

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 Robert Fry; Councillors Terry Dunbrack, Nadine LeBlanc and Krista Fulton

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

**1. Private Session – Personnel Matters (6:00 pm)**

**2. Public Session – Call to Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:35 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 as circulated.  
Moved, Seconded and Carried

***RTC-02-17-26-001***

**5. Proclamations & Acknowledgements**

The Chair acknowledged the tragedy that occurred in Tumbler Ridge, BC. Council and the community stand in solidarity with the people of Tumbler Ridge, and our thoughts and prayers go out to all those affected.

**6. Presentations**

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

A personnel matter was discussed.

**8. Approval of Minutes**

a. Regular Council – January 19, 2026

The Chair accepted the circulated Regular Council minutes of January 19, 2026.

b. Public Input Session – February 2, 2026

The Chair accepted the circulated Public Input Session minutes of February 2, 2026.

c. Committee of Council – February 2, 2026

The Chair accepted the circulated Committee of Council minutes of February 2, 2026.

**9. Recommendations**

a. YMCA Partial Tax Exemption – Approval

Motion: To approve the Policy titled “YMCA – Partial Tax Exemption”.

Moved, seconded and carried.

***RTC-02-17-26-002***

b. 2026-27 Capital Budget – Approval

At the February 2026 Committee of Council meeting, the Capital Budget was presented. Three options were outlined related to streets, sidewalks, and underground infrastructure that Council wished to consider:

1. Union Street South – Replace all aged infrastructure and complete stormwater separation.
2. Coleraine Street to Post Office Corner (CN Parking Lot Area) – Replace all old infrastructure including water mains, sidewalks and related assets.
3. Town-Wide Projects – Pave residential streets; complete water line upgrades in several areas; undertake design work and engineering for streets and a parking-related project.

Motion: To proceed with Option #3 specific to streets, sidewalks and underground infrastructure.

Moved, Seconded and Carried

***RTC-02-17-26-003***

Breakdown of the anticipated projects:

- Re-paving – Rowan Lane, Birch Hill Drive, Wallace Drive and Harbour Crossing.
- Waterline upgrades – Welsford Street (from Oak Street and Maple Street); Bark Street
- Commercial Street Project – Explore the conversion/closure of Commercial Street to provide additional parking.

Direction was given to staff to proceed with tendering.

Motion: To approve the 2026-27 Capital Budget in its entirety as presented, totaling \$3,831,500.

Moved, Seconded and Carried

***RTC-02-17-26-004***

Questions:

- Why are we passing the budget now when there are still a few unknowns? – like to be first municipality to tender, as usually more favorable pricing
- If we are under budget once tenders close, then what? – staff will bring forward options for Council

c. 2025-26 Operating Budget

To address the projected operating deficit, staff presented several options for Council’s consideration.

Motion: To move \$300,000 from the Operating Reserve to offset the completion of the Constitution Street project.

Moved, Seconded and Carried

***RTC-02-17-26-005***

Motion: To move \$39,000 from the Equipment Reserve to offset the cost of the flatbed truck.

Moved, Seconded and Carried

***RTC-02-17-26-006***

Motion: To use up to \$100,000 of the proceeds from the sale of the municipal building to offset the cost of the repairs required as part of the conditions of closing.

Moved, Seconded and Carried

***RTC-02-17-26-007***

d. **Business Advisory Board – New Member Appointment**

Motion: To appoint Lori Wheeler to the Business Advisory Board.

Moved, Seconded and Carried

***RTC-02-17-26-008***

**10. Discussion**

**11. Municipal Corporation Reports**

i) **Pictou County Shared Services Authority**

- Shared electronically

ii) **Pictou County Wellness Centre**

- Generators have been installed, enabling the facility to operate as a comfort centre during storms.

iii) **Riverview Homes**

- The Department of Opportunities and Social Development is currently seeking individuals interested in participating in the Home Share Program, which supports individuals in their homes

iv) **Mayor and Wardens**

- A presentation was delivered by the Pictou County Marketing Levy Advisory Committee outlining the development of strategies aimed at attracting events to Pictou County
- Discussion was held surrounding housing and homelessness

**12. Correspondence**

**13. Public Comments/Questions**

**14. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:15 pm.

Approved

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James J. Ryan  
Mayor

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Kyle Slaunwhite  
CAO