

October 5, 2015

The Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou met in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Administration Building on Monday, October 5, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Dist.	1	Clr. Sally Fraser
	2	Clr. Deborah Wadden
	3	Clr. Edward MacMaster
	4	Warden Ronnie Baillie
	6	Clr. Jim Turple
	7	Clr. David Parker
	8	Clr. Leonard Fraser
	10	Clr. Jamie Davidson
	11	Deputy Warden Andy Thompson
	12	Clr. Chester Dewar
	13	Clr. Randy Palmer
	14	Clr. Scott Johnston

ABSENT

	5	Clr. Robert Parker
	9	Clr. Larry Turner

IN ATTENDANCE

Don Fraser, Solicitor, MacIntosh, MacDonnell & MacDonald
Brian Cullen, CAO/Municipal Clerk-Treasurer
Karen E. Cornish, Deputy Municipal Treasurer
Carolyn MacIntosh, Deputy Municipal Clerk
Jane Johnson, Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

Warden Baillie called the meeting to order and requested that Councillors stand and take a moment in silence to pray or simply reflect, as may be their preference, to help Council focus and properly do the work of the County.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Council observed a moment of silence in memory of the Late Constable Catherine Campbell.

WELCOME

Warden Baillie welcomed Karla MacFarlane, MLA for Pictou West to the Chambers.

AGENDA

It was moved by Deputy Warden Thompson and seconded by Clr. S. Fraser that the agenda be approved with the deletion of the Economic Development Working Group's report.
Motion carried.

MINUTES

It was moved by Clr. Turple and seconded by Clr. D. Parker that the minutes of September 8, 2015 be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was received and acknowledged from the following:

- (a) Correspondence (uncirculated) expressing appreciation for financial support was received from Caitlyn Sandluck (bursary recipient)

RECOGNITION OF INDIVIDUALS & GROUPS

There were no recognition of individuals & groups.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORLD CLYDESDALE SHOW

Clr. L. Fraser reported that he recently attended the World Clydesdale Show and there were people who attended from all across Canada and the U.S. There were no teams at the show from Nova Scotia but there were 2 teams from New Brunswick. Clr. L. Fraser informed Council that Lloyd and Marlene Langille's son Donnie Langille was there driving a team from the U.S. Donnie Langille received the best driver for the show teamster and Sara Hayes from Fredericton, New Brunswick received the best lady driver. This is the first time this show was held in Canada in 20 years and it will return to Canada in 6 years.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AWARDS

Warden Baillie reported the Chamber of Commerce Awards will be held on October 21, 2015 and the Municipality usually buys a table for the event. Warden Baillie asked if there any Councillors not able to attend the awards or Councillors could be polled to see who is able to attend.

AGREED

It was agreed that Councillors be polled to see who is able to attend the Chamber of Commerce Awards.

SUNRISE FILM FESTIVAL

Warden Baillie informed Council the Sunrise Film Festival is starting this week with a number of film venues being held from Pictou to Pugwash. There are 2 tickets available if any Councillor is interested in attending the festival. On Wednesday night the festival launch will be held in Pugwash at the Lobster Factory and on Thursday night the Festival Opening Ceremony will be held in River John at the fire hall.

DISTRICT 1 EVENTS

Clr. S. Fraser informed Council that on October 17, 2015 in Merigomish a Kitchen Party will be held at the Old School House at 7:00 p.m. A Hunter's Breakfast will be held on October 21, 2015 from 8:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. at the Merigomish Fire Hall.

ROAST BEEF SUPPER

Deputy Warden Thompson reported a roast beef dinner will be held in Plymouth on October 24, 2014 at the Plymouth Fire Hall.

