

February 9, 2015

The Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou met in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Administration Building on Monday, February 9, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Dist.	1	Clr. Sally Fraser
	2	Clr. Deborah Wadden
	3	Clr. Edward MacMaster
	4	Warden Ronald Baillie
	5	Clr. Robert Parker
	6	Clr. Jim Turple
	7	Clr. David Parker
	8	Leonard Fraser
	9	Clr. Larry Turner
	10	Clr. Jamie Davidson
	11	Deputy Warden Andy Thompson
	12	Clr. Chester Dewar
	13	Clr. Randy Palmer
	14	Clr. Scott Johnston

IN ATTENDANCE

Donn Fraser, Solicitor, MacIntosh, MacDonnell & MacDonald
Brian Cullen, CAO/Municipal Clerk-Treasurer
Jane Johnson, Recording Secretary

PRAYER

Warden Baillie opened the meeting with a prayer.

AGENDA

It was moved by Clr. D. Parker and seconded by Clr. Turple that the final agenda be approved as circulated.

Motion carried.

MINUTES

It was moved by Clr. Turple and seconded by Clr. S. Fraser that the minutes of January 5, 2015 be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was received and acknowledged from the following:

- (a) Min. of TIR – Advising that the Department is facing many challenges around maintaining & upgrading provincial highway infrastructure. There are a number of locations across the province where Government would like to twin the highways at such time as funding is available, including Highway 104. As safety of our highways is of the utmost importance the department will be exploring all options for funding partnerships as it looks for opportunities to make the most out of available provincial resources. Correspondence to

the Minister in support of road tolls for the twinning of Highway 104 from Sutherland's River to Antigonish has been received from the Town of Trenton.

- (b) Correspondence (uncirculated) expressing appreciation for financial support has been received from Silent Witness Pictou County.

Clr. R. Parker referred to correspondence received from Transportation & Infrastructure Renewal regarding the twinning of Highways 101, 103 and 104. Clr. R. Parker reported there are very little Provincial resources available to work on these roads and he asked if there was an update on this issue being brought forward to the UNSM.

Warden Baillie replied it is usually early summer before UNSM asks for resolutions but based on Council's discussion he asked that this issue be put on the Regional UNSM meeting that is to take place this Friday. Warden Baillie pointed out if we can get regional support for it first it will be that much easier to get it through the UNSM.

RECOGNITION OF INDIVIDUALS & GROUPS

Clr. S. Fraser thanked everyone for coming here tonight to honor a special individual in our District One community, Barb King.

As the longest standing member, Barb has served on the ladies auxiliary to the Merigomish and District Fire Department for the past 40 years and has been attending monthly meetings since 1975. Her involvement with fundraising efforts have included Hunters' breakfasts, salmon suppers, lobster dinners, ticket sales just to name a few. Whether it's a train derailment in Barney's River or a house fire in Egerton, Barb is always one to spearhead and coordinate efforts to support the Merigomish & District Firefighters in their volunteer efforts. So tonight, we wanted to say thank you and to let you know that your efforts have not gone unnoticed. We admire your dedication, selflessness and stick-to-itiveness over the past four decades. It is people of your caliber, Barb, that help our small communities not only to survive, but help them to thrive. A big congratulations to a most deserving recipient.

On behalf of Council Clr. S. Fraser, Warden Baillie and Deputy Warden Thompson presented Barbara King with a certificate of recognition on behalf of the Municipality for her 40 years of service on the Ladies Auxiliary to the Merigomish Fire Department.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Warden Baillie informed Council that community announcements is a new item that was recently added to the Council agenda. This item provides an opportunity for Councillors to make an announcement of an event that may be taking place in their community. There were no community announcements at this time.

FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

Clr. Palmer 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 January:

1. Reviewed the list of Accounts Paid for the month of December.
2. Considered several applications for funding. (Resolution to follow)
3. Discussed issues relating to the life & accident insurance policy on volunteer firefighters, and the operating deficit of the Pictou County Wellness Centre
4. Met in closed session to discuss matters relating to contract negotiations.

DATED at Pictou, N.S. this 9th day February, 2015.

(Sgd.) Randy Palmer
Chester Dewar

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. Palmer and seconded by Clr. Dewar that the report of the Financial Services Committee be received for information purposes.
Motion carried.

