

May 6, 2024

The Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou met in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Administration Building by videoconference and teleconference on, Monday, May 6, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Dist:

- 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

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

ABSENT

Brian Cullen, CAO, Municipal Clerk-Treasurer

CALL TO ORDER & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Warden Parker called the meeting to order and invited Councillors to pray or reflect, as may be their preference, to help Council focus and properly do the work of the Municipality and to remember our Indigenous communities. He acknowledges that we are on the ancestral territorial lands of the Mikmaq people and would like to thank the Mikmaq people today for their ancestors sharing these precious lands with all our ancestors, whether they arrived here 400 years ago or four years ago. May we all live in peace and harmony together.

Warden Parker requested a moment of silence for a former member of Council, Eileen MacKinnon, who passed away. Ms. MacKinnon was a long-serving member of Council, representing District One.

AGENDA

It was moved by Clr. Boyles and seconded by Clr. Parker said that the agenda should be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

EMERGENCY RESOLUTIONS

There were no emergency resolutions brought forward.

ERRORS AND OMISSIONS/CORRECTION OF MINUTES

Warden Parker asked if there were any errors, omissions, or corrections in the minutes for the April 2, 2024 Council Meeting. The minutes of the April 2, 2024, Council Meeting were reviewed by the Municipal Council. Warden Parker proclaimed the minutes of the meeting of April 2, 2024, as the official record of the meeting.

Clr. Elliott said that in the April 2, 2024 Council minutes, the section about the lack of spare school bus drivers should say "Centre of Education" instead of "School Board."

Warden Parker asked if there were any errors, omissions, or corrections in the minutes for the April 22, 2024 Special Council Meeting. The minutes of the April 22, 2024, Special Council Meeting were reviewed by the Municipal Council. Warden Parker proclaimed the minutes of the meeting of April 22, 2024, as the official record of the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter was received from Kim Masland, Minister of Public Works, regarding the Cost Shared Program for Paving Subdivision (J) Class Streets.

Clr. Palmer said the letter stated that the Department would not be able to pave Greenwood Street and Old Row this year. Clr. Palmer is hopeful that the Council will support those two roads for the next fiscal year for paving.

DANGEROUS AND UNSIGHTLY HEARING – 96 HILLSIDE ROAD, HILLSIDE

Mr. Hale brought to Council a property at 96 Hillside Road, Hillside. Mr. Hale said the home originally had a complaint brought forward on August 22, 2023. The property was investigated, and multiple notices were sent. The owner of the property passed away in 2020. The property has been secured. In the back corner of the home, there is

considerable damage and collapse. Mr. Hale brought this property forward for consideration for demolition.

It was moved by Clr. Boyles and seconded by Deputy Warden Murray to demolish the house structure and remove the debris. **Motion Carried**

Gaelic Nova Scotia Month

Ms. Ann Munro attended the Council meeting and read the proclamation in Gaelic.

Gairm Mìos nan Gàidheal

SEACH GUN COMHARRAICH 2024 an t-ochdamh ceann bliadhna air fhichead do Mhìos nan Gàidheal, tha e 'na àm gus eachdraidh, cultur, cànan, is àrd-ghnìomharan nan Gàidheal thar na mór-roinneadh is na chuir iad rithe, a dhlùth-ghabhail, onorachadh is a ghléidheadh; agus

SEACH GU BHEIL cultur nan Gàidheal 'na phàirt bhunaiteach do dh'fhéin-aithne na h-Albann Nuaidhe is iad, na Gàidheil té dhe na buidhnean culturail neo-thùsanach na bu tràithe a thuinich ann an tìr nam Mìogmac; agus

SEACH GUM BI ginealaich ùra do luchd-ionnsachaidh a' chànain, agus suinn culturail, a' cumail orra is iad a' leantainn gu dlùth ri dìleab na feadhach a dh'ionnsaich a' Ghàidhlig o 'n ghlùin an Albainn Nuaidh; agus

SEACH GU BHEIL an Cathrachd againn an geall air a bhith a' co-obrachadh le coimhearsnachdan Gàidhealach gus taic a thoirt do leasachadh na Gàidhlig mar phàirt do léirsinn cànanach na h-Albann Nuaidhe thro chothroman gus cànan agus comas 's na coimhearsnachdan a thogail, a' dèanadh cinnteach gun soirbhich leis a' Ghàidhlig is le a cultur ann an Cathrachd _____;

MAR SIN Tha mise, _____, _____ na _____, a' gairm a' Chéitein 2024, 'na mhìos dha na Gàidheil ann an Cathrachd _____.

