

March 2, 2020

The Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou met in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Administration Building on Monday, March 2, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Dist.	1	Clr. Don Butler
	2	Clr. Deborah Wadden
	3	Clr. Darla MacKeil
	4	Clr. Ronald Baillie (arrived at 7:12 p.m.)
	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

Dist.	5	Deputy Warden Murray (Out of Country)
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IN ATTENDANCE

Donn Fraser, Solicitor, MacIntosh, MacDonnell & MacDonald
Brian Cullen, CAO, Municipal Clerk/Treasurer
Karen Cornish, Deputy Municipal Treasurer
Carolyn MacIntosh, Deputy Municipal Clerk
Sueann Musick, Communication Officer
Jane Johnson, Recording Secretary

BY APPOINTMENT

Bridgeville Community Club:
Beulah Martell, Chair
Joan Kennaley, Treasurer
Ship Hector Society Revitalization Project:
Laurie MacDonald, President
Darlene MacDonald

CALL TO ORDER

Warden R. Parker called the meeting to order and requested that Councillors stand and take a moment in silence to pray or simply reflect, as may be their preference, to help Council focus and properly do the work of the Municipality.

AGENDA

It was moved by Clr. Boyles and seconded by Clr. D. Parker that the agenda be approved as circulate.

Motion carried.

MINUTES

It was moved by Clr. MacKeil and seconded by Clr. D. Parker that the minutes of February 3, 2020 be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was received and acknowledged from the following:

- (a) Epilepsy Association of the Maritimes – Asking that Council proclaim March 26th as “Purple Day” in the Municipality to raise awareness of epilepsy in Canada.
- (b) Min. Lands & Forestry – Responding on behalf of the Premier to Council’s correspondence regarding Northern Pulp and referring Council to a website with details on the financing program announced for forestry contractors. The Minister also advises that Doug Ledwidge of Ledwidge Lumber has been added to the Transition Team. No further additions are planned at this time.
- (c) Thank-You Notes (uncirculated) for financial assistance have been received from the New Glasgow Music Festival.

Clr. D. Parker reported that he visited with many of his residents impacted by the mill closure and there were a lot of hard feelings and disbelief. Many of his residents felt it was an insult that no one from Pictou County was put on the Transition Team.

PROCLAMATION – “PURPLE DAY”

Warden R. Parker read the proclamation as follows:

“Whereas Purple Day is a global effort dedicated to promoting epilepsy awareness in countries around the world, and

Whereas epilepsy is one of the most common neurological conditions, estimated to affect over 50 million people worldwide and 42 people in Canada are diagnosed every day, and

Whereas one in ten person will have at least one seizure during his or her lifetime, and

Whereas the public is often unable to recognize common seizure types, or how to respond with appropriate first aid, and

Whereas Purple Day will be celebrated on March 26 annually to increase understanding, reduce stigma and improve the quality of life for people with epilepsy throughout the country and globally.

Therefore, I do hereby proclaim March 26, 2020, “Purple Day”, in an effort to raise awareness of epilepsy in Canada.

Signed Warden Robert Parker

PRESENTATION – SHIP HECTOR SOCIETY REVITALIZATION PROJECT (7:15 P.M.)

Mr. Laurie MacDonald and Ms. Darlene MacDonald met with Council and gave a presentation on the Ship Hector Society Revitalization Project as follows.

HECTOR HERITAGE QUAY PICTOU, NOVA SCOTIA



HOW WE GOT HERE



- From 2000 to 2010, the Ship Hector and Hector Heritage Quay were operated by the Town of Pictou, with financial support from the Ship Hector Foundation.
- In 2010, the Town of Pictou sold the Hector and the Heritage Quay buildings to the Hector Quay Society.
- In 2015, the Hector Quay Society and the Ship Hector Foundation merged and became known as the Ship Hector Society. This group consists of local business people and volunteers who are committed to ensuring the popular waterfront destination continues to operate.

