

June 19, 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, June 19, 2023, at 7:45 p.m.

PRESENT45

- 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
- 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
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 Mi'kmaq people.

AGENDA

It was moved by Clr. Turner and seconded by Clr. Elliott 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 May 15, 2023. The members of the Committee entered no errors, omissions, or corrections. The Chair proclaimed the minutes of the meeting on May 15, 2023, as the official record of the meeting.

Motion Carried

RECREATION REPORT

It was moved by Clr. Butler and seconded by Clr. Wadden that the Recreation Report be received as presented.

Motion Carried

COMMUNICATION REPORT

It was moved by Clr. Boyles and seconded by Clr. Parker that the Communication Report be received as presented.

Motion Carried

EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT

It was moved by Clr. Palmer and seconded by Deputy Warden Murray that the Emergency Services Report be received as presented.

Motion Carried

FIRE INSPECTORS REPORT

It was moved by and seconded by Clr. Boyles and seconded by Clr. Elliott that the Fire Inspector's Report be received as presented.

Motion Carried

WARDENS REPORT

It was moved by Clr. Dewar and seconded by Clr. Thompson that the Warden's Report be received as presented.

Motion Carried

Warden Parker and CAO Cullen attended a Wellness Centre meeting. The Warden said he spoke up about not increasing the Municipality's contribution to the Wellness Centre. It must be known that the municipality has two other rinks in this county to maintain. Warden Parker let them know that the Municipality cannot handle a contribution of \$100,000 to \$200,000 a year.

The other members asked the Warden to bring forward the good things from the Wellness Centre. The Warden stated that the upstairs rooms are getting more bookings. Recent events include the Climate Change Summit, Pictou County Partnership, S.W. Weeks Construction, The Aberdeen Health Foundation, and the Grants Info Session. The Pictou County Volunteer Awards Ceremony recently hosted 300 people. The Warden said they are getting more business because the DeCoste is closed.

The Warden said that the Centre had hired a new employee, Jenna, who is excellently trying to keep the room booked. A company, JCI, Johnson Controls International, has been contracted to do many things in the building for energy savings. The company has guaranteed the savings, or they would pay the bill.

ACCOUNTS PAID – MAY 2023

It was moved by Deputy Warden Murray and seconded by Clr. Turner that the Accounts Paid for May 2023 report be received as presented. **Motion Carried**

DEED TRANSFER TAX (For Information Purposes Only)

The Deed Transfer Tax Report for May was received, showing a significant jump from April.

TAXES RECEIVABLE REPORT

The Taxes Receivable Report for May, which includes the interim amount due on June 15, 2023, was received and Clr. MacKeil asked Deputy Municipal Treasurer if there had been significant payments in the past couple of weeks, and Ms. Cornish responded yes.

MUNICIPAL SERVICE GRANTS

District 2

a. Little Harbour Pioneer Cemetery Assoc	\$1,000.00	Cemetery Maintenance
b. Little Harbour Pickleball Club	\$2,000.00	Purchase of AED
c. Little Harbour Presbyterian Church	\$10,000.00	Replace Four Doors
d. Little Harbour Community Centre	\$10,000.00	Hall Renovations
e. Bethel Presbyterian Church	\$1,700.00	Audio Visual Equipment
Total	\$24,700.00	

It was moved by Clr. Wadden and seconded by Clr. Elliott that the following Municipal Service Grants be approved for District 2. **Motion Carried**

District 4

a. Beallvue & Ext. Cemetery Assoc	\$2,600.00	Main. of Two Cemeteries
b. West Branch & Area Comm Assoc	\$1,193.00	Purchase of AED
c. River John Legion, Branch 109	\$900.00	Maintenance
d. Campbell Point Cemetery	\$1,600.00	Cemetery Maintenance
e. Mountain Road Cemetery	\$1,000.00	Cemetery Maintenance
f. RJ & Area Recreation Assoc.	\$3,400.00	Operating Expenses

g. RJ & Area Historical Society	\$3,000.00	New Windows
h. Riverbank Cemetery	\$1,600.00	Cemetery Maintenance
i. RJ Community Action Society	\$1,500.00	Maint. Security to Docks
j. Helping Hand Lodge#34 River John	\$1,600.00	Refurbish Hardwood Floor
k. St. John the Baptist Anglican Church	\$1,000.00	Roof Replacement
l. Toney River Community Centre	\$3,744.00	Electrical Upgrades to Hall
m. Melville Seafoam Community Hall	\$1,600.00	Kitchen Renovations
n. West Branch Hall Street Light	\$40.00	Yearly Cost
o. Salem United Church Street Light	\$40.00	Yearly Cost
Total	\$24,817.00	

It was moved by Clr. Elliott and seconded by Clr. Turner that the following Municipal Service Grants be approved for District 2. **Motion Carried**

