

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, Krista Fulton and Matt Harris

**Also Present:** Kyle Slaunwhite, CAO  
Michelle Young, Minute Recorder

**Regrets:** Nicole MacDonald, Deputy Clerk

**1. Public Session – Public Hearing (5:30 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 four additions:  
5a. New Caledonian Curling Club Anniversary;  
7c. Tax Sale Minutes;  
8b. Site Plan Approval – 215 Cedar Street;  
9e. Update on Fitness Trail; and  
Move 13 to 9b Private Session – Contract Matters

Moved, Seconded and Carried

*RTC-02-24-25-001*

**5. Proclamations & Acknowledgements**

a. New Caledonian Curling Club Anniversary

The Chair acknowledged the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the New Caledonian Curling Club.

**6. Presentations**

**7. Approval of Minutes**

a. Regular Council – January 20, 2025

There being no corrections, the Chair approved the circulated Regular Council Minutes of January 20, 2025 as presented.

b. Committee of Council – February 3, 2025

The Chair approved the circulated Committee of Council Minutes of February 3, 2025 with one amendment – Hector Arena Report was given by Councillor Fry and not Councillor Fulton.

c. Tax Sale – February 19, 2025

The Chair approved the circulated Tax Sale Minutes of February 19, 2025 as presented.

**8. Recommendations**

a. Employee Recognition Policy – Approval

Motion: To approve the Policy titled “Employee Recognition”.

Moved, Seconded and Carried

***RTC-02-24-25-002***

b. Site Plan Approval – Cedar St

A Public Hearing was held tonight prior to Regular Council as some neighbouring residents appealed the plan.

Motion: To approve the Site Plan for 215 Cedar St. on the condition that privacy fencing be installed along the property lines.

Moved, Seconded and Carried; 2 nays

***RTC-02-24-25-003***

**9. Discussion**

a. Off-Highway Vehicles

Feedback on possible changes to the Off-Highway Vehicles By-law will be accepted until February 27 at 12 noon. This can be done via online survey or email to the CAO.

b. Private Session: 2025-26 Capital Budget (6:43pm)

Motion: For Council to move to private session to discuss Contract Matters.

Moved, Seconded and Carried

***RTC-02-24-25-004***

Council moved back into Public Session at 7:00 pm.

Public Session: 2025-26 Capital Budget

More funding has been received since the Capital Budget was presented. Council reported that during the Private Session, discussion took place regarding tendering projects.

The CAO reviewed the proposed changes to the Capital Budget:

- An electric SUV will be purchased instead of a truck
- Additional outside grants will allow for more paving and an expansion to the scope of Caladh Avenue – the original lighting replacement was from Water St to Coleraine St, it will now extend to Depot Street; the Jitney will be extended to the CN Station; a boardwalk will be built from the Market Wharf to the Ship Hector.

Motion: To approve the 2025-26 Capital Budget in the amount of \$6,605,470 which will be funded from \$17,300 in reserves, \$3,229,970 in grants, \$2,104,000 in debt, \$744,200 from operations and \$510,000 from other sources.

Moved, Seconded and Carried

***RTC-02-24-25-005***

Other paving improvements include:

- Grange Street – water, sewer and stormwater upgrades
  - East Summit Drive – sewer upgrades
  - Fairview Court, Victoria Street and Campbell Court – paving
  - Harbour Crossing – waterline and/or sewer upgrades
  - West Maple Street – water and sewer upgrades
  - Oak Street – new sidewalk between Wellington and Welsford Street
  - Constitution Street – a carryover from last fiscal
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- Question on how residents are notified when these projects are taking place – they can register on the Town’s email list; information is also shared on the Town website and Facebook

c. James Street

Motion: To make James Street, from High to Church Street, a one-way street going south.

Moved, Seconded and Carried

***RTC-02-24-25-006***

Signs will be installed to notify drivers of the change to one-way on James Street.

d. Local Leadership for Climate Adaptation (LLCA) in Action Feasibility Study – Jitney Trail Resolution

Motion: For Pictou Town Council to authorize the Mayor and CAO to submit an application to the LLCA for the purposes of assessing options for improving the resilience of the Jitney Trail; and further, Council supports the project and commits to provide its share (\$19,375) toward the \$89,375 project cost.

Moved, Seconded and Carried

***RTC-02-24-25-007***

e. Fitness Trails Update

The CAO shared that a contractor was hired last summer to clean up town-owned property with dead fall from Hurricane Fiona. Last year, the north side of Division Road by the watershed was cleaned up. They are now working on the south side, which includes the Fitness Trails. The trails are currently closed for safety reasons while work is being done.

A tree replanting program will begin after the cleanup is complete.

- Question on whether a community group could clean up the trail rather than a contractor – due to liability and safety, this is not recommended; trees continue to fall
- Some drone shots of the trail deadfall will be shared publicly courtesy of Councillor Harris

**10. Reports**

a. Municipal Corporation Reports

i) Riverview Home

- Board continues to move forward with the creation of non-institutional housing options for current and future residents

- Direction was given to proceed with the tendering of the construction of appropriate community housing options for those residents still in the adult residential center with higher medical needs
- Staff was given direction to negotiate the purchase of two additional community-based homes as potential accommodation for residents when the home closes

**11. Correspondence**

a. The Honourable John Lohr (fr)

A letter was received from the Honourable John Lohr regarding a recent announcement that Nova Scotia must say “yes” to both a reduction in inter-provincial trade barriers, and to resource development within the Province; and that resource development is of incredible importance. If Council is in agreement, he is asking Council to signal their support for greater resource development by letter or press release.

Council will await input from Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities before responding.

**12. Public Comments/Questions**

- Question on whether Caladh Avenue is still going to become one-way – yes
- Question on whether side by sides will be permitted on the Jitney Trail – they are being considered
- Question on Jitney Trail assessment costs – \$90,000, but with a grant the Town will pay \$18,000
- Comment that the Subscribe Alert email is a great tool
- Question on construction work impacting access to businesses and communicating the progress

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

**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