WHAT WE HAVE DONE SINCE 2010



- Restored and enhanced seawall, walkways and decking on buildings
- Created 'Below Deck Experience' that is the highlight for most visitors
- Created audio tour guide in French and English
- Downrigged vessel and installed lower third of new masts
- Replaced and repaired ship's deck, hatches, foremast, aft mast, all mooring bits
- Contributed thousands of hours of volunteer time

- Replaced and repaired back of Captain's Cabin
 - Carried out two underwater hull inspections by professional divers
 - Converted former gift shop to residence for seasonal Coast Guard employees thus creating regular revenues
 - New roof on both Coast Guard and Carpentry buildings
- **Increased visitation and became recognized by international media resulting in substantial increase in overseas visitors**



ATTENDANCE COMPARISONS

Regional Museum Attendance	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	5-Yr. Avg.	Change
Balmoral Grist Mill	1,966	3,927	3,193	3,355	3,308	3,150	68%
McCulloch House Museum	551	1,608	721	1,002	937	964	70%
Museum of Industry	22,478	17,253	15,976	15,461	18,453	17,924	-18%
Northumberland Fisheries Museum	na	1,071	1,976	2,187	na	1,745	104%
Sutherland Steam Museum	2,645	2,668	3,519	2,935	2,269	2,807	-14%
Regional	27,640	26,527	25,385	24,940	24,967	5,318	-10%
Hector Heritage Quay	8,128	8,128	8,992	13,105	11,085	10,328	36%



REVENUE COMPARISON WITH NS SITES & MUSEUMS

REVENUE COMPARISON	Hector		NS Museums			NS Historic Sites	
	2013	2015	2013	2015	Change	2013	2015
Public Revenue % of Total	19%	34%	60%	60%	-1%	70%	71%
Earned Revenue % of Total	71%	66%	26%	23%	-3%	28%	27%
Contributed Revenue % of Total	9%	0%	14%	18%	4%	3%	2%
Total Revenue	100.0%	100.0%	100%	100%	0%	100%	100%

Source: Government of Canada Survey of Heritage Institutions 2011 and 2015



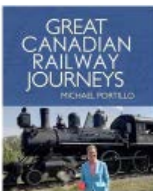
The single largest source of revenue for Ship Hector Society comes from self-generated sources, such as admissions sales, and rent (48% and 42% of total revenues in the last two years respectively)

The Society's contributed revenues (donations, fundraising) represent the Society's second largest source of income (19% and 48% in the last two years respectively)

The Society receives no annual core operating funding from government. As a result, the percentage of funding the Society receives from public sources is much lower than other similar types of heritage attractions



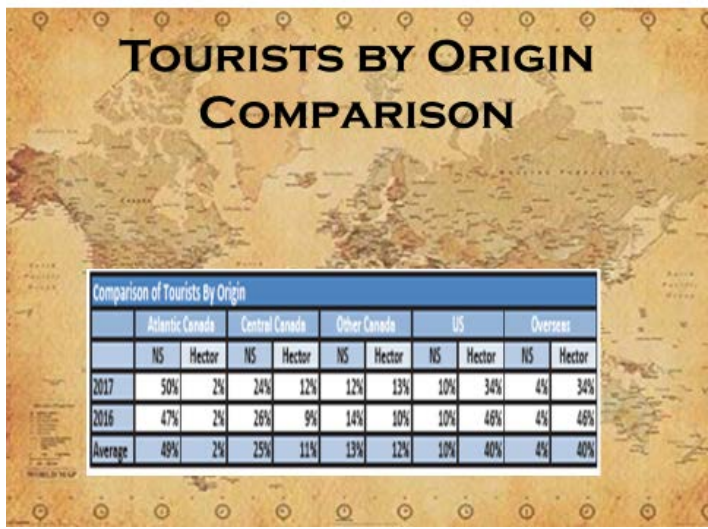
**BBC DOCUMENTARIES
FEATURE FILM
INTERNATIONAL TELEVISION
ORIGINAL MUSICAL SCORES**



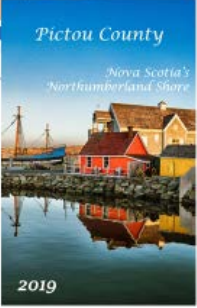


ROYAL VISIT 2015

THE TIMES
EXPRESS
Daily Mail



The image of the Hector Heritage Quay is widely popular and is being used by government organizations, business and tourist associations.





Important Piece of Canadian History

Review of [Hector Heritage Quay](#)

Our tour guide at the Hector was very knowledgeable and informative. What an amazing replica, the dedication of so many people is admirable. My hope is people continue to support this piece of history as it appears to need maintenance.