Ainm air a chur ris ann _____ , Alba Nuadh

_____ na _____

Proclamation Gaelic Nova Scotia Month

WHEREAS 2024 marks the 28th anniversary of Gaelic Nova Scotia Month which is a time to embrace, honour and celebrate the history, culture, language, contributions, and achievements of Gaels across the province; and

WHEREAS Gaelic culture is an integral part of the identity of Nova Scotia and Gaels represent one of the earliest non-indigenous cultural groups to settle in Mi'kma'ki; and

WHEREAS new generations of language learners and cultural champions are carrying on and building upon the legacy of Gaelic Nova Scotia's tradition bearers; and

WHEREAS our Municipality is committed to collaborating with Gaelic communities to support the growth of Gaelic as a part of the linguistic landscape of Nova Scotia through opportunities for language acquisition and capacity building within communities to ensure Gaelic language and culture will thrive in _____;

THEREFORE I _____ , _____ of _____ do hereby proclaim May 2024 as "Gaelic Nova Scotia Month" in the Municipality of _____.

Signed by: _____
_____ of _____

Signed at _____ , Nova Scotia

LYME DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

PROCLAMATION

**LYME DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH
May 2024**

*WHEREAS Lyme disease is a serious illness caused by the bite of a blacklegged tick infected with the bacterium *Borrelia burgdorferi*; and*

WHEREAS blacklegged ticks carrying a variety of diseases or illnesses can now be found in all parts of Nova Scotia; and

WHEREAS awareness, education and practicing preventative measures, such as daily tick checks and proper tick removal, can help reduce your chances of contracting tick-borne diseases;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Warden Robert Parker, on behalf of the Municipality of the County of Pictou, do hereby proclaim May 2024 as "Lyme Disease Awareness Month".

Dated at Pictou, Nova Scotia this the 6th day of May 2024.

Robert Parker, Warden

INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST HOMOPHOBIA AND TRANSPHOBIA

RESOLUTION OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF PICTOU

International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia

WHEREAS the Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms recognizes that no one can be discriminated against on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity or expression;

WHEREAS Canada is a society open to everyone, including lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans people (LGBTQ+) and to all other people who identify with sexual diversity and the multiplicity of gender identities and expressions;

WHEREAS, despite recent efforts towards greater inclusion of LGBTQ+ people, homophobia and transphobia are still present in society.

WHEREAS May 17th is the International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia, is celebrated as such in many countries and is the result of a Quebec-based initiative promoted by Fondation Emergence starting in 2003.

WHEREAS there is reason to support the efforts of Fondation Emergence in holding this day;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou proclaims May 17, 2024 INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST HOMOPHOBIA AND TRANSPHOBIA

DATED at Pictou, Nova Scotia, this the 6th Day of May 2024

Robert Parker, Warden

ACCESS AWARENESS WEEK

PROCLAMATION
ACCESS AWARENESS WEEK May 26 - June 2, 2024

WHEREAS May 26 - June 2, 2024, is recognized as Access Awareness Week in Nova Scotia. The week aims to celebrate the achievements made both by and for persons with disabilities in the areas of accessibility, transportation, housing, employment, recreation, education, and community; and

WHEREAS this is the 38th year this public awareness initiative has taken place in the province. The theme for the 2024 Access Awareness Week is Communities for All: Taking Action on Access Awareness; and

WHEREAS, *the Municipality of the County of Pictou has established its own Accessibility Committee, committed to moving accessibility work forward within Pictou County, reducing inequalities, and supporting all abilities to improve well-being. The Municipality will be flying the Access Awareness Flag in front of its Administration Building in recognition of the work done by this committee and others who bring awareness to the achievements made by persons with disabilities.*

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, *I, Warden Robert Parker, on behalf of this Council, do hereby proclaim May 26 to June 2nd, 2024, as Access Awareness Week in the Municipality of the County of Pictou.*

Dated at Pictou, NS, this 6th day of May 2024.

(Sgd)

NEW SCOTLAND BUSINESS PARK REPORT

The New Scotland Business Inc. Report for the month of April 2024 was received as presented.

RIVERVIEW HOME CORPORATION

Clr. Parker said that the Department of Community Services has been making rounds to the ARC and RRC's that offer services and support. There is a court order to close these institutions. The individuals who are currently residents will be housed in the community in groups of no more than four individuals. Notification was given last week that the closure date must be by November 2026. Clr. Parker said that this challenge is greater than it may appear, and there is a need to purchase or build 12-15 homes in Pictou County.

