

February 20, 2024

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 20, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

**PRESENT**

- 1 Clr. Don Butler
- 2 Clr. Deborah Wadden
- 3 Clr. Darla MacKeil
- 4 Clr. Mary Elliott
- 5 Deputy Warden Wayne Murray
- 6 Warden Robert Parker
- 7 Clr. David Parker
- 10 Clr. Randy Palmer
- 11 Clr. Andy Thompson
- 12 Clr. Chester Dewar

**IN ATTENDANCE**

- Brian Cullen, CAO, Municipal Clerk-Treasurer
- Sueann Musick, Director of Corporate Services/Deputy Clerk
- Logan McDowell, Director of Public Works & Development
- Evan Hale, Director of Emergency Services
- Rhiannon McNair, Dir. of Business Operations, Rural Broadband Project
- Adam MacInnis, Communications Officer
- Shellie Pettipas, Administrative Assistant

**ABSENT**

- 8 Clr. Larry Turner
- 9 Clr. Peter Boyles
- Karen Cornish, Deputy Municipal Treasurer

**CALL TO ORDER & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Clr. 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. MacKeil and seconded by Clr. Butler said that the agenda should be approved as presented. **Motion Carried**

Clr. Wadden requested that 796 Egypt Road be added to the agenda for streetlight approvals.

## **EMERGENCY RESOLUTIONS**

Clr. Parker requested a discussion about the province's consultation regarding a proposed spring bear hunt season. **Motion Carried**

## **MINUTES**

Clr. Palmer asked if there were any errors, omissions, or corrections in the minutes for January 15, 2024. The members of the Committee entered no errors, omissions, or corrections. The Chair proclaimed the minutes of the meeting on January 15, 2024, as the official record of the meeting. **Motion Carried**

## **REPORTS**

### **PUBLIC WORKS AND DEVELOPMENT**

The Public Works and Development report for the month of January 2024 was received as presented.

### **DEVELOPMENT OFFICER REPORT**

The Development Officer Report for the month of January 2024 was received as presented.

### **FIRE INSPECTOR REPORT**

The Fire Inspector Report for the month of January 2024 was received as presented.

### **BUILDING INSPECTOR REPORT**

The Building Inspector Report for the month of January 2024 was received as presented.

### **BYLAW OFFICER'S REPORT**

The Bylaw Officer's Report for the month of January 2024 was received as presented.

### **2023 COTTAGE COLLECTION REPORT**

The 2023 Cottage Collection Report was received as presented.

### **STREETLIGHT APPROVALS**

It was moved by Clr. Wadden and seconded by Clr. Dewar to approve the following streetlight installations in District 2: **Motion Carried**

- 141 Point 44 Road

- 145 Point 44 Road
- 161 Point 44 Road
- Across from 180 Point 44 Road
- 796 Little Egypt Road

#### **ROAD SIGNAGE FOR DISTRICT 4**

Clr. Elliott said that two residents of District 4 made a request to have a hidden driveway and reduced speed signs erected. Clr. Elliott said this is a provincial issue, but it is putting residents in danger, and these requests have gone unheard. There has been no follow-up by the Department representative, and the supervisor has not returned calls. Clr. Elliott said tickets have been put in the system. There is serious concern that someone could be seriously injured or killed in these areas and the residents deserve an answer.

It was moved by Clr. Elliott and seconded by Clr. MacKeil to send a letter regarding this issue to the District Traffic Supervisor, MLA Pictou West, the Minister of Transportation, and the Area Manager for Colchester County.

**Motion Carried**

#### **SPRING BEAR HUNT**

Clr. Parker said there is currently a proposal by Natural Resources and Renewables to hold a spring bear hunt pilot project this year in Nova Scotia. This pilot project will run from May 20 through June 22, 2024; hunting will not be allowed on Sundays. Clr. Parker, as a former hunter who supports hunting, is strongly opposed to a spring bear hunt. Clr. Parker has a degree in Wildlife Biology, and the real concern is how to determine if the bear is male or a lactating female, and if female, he questioned how can one tell if it is a dry female. Once the bear is killed, and if it is a lactating female, the cubs will starve to death, and this is unacceptable.

Clr. Parker has sent a letter to Tory Rushton, and the consultation on this matter will be open until February 24, 2024. Clr. Parker asked Council for support on this matter.

Warden Parker and Clr. Dewar voiced agreement with this motion and are hopeful that the Provincial Government will take a stand. Clr. MacKeil requested that copies of the letter with the Council's response to the proposed spring bear hunt be sent to other municipalities.

It was moved by Clr. Parker and seconded by Clr. Dewar to send a letter to Tory Rushton, Minister of Natural Resources and Renewables opposing the proposed spring bear hunt in Nova Scotia.

**Motion Carried**

#### **MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION**

There were no motions of reconsideration.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**There was no further business before the meeting, so the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.**

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**CHAIRPERSON**

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**MUNICIPAL CLERK**