

October 3, 2023

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, Tuesday, October 3, 2023, 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**

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

**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.

## **AGENDA**

Clr. Parker requested that a Student Advisory Council Report from Northumberland Regional High be added to the agenda.

It was moved by Clr. Boyles and seconded by Clr. Elliott that the agenda be approved as amended. **Motion Carried**

## **EMERGENCY RESOLUTIONS**

There were no emergency resolutions brought forward.

## **ERRORS AND OMISSIONS/CORRECTION OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the September 5, 2023, Council Meeting were reviewed by the Municipal Council. The Warden proclaimed the minutes of the meeting of September 5, 2023, as the official record of the meeting.

## **CORRESPONDENCE (UNCIRCULATED)**

A thank you letter was received from McCulloch Education Centre for the Breakfast and Backpack program grants.

A thank you letter was received from Trenton Elementary School for the Breakfast and Backpack program grants.

## **CORRESPONDENCE (CIRCULATED)**

Correspondence was received from the Minister of Public Works regarding the potential offshore wind energy development near the Strait of Canso and the need for supporting infrastructure.

## **RECOGNITION**

Warden Parker and Clr. MacKeil presented a plaque to Borden Nicholson and Warden Parker read the following:

Borden Nicholson, who recently placed third in his age group for Golf Canada's National Skills Competition.

The Council for the Municipality of Pictou County would like to take this time to honour a rising star from Braeshore, Pictou County – Borden Nicholson.

Ten-year-old Borden started playing golf during the pandemic with his parents Rachelle and Andrew and they quickly realized he had a natural talent. This year he competed in the Maple Leaf Junior Golf Tour where he excelled.

He won four out of five events to finish in first place in the Boys nine and ten age group with a stroke average of 79.14.

As Atlantic Champion, Borden earned an invite to the MJT Mini Tour National Championship in Tsawwassen Springs, BC. He represented Pictou County well proving he has what it takes to compete against the best in the country. He also achieved closest to the hole for his age group in the tournament.

## **PRESENTATION**

Brenda Stirling Goodwin gave a presentation to Council members about the province's growing tick population and the dangers it presents. Ms. Stirling Goodwin's efforts have helped raise awareness of the dangers of ticks and said that no tick is a good tick, and all have the potential to carry disease.

Lyme Disease became a reportable illness in Nova Scotia in 2009 and there is the need for more research in this area. Ticks are active any time the temperature is above 4 degrees Celsius. It takes 2-3 years for a tick to complete its life cycle. Ticks are a year-round problem and Lyme disease can mimic over 300 conditions.

Ms. Stirling-Goodwin expressed some ways to try to protect yourself against ticks such as wearing proper clothing, doing a complete body check, showering within two hours of coming indoors and putting clothes in the dryer after coming inside and pay close attention when children come in from outside or after being in the woods.

Ms. Stirling-Goodwin said that awareness, education, and a need for continued research are essential and there is a need for a designated clinic in this province. Lyme can affect every organ system of the body and can be different for each person.

Warden Parker and Council members thanked Ms. Stirling Goodwin for the presentation and for being a strong advocate for Lyme disease.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

### **MUNICIPAL SERVICES GRANTS**

Clr. Dewar presented the following resolution to Council:

#### **RESOLUTION**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou adopt the following resolution for municipal service grants:

#### **District 4**

a. Cape John Harbour Authority	\$1,800.00	Repairs and Supplies
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,800.00</b>

#### **District 7**

a. Forest Hill Cemetery	\$1306.25	Cemetery Maintenance
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1306.25</b>

#### **District 11**

a. Plymouth Fire Department	\$1500.00	Equipment Purchases
b. Sunny Brae Cemetery	\$400.00	Maintenance
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1900.00</b>

**DATED** at Pictou, N. S. on this 3rd day of October 2023.

(Sgd.) Clr. Chester Dewar  
Clr. Andy Thompson

#### **MOTION**

It was moved by Clr. Dewar, seconded by Clr. Thompson that the preceding motion be adopted as presented. **Motion Carried**

### **J CLASS ROAD COST SHARING OVERAGES**

Clr. Parker presented the following resolution to Council:

#### **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS** the Nova Scotia Department of Public Works must notify the Municipality of the County of Pictou of more than 10 percent cost overruns on 2023-24 J-Class Subdivision Street Paving.

**WHEREAS** the Council has reviewed with the paving of the following J-Class Subdivision Streets and the new cost share amounts which include:

<b>Road Name</b>	<b>New Cost Share Amounts</b>
a. Second Avenue	\$28.500
b. Hattie Lane	\$113.000
c. New Row	\$284,000

**BE IT RESOLVED** the Municipality of the County of Pictou approve the New Cost Share Amounts provided by the Nova Scotia Department of Public Work so the paving can be completed this fiscal year.