Clr. Parker said that each resident will get their own budget and can choose to live where they wish. After November, that building will have to be disposed of. Decisions will have to be made by the Council of the six municipalities. Clr. Parker said the clients will have support staff to guide them in decision-making. Provincial Government departments are interested in the existing facility. Clr. Parker said that every other province has moved individuals into the communities.

Clr. Wadden asked how this was working in the other provinces. Clr. Parker said that British Columbia is the longest operation and best model for this. This started in the 1970s or 80s in B.C. Collectively, they do seem to work, but there will always be challenges. Clr. Parker said that this will probably bring more job opportunities, and those with experience should have a leg up getting a new job in the system.

Clr. Parker said that locally, there is Highland Community Residential Services (HCRS), which has been following this model for decades. This model will have to be followed through the transition, and Councillors will do all they can to help with this process for the residents.

DESTRUCTION OF DOCUMENTS

It was moved by Clr. Thompson and seconded by Clr. Dewar to approve the destruction of the approved documents.

Motion Carried
Clr. Andy Thompson
Clr. Chester Dewar

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou has adopted a by-law which provides for the destruction of any documents or records after they are no longer required for municipal purposes;

WHEREAS the aforementioned by-law has been approved by the Minister of Municipal Affairs;

WHEREAS administrative staff has undertaken a process of reviewing obsolete files with a view to seeking the necessary approval to destroy those which are no longer required, in accordance with the Destruction of Documents By-Law;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou that Council authorize the destruction of the documents described in the attached affidavit of the Municipal Clerk which indicates that he has personally examined each document or record and confirms that there is nothing of value therein.

DATED at Pictou, N. S. this 6th day of May 2024

(Sgd.)

AFFIDAVIT OF CLERK

IN THE MATTER OF THE DESTRUCTION OF DOCUMENTS AND RECORDS OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF PICTOU.

I, Brian Cullen of New Glasgow, in the County of Pictou, Clerk of the Municipality of the County of Pictou, do make oath and say:

1. That I am Municipal Clerk of the Municipality of the County of Pictou.
2. That I have personally examined each of the documents or records listed immediately below pursuant to a by-law permitting the destruction of documents and records which are no longer required.

SHELF #

CONTENTS

A2-2	2013 Ledgers
A2-3	2013-2014 Ledgers 2013-2014 Payroll
A7-2	2016-2017 Gen & Water Cancelled Cheques
A7-3	2016-2017-2018 Gen & Water Cancelled Cheques
A7-4	2004 Assessment Roll Changes 2008-2014 Bank Statements 1999-2000 Property Tax Exemptions 1999-2004 Tax Write-Offs

	1996-2003 Community Organizations 2017-2018 Duplicate Meeting Files 1984 Change in Use 2012-2014 Consolidated Balance Report
A7-6	2003-2004 Interim & Final Tax Billing Records 2012/13 – 2013/14 Tax Receivables Reports 2013 - 2014 GP G/L & Tax Postings
A7-7	Provincial Revenue Files 2008- 2015 Fuel Tax Rebate 2000- 2015 Fine Revenue 2001- 2008 Provincial Grants 2012- 2013 and 2013 - 2014 AP Audit Trails 2012- 2013 Gen Rev & Water 2013- 2014 Gen Rev & Water 2018- 2019 Duplicate Meeting Files 2018- 2019 General Correspondence
A7-8	2012- 2013 & 2013-2014 Water Utility, Posts Go Live Data 1999 -2003 Sewar Exemption 2001 -2009 Area Rates 2018- 2019 Fire Liaison 2018- 2019 Duplicate Meeting Files, Mun Audit, ECON Wking Dev.

3. That the aforesaid list does not contain any document or record exempt from destruction pursuant to Section 3 of the by-law governing the destruction of documents.
4. That to the best of my knowledge there is nothing of value contained therein.
5. That the said documents and records are no longer required by the said Municipal Council.

BRIAN CULLEN, MUNICIPAL CLERK

SWORN before me at Pictou, in the
County of Pictou and Province of Nova
Scotia this day of May, 2024.

COMMISSIONER OF THE SUPREME

RECREATION GRANTS

It was moved by Clr. Wadden and seconded by Clr. Turner to approve the following Recreation Grants: **Motion Carried**

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou that it approve the following Recreation Grants with funding from the 2023-2024 Operating Budget based on the reallocation of funds.