PROPERTY SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

Clr. D. Parker presented the report of the Property Services Committee as follows:

PROPERTY SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

For information purposes the Property Services Committee submits the following report on the activities of the Committee for the month of September:

1. Reviewed the report of the Building Inspector, By-Law/Dog Control Officer and Warden for the month of August.
2. Discussed the status of on-going projects. The River John Wastewater Extension is complete and ready for user connections. The Greenhill Water & Wastewater Project has received UARB approval and is awaiting approvals from Transportation & Infrastructure Renewal and the Department of Environment. CAD drawings have been supplied to the contractor. The Coalburn Wastewater Extension is still awaiting consultation of the residents and will not likely advance until the 2016 construction season. The Hopewell Wastewater Extension is progressing with meetings between the Municipality and the developer to determine scope. A draft development agreement will be sent to the developer and brought to Council for approval once the terms have been agreed upon. Construction would be in 2016 with a June 30th completion deadline. With respect to the Smith's Lane Sewer Extension, no documentation was found referencing commitments to extend this line at the time of original construction. Staff will prepare a cost estimate to extend the line to the remaining homes for the next meeting of the Property Services Committee. The LED street lighting project is progressing. The contractor has completed GPS readings on existing lights and will up-load that data to create an itemized list of anomalies that will need to be addressed in consultation with respective Councillors. Installation is scheduled to begin the first week in November utilizing 6 crews; it is estimated that 120 lights will be replaced per day with 56 watt LED fixtures.
3. Reviewed a legal opinion provided to the Municipality 13 months ago on the security of fire scenes. This information will be shared with the Pictou County Firefighters Association, along with information received from the RCMP on the availability of members to provide security in situations where the origins of fires are suspicious.
4. Agreed to proceed with the installation of an electric vehicle charging station on the Municipal Administration Building property.
5. Reviewed procedures for changing road names and sharing that data with relevant users.
6. Discussed road improvements to Stanwood Drive which are expected to take place in two phases over the next month, and also an application for the take-over of Pump Road. The Committee has waived the requirement for an engineering study in this instance as the take-over will entail the construction of a new road.

DATED at Pictou, N.S. this 5th day of October, 2015

(Sgd.) David Parker
Jim Turple

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. D. Parker and seconded by Clr. Turple that the report of the Property Services Committee be received for information purposes.

Motion carried.

FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

Clr. Palmer presented the report of the Financial Services Committee as follows:

FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

For information purposes the Financial Services Committee submits the following report on the activities of the Committee for the month of September:

1. Reviewed the list of Accounts Paid for the month of August.
2. Considered requests for municipal grants. (Resolution to follow)
3. Discussed the mandate of the Municipal Economic Development Working Group. (Resolution to follow)

DATED at Pictou, N.S. this 5th day of October, 2015.

(Sgd.) Randy Palmer
Scott Johnston

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. Palmer and seconded by Clr. Johnston that the report of the Financial Services Committee be received for information purposes.

Motion carried.

MUNICIPAL ALCOHOL PROJECT

Clr. Wadden reported that the Municipal Alcohol Project Committee met today so there were no minutes to forward to you for this month's report.

All six of our municipal units have forwarded their concern with the proposed changes to the Liquor Licensing Regulations by sending letters. To have all participating units follow through on this item is huge and has been very well received from many of the provincial departments who are also concerned with this proposed change - and our MAP Committee has been singled out across the province for the work we are able to achieve by our working together on this project and others like it within our province, which in turn goes back to our own councils who are supporting the work we are doing so thank you.

We have applied for funding to sponsor another youth oriented activity for the early spring timeframe and are currently meeting with some students with some leadership qualities to help us organize this event. We are in the early stages and more info will follow as we continue to plan this event. Basically we are following up on our achievements from last year and hopefully will be moving forward with our endeavors.

We are doing a follow up on our safe ride home initiatives from last year and following up with future potential partners.

UNSM have a Policy Guide on this initiative for the MAP's and we should be hearing more on this at our fall conference in Halifax.

Just in closing, this is a good working committee to be involved with and. I have been fortunate to be part of it for the past couple of years. We are coming up to our last year in our term of office and if there is any other Councillor who would like to sit on this committee I would step aside and let you have an opportunity to work on this committee to see how well its functions and the workload you are able to achieve.