**DATED** at Pictou, N. S. on this 3rd day of October 2023.

(Sgd.) Clr. David Parker  
Clr. Mary Elliott

**MOTION**

It was moved by Clr. D. Parker, seconded by Clr. Elliott that the preceding motion be approved as presented. **Motion Carried**

**GENERAL SERVICE AREA BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT**

Clr. MacKeil presented the following resolution to Council:

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS** the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou has adopted a policy with respect to General Service Area boundaries to provide for a standardized means of setting community boundaries;

**WHEREAS** the Municipality, the Nova Scotia Geomatics Centre or the Emergency Management Office of Nova Scotia may initiate a change to an existing GSA where it is felt that the adjustment to the boundary will enhance and/or improve efficiencies of emergency responder service;

**WHEREAS** the Municipality’s Civic Address Coordinator recommends a change of boundary affecting Property Identification Number (PID) 00844324, which are currently located in Green Hill GSA and will be extended to the east to accommodate new housing.

**WHEREAS** the Property Services Committee agrees that the boundary change is warranted;

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou that Council approve a change in the GSA boundary for the aforementioned PID number, in accordance with the Municipality’s General Service Area Boundaries Policy.

**DATED** at Pictou, N. S. on this 3rd day of October 2023.

(Sgd.) Clr. Darla MacKeil  
Deputy Warden Wayne Murray

**MOTION**

It was moved by Clr. MacKeil, seconded by Deputy Warden Murray that the preceding resolution be approved as presented. **Motion Carried**

**MARKETING LEVY BYLAW**

Clr. Thompson presented the following resolution to Council:

**RESOLUTION**  
**(First Reading)**

**TAKE NOTICE** that the following by- law will be presented to Council for second reading on November 6, 2023.

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou that Council adopt the following Tourism Marketing Levy By-law:

**DATED** at Pictou, NS this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October 2023.

(Sgd) Clr. Andy Thompson  
Clr. Don Butler

**MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF PICTOU**  
**TOURISM MARKETING LEVY BY-LAW**

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**BE IT ENACTED** by the Council of the Municipality of the County of Pictou, under the authority of *Municipal Government Act*. 1998, c. 18, s. 75, as follows:

**1. Short Title**

This By-law shall be known as the Tourism Marketing Levy By-law.

**2. Definitions** In this by-law:

- a) “accommodation” means supplying lodging in hotels and motels and in any other facilities required to be licensed under the Tourist

Accommodations Registration Act and in a building owned or operated by a post-secondary educational institution where the hotel, motel, facility or building consists of one or more rental units that are offered as lodging;

b) "council" means the Council of Municipality of the County of Pictou;

c) "operator" means a person whose business sells, offers to sell, provides, and offers to provide accommodation in the municipality.

d) "Purchase price" means the price for which the accommodation is purchased, including the value of the services rendered and other consideration accepted by the operator in return for the accommodation provided, but does not include the goods and services tax.

### **3. Application of Levy**

A marketing and promotions levy is hereby imposed in the Municipality, the rate of which shall be three percent (3%) of the purchase price of the accommodation.

1) The levy imposed under this By-law, must be collected at the time of the sale on the total amount of the purchase price and must be remitted to the Municipality at the prescribed times and in the prescribed manner.

2) If a person collects an amount as if it were a levy imposed under this By-law, the person must remit the amount collected to the Municipality at the same time and in the same manner as the levy collected under this By-law.

### **4. Exemption from Levy**

The Tourism Marketing Levy shall not apply to:

1) a person who pays for accommodation for which the daily purchase price is not more than twenty dollars.

2) a student who is housed in a building owned or operated by a post-secondary educational institution while the student is registered at and attending a post-secondary institution.

3) a person who is staying in a room for more than twenty-eight (28) consecutive days; or

4) a person, and the person's family, while receiving medical treatment at a hospital or provincial health-care centre or seeking specialist medical advice, provided the person provides a statement from said hospital or provincial health-care centre.