Date of experience: September 2019

[A must see exhibit](#)

I finally took the time to visit the Hector Heritage Quay during a recent visit to the area. I am so glad I did... highly recommend it to anyone - especially those of Scottish descent... exhibits that tell the story... But the finale is going onboard the replica of the Hector.... go below and see the living quarters you will be shocked. Fascinating exhibit with friendly, knowledgeable staff. Don't miss it!

Date of experience: August 2019



WHERE WE ARE GOING



250TH ANNIVERSARY SEPTEMBER 15, 2023



This milestone anniversary marks the beginning of the wave of Scottish emigration to Canada. We need to restore the ship and site for visitors and residents who will take part in this significant event.



WE ARE IN A POSITION TO HELP MEET THE TARGETS SET BY THE IVANY REPORT



Our international visitation is well above average for the province and we plan to capitalize on this trend.



The ship will be removed from the water this year for much needed repairs and restoration. We will celebrate the 250th anniversary of the landing of the Ship Hector in 2023.

SHIP RESTORATION



TO BE COMPLETED BY SEPT. 15, 2023 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LANDING OF HECTOR SETTLERS

Capital Costs Estimates - Ship Restoration & Upgrades	Non-Mechanized Option	Mechanized Option
Phase One		
Hull Components	\$7,900	\$7,900
Ship Outfitting	\$2,600	\$2,600
Caulking	\$15,945	\$15,945
Deck Equipment	\$5,350	\$5,350
Paint and preservatives	\$65,760	\$66,600
Standing Rigging	\$27,000	\$27,000
Running Rigging	\$16,380	\$16,380
Blocks/Iron Work	\$14,075	\$14,075
Sails	\$7,200	\$7,200
Miscellaneous Outfitting	\$600	\$600
Electrical	\$2,100	\$2,100
Hull-Out/in	\$500,000	\$500,000
Total Phase One Costs (Current)	\$664,910	\$665,750
Total Phase One Costs (As Spent)	\$679,674	\$680,862
Phase Two		
Main Hull Components	\$302,300	\$302,300
Ship Outfitting	\$21,500	\$56,160
Masts and Yards	\$9,000	\$9,000
Standing Rigging	\$36,000	\$36,000
Running Rigging	\$24,800	\$24,800
Blocks and Iron Work	\$38,400	\$38,400
Sails	\$100,000	\$100,000
Station Keeping	\$6,000	\$6,000
Miscellaneous Outfitting	\$18,200	\$18,200
Deck Equipment	\$34,280	\$39,480
Non-Electronics	-	\$6,600
Electronics	-	\$21,700
Electrical	\$11,300	\$34,040
Fire Fighting / Lifesaving	-	\$52,520
Engine Room / Machinery	\$7,300	\$167,450
Ship Systems	-	\$29,000
Other	\$26,000	\$26,000
Services	-	\$83,000
Subtotal Phase Two Costs (Current)	\$662,080	\$1,082,550
Subtotal Phase Two Costs (As Spent)	\$694,356	\$1,135,026
Total Capital Costs (Current)*	\$1,326,990	\$1,748,300
Total Capital Costs (As Spent)*	\$1,374,029	\$1,816,788

INTERPRETIVE RENEWAL COSTS

Projected Exhibit Renewal Costs by Project Area	
Area	Cost
Demolitions and Renovation	\$ 325,500
Level One Exhibits	\$ 175,500
Level Two Exhibits	\$ 758,500
Ship Yard & Work Site Interpretation	\$ 405,250
Onboard Hector Interpretation	\$ 476,000
Total Interpretive Budget*	\$ 2,140,750



TOTAL COST OF PROJECT

Project Element	Option 1 - Non-Mechanized	Option 2 - Mechanized
Ship Restoration and Upgrades	\$1,374,029	\$1,816,788
Interpretive Renewal	\$2,140,750	\$2,140,750
Total	\$3,514,779	\$3,957,538

COST OF THE PROJECT

- The Ship Hector Society Board of Directors has committed to raising \$1.5m towards the restoration of the site and ship.
- A Capital Campaign, professionally commissioned, will begin this spring and target the corporate community, individuals and supporters.
- All levels of government will be asked for their support to acquire the remaining funds.

THE GREAT BIG LIFT

The Hector will be taken out of Pictou Harbour in April 2020 using a crane and placed on blocks in the yard for repairs and restoration. The ship will continue as an attraction during this time.