RESOLUTION – MUNICIPAL GRANTS

Clr. Palmer presented a resolution to Council as follows:

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou that Council approve the payment of the following Municipal Grants:

Recreation:

District 13 Rec. & Plan. Commission	\$ 18,000.00	To assist with operating expenses @ the Ivor MacDonald Mem. Rink
Hector Arena Commission	<u>8,000.00</u>	To assist with operating expenses
TOTAL:	\$ 26,000.00	

Municipal Services:

Meadowville/Poplar Hill Community Hall	\$ 1,800.00	Replacement of Oil Tank
TOTAL:	\$ 1,800.00	

GRANT TOTAL: \$ 27,800.00

DATED at Pictou, N.S. this 5th day of October, 2015

(Sgd.) Randy Palmer
Scott Johnston

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. Palmer and seconded by Clr. Johnston that the preceding resolution be adopted as presented.
Motion carried.

RESOLUTION – ECONOMIC DEVELOPING WORKING GROUP

Clr. D. Parker presented a resolution to Council as follows:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS Council has approved the formation of a Municipal Economic Working Group comprised of representatives of the Municipality and the Towns of New Glasgow, Stellarton, Trenton, Westville and Pictou;

WHEREAS the Committee has had two initial meetings and has developed a draft mandate for consideration by the six municipal councils;

WHEREAS the Financial Services Committee of the Municipality has reviewed the text of the draft mandate and recommends adoption;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou that Council approve the following mandate for the Municipal Economic Working Group:

To encourage measurable growth in the Pictou County economy that will result in **sustainable** increases in employment that provides a **living wage**.

The Working Group will provide a **leadership** role by working with organized groups, individual entrepreneurs and business leaders to encourage a **positive environment** for economic development and business attraction through education, communication and promotion of our community.

The Working Group, together with our partners, will identify and address **roadblocks** and **opportunities** to make Pictou County a leader in the new world economy. By communicating with our municipal councils and business community, the Working Group will assist in retaining and growing our **current employers** while attracting **new business opportunities** and **entrepreneurs**.

DATED at Pictou, NS this 5th day of October, 2015.

(Sgd.) David Parker
Jim Turple

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. D. Parker and seconded by Clr. Turple that the preceding resolution be adopted as presented.

Motion carried.

EMERGENCY RESOLUTIONS

There were no emergency resolutions.

PROPOSED LEASE – RIVER JOHN SCHOOL

Council discussed legal advice received on a lease between the Municipality and the River John Community Action Society for the former River John School.

Warden Baillie referred to Clause 14 of the proposed lease and pointed out that “two sets of keys” will be changed to “3 sets of keys”.

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. L. Fraser and seconded by Clr. Turple that the Warden and CAO be given permission to sign the lease agreement with the River John Community Action Society on behalf of the Municipality for the former River John School.

Clr. D. Parker asked the cost to the taxpayers for the next 10 months to keep the school open and Warden Baillie replied the cost would be approximately \$125,000.

Clr. Wadden asked if the lease was for 1 year only and will the building be advertised after 1 year to sell it or to do something with it.

Warden Baillie replied the lease will expire on August 31, 2016 so by next June the River John Community Action Society will know if they can move forward its own.

Clr. Dewar pointed out there will be a cost to keep the school for another year anyway and the School Board may make another decision to reopen the school next year.

Motion carried.

REGIONAL ECONOMIC NETWORK 4

Clr. D. Parker reported that he was concerned that the Municipality has choked off one of the sources of funding and we are on the outside looking in but it does not have to be that way. Some of the events and meetings were held last winter and the Municipality was not invited so in some ways we were bullied. We have a Business Development Officer so we should be doing everything we can to help that individual and this evening we passed a mandate for an Economic Working Group who are somewhat limited if they cannot join a REN. There is always a need to network and we need to have representation from Pictou County on that REN group.

Clr. D. Parker suggested the Economic Working Group make approaches as to how the Municipality can join REN4.

Warden Baillie pointed out there is no REN4 and East Hants was the only municipal unit interested but the Provincial Government has not allowed the municipality to form a REN on its own.

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. D. Parker and seconded by Clr. Johnston that the Economic Development Working Group investigate how to recreate a REN4.

Clr. Palmer pointed out that just because the Municipality is not part of a REN we can still apply for provincial funding.

Deputy Warden Thompson reported that we are saving money by not participating in a REN and Pictou County is in the process of making some pretty substantial changes in the coming month and its focus should be on the MOU at this time.

