Committee Minutes of May 28, 2024.

c. Business Advisory Committee Minutes – June 25, 2024

The Chair accepted the circulated Business Advisory Committee Minutes of June 25, 2024.

d. Regular Council Minutes – July 22, 2024

There being no corrections, the Chair approved the circulated Regular Council Minutes of July 22, 2024.

e. Special Council Minutes – August 26, 2024

There being no corrections, the Chair approved the circulated Special Council Minutes of August 26, 2024.

f. Audit Committee Minutes – September 9, 2024

There being no corrections, the Chair approved the circulated Audit Committee Minutes of September 9, 2024.

g. Committee of Council – September 9, 2024

There being no corrections, the Chair approved the circulated Committee of Council Minutes of September 9, 2024.

Clarification was provided on the trucking route study:

- Cost of feasibility study is \$5,000 not \$150,000. The feasibility study will provide options for routing of trucking from downtown to the 106 Highway.
- This study is not funded by other levels of government.
- Capital work for this project will be considered next fiscal year (2025-26).

9. Reports/Recommendations from Private Session

10. Recommendations

- a. Second/Final Reading Municipal Planning Documents (Inter-municipal Planning Strategy, Town of Pictou Secondary Planning Strategy and Common Land Use By-Law)

The Chair stated that there are no substantial changes since First Reading.

MOTION: To approve the Second/Final Reading of the Municipal Planning Documents (Inter-municipal Planning Strategy, Town of Pictou Secondary Planning Strategy and Common Land Use By-Law).

Moved, Seconded and Carried ***RTC-09-23-2024-003***

- b. Approval – Audited March 31, 2024 Town of Pictou Water Utility Statements

MOTION: To approve the March 31, 2024 Water Utility Financial statements as presented by MNP.

Moved, Seconded and Carried ***RTC-09-23-2024-004***

- c. Approval – Audited March 31, 2024 Town of Pictou Consolidated Financial Statements

MOTION: To approve the March 31, 2024 Operating Financial statements as presented by MNP.

Moved, Seconded and Carried ***RTC-09-23-2024-005***

- d. Approval – Street Closure Policy - St. Andrews Street (portion)

MOTION: To approve the Policy titled “Street Closure – St. Andrews Street (portion)”.

Moved, Seconded and Carried ***RTC-09-23-2024-006***

11. Discussion

12. Reports

- a. Municipal Corporation Reports

- i) Pictou County Shared Services Authority

- Reduced services due to broken scale (\$40,000)
- Analysis of issue regarding concrete and treated wood disposal
- Construction and demo site improvements

- ii) Pictou County Wellness Centre

- The Annual General Meeting will be held before elections; waiting on audit statements

- iii) Riverview Home

- Staff meet with government departments
- social enterprises update

- iv) Mayors and Warden

- DEANS was present to answer questions on marketing levy
- Municipalities may work together on diversity, equity and anti-racism plan

- v) CEF
In good financial condition

13. Correspondence

14. Public Comments/Questions

- Question on Marketing levy – Pictou is not part of the levy
- Question: Do all accommodations have to be registered with the province? – Yes
- Question: Are sidewalks being continuously reviewed (accessibility plan)? – Yes
- Question: Is the Municipality of Pictou County and the Province of NS part of the trucking route process? – Not at the moment
- Question: Can we consider routing through the pulp mill?
- Comment that the Town should put money into the Waterfront Plan not a trucking route
- Question: Was there something that precipitated this request to create a trucking route?
Yes, discussions with industry
- Question: Do you know the type of return on investment (ROI) funds into this? Not yet
- Question: Is ROI and benefit to community part of this study? – No
- Comment that Waterfront Plan does not mention this trucking route
- Question: Why do we want to do this if not in waterfront plan? – Waterfront Plan indicates the importance of a working waterfront; being open for business; supporting tourism growth and industry; long term goals of community
- Question: Has CME or the Pier confirmed that if a trucking route is created, they will use it? – Both industries are interested in moving long loads through Town; loads are getting harder to move through the community efficiently and safely
- Question: Can these questions be considered in the study?
- Question: Where do these long loads go and why do they have to come into Pictou?

15. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:30 pm.

Approved

James J. Ryan
Mayor

Kyle Slaunwhite
CAO