PROPERTY SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

Clr. D. Parker presented the report of the Property Services Committee 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 January:

1. Met with representatives from Port Hawkesbury Paper for an overview on company activities and operations and work plans for 2015.
2. Reviewed the report of the Building Inspector, By-Law/Dog Control Officer and Warden for the month of December.
3. Agreed to recommend changes to the Intersection Street Lighting Policy to increase the number of discretionary lights from 3 to 5. (Resolution to follow)
4. Reviewed the funding approval from the Trans Canada Trail on the payment of funds for geotechnical work being carried out along Munroe Avenue and agreed to move forward with work on this project.
5. Discussed the current status of the Highway 4 Water & Sewer Project. The Director of Public Works & Development is still awaiting receipt of information from the developer which is necessary for the design of the system and until such time as that information is received, the project is not able to advance.

DATED at Pictou, N.S. this 9th of February, 2015.

(Sgd.) David Parker
Jim Turple

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. D. Parker and seconded by Clr. Turple that the report of the Property Services Committee be received for information purposes.
Motion carried.

MUNICIPAL ALCOHOL PROJECT

Clr. Wadden reported that after our forum in December our committee agreed that it is very clear with both adults and youth of the concerns regarding "Grad parties" so our committee is offering to help set up one conversation per high school in the County for a total of 3 conversations. We hope to have 10 to 15 students with a majority of grade 12 but with the potential of including a couple of 11th graders. This

idea has met favorably with the Principals and VP's so a preliminary meeting is tentatively scheduled with a few youth from Northumberland High on Feb 19 to help flush out ideas for a 1 to 2 hour discussion at the 3 schools. Our goal is to open dialogue between youth and supportive adult stakeholders around Grad Parties/events.

Our next MAP meeting is scheduled for Feb 17 where more planning will take place concerning these discussions.

Clr. R. Parker reported that he often heard that we have to start with the younger children and there are a lot of younger children drinking and not just those students in grade 12. Clr. R. Parker asked if there were any plans to hold other sessions with younger children.

Clr. Wadden replied the Committee did talk about that but decided to focus on the older students for the time being because it is such a huge undertaking and it was a good starting point.

STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION REPORT

Deputy Warden Thompson presented the report of the Municipal Council Planning Session as follows:

For information purposes, the following report is submitted on the discussions held by Municipal Council at its business and strategic planning session held on January 24, 2015 at the Plymouth Community Center.

1. The Council Meeting Agenda and Council's decision making practices were discussed. The members agreed that Council/Committee decisions should only be made when the members are given an opportunity to consider or ponder the issue in advance of the meeting. To that end, the following changes will be made to Council and Committee meeting practices:

- a. A community announcement section will be added to the agenda, which will allow Council members to highlight activities and events scheduled within their district.
- b. A draft agenda will be sent to members with the meeting package materials. Members will have until Friday at 12:00 p.m. (noon) to add additional items to the agenda. Items placed on the agenda by noon, will be eligible for debate at the meeting. A final agenda and any additional supporting information will be sent electronically after the 12:00 p.m. deadline.

In the event that an item arises after the agenda is finalized, the Council member may request that the item be considered as an emergency resolution. In order for the item to be considered as an emergency resolution it will require unanimous consent of the Council members.

Council members may request that an item be placed on a future agenda of a Committee of Council meeting by providing a **Notice of Motion** to consider the item.

- c. The Council have tasked the Administration to investigate a system to record votes during Council meetings. A report will be tabled at a future meeting of Council on possible solutions.
2. The Council discussed economic development strategies for the Municipality, more specifically;
 - a. The Council was provided an update on the Regional Enterprise Network and provided the Administration with direction regarding our participation in REN4.
 - b. The Council would like to form a task force on economic development. The other municipalities in the County are being asked to participate and Council will determine the next steps after hearing from the other municipal units.

- c. The Council would like to host an event where it can connect directly with the businesses of Pictou County. The Administration has been tasked to develop a plan and budget for such an event.
- 3. The Council discussed how the Municipality currently funds recreational infrastructure. The Council agreed that the MOU process must identify how Municipality owned facilities are funded as well as develop assumptions and policy analysis on non-municipally owned facilities.
- 4. The Council discussed buy-local initiatives and how the Municipality interacts with local businesses in its procurement process. It was agreed that the Administration be tasked with developing a new procurement policy that will identify procedures for local preferences in buying practices.
- 5. The Council received an update on the MOU process and details on the Steering Committee's activity to date.
- 6. The Council discussed the budget process and how the budgets are prepared and presented to Council. The Council agreed to hold a budget planning session, prior to presentation of draft budgets, to provide objectives and guidance to senior staff.