The Board has received a loan from NOBL for \$225K for this first step of the project.



SHIP HECTOR SOCIETY



Clr. Turner asked if they tried to get museum status and Ms. MacDonald replied that they are not part of a museum because there are no actual artifacts on site.

Clr. Butler asked if the tourism season will be negatively impacted once the ship comes out of the water.

Ms. MacDonald replied that people will still want to see what is happening as well as being able to go on the ship.

Clr. D. Parker asked how much money will come from each level of government and Mr. MacDonald replied that they have talked to Heritage Canada, Develop NS and ACOA. They have to make the first step to say they can raise money for this project so they are committing to raise \$1.5 million. This is Canada's Mayflower and it has never been promoted that way.

Clr. D. Parker asked if the work can be done in phases and Ms. MacDonald replied that they are planning it over a 3-year period to have everything completed by 2023.

Warden R. Parker thanked Laurie MacDonald and Darlene MacDonald for the presentation and excused them from the balance of the meeting (7:35 p.m.)

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION – BRIDGEVILLE COMMUNITY CLUB, 7:35 P.M.

Clr. Thompson informed Council that tonight we recognize the amazing accomplishments of the Bridgeville Community Club. Over the past two years this volunteer run, non-profit group, successfully completed the Bridgeville ACCESS-ability Project. This project started with a phone call. I got a call from Beulah Martell, who is chair of the Community Club. Her call was on how to go about getting updated washrooms installed in the community hall. Beulah was a community champion who pushed for the improvements. It was agreed to start the planning process to identify the design, develop a cost estimate and seek funding from various levels of government. The project consisted of installation of a septic field, an extension housing two washrooms and a kitchen area. The community group selected Mike Gourd as the project manager. He dealt with the different trades and ensured the project came in on budget. Of note, the original design had one wheelchair accessible washroom and a standard washroom. After review with the building inspector the plans changed to having two wheel chair accessible washrooms of equal size. It is good to consult with our building inspectors on these projects.

The Bridgeville Community Club was successful in their application with the Community Facilities Improvement Program and were awarded \$35,000 towards this project from this provincial funding program. The Municipality generously provided a \$20,000 Council grant towards this first phase of work. Blaise Myatt worked on the extension and was assisted in the project with electrician, Ben Gourd and TNB Plumbing who installed the septic field and plumbed the building. The work was done over the winter months. When completed, the community came together to celebrate. The hall became better utilized for card parties, birthday celebrations and more recently as a polling station for the federal election.

A second phase of the ACCESS-ability Project saw two new entrance doors, rear step and an electric assist door for the main entrance. This work was funded through a provincial ACCESS-ability Grant of \$9,400, a Recreation Capital Grant of \$1,000 and the community club picking up the balance. Finally, the main entrance step and ramp were replaced. The deck and wooden ramp were repurposed from the Plymouth Community Centre. The work was done by volunteers led by Gordon Sutherland with assistance from Roy Thompson, Brian and Ann Cameron, and Allan Thomsen. The work on the entrance was done in time for the federal election. This work wouldn't have happened without the generous support from the Municipality, the Provincial Government along with volunteers and local tradespeople. Through the determination of the volunteers with the Bridgeville Community Club, the area now has an accessible hall to host community functions. Because of the efforts of the Bridgeville Community Club our communities are better places to call home. We recognize their accomplishments tonight as local leaders making our communities accessible for all. Thank you for your commitment and effort in providing an example of what can be accomplished with hard work, determination and a commitment to the Bridgeville Community Club and the communities you serve. Thank you for your successful efforts.

Warden R. Parker and Clr. Thompson presented Beulah Martell, Chair of the Bridgeville Community Club and Joan Kennaley, Treasurer with a Certification of Recognition for the successful completion of an ACCESS-ability project.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

District 9 March 6, Linacy Fire Department, Soup Lunch, 11:30 to 1:00 pm, \$6.
 March 12, Hillside Community Hall, NSP Smart Meters Seminar, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.
 at the Linacy Fire Hall
 March 14, Hillside Community Society St. Patrick's Dance, Hillside Community Hall
 starting at 8 p.m.

Clr. Palmer congratulated the North Nova Griffins Female Hockey Team on winning the Division 1 Provincial Championship.