## **5. Registration of Operator**

- 1) Every operator of a facility providing accommodations to which this By-law applies shall apply for and be issued a registration certificate by the municipality.
  - a). Where an operator carries on business at more than one place, the operator shall obtain a registration certificate in each individual place of business.
- 2) The registration certificate shall be displayed in a prominent place on the premises.
- 3) Where an operator changes their address, they will return their registration certificate to the municipality for amendment.
- 4) Where an operator changes the name or nature of their business, the operator will return their registration certificate to the municipality for a new one.
- 5) Where an operator ceases to carry on business that a registration certificate has been issued, the certificate shall be void, and the operator shall return the certificate to the municipality within 15 days of the date of closure.
- 6) Where a registration certificate is lost or destroyed, a request shall be made to the municipality for a copy of the original.
- 7) A registration certificate granted under subsection (1) is not transferable.

## **6. Return and Remittance of Levy**

- 1) The municipality may at any time require a return of sales and levy collected by any person selling accommodation; such return to cover any period or periods.
- 2) Subject to the provisions of subsection (1), unless otherwise provided, all operators shall make separate monthly returns to the municipality.
- 3) A separate return shall be made for each place of business unless a consolidated return has been approved by the municipality.
- 4) The returns by operators shall be made and the levy shall be remitted to the municipality the 15th day of the month following the collection of the levy by the operator.
- 5) If an operator during the preceding period has collected no levy, the operator shall make a report to that effect on the prescribed return form.
- 6) Where an operator ceases to carry on or disposes of his business, the operator shall make the return and remit the levy collected within 15 days of the date of closure or disposal.



## **7. Records**

- 1) Every operator shall keep books of accounts, records, and documents sufficient to furnish the municipality with the necessary particulars of
  - a. sales of accommodation,
  - b. amount of levy collected, and
  - c. disposal of levy.
- 2) All entries concerning the levy in such books of account, records and documents shall be separate and distinguishable from other entries made therein.
- 3) Where a receipt, bill, invoice, or other document is issued by a person selling accommodation, the levy shall be shown as a separate item thereon.

## **8. Calculation of Levy**

Where an operator sells an accommodation in combination with meals and other specialized services for an all-inclusive package price, the purchase price of the accommodation shall be deemed to be the price that will be collected for the levy.

## **9. Refund of Levy Collected in Error**

- 1) If the municipality is satisfied that a levy or a portion of a levy has been paid in error, the municipality shall refund the amount of the overpayment to the person entitled.
- 2) If the municipality is satisfied that an operator has remitted to the municipality an amount as collected levy that the operator neither collected nor was required to collect under this By-law, the municipality must refund the amount to the operator.

## **10. Claim for Refund**

- 1) To claim a refund under this By-law, a person must
  - a. submit to the municipality an application in writing signed by the person who paid the amount claimed, and
  - b. provide sufficient evidence to satisfy the municipality that the person who paid the amount is entitled to the refund.
- 2) For the purposes of subsection (1) (a), if the person who paid the amount claimed is a corporation, the application must be signed by a director or authorized employee of the corporation.

## **11. Offence**

A person who contravenes a provision of the By-law is guilty of an offence punishable by summary conviction and on conviction is liable.

- a. on a first conviction, to a fine of not less than \$500 and not more than \$1,000, and
- b. for a subsequent conviction for the same or another provision of this regulation, to a fine of not less than \$1,500 and not more than \$5,000.

## **12. Administration of By-law**

This By-law shall be administered on behalf of the Municipality by the Chief Administrative Officer and any persons designated by the Chief Administrative Officer.

## **13. Effective Date**

This By-law shall take effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2024.

## **MOTION**

It was moved by Clr. Thompson, seconded by Clr. Butler that the preceding resolution be adopted as presented.

It was moved by Clr. Elliott, seconded Clr. Dewar to table the vote until a public hearing could be held on this matter to evaluate the support.

### **Motion Defeated**

Nay Votes: Clrs. Bulter, Wadden, MacKeil, Murray,  
Turner, Boyles, Palmer, Thompson

Clr. MacKeil would like to make an amendment to look at this in the future to ensure the membership still wants this and an oversight that the County is reaping the benefits.

Clr. Parker called a Point of Order stating that an amendment cannot be made on a 1<sup>st</sup> reading, and the time to amend this would be in November.

Deputy Warden Murray took the chair, and Warden Parker expressed that this could be a dangerous precedent to start taxing industry. The Warden said that DEANS is an excellent organization for this County; the concern is that once this is done for one industry, then it could be carried to other industries such as fishing and agriculture, and how do you say no to the next group that comes and wants the Municipality to collect tax.

### **Motion Carried**

Nay Votes Clr. Dewar, Clr. Elliott, Clr. Parker, Warden Parker

## **STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORT FROM NORTHUMBERLAND REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL**

Clr. Parker said the first meeting of the year was held on September 27, 2023, and returning membership is down. Clr. Parker said there was memorialization for the loss of Meghan Bragg, who was the chair of this Council.

