

Minutes of a Town of Pictou Regular Council meeting at the CN Station – Council Chambers on the above date. Mayor James Ryan presiding.

Present: Deputy Mayor Nadine LeBlanc; Councillors Robert Fry, Matt Harris and Krista Fulton

Also Present: Kyle Slaunwhite, CAO
Nicole MacDonald, Deputy Clerk/ Minute Recorder

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 two additions:
4a. Former Employee
4b. Pictou County Health Centre
4c. Howitzer Design Anniversary
12. Private Session – Property Matters

Moved, Seconded and Carried

RTC-01-20-25-001

4. Proclamations & Acknowledgements

a. Former Employee

Long term employee, Ken MacAloney, who worked for the Town for 42 years passed away recently. Council passed along their condolences to his family.

b. Pictou County Health Authority

The Pictou Community Health Centre recently opened an office in Pictou. It is a non-profit organization dedicated to assist residents in navigating the health care system, with a focus on reducing barriers to access health services for the entire county. They asked to make a presentation to Council in the coming months.

c. Howitzer Design Anniversary

Howitzer Design was congratulated on their upcoming ten-year anniversary.

5. Presentations

6. Approval of Minutes

a. Public Hearing – December 16, 2024

The Chair approved the circulated Public Hearing Minutes of December 16, 2024 as presented.

b. Regular Council – December 16, 2024

There being no corrections, the Chair approved the circulated Regular Council Minutes of December 16, 2024.

c. Special Council – December 23, 2024

The Chair approved the circulated Special Council Minutes of December 23, 2024 as presented.

d. Committee of Council – January 3, 2025

The Chair approved the circulated Committee of Council Minutes of January 3, 2025 as presented.

7. Recommendations

a. Skate Park Debt

Motion: For Council to fund the remaining balance of \$7,000, less last fundraiser, to the Skate Park Society (this will complete their fundraising requirements for the skatepark project).

Moved, Seconded and Carried

RTC-01-20-25-002

b. Citizen Appointments to Committees of Council

Motion: To appoint the following individuals:

- Ivana Turcaniova as a member of the Parks and Recreation Committee;
- Alta Munroe as a member of the Sustainability Committee; and
- Ralston Evans as a member of the Police Advisory Board.

Moved, Seconded and Carried

RTC-01-20-25-003

c. Employee Recognition Policy

Motion: That the following serves as the required seven (7) day advance Notice of Intent to consider the Policy titled “Employee Recognition”.

Moved, Seconded and Carried

RTC-01-20-25-004

- Can this be retro?
- Are these recognitions taxable?
- Will this include all employees, union and non-union? – yes

8. Discussion

a. Off-Highway Vehicles

The topic of Off-Highway Vehicles having permission to access the downtown and other amenities has been requested over the years. It has come up more since the Province passed the 2023 Roads & Trails Act which allows municipalities to designate certain streets in Town as permitted streets for Off-Highway Vehicles.

A local ATV group recently met with the Town requesting a pilot program that would allow Off-Highway Vehicles to access certain areas of Town during certain times.

Council directed staff to set up a means for the public to provide feedback on this idea. The deadline will be 12 noon on February 27, 2025. The input will be compiled into a briefing note and presented to Council at the March Council meeting.

b. **Upcoming Meetings**

Upcoming meeting changes due to holidays:

- Regular Council – February 24, 2025
- Regular Council – April 22, 2025
- Regular Council – May 20, 2025

9. Reports

a. **Municipal Corporation Reports**

i) **Pictou County Shared Services Authority**

- In the design approval stages of an expansion to the construction demolition site
- Starting April 1, collection will move to a 4-day collection cycle – Tuesday to Friday – Mondays will be saved for storm rescheduling
- Municipalities have been given the option within the new collection contract of allowing year-round bulky item pickup – one bulky item per pickup year-round; all municipalities would have to agree to this

ii) **Pictou County Wellness Centre**

- No meetings

iii) **Riverview Home**

- No meetings

iv) **Mayors and Warden**

- Presentation from Viola's Place on the regional nature of their work; a request has been made to contribute to the cost of developing a regional plan to address housing insecurity and homelessness in Pictou County; cost would be \$13,000 plus tax, split among the six municipalities; this will be considered through the grant program.

10. Correspondence

11. Public Comments/Questions

12. Private Session – Property Matter

Council moved to Private Session to discuss a Property Matter at 7:30 pm.

Council moved back into Public Session.

13. Reports/Recommendations from Private Session

The CAO was given direction to negotiate a Purchase and Sale Agreement on town-owned property.

14. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:37 pm.

Approved

James J. Ryan
Mayor

Kyle Slaunwhite
CAO