

February 18, 2025

The Property Services Committee for the Municipality of the County of Pictou met in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Administration Building by videoconference and teleconference on Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT

- 1 Clr. Joe MacDonald (videoconference)
- 2 Clr. Deborah Wadden (videoconference)
- 3 Clr. Darla MacKeil
- 4 Clr. Ronald Baillie
- 5 Deputy Warden Wayne Murray
- 6 Warden Robert Parker
- 7 Clr. Donald Parker
- 8 Clr. Larry Turner
- 9 Clr. Peter Boyles
- 10 Clr. Randy Palmer
- 11 Clr. Andy Thompson
- 12 Clr. Chester Dewar

IN ATTENDANCE

Brian Cullen, CAO, Municipal Clerk-Treasurer (videoconference)
Sueann Musick, Director of Corporate Services
Karen Cornish, Deputy Municipal Treasurer
Evan Hale, Director of Emergency Services
Logan McDowell, Dir. of Public Works & Development
Rhiannon McNair, Director of Business Operations, Broadband Initiative
Adam MacInnis, Communications Officer

ABSENT

Shellie Pettipas, Administrative Assistant

CALL TO ORDER & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Clr. Randy Palmer, Chair of the Property Services Committee called the meeting to order and acknowledged that we are on the ancestral territorial lands of the Mikmaq people.

AGENDA

It was moved by Clr. Boyles and seconded by Clr. Turner that the agenda be approved as presented. **Motion Carried**

EMERGENCY RESOLUTIONS

There were no emergency resolutions.

MINUTES

Clr. Palmer asked if there were any errors, omissions, or corrections in the minutes for January 20, 2025. The members of the Committee entered no errors, omissions, or corrections. The Chair proclaimed the minutes of the meeting on January 20, 2025, as the official record of the meeting. **Motion Carried**

Clr. Dewar noted that Accounts Paid was duplicated in the minutes.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Thank you from Riverview Home Corporation for the Council Grant.
- b. Thank you letter from F.H. MacDonald School for the Breakfast and Backpack programs grants.
- c. Department of Public Works confirms who is responsible for removing dead animals on roads.
- d. Town of Stellarton letter about concerns regarding EMO letter.
- e. Valley View Villa request to expand board.

Clr. Boyles commented on the letter from Public Works and said this information should be posted in the Administration Building lobby for residents. Clr Palmer suggested this information be posted on the Municipality's website. Ms. Musick confirmed it would be posted in the building and on the website.

Regarding the Valley View Villa request, Clr. Turner said the Articles of Incorporations allow the board to decide on expanding the board and does not have to come before Council. Warden Parker questioned who would be responsible for appointing a Councillor and citizen member if the board were expanded. CAO Cullen said the Board would be responsible for changing the bylaw and Council would need to appoint the additional citizen and Council representative.

REPORTS

PUBLIC WORKS AND DEVELOPMENT

The Public Works and Development Report for the month of January 2025 was received as presented.

Clr. Boyles asked about the cost of a resident putting sewer and water into their home. Mr. McDowell said that the resident would be responsible for taking it from the property line to their home, and the municipality would provide the service to the property line from the road. The cost is \$2,500.00 spread over three years for sewer and \$1,600.00

over three years for water. The resident is responsible for paying the contractor to run it into the house.

Clr. Boyles asked for an update regarding the Evan MacDonald Road. Mr. McDowell said the survey results have been received and are more favourable at the Linacy end than the Evan MacDonald Road. That information will be included for consideration in the upcoming capital budget. Mr. McDowell said the feedback was mixed. Clr. Boyles said that some residents have stated not receiving any information and asked if there is any way that letters could be sent and Clr. Boyles could deliver those. Mr. McDowell will follow up with Clr. Boyles to discuss this further.

Clr. MacKeil asked Mr. McDowell to provide more information regarding the meeting with the Towns of New Glasgow and Westville to review plans and efforts regarding the ongoing water quality improvement. Mr. McDowell said there have been meetings with the Towns of New Glasgow and Westville and the Nova Scotia Department of Environment to look at improving THM levels. Mr. McDowell said that towns were testing in different ways and there was a spike in THM levels a couple of years ago, which prompted this. Since then, the municipality has worked with those towns and the provincial department to ensure communication.

