

February 23, 2023

The Climate Change Advisory Committee of the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou met by in the Council Chambers on Thursday February 23, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Clr. Mary Elliott, Vice-Chair
Warden R. Parker, Ex-Officio
Clr. Larry Turner
Clr. D. Parker
Violet McCullough, Citizen Member
Ed Kennedy, Citizen Member
Pierre Bredell

ABSENT

Clr. Peter Boyles, Chair
Dominic Boyd, Citizen Member
Reggie Brightman, Citizen Member

IN ATTENDANCE

Brian Cullen, Chief Administrative Officer
Logan McDowell, P.Eng. Director of Public Works and Development

CALL TO ORDER & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Clr. Elliott called the meeting to order and acknowledged that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People.

The Committee introduced themselves to Analu Caldas MacEachern and Kyle MacKenzie who joined the meeting with an interest to reviewing the work of the committee.

AGENDA

It was moved by Clr. Turner and seconded by Clr. Parker that the agenda be approved with the addition of an update on the PACE program. Motion carried.

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of January 19th, 2023, were reviewed by the members of the Committee. There being no errors or omissions entered by the members of the

Committee, the Chair proclaimed the minutes of the meeting of January 19, 2023, as the official record of that meeting.

TREE PLANTING PROJECT SUB-COMMITTEE

Mr. Kennedy reviewed a report circulated in the meeting package of tree sub-committee. The Committee discussed the various options contained in the report. There was discussion around the potential to sell additional seedlings to individuals as well as the tree shelters. The CAO indicated that this would create additional requirements due to the HST and recording off sales. It was agreed that the trees would be given away rather than sold. Clr. D. Parker stated that he discussed the budget implications with the chair who expressed concerns with the impact of the budget in relation an overall climate change budget. Clr. Parker stated that if we order the seedlings before March 31, 2023 we can expense the project in the current fiscal year which has unspent funds.

It was moved by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by, Clr. Turner that the recommendations contained in the tree subcommittee report be adopted, including the purchase of 5000 seedlings from the Strathmore Forest Nursery and purchase of 500 deciduous trees for a spring and fall planting.

Motion Carried.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Clr. Turner and D. Parker worked to develop an information flyer that has been circulated to students at North Nova. The principal was enthusiastic and liked that the municipality was trying to focus on younger people.

Violet McCullough stated that she feels one of the gaps in attracting youth is that there is not a broad understanding of what municipal government is or does.

PACE PROGRAM

The CAO provided an update to the committee on PACE Program. Staff have been meeting with PACE Atlantic to bring the program to completion and launch. Staff have been finalizing agreements and working on specific items such as program funding and administrative costs. A recommendation will be going to Council to help shape the program in terms of scope and financing. It is anticipated that the program will be launched in the May/June timeframe.

COASTAL EROSION

Mr. McDowell indicated that it appears the province will bring in the regulations on the Coastal Protection Act in the spring of 2023. As previously discussed, there are still some concerns about who will be required to enforce these new regulations.

INFRASTRUCTURE SUB-COMMITTEE

FCM ASSET MANAGEMENT PROJECT

Mr. McDowell reported that our own asset management project is moving forward. The Consultants have all information from the municipality and looking to get some information from the other units that will help in some of the modelling and assist in the overall strategy.

CLIMATE CHANGE SUMMIT

Mr. McDowell indicated that a planning meeting has been held on the upcoming summit. The summit will include education sessions with keynote speakers and potentially a trade show with vendors. The date is being planned for early June 2023. The session is being planned to provide some fun and interactive things for families.

MUNICIPAL BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS

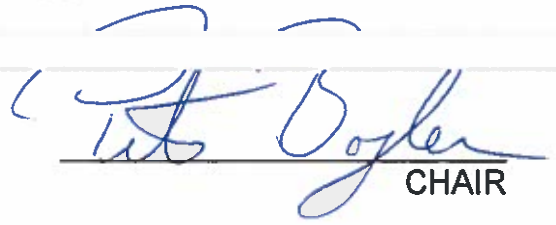
Mr. McDowell informed the Committee that additional information has been shared with the consultants hired to review the building upgrades and energy components. Mr. Kennedy asked if there a link between Climate Change and the improvements needed with the building. The CAO replied that while the driving force behind the changes is space requirements there is a link to climate change. The building is currently heated by fossil fuels (oil) and the costs of this have increased dramatically over the past year and a half.

NEXT MEETING DATE

March 23, 2023, at 7:00 pm

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Committee the Chair declared the meeting adjourned (9:00 pm)


CHAIR


MUNICIPAL CLERK