- 1. Fundy Highland Female Hockey \$1,525.00
- 2. Northern Nova United Soccer \$ 2,400.00
- 3. Pictou County Athletics \$ 220.00
- 4. Pictou County Invasion Volleyball \$ 320.00

Total	\$4,465.00
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Dated at Pictou, NS, this 6th day of May 2024

(Sgd)

Motion Carried
Clr. Deborah Wadden
Clr. Larry Turner

MUNICIPAL ELECTION ADVANCED POLLS

It was moved by Clr. Butler and seconded by Clr. Boyles to approve the Advance poll Date of October 12, 2024 from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou that it approve the Advance Poll Date of October 12, 2024, from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. for 2024 Municipal Elections.

Dated at Pictou, NS, this 6th day of May 2024

(Sgd)

Motion Carried
Clr. Don Butler
Clr. Peter Boyles

MUNICIPAL ELECTION POLLING DATES

It was moved by Deputy Warden Murray and seconded by Clr. Palmer to approve the following for the Municipal Election polling dates:

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou that it approves the electronic voting period for the October 2024 Municipal Elections from 12 A.M. on October 6, 2024, through to 7 P.M. on October 19th.
Dated at Pictou, NS, this 6th day of May 2024

(Sgd)

Motion Carried
Nay Vote: Clr. Peter Boyles

INTERNET SERVICE AND THE HILLSIDE HALL

Clr. Boyles said there is concern about Hillside residents being unable to access the internet. Clr. Boyles said that Council made it public that everyone in Pictou County would have internet but are now being told that it is unavailable in Hillside, and it seems Hillside is being pushed aside.

Warden Parker said the plan is to send a drone to investigate why there is no reception there.

Clr. MacKeil asked if Hillside is an area that can already get internet service from another provider and said that to receive the funding from the federal government, their guidelines had to be followed. Clr. Boyles did not know if the hall was in an already serviceable area. Clr. MacKeil stated that many residents in District 3 were not served.

Warden Parker said that the belief is that everybody will have access to this service, but to get the funds to complete the project, the federal government conditions had to be met, and unserved areas had to be completed first. Warden Parker said that there was a conversation with Clr. Boyles to try to work together and see what it would take to get internet service to the hall. There is now a new company with more people working on the lines, and things will move faster. Clr. Boyles said that taxpayers are owed an explanation.

Clr. Parker said that once the project gets past the government money and it can double back, the fibre will already be in place. In the long run, this project will have the most extensive fibre networks in the province.

CERB COLLECTION INFORMATION

Clr. Boyles said that the CERB has been a blunder from day one for many people. Many people appealed their CERB payments, and what is happening now is that appeals are being worked on, but they are taking the money from them. When people go to the MP's office, they don't know who is gathering the money.

It was moved by Clr. Boyles and seconded by Clr. Dewar to write a letter to the federal government asking why money is being taken from people who have appealed the repayment.

Motion Defeated

Nay Votes: Clr. Turner, Clr. Wadden, Clr. Elliott, Clr. Parker, Clr. Palmer, Deputy Warden Murray, Warden Parker, Clr. MacKeil, Clr. Butler, Clr. Boyles, Clr. Dewar, Clr. Thompson

LETTER FROM NOVA POIRER REGARDING MACBETH ROAD

Deputy Warden Murray said a resident called regarding the RIM program that was done on MacBeth Road. The residents of MacBeth Road are not very pleased. Deputy Warden Murray informed the resident that the Department of Transportation does this, and it has nothing to do with Council.

Clr. Palmer said he cannot support this letter. Roads are closing in, and trees are coming in over the road. Now that there is a program and reputable forest contractors who come in and do this, there is no easy way. Clr. Palmer said that the Department of Transportation owns 33 metres from the centre line, so it can make the road better.

Clr. Parker said it is ugly but also necessary. A way to do this with less force needs to be found. More tact needs to be developed in how they do this.

It was moved by Deputy Warden Murray and seconded by Clr. Turner to send a letter to the Nova Scotia Minister of Public Works asking for improved communications.

Motion Carried

Nay Votes: Clr. Palmer, Clr. Thompson, Clr. Dewar, Clr. Boyles

CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS

There was no deferred business.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Clr. Mary Elliott said there would be a take-out chili dinner and yard sale on Saturday, May 18, 2024, at the Melville/Seafoam Hall from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The dinners can be preordered.

Clr. David Parker said the Climate Change Advisory Committee’s spring tree plant will be held on Saturday, May 11, 2024. The planting will begin at 8:30 a.m. and the lot to be planted is located at 493 Lamont Road.

MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION

There were no motions of reconsideration.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the Warden declared the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

WARDEN

MUNICIPAL CLERK