Clr. Wadden reported the Economic Working Group has been given a mandate so this would not be fair to the group.

Motion defeated. (Nays Votes: Clrs. S. Fraser, Wadden, MacMaster, Turple, L. Fraser, Davidson, Dewar, Palmer, Deputy Warden Thompson & Warden Baillie)

ENGINE BRAKES – LYONS BROOK/SCOTSBURN

Clr. Turple reported that the issue with the engine brakes has finally been resolved with the assistance of MLA Karla MacFarlane who sent a letter to Mr. Gilbert Carre, General Manager of the Scotsburn Lumber Yard. Mr. Carre emailed Mr. Donald Hume, Fibre Production Manager at the Scotsburn Lumber Yard regarding a complaint he received on the use of engine brakes at night. Even though the trucks may not be delivering to Scotsburn Lumber he wanted to ensure they do their part in preventing any trucks delivering to Scotsburn Lumber from using engine brakes at night. Mr. Carre asked Mr. Hume to discuss the complaint with all private wood suppliers as well as Northern Pulp who have any trucks delivering to Scotsburn Lumber from their suppliers. It is always better to address the issue than wait for legislation to address it for them. Mr. Hume responded to Mr. Carre's email informing him a sign was posted and will speak with all drivers individually at the scale over the next few days. He was in contact with Dale Hodgkins regarding all the products and trucks coming in this morning. Mr. Hume also contacted all the harvesting suppliers and supervisors at Northern Pulp and Port Hawkesbury Paper regarding their contract truckers this morning. They are moving a total of 400 loads per week which is 800 trips to the Scotsburn Mill and a majority of these truckers are respectful but it only takes 1 to create an issue. Hopefully the issue will be addressed over the next few days once everyone receives the message. Clr. Turple informed Council the email was written several weeks ago and ever since it has been quiet in Lyons Brook and so it appears that the issue has resolved itself.

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. Turple and seconded by Deputy Warden Thompson that letters of appreciation be sent to Mr. Gilbert Carre, General Manager and Mr. Donald Hume, Fibre Procurement Manager, Scotsburn Lumber Yard and Karla MacFarlane, MLA, Pictou West thanking them for resolving the problem for the residents of Lyons Brook.

Motion carried.

REFERRALS TO COMMITTEES & NOTICES OF MOTION

Clr. Wadden asked if there was any information on the mental health situation at the Aberdeen Hospital.

Warden Baillie replied that he was of the understanding that the Minister of Health was coming to meet with the Mayors and himself to speak on the new Health Authority. The meeting ended up being a discussion on long-term care that was centered in on Glen Haven Manor so before anyone had an opportunity to ask any questions the meeting ended and the Minister was scheduled to attend another meeting.

Clr. Wadden asked if the Mayors & Warden had any discussion with the Health Authority regarding the Mental Health issue.

Warden Baillie responded there has been no further discussions since August and the 3 months will be up this month. Ms. Karla MacFarlane, MLA for Pictou West will be meeting with some nurses tomorrow on the mental health issue. The Mayors & Warden will be meeting shortly and he anticipated that this item will be on that agenda.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Clr. D. Parker reported it will be close 6 months when some type of plebiscite will be held on the MOU and he has been receiving quite a few questions from residents, some of which he is unable to answer. He asked that future agendas of Council include an opportunity for Councillors to receive an update on the MOU process and ask questions.

ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

Clr. Dewar reported that next year the Department of Transportation & Infrastructure Renewal is going to put another chip seal on the roads that were done. The Mark, Marsh and Elgin Roads were previously done but there has been no improvements to the roads. In the winter these roads are sanded and not salted making it dangerous because the sand does not do the same job as salt. The buses are allowed to travel on them because they are classed the same as a dirt road. Clr. Dewar asked that the condition of the double chip seal roads be put on the next Property Services Committee agenda.

ADJOURN

It was moved by Deputy Warden Thompson and seconded by Clr. S. Fraser that the meeting adjourn.

Motion carried. (7:40 p.m.)

WARDEN

DEPUTY MUNICIPAL CLERK