

December 16, 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 Monday, December 16, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

**PRESENT**

- 1 Clr. Joe MacDonald
- 2 Clr. Deborah Wadden
- 3 Clr. Darla MacKeil
- 4 Clr. Ronald Baillie
- 5 Deputy Warden Wayne Murray
- 6 Warden Robert Parker
- 7 Clr. Donald 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
- Sueann Musick, Director of Corporate Services
- Karen Cornish, Deputy Municipal Treasurer
- Evan Hale, Director of Emergency Services
- Logan McDowell, Dir. of Public Works & Development
- Rhiannon McNair, Director of Business Operations, Broadband Initiative
- Adam MacInnis, Communications Officer
- Shellie Pettipas, Administrative Assistant

**CALL TO ORDER & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Clr. Randy 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. MacDonald that the agenda be approved as presented. **Motion Carried**

**EMERGENCY RESOLUTIONS**

There were no emergency resolutions.

## **MINUTES**

Clr. Palmer asked if there were any errors, omissions, or corrections in the minutes for November 18, 2024. The members of the Committee entered no errors, omissions, or corrections. The Chair proclaimed the minutes of the meeting on November 18, 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 November 2024 was received as presented.

### **DEVELOPMENT OFFICER REPORT**

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

Clr. Wadden requested an update about the Chance Harbour Subdivision. Mr. McDowell received additional documentation from the applicant, which is currently being reviewed. One-half of the approval from the Department of Public Works has been received, and Mr. McDowell has contacted the solicitor for an update on the servicing agreement. Mr. McDowell expects everything needed from the Municipality's end to be completed later in the week and is awaiting additional information from the applicant. The Development Officer spoke with the applicant today, and that file is moving along.

Clr. Wadden asked if the Town of New Glasgow's fluoride removal from the water would affect the Municipality's water supply. Mr. McDowell said that most of the Municipality's water supply will not have fluoride in the future. Mr. McDowell said that the Municipality does not have a say on treatment if it meets the provincial requirements for water quality. Clr. Wadden asked if Stellarton's water was still treated using fluoride, and Mr. McDowell said it is.

Clr. Turner said the work for the Abercrombie PS1 drainage improvements is deferred until the capital budget is approved and asked when this approval could be expected. CAO Cullen said it is anticipated to be done shortly. All the items have been prioritized, but the final financing plans have not been finalized. Some costs are still being awaited. It is expected to be prepared early in the New Year.

Clr. Turner requested more information on the meeting held with Bear Head Energy. Mr. McDowell said the meeting was to update the Development Officer and himself on the plans and prepare for the approval process with the municipality. Bear Head Energy is going through the environmental process with the province, and no formal application has been received for the municipality yet.

Warden Parker questioned if the subdivisions in Mount William and Greenhill Estates were progressing. Mr. McDowell said that the Mount William subdivision is farther along and that the applicant is expected to provide the final documentation. The Mount William subdivision is nearing the point where the work can continue.

Mr. McDowell said that additional information is expected on the Greenhill Estates subdivision. The applicant's solicitor was requested to provide an update on the servicing agreement.

Deputy Warden Murray received a phone call from the residents of Lyon's Brook requesting an update regarding drainage at the West Pictou School. Mr. McDowell said a tender had been issued, and things are currently in the province's hands. CAO Cullen said that the School Board will be advancing and will be in contact with further information. Deputy Warden Murray requested this issue be rushed due to the approaching winter. Mr. Cullen said the intention is to do it soon.

Clr. Boyles asked Mr. McDowell if there was any further information regarding water for Evan MacDonald Road. Mr. McDowell said that the survey is still out. The tally will be reviewed in the new year.

Clr. MacDonald asked if there would be any public hearings on the Bear Head or Sugar Maple wind farms. Mr. McDowell said the municipality had not received a formal application, but there would be public sessions if the projects advance. Clr. MacDonald asked if the municipality's current bylaw on wind turbines would require any adjustments. Mr. McDowell said the current bylaw is up to standard. Mr. McDowell said Ms. Griffiths with the Clean Foundation will review the wind turbine bylaw. Clr. MacDonald asked if there were complaint forms online. Mr. McDowell said they are not currently digitals but could be created digitally.

Clr. Palmer asked if the tender for the MacLellan's Brook/Coalburn water project was progressing. Mr. McDowell said there was a meeting with the design team, and a follow-up meeting was scheduled. The goal is to have the tender documents ready next week, and the intention is to have the information presented to the Council for the March meeting. Mr. McDowell said the designs would be sent off to the provincial agencies for input, and those would be required before construction but not required for tender.

## **DEVELOPMENT OFFICER REPORT**

Clr. Thompson asked if the Active Transportation Plan would include the county's East Side and said some areas require attention. Mr. McDowell said the Development Officer had been included in the plan at the request of Leighton Hayden. A draft has been completed, and some recommendations have been made in the East and the West. Clr. Thompson asked if there were public hearings within the county for the Active Transportation Plan. Mr. McDowell said the plan is currently just the draft. Clr. Thompson asked if the documents would be taken for the public's input. Mr. McDowell said that

question would have to be referred to Mr. Hayden and Clr. Thompson stated an interest in speaking with the people involved in the planning process.

### **EMERGENCY SERVICES**

The Emergency Services Report for the month of November 2024 was received as presented.

### **FIRE INSPECTOR REPORT**

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

### **BUILDING INSPECTOR REPORT**

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

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

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

Warden Parker asked if there had been any resolution to the ongoing issue of animals roaming on Lairg Road. Mr. Hale said that one pig was seized last week, and there was a meeting with the owners. The bylaws were explained, and the owners were given a few weeks to install proper fencing. Mr. Hale said they are working with the owners to find a solution.

### **BUSINESS ITEMS OR ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION**

#### **DEFERRED BUSINESS - GEOGRAPHIC NAMING FORM FOR ISLAND IN DIST. 1**

CAO Cullen said Pictou Landing First Nations had not responded. Warden Parker said they had been given the opportunity to respond, and if there were concerns, they would have been voiced by this time.

### **MOTION**

It was moved by Clr. MacKeil and seconded by Clr. MacDonald to recommend to Council to approve the request for rename the privately owned island in Merigomish to Oyster Island.

**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