As part of its budget development process the Council would like the Grants Review Committee to meet prior to the budget planning session. The deadline for grant applications is the last working day of February so the Grant Review Committee should be able to complete its work in March.

Clr. R. Parker asked Warden Baillie if there was any feedback from the other municipal units as yet on working together on economic development in the county.

Warden Baillie replied that he will a better idea next Tuesday when the Shared Services Authority has a scheduled meeting so all units should be in attendance.

Clr. L. Fraser referred to the Notice of Motion and asked for further explanation and Warden Baillie responded Councillors have 2 opportunities to make a Notice of Motion at either the regular Council Meeting or Property and Finance Committees.

Clr. D. Parker pointed out that he had a concern with #3 because it does not seem to be as strongly worded as he heard at Council's Strategic Planning Session. He just wants to be confident that this process will improve the way those facilities are treated. Clr. D. Parker reported that he hears more and more from the residents in his district about the MOU process so he will probably ask for a session in his district. Clr. D. Parker suggested the Municipality's Rural News & Views April Newsletter be used to provide a significant amount of information as it is an excellent way to get a lot of information out to our residents.

Warden Baillie commented that would be an ideal opportunity to get that information on the MOU process out to the residents.

RESOLUTION – MUNICIPAL GRANTS

Clr. Johnston 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:

Municipal Services:

D 1 Kenzieville Cemetery	\$ 1,000.00	Maintenance, Grass Cutting, Stone & Grave Repairs
D14 Blue Mtn. & Dist. Vol. Fire Dept.	5,000.00	Repeater System & Radios
D14 Garden of Eden Comm. Hall	800.00	Replacement of Windows

D14 East Riv. St. Mary's Vol. Fire Dept.	<u>3,500.00</u>	Replacement of Toilets, Window, Doors + Trim, Taps, Sink & Insulation
	\$10,300.00	

Recreation:

New Glasgow Music Festival	\$ 500.00	Festival Expenses
Riverview Home Corporation	1,000.00	Program Expenses
Pictou County Basketball Association	<u>352.50</u>	Program Expenses
	\$ 1,852.50	

Council:

Community Transit Nova Scotia	\$ 500.00	Program Expenses
Aberdeen Health Foundation	<u>633.00</u>	Venue Rental for Mental Health Student Event
	\$ 1,133.00	

TOTAL: \$13,285.00

DATED at Pictou, N.S. this 9th day of February, 2015.

(Sgd.) Scott Johnston
Randy Palmer

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. Johnston and seconded by Clr. Palmer that the preceding resolution be adopted as presented.
Motion carried.

RESOLUTION – INTERSECTION STREET LIGHTING POLICY

Clr. L. Fraser 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 adopt the following policy with respect to intersection street lighting:



POLICY #2015-02-34

**MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF PICTOU
INTERSECTION STREET LIGHTING POLICY**

The Municipality of the County of Pictou hereby enacts the following policy with respect to the provision of street lighting at intersections in areas where residential street lighting does not exist:

Street lighting shall be managed to aid in the safe passage of motor vehicles on public streets or roads and pedestrian traffic at street intersections and other pedestrian infrastructure.

Street lighting shall be managed within the means of the Municipality. Therefore, the intent of the policy is to provide a level of street lighting that is both affordable and adequate for vehicular and pedestrian traffic.

When a request of additional street-lighting is made based upon public safety concerns, the Director of Public Works & Development shall:

- (a) Conduct an analysis of public safety problems in the area and whether such problems could reasonably be expected to be alleviated by additional street lighting.
- (b) In reviewing the need for additional street lighting requirements, the following conditions shall be considered:
 - (i) Traffic Volume;
 - (ii) Accident rates at the intersection;
 - (iii) Ambient Light, where illumination in areas adjacent to the intersection adversely affects the driver's vision;
 - (iv) The intersection approach speed is equal to at least 60 km/h;
 - (v) The location at which a driver is required to pass through a section of road with complex geometry. The geometry must pose a specific night time traffic hazard;
 - (vi) The location where signage is posted for changes in the expected traveled way, and it is deemed by the Director of Public Works & Development that signage alone is insufficient for night time traffic safety;
 - (vii) The intersection has a flashing beacon or signalized traffic control.
- (c) Street lighting for intersections shall only be provided on publically owned and maintained roads, where at least 50% of the intersection is paved.
- (d) If installation meets County streetlight warrants, the Municipality will pay the installation, operating, and maintenance costs.
- (e) This policy shall not be used to install lights at approaches to any 100 series highways.
- (f) All street lighting expenditures must conform to approved budget amounts.