Clr. Wadden reported the New Glasgow Library will be holding a fundraiser Dining Among the Stacks to support the Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library. It will be held on March 3rd from 6 to 8 p.m. at the New Glasgow Public Library and tickets are available at \$60 per person.

FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

Clr. D. Parker presented the report of the Financial Services Committee as follows:

FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

For information purposes the Financial Services Committee submits the following report on the activities of the Committee for the month of February:

1. Reviewed the list of Accounts Paid for the month of December.
2. Reviewed the Recreation Report and the Communications Report for the month of January.
3. Considered several requests for funding. (Resolution to follow)
4. Reviewed the list of Accounts Paid for January.
5. Considered recommendations for tax write-offs. (Resolution to follow)
6. Agreed to purchase a table for 8 at the Deans Gala Awards.

DATED at Pictou, N.S. this 2nd day of March, 2020

Sgd.) David Parker
Darla MacKeil

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. D. Parker and seconded by Clr. MacKeil that the preceding report be adopted as presented.

Motion carried.

PROPERTY SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

Clr. Thompson reported the Property Services Committee Report as follows:

PROPERTY SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

For information purposes the Property Services Committee submits the following report on the activities of the Committee for the month of February:

1. Reviewed the reports of the Building Inspector, By-Law Enforcement/Dog Control Officer and Warden for the month of January.
2. Discussed administrative enhancements to the Landfill Voucher Program. A formal amendment to the relevant policy will be introduced at a later date.
3. Met in closed session to discuss matters relating to the disposition of municipal property and contract negotiations.

DATED at Pictou, NS this 2nd day of March, 2020.

(Sgd.) Andy Thompson
Chester Dewar

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. Thompson and seconded by Clr. Dewar that the preceding report be adopted as presented.

Clr. Boyles asked if new changes to the landfill vouchers will be available for May and the CAO replied that the only change to the vouchers will be software implementation so vouchers should be ready by May.

Motion carried.

FISHERIES & ACQUACULTURE CONFERENCE

Clr. MacKeil reported that she sits on the Board of the Northumberland Fisheries Museum and attended a Fisheries & Aquaculture Conference last week. This was a wonderful conference and the Trade Commissioner was talking about opening up new markets for our seafood industry from the EU. The EU is becoming a very strong place for our seafood product and it is great to see what Canadian companies are doing in the EU. There was a gentleman from Iceland at the conference and he is part of the Iceland Ocean Cluster and it is all about igniting the seafood industry by following some innovation. He talked about having no by-product from fish and there is so much innovation around this. The Northumberland Fisheries Museum has a lot of unique lobsters at the museum and they also do lobster lectures. It was really important for them to be a part of lobster handling and speak with them so they learned a lot about the safe handling of lobster because they do handle them quite a bit at the museum. It was an excellent conference and she would highly recommend Councillors attend in future.

RESOLUTION – MUNICIPAL GRANTS

Clr. MacKeil presented a resolution to Council as follows:

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou that Council approve the payment of the following Municipal Grants:

Recreation:

Little Hbr. Senior Lunch & Learn	150.00	Clr. Allotment – Program Expenses
Bayview Community Hall	150.00	Clr. Allotment – Operating Expenses
Pictou Co. Minor Hockey Assoc.	7,840.00	Program Expenses
East Pictou Silver Blades	760.00	Program Expenses
Pictou Co. Challenger Baseball	100.00	Program Expenses
Northern Nova United Soccer Club	1,140.00	Program Expenses
Highland District Derby Kickin Vixins	100.00	Program Expenses
Stellarton & Area Minor Softball Assoc.	900.00	Program Expenses
Pictou Co. Genealogy & Htg. Soc.	1,000.00	Walking Path & Flower Beds
Dalhousie Mtn. Snowmobile Club	1,000.00	Groomer Track Replacement
New Glasgow Music Festival	<u>500.00</u>	Event Expenses
	\$ 13,640.00	

Municipal Services:

D06 Friends of Green Hill Park Soc.	\$ 1,407.59	Extension of time to Jan. 31/21 to use unspent balance for Pavilion Construction
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Council

Dist. 13 Rec. & Planning Commission	\$ 1,790.00	Extension of time to Jan 31/21 to use unspent funds for Community Coordinator
Dist. 13 Rec. & Planning Commission	\$ 15,722.96	Repurposing of unspent balance for Truck Repairs & Outdoor Furnace
East River Valley Comm. Dev. Assoc.	\$ 1,734.35	Extension of time to Jan 31/21 to use unspent funds for Community Coordinator

DATED at Pictou, N.S. this 2nd day of March, 2020.