District 5

a. Bethel Presbyterian Church	\$14,000.00	Accessibility Improvements
b. Lyons Brook Hall Society	\$6,100.00	Hall Improvements
c. Elmfield Community Centre	\$4,100.00	Hall Improvements
d. Scotsburn Fire Department	\$8,120.00	Covered Shelter for Pond
e. Elmfield Hall Street Light	\$40.00	Yearly Cost
f. Meadowville Hall Street Light	\$40.00	Yearly Cost
Total	\$32,400.00	

It was moved by Deputy Warden Murray and seconded by Warden Parker that the following Municipal Service Grants be approved for District 2. **Motion Carried**

APPOINTMENTS

It was moved by Clr. Boyles and seconded by Clr. Turner to appoint Alyssa MacIvor to the Climate Change Advisory Committee. **Motion Carried**

It was moved by Clr. Wadden and seconded by Clr. Dewar to appoint Alan Keefe as the District 2 Sheep Valuer. **Motion Carried**

It was moved by Clr. Wadden and seconded by Clr. Dewar to appoint William Ferguson as the District 3 Sheep Valuer. **Motion Carried**

TOWN OF PICTOU REQUEST

A request was received from the CAO from the Town of Pictou asking if Council would consider reducing the number of elected representatives on some joint committees, mainly the Hector Arena Committee and the Caribou Water Shed Protection Committee. The town met and reviewed all their appointments on boards they sat on. They are a small Council and there are many boards. CAO Cullen said that the Water Shed Committee has two council members and a staff attending and felt that one elected official

would be enough representation. The CAO stated that the Hector Arena is incorporated, and the bylaws would have to be amended to reduce the number of representatives.

Deputy Warden Murray said he would step down from the Caribou Water Shed Committee and Clr. MacKeil could remain as the elected official as it is in Clr. MacKeil's district.

It was moved by Clr. Wadden and seconded by Clr. Turner that the Caribou Water Shed Committee representation be reduced. **Motion Carried**

It was moved by Warden Parker and seconded by Clr. Dewar to maintain representation on the Hector Arena Commission. **Motion Carried**

FREE FISHING WEEKEND

Clr. Parker requested that the free fishing weekend be rescheduled due to the fires in Nova Scotia. Clr. Parker was approached by an individual whose primary fundraiser was a fishing derby scheduled for the first weekend in June. The forests in Nova Scotia were closed entirely. Most people this fundraiser attracts do not have a fishing license. Clr. Parker wanted to ask the Provincial Government and the Department of Natural Resources and Renewables to reschedule the free fishing weekend. The forests are now open, and to attract a good crowd they have to be able to advertise that people don't need a fishing license to participate.

It was moved by Clr. Parker and seconded by Clr. Elliott to request to the Province that the free fishing weekend be rescheduled. **Motion Carried**

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Deputy Warden Murray said there will be an emergency community meeting at the Scotsburn Fire Hall on Tuesday, June 20, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. The RCMP will attend the meeting to help the public deal with the news about a correctional services release and that individual's relocation to the Scotsburn area from Ontario. This is a big concern to citizens in the area, and anyone who wishes to show support is welcome to attend.

Warden Parker will have a ratepayer meeting for District 6 on Tuesday, June 20, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the West River Fire Hall.

Clr. Turner will have a ratepayer meeting for District 8 on Wednesday, June 21, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at the Abercrombie Community Center.

Clr. Dewar will host a ratepayer meeting for District 12 on Wednesday, June 21, 2023, at 7:30 at the Eureka & District Volunteer Fire Hall.

Clr. Thompson is hosting a ratepayer meeting for District 11 on Tuesday, June 20, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the Garden of Eden Community Centre.

Clr. Thompson will host a ratepayer meeting for District 11 on Wednesday, June 21, 2023, at 7:00 at the Plymouth Community Centre.

Clr. Parker commented that the June 10, 2023, Pictou North Colchester Exhibition fundraising event held at the late Mr. Elwood Fraser's barn was a great success. Around 300 people attended, and the amount fundraised was \$9,135.00 for the new barn construction. Warden Parker said he was also in attendance at Mr. Elwood Fraser's property, and there will be a horse pull this Saturday, June 24, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.

Clr. Turner said he could not attend the announcement in Trenton for the Pictou County Sports Hall of Fame. There will be a new building in Trenton, and the Centre merchandise will all be moved there. The committee has done much work on this. to.

Clr. Elliott said the River John & District Lions Club will host their annual chicken barbeque on Sunday, July 2, starting at 11:00 a.m. Prices are \$15.00 for a large and \$10.00 for a small. This is a takeout event, but there are picnic tables if people want to eat dinner in the park.

ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business before the meeting, so the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

CHAIRPERSON

MUNICIPAL CLERK