Clr. Parker said that The News had a story on the free lunch program that had started on September 27, where they are trying to supply 200 meals per day. This is a collaborative effort between the cooking program, agricultural class, and several other programs and they are scrambling for funding. The students are preparing and serving. They have some sponsorship.

### **CAPITAL BUDGET**

CAO Cullen said that the survey had been completed by Council members identifying the priority projects to be considered as part of the Capital Plan. The requirement for a Capital Plan is to have a five-year capital improvement plan. Council had passed several of the items listed in year one as part of the operating budget.

Other projects included are the Rural Internet Broadband Project, the Salem Water Project, and the municipal building renovations. There was a Provincial Sustainability Grant received, and \$200,000.00 will be coming out of that for the Hopewell/Eureka and Hillside pump stations. The grant money has conditions on it, and it must be spent within two fiscal years. The MacLellan's Brook/Sherbrooke Water Project anticipates 5 million in expenditures, and sources of Provincial and Federal grants come in at approximately 74% of that.

Warden Parker said there is pressure to get the ERECC flow meters installed. CAO Cullen said it is anticipated to have some of the meters installed this year, and there should be a minimum of three installed by March.

### **MOTION**

It was moved by Clr. Thompson and seconded by Clr. MacKeil to accept the Capital Budget.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION		Current Yearly Cost	Estimated Sources of Financing					
			Municipal Sources		Provincial Grant Amount	Federal Grant Amount	Other Sources Amount	Borrowing Long-Term Amount
CIP #	YEAR 1 2023-24		Amount	Source	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount
CIP-23A	Paving Province of NS	365,000	365,000	Capital from Revenue				
CIP-23B	Hardwood Hill Radio Project	17,270	17,270	Capital from Revenue				
CIP-23C	LED Street Lights	10,000	10,000	St. Light Reserve				
CIP-19I	MoPC Internet Project (Rural Connectivity Project)	17,561,016			2,634,153	7,902,457		7,024,406
CIP-20I	Salem Water Project	2,327,105		Capital Reserve		2,327,105		
CIP-22F	Municipal Building Renovations	50,000	50,000	Operating Reserve Bldg Replacement				
CIP-19R	Water Metering & Radio Read	250,000	250,000	Water Depreciation Fund				
	Sewer Systems Projects:							
CIP-21S	Lyons Brook Twp Pictou Upgrades	45,000	45,000	Capital from Revenue				
CIP-23D	ERECC Flow Meters	205,000	205,000	Capital from Revenue				
CIP-21P	E One Pump Cores Inventory	125,000	125,000	Capital from Revenue				
CIP-20K	McLellans Bk/Sherbrook Rd Water Distribution Project	75,000	75,000	Capital from Revenue				
CIP-22L	PS 3 Repair - Hopewell	100,000			100,000			
CIP-22M	Hillside System Repairs	100,000			100,000			
	<b>Year 1 Totals</b>	<b>21,230,391</b>	<b>1,142,270</b>		<b>2,834,153</b>	<b>10,229,542</b>		<b>7,024,406</b>
		<b>21,230,391</b>						
	Prepared for Municipal Council							
	Date:10-03-2023							

PROJECT DESCRIPTION		Current Yearly Cost	Estimated Sources of Financing					
			Municipal Sources		Provincial Grant Amount	Federal Grant Amount	Other Sources Amount	Borrowing Long-Term Amount
CIP #	YEAR 2 2024-25		Amount	Source	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount
CIP-24A	Vehicle Purchase	40,000	40,000	Capital from Revenue				
CIP-24C	LED Street Lights	15,000	15,000	St. Light Reserve				
CIP-19I	MoPC Internet Project (Rural Connectivity Project)	18,546,324			2,781,949	8,345,846		7,418,530
CIP-22E	Plymouth Sidewalk Construction	300,000			300,000			
CIP-24B	Abercrombie Sidewalk Revitalization	150,000			150,000			
CIP-24D	Hopewell Eureka Sidewalk Revitalization	75,000			75,000			
CIP-22F	Municipal Building Renovations	350,000	350,000	Operating Res. Bldg Replace				
CIP-20K	McLellans Bk/Sherbrook Rd Water Distribution Pro	5,047,381	1,010,446	Operating Reserve	1,557,156	2,479,778		
	Sewer Systems Projects:							
CIP-20H	Salem Wastewater	1,675,551	447,037	Operating Reserve	405,316	823,198		
CIP-23C	ERECC Flow Meters	200,000	200,000	Capital from Revenue				
	<b>Year 2 Totals</b>	<b>26,399,256</b>	<b>2,062,483</b>		<b>5,269,421</b>	<b>11,648,822</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7,418,530</b>
		<b>26,399,256</b>						