(Sgd.) Darla MacKeil
David Parker

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. MacKeil and seconded by Clr. D. Parker that the preceding resolution be adopted as presented.
Motion carried.

RESOLUTION – TAX WRITE-OFFS

Clr. Wadden presented a resolution to Council as follows:

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou that Council approve the following write-off on taxes, the same having been reviewed and approved by the Financial Services Committee:

<u>ACCOUNT #</u>	<u>ACCOUNT NAME</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>REASON</u>
00981451	Marie Harb	\$ 322.79	Shed removed from Tax Roll in 2016
09354581	Bruce Morgan	<u>1,471.73</u>	Mobile Home removed from Tax Roll in 2018
		\$ 1,794.52	

DATED at Pictou, N.S. this 2nd day of March, 2020.

(Sgd.) Deborah Wadden
Andy Thompson

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. Wadden and seconded by Clr. Thompson that the proceeding resolution be adopted as presented.
Motion carried.

COVID-19 OUTBREAK

Clr. D. Parker reported that he is concerned that the media is whipping up a frenzy on this issue so he asked that we use our web site to provide information that will guide people to the proper information. There are common sense dos and don'ts that should be put on our website along with links to trusted web sites.

The CAO reported that with any health crisis the Department of Health is the lead agency and next week we are starting an exercise on what our role is in the provincial plan. He informed Council that he will provide information to the Communications Officer to post on our web site.

Clr. Wadden reported that the fire departments are concerned because a lot of them are first responders and they would like to be included on what steps they should take. The hospitals have closed private rooms because they are holding them if they have any cases of the virus.

RURAL INTERNET PROJECT UPDATE

The CAO reported that one of the critical pieces that is still outstanding and does affect the construction phase is the non-dominant carrier status with the CRTC. In order to make applications for make-ready we have to be a non-dominant carrier so we have to be licensed to work in the telecommunications field. We are waiting on that approval at this point. The project team has met with NSP and Bell on how the process will unfold and they agreed on a process on how the companies will deal with the applications. Last week Rural News & Views went out with the insert encouraging people to sign up and take the internet performance test. That flyer has started to generate some awareness and interest so as we progress to Phase 1 there will be more concentrated mailings to that region. A memo was circulated on Friday afternoon and it shows the budget and where we stand. The project costs for Phase 1 is \$10.7 million and that includes the backbone fiber to Truro, Ring 8 and the installation of fiber and tower to Hardwood Hill.

DISCUSSION POINT 1

The CAO reported the question was asked what the cost would be to increase the 144 strands to 288 strands and the cost was \$500,000. The 288 would provide future security for development and it would open up opportunities to lease or sell to other providers. The 288 extends beyond our municipal boundaries it would have 144 strand fibers in Colchester County going through 1 of their most populated areas so that fiber would become very attractive for our carriers in that area. We had some interest already from a non-dominant carrier so those talks are ongoing.

MOTION- INCREASE TO 288 STRAND FIBERS

It was moved by Clr. MacKeil and seconded by Clr. Boyles that the County approve an increase in the fiber count from 144 to 288 strands at a cost of \$500,000.

Motion carried.

DISCUSSION POINT 2

The CAO informed Council that at the recent Council meeting there was some discussion around budget and contingency. The administration of the Rural Broadband Project in relation to Phase 1 and some future work has a total estimate of \$430,000. He pointed out that \$446,500 was allocated for the Westville Road School Board Offices demolition during the 2019/20 budget deliberations but the property was sold so the \$446,500 was not required for demolition. He reported the money can be reallocated for this project to offset the \$430,000 for the administration of the Rural Broadband Project.

Clr. D. Parker asked is part of this funding to hire a project manager and the CAO replied that is part of our budget allocation. The CAO stated that it is vitally important that we would have at our disposal somebody that is representing our interest.