Notwithstanding the provisions of this policy, the Councilor for any district may request that three 5 intersection lights be installed in their district without an investigation pursuant to clause 1.

REPEAL

All former policies and/or practices heretofore enacted with respect to street lighting at intersections in areas where residential street lighting does not exist are hereby repealed.

DATED at Pictou, NS this 9th day of February, 2015.

(Sgd.) Leonard Fraser
Larry Turner

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. L. Fraser and seconded by Clr. Turner that the preceding resolution be adopted as presented.

Clr. D. Parker reported there is a problem out in the more rural areas where many of the intersections are not lit and now there is a problem with the demographics. The average age is getting older and there are a lot of seniors who are finding it harder to see these intersections.

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION – DESTRUCTION OF DOCUMENTS

Clr. Palmer presented a resolution to Council as follows:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou did, on July 7, 1986, adopt 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 received the approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs on October 24, 1986;

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 9th day of February, 2015.

(Sgd.) Randy Palmer
Scott Johnston

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**

A1-10	2009/10 Correspondence & Duplicate Minute Files
A2-12	1992 – 1995/95 Capital Charges
A4-15	2004/05 Payroll
A6-13	2005 Building Permits
A7- 5	1994/95 Tax Certificates
A7- 8	2007/08 General Cancelled Cheques & Invoices
A7-10	2007/08 General & Water Cancelled Cheques & Invoices
A7-12	1998 – 1999/2000 Bank Statements & 1997/98 – 2004/05 NSF Cheques
A7-18	2004/05 Taxes Receivable Report
A7-24	2004/05 Ledgers
A7-40	1994/95 Receipts
A7-41	1994/95 Receipts
A7-43	2009/10 Mortgage Companies
A7-49	1995 Assessment Roll Changes

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 23rd day of January. A.D.,
2015.

Carolyn MacIntosh
COMMISSIONER OF THE SUPREME
COURT OF NOVA SCOTIA

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. Palmer and seconded by Clr. Johnston that the preceding resolution be adopted as presented.

In response to a query from Clr. Turple, the CAO confirmed that all of the documents were paper records.

Motion carried.

EMERGENCY RESOLUTIONS

There were no emergency resolutions to present to Council.

REFERRALS TO COMMITTEE & NOTICE OF MOTION

Clr. Turner informed Council that he as a dangerous & unsightly premises complaint regarding the Bob Ross Garage located in Alma and he would like to refer it to the Property Services Committee.

Clr. L. Fraser reported that he has received a lot of feedback from the public regarding the Aberdeen Hospital and suggested this issue could be deferred to the Finance Committee for

further discussion. There should be some way that when a person has a problem they can bring their concern to the hospital to have it resolved. Over the years a lot of people have put money into the Aberdeen Hospital and with the renovations that have to be done Clr. L. Fraser indicated that he expects the Aberdeen Hospital will be looking to the residents to invest more money into the facility. In order to be part of the Aberdeen Hospital a person has to feel some satisfaction when they have to go to the hospital and many are not getting any satisfaction. Clr. L. Fraser reported that he wants to refer this issue to the Finance Committee and then bring a recommendation to Council on patient care at the Aberdeen Hospital.

Clr. D. Parker reported that he was talking to the CAO and the By-Law Officer about making some type of change to the Dangerous & Unsightly Premises By-Law. We are awaiting a legal opinion from the Solicitor as to how this can be done most effectively and it will be dealing with abandoned buildings including abandoned homes.

Warden Baillie reported this item will be on the agenda for next month if it is ready.

Clr. Dewar reported that he received several complaints in his district regarding assessments and the increase in resource properties. There was one property that increased quite substantially and the resident was quite concerned why there was such an increase in the assessment.

Warden Baillie reported that issue can be discussed at the next Property Services Committee meeting and he asked Clr. Dewar to get the account number so the Administration can look at the property's assessments.

ADJOURN

It was moved by Clr. Turple and seconded by Clr. Wadden that the meeting adjourn.
Motion carried. (7:40 p.m.)

Ronald Baillie
Warden

Brian Cullen
Municipal Clerk