

December 18, 2023

The Financial 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 Monday, December 18, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT

- 1 Clr. Don Butler
- 2 Clr. Deborah Wadden
- 3 Clr. Darla MacKeil
- 5 Deputy Warden Wayne Murray
- 6 Warden Robert Parker
- 7 Clr. David Parker
- 8 Clr. Larry Turner
- 9 Clr. Peter Boyles
- 10 Clr. Randy Palmer
- 11 Clr. Andy Thompson
- 12 Clr. Chester Dewar

ABSENT

- 4 Clr. Mary Elliott

IN ATTENDANCE

- Brian Cullen, CAO, Municipal Clerk-Treasurer
- Sueann Musick, Director of Corporate Services/Deputy Clerk
- Karen Cornish, Deputy Municipal Treasurer
- Evan Hale, Director of Emergency Services
- Adam MacInnis, Communications Officer
- Logan McDowell, Director of Public Works & Development
- Shellie Pettipas, Administrative Assistant

CALL TO ORDER & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Clr. MacKeil, Chair of the Financial 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. Parker and seconded by Clr. Butler that the agenda be approved as presented. **Motion Carried**

EMERGENCY RESOLUTIONS

There were no emergency resolutions brought forward.

MINUTES

Clr. MacKeil asked if there were any errors, omissions, or corrections in the minutes for November 20, 2023. The members of the Committee entered no errors, omissions, or corrections. The Chair proclaimed the minutes of the meeting on November 20, 2023, as the official record of the meeting. **Motion Carried**

COMMUNICATION REPORT

The Communication Report for the month of November 2023 was received as presented.

Warden Parker extended congratulations to Clr. Dewar for his 45 years of service driving the school bus and safely transporting children back and forth. Clr. Dewar's recognition was among the top ten viewed posts on the MOPC Facebook page.

RECREATION REPORT

The Recreation Report for the month of November 2023 was received as presented.

WARDEN'S REPORT

The Warden's Report for the month of November 2023 was received as presented.

DEED TRANSFER TAX

The Deed Transfer Tax Report for the month of November 2023 was received for information purposes.

TAXES RECEIVABLE REPORT

The Taxes Receivable Report for the month of November 2023 was received for information purposes.

VOUCHER REPORT

The Pictou County Solid Waste Landfill Voucher Report was received for information purposes.

ACCOUNTS PAID – NOVEMBER 2023

It was moved by Warden Parker and seconded by Clr. Palmer that the Accounts Paid for November 2023 Report be received as presented. **Motion Carried**

TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR 2024

It was moved by Deputy Warden Murray and seconded by Clr. Parker to accept the low-income tax exemption policy as presented.

Motion Carried

RECREATION GRANT

It was moved by Warden Parker and seconded by Clr. Parker to approve the recreation grant of \$1,000.00 for the Northumberland Regional High School Accessibility Trail.

Motion Carried

IOOF MOORE LODGE #17 GRANT REALLOCATION

It was moved by Clr. Palmer and seconded by Clr. Turner to approve reallocation of funds for the IOOF Moore Lodge #17 grant.

Motion Carried

GUT BRIDGE FUNDING

It was moved by Warden Parker and seconded by Clr. Boyles to defer consideration of increasing the contribution for the Gut Bridge repair for an additional \$30,000-40,000 until the time of assessing the 2024-25 Council Grants.

Motion Carried

ENGAGE NOVA SCOTIA QUALITY OF LIFE MUNICIPAL INVESTMENT PLAN

It was moved by Clr. Parker and seconded by Clr. Thompson to contribute 50 cents a resident towards the cost of administering the Engage Nova Scotia Survey in 2024/25.

Motion Carried

REQUEST FOR FUTURE PRESENTATION

It was moved by Clr. Wadden and seconded by Warden Parker to request a future presentation from Lindsay Corbin, Provincial Coordinator for the Coalition of Healthy School Food to Council, on the importance of the National School Food Program.

Motion Carried

JANUARY MEETING DATE

It was moved by Warden Parker and seconded by Deputy Warden Murray to schedule the January Council meeting for Monday, January 8, 2024.

Motion Carried

MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION

There were no motions of reconsideration.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Clr. Turner read testimonials regarding the MOPC Rural Broadband Internet Service and said there are a considerable number of testimonials that are favorable.

Warden Parker gave credit and thanks to Adam MacInnis, Communications Officer, for the excellent information on the internet service he put out and it was very factual and to the point.

Clr. Boyles mentioned he presented a recognition plaque to Eldon MacDonald, a Linacy firefighter for 59 years of service.

Clr. Wadden said the annual community Christmas dinner will be held at St. George's Church from 12:00-2:00 p.m. on December 25, 2023. Names will be taken up until the time of dinner. This is an eat-in or take-out event.

Clr. Palmer said the District 13 Recreation Planning Commission's Holiday Festival on Saturday, December 9, 2023, was a success, and residents enjoyed the day. All proceeds were donated to families. The events included free skating, sleigh rides, a market and craft show, an outdoor concert, a café, and a fire pit.

Clr. Boyles said the \$1,500.00 from the Community Connectivity Event Grant was split between Linacy and Hillside centres. Both hosted Christmas events and Santa was present for community residents.

ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business before the meeting, so the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 8.00 p.m.

CHAIRPERSON

MUNICIPAL CLERK