Clr. MacKeil asked Mr. McDowell to expand on the meetings with Wade Tibbo and Frank MacFarlane regarding industrial services in the municipality. Mr. McDowell said the meeting with Frank MacFarlane was to look at the ongoing development and what needs to be potentially developed for industrial applications. The meeting with Mr. Tibbo aimed to understand what is being heard from the business community, particularly around three-phase power extension, to support additional industrial development. The meetings were to see what areas make sense for industrial development and if they align well with the land use plan.

Warden Parker asked for more detail regarding the Greenhill Estates Subdivision and if that is progressing. Mr. McDowell met with the surveyor and the draft servicing agreement was received and it is now in review. All of the documents are in and the changes are expected to be made to the service agreement this week.

Warden Parker asked for more information regarding the Alma Chlorination Station damage. Mr. McDowell said the purpose of that station is to inject chlorine into the water that is received from Westville. A call was received from Westville saying that the pressure gauge was not showing pressure. The pipes had frozen inside and busted up some of the instruments. The final repairs will be made. Warden asked if there was any danger to that water. Mr. McDowell said there were no anomalies in the testing that week.

Clr. Wadden requested an update regarding the Chance Harbour Subdivision. Mr. McDowell has not received any additional updates but has reached out to the lawyer. Mr. McDowell stated that the service agreement looks good. The applicant has provided the required information, and they will be updated in the process. Things are looking good and it is hoped to finalize that service agreement.

Deputy Warden Murray questioned if the Scotsburn pumping station damage is close to being resolved with the insurance company. Mr. McDowell said additional documents are being worked on this week to get them to them.

Clr. Baillie asked if Mr. McDowell had heard anything back on TIR about the possibility of an extension on the sidewalks in River John. Mr. McDowell did follow up with them to see where things stood. Mr. McDowell will follow up with the person it was sent to in Bible Hill and keep Clr. Baillie updated on this.

DEVELOPMENT OFFICER REPORT

The Development Officer Report for the month of January 2025 was received as presented.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

The Emergency Services Report for the month of January 2025 was received as presented.

Clr. Boyles asked when training would take place for the AED machine. Mr. Hale said work is being done to finish the grant, which should be completed by the end of the month. Once the grant is complete, Mr. Hale will ensure that everybody has everything required and begin some training. Two sessions have been held to date and Mr. Hale will contact Clr. Boyles to set up a time for training.

Warden Parker said there was a request from some residents in Little Harbour to look at possible plans in case of a fire in that area. The Warden asked if there was any contact or arrangements regarding this. Mr. Hale said he and the Department of Natural Resources were contacted and Mr. Hale is waiting on the officer's availability to set up and do the fire smart presentation.

FIRE INSPECTOR REPORT

The Fire Inspector Report for the month of January 2025 was received as presented.

BYLAW OFFICER'S REPORT

The Bylaw Officer's Report for the month of January 2025 was received as presented.

Mr. Hale said there were changes in the Bylaw Officer's Report. The Bylaw Officer is now on a new system to do orders and track cases. This report will continue to grow.

BUSINESS ITEMS OR ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

BULKY ITEMS PICKUP

Warden Parker said that most of the towns were not interested in going with the bulky items pickup.

CAO Cullen did not have a complete count on the towns. The bulky items pickup is an optional item for the new contract and the cost would be \$1.25 per household plus weight. Mr. Cullen said the landfill voucher program pushes 200,000 and would be contrasting with the voucher program. CAO Cullen said when an item is placed curbside, it is then identified and to be picked up following collection day, the towns did not want items sitting curbside. Warden Parker said the program is only available if all the municipalities agree.

Clr. Baillie asked why all six municipalities must agree on this and asked if there would be an increased cost if all did not participate. CAO Cullen was unsure why it was an all or nothing proposal and not for individual units.

DEFERRED BUSINESS

There was no deferred business.

MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION

There were no motions of reconsideration.

IN-CAMERA

MOTION

It was moved by Deputy Warden Murray and seconded by Clr. Turner to go to In-Camera session.

Motion Carried

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. MacKeil and seconded by Clr Baillie to return to regular session.

Motion Carried

ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business before the meeting, so the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

CHAIRPERSON

MUNICIPAL CLERK