MOTION – REALLOCATION OF DEMOLITION FUNDS/TRANSFER TO RESERVES

It was moved by Clr. D. Parker and seconded by Clr. Boyles that Council approve the reallocation of \$446,500 previously set aside for the demolition of the former school board offices and transfer those funds to reserves for the Rural Internet Project.

Clr. Palmer asked if this was in addition to the \$1.26 million we had budgeted and the CAO replied the \$12.6 million is in the capital portion of the project.

Clr. Palmer asked if there was any information from DNS and Warden R. Parker replied that the CAO, Clr. MacKeil, Joe Hickey from Nova Communications, Sarah MacIntosh Wiseman, Chief Executive Officer of the REN and he met with 4 representatives from DNS this morning. They knew if they did not get

the money it would be allocated to a teleco which would be working against them. DNS has agreed that the \$11 million will not be given to a teleco that would be competing against the Municipality. The funding is not forthcoming from DNS because they have not found a way to give the Municipality the money. Warden R. Parker informed Council that he spoke with our MP who has agreed to assist us seeking funding for this project.

Clr. Palmer reported that we are taking a lot of risk and questioned if we should even be in the internet business.

Clr. Turner reported we are suggested that we are taking a bigger risk if we do not do this. This involves more than signing up for the internet as the world is moving towards digital a digital economy.

Clr. Wadden reported that we have to do something for the future of Pictou County and it will benefit future generations.

Clr. Baillie pointed out that the County will be \$3 million over budget so if we move ahead with Phase 1 then we have to be successful before moving any further.

Clr. Thompson reported when i-Valley did the build-out for the whole County the cost was \$15 million and now we are talking about Phase 1 being \$11.2+ million. He asked if any of the work is going to be tendered out and the CAO responded it was already tendered out.

Clr. Thompson asked will 1 of the consortium members be the project manager and Warden R. Parker replied that we want someone independent of the project who will look after the best interests of the Municipality. He reported that we want as much fiber to the home as possible as this was one of the biggest concerns residents had before the last municipal election.

Clr. Turner informed Council that the digital economy is a bigger part of the economy than mining, oil and gas. We have to move forward because it is an investment and we have only been looking at the homeowner but this is also a big investment for industry.

Motion carried.

DISCUSSION POINT 3

The CAO informed Council the project has changed over time so we need to provide clarity and approve a resolution to document the project as it exists today.

MOTION - HOUSEKEEPING

It was moved by Clr. MacKeil and seconded by Clr. Boyles that the Municipality Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou confirms its commitment to the Rural Broadband Project as follows:

Design & Engineering	\$ 1,620,000
Phase 1 Costs	\$ 9,091,384 (Ring 8, Truro link, Hardwood Hill site Dev't.)
Total Phase 1 Costs	\$10,711,384

And that the Municipality Council authorizes a change in the project scope from 144 strand fiber pairs to 288 strand fiber pairs at a cost of \$500,000.

And that the Municipal Council reallocate within the 2019/2020 operating budget the amount of \$446,500 towards the Rural Internet Project to offset potential project costs.

Motion carried.

EMERGENCY RESOLUTIONS

There were no emergency resolutions.

REFERRALS TO COMMITTEES & NOTICES OF MOTION

Clr. Dewar reported that there are a lot of stories going around about the smart meters so he would like to see it on an agenda for discussion.

The CAO reported that he spoke with NSP and they are willing to come to meet with staff to provide more information.

Clr. Thompson informed Council that there was a recall in Saskatchewan on the smart meters that went on fire but it was a different meter. He received information from NSP on that issue so he will forward that email to Council. He reported that 70% of Canada has smart meters and there has not been 1 fire.

Clr. MacKeil pointed out there are so many rumors that need to be addressed and numerous health concerns also.

Clr. Boyles asked if there was any movement on the Climate Change Committee and Warden R. Parker replied the ads are out for public members.

Clr. Boyles asked if there was any information on the Fire Study and Warden R. Parker replied they met with all the fire departments so the next step is to meet with the Fire Chiefs.

CLOSED SESSION

Council met in closed session at 9:23 p.m. to discuss matters relating to contract negotiations

OPEN SESSION

Council resumed in open session at 10:00 p.m.

ADJOURN

It was moved by Clr. D. Parker and seconded by Clr. Turner that the meeting adjourn.
Motion carried. (10:00 p.m.)

Robert Parker
Warden

Brian Cullen
Municipal Clerk