**MUNICIPALITY OF PICTOU COUNTY  
CAPITAL INVESTMENT PLAN**

2023-24 to 2027-28

Municipality of Pictou County		Current Yearly Cost	Estimated Sources of Financing					
PROJECT DESCRIPTION			Municipal Sources		Provincial Grant Amount	Federal Grant Amount	Other Sources Amount	Borrowing Long-Term Amount
CP #	YEAR 3 2025-26		Amount	Source				
CIP-25A	Vehicle Purchase	50,000	50,000	Capital from Revenue				
CIP-25B	LED Street Lights	15,000	15,000	St. Light Reserve				
CIP-19I	MoPC Internet Project (Rural Connectivity Project)	14,323,723			2,148,558	6,445,675		5,729,489
CIP-20K	McLellans Bk/Sherbrook Rd Water Distribution Project	2,523,690	673,320	Operating Reserve	610,481	1,239,889		
CIP-20H	Salem Wastewater	1,675,551	447,038	Operating Reserve	405,316	823,198		
	<b>Year 3 Totals</b>	<b>18,587,964</b>	<b>1,185,358</b>		<b>3,164,355</b>	<b>8,508,762</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,729,489</b>
		<b>18,587,964</b>						



**MUNICIPALITY OF PICTOU COUNTY  
CAPITAL INVESTMENT PLAN**

2023-24 to 2027-28

Municipality of Pictou County		Current Yearly Cost	Estimated Sources of Financing					
PROJECT DESCRIPTION			Municipal Sources		Provincial Grant Amount	Federal Grant Amount	Other Sources Amount	Borrowing Long-Term Amount
CP #	YEAR 4 2026-27		Amount	Source				
CIP-26A	Vehicle Purchase	50,000	50,000	Capital from Revenue				
CIP-24C	LED Street Lights	15,000	15,000	St. Light Reserve				
CIP-19I	MoPC Internet Project (Rural Connectivity Project)	16,973,196			2,421,064	7,263,193		7,288,939
	<b>Year 4 Totals</b>	<b>17,038,196</b>	<b>65,000</b>		<b>2,421,064</b>	<b>7,263,193</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7,288,939</b>
		<b>17,038,196</b>						



## **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Clr. Boyles said there will be a dance at the Hillside Hall, on Saturday, October 14, 2023. The dance will be held from 9:00 p.m. – 1:00 a.m. with the Copycats playing. The cost is \$10.00 for advance tickets and \$12.00 at the door.

Clr. Thompson said there will be a chili lunch and bake sale at the Bridgeville Community Hall. The cost will be \$10.00 which includes chili, bread/roll, ginger cake, and lemon sauce.

Clr. Thompson announced a Roast Beef Supper on Saturday, October 21, 2023, at the Plymouth Fire Department from 4:00-6:00 pm. The cost is \$15.00.

Clr. Thompson said that the Springville Hunters Breakfast will be resuming since Covid closures. No date has yet been announced but they are excited to show off the new Community Centre.

Clr. Thompson extended congratulations to Plymouth residents Joanne & Cammie Cumminger for being recognized for the family volunteer of the year award in Halifax.

Clr. Boyles along with Warden Parker attended the Ride for Burn Camp on Westville Road. Clr. Boyles said the count was over \$6,000.00 and that there is still money coming in.

Warden Parker said the Pictou County Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation's Ride for A Cure was held in Scotsburn and they are doing a lot of good to raise money for a lot of groups.

Clr. Parker said there will be an Adult Dance at the Fraser Event Barn in memory of Elwood Fraser on Saturday, October 14, 2023, from 9:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. The cost is \$15.00, and the funds raised will help support the new barn at the exhibition.

Clr. Butler said a presentation by Dr. Webster on Coastal Erosion will be held on Thursday, October 5, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the Lismore Hall.

Warden Parker said that on October 21, 2023, there will be children's fun day hosted by SARA with the West River Fire Department, this will be Halloween themed.

Warden Parker said fundraisers are being held for Viola's Place the week of October 11, 2023. There will be bands and a silent auction held at The Spot

in New Glasgow, a camp out to stamp out homelessness will be held on site. Viola's Place is also selling tickets for a Shed and a Grand in Each Hand tickets are also being sold. The Warden said Viola's Place is trying to accommodate 50% more people this year than they have room for.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the Warden declared the meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

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WARDEN

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MUNICIPAL CLERK