

March 2, 2015

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, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Dist.	1	Clr. Sally Fraser
	2	Clr. Deborah Wadden
	4	Warden Ronald Baillie
	5	Clr. Robert Parker
	6	Clr. Jim Turple
	7	Clr. David Parker
	9	Clr. Larry Turner
	10	Clr. Jamie Davidson
	11	Deputy Warden Andy Thompson
	13	Clr. Randy Palmer

ABSENT

	3	Clr. Edward MacMaster
	8	Leonard Fraser
	12	Clr. Chester Dewar
	14	Clr. Scott Johnston

IN ATTENDANCE

Donn Fraser, Solicitor, MacIntosh, MacDonnell & MacDonald
Brian Cullen, CAO/Municipal Clerk-Treasurer
Karen E. Cornish, Deputy Municipal Treasurer
Carolyn MacIntosh, Deputy Municipal Clerk
Jane Johnson, Recording Secretary

PRAYER

Warden Baillie opened the meeting with a prayer.

AGENDA

It was moved by Clr. Palmer and seconded by Clr. S. Fraser 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 circulated.

Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was received and acknowledged from the following:

- (a) Min. of Community Services – Confirming the appointment of Linda Priske to the Board of Directors for the Eastern Mainland Housing Authority.

- (b) Min. Transp. & Infra. Renewal – Enclosing a copy of a response to the Town of Trenton’s letter of support for the continued twinning of Highway 104 from Sutherland’s River to Antigonish County and advising that a study is underway to develop a safety improvement plan to address identified deficiencies that may be implemented in the interim prior to twinning. Correspondence has also been received from the Town of Shelburne advising that the Town is unable to support the use of road tolls as a funding source for twinning expenses as it feels that the cost burden to local area residents would be unfair and difficult to defend.
- (c) Min. of Transport – Acknowledging receipt of correspondence from the Municipality expressing concerns regarding changes to postal services and advising that a copy of our correspondence has been sent to the President and Chief Executive Officer of Canada Post.
- (d) NS TIR – Advising that Council’s concerns regarding engine brakes in Lyons Brook has been forwarded to the District Traffic Supervisor for review.

RECOGNITION OF INDIVIDUALS & GROUPS – EMMA TAYLOR

Clr. Turple spoke in recognition of Emma Taylor who is currently in her 5th year at St. F.X. studying Business Administration. In her first year at X (2010) she made the women’s rugby team. Emma did not start but played in every game as a Lock including at Nationals that were held at Trent University in Peterborough. They won the AUS banner against UPEI and then continued on to win the National finals in overtime against Concordia University. It was the second time that X women rugby had ever won a national title. In her second year of University (2011) nationals were once again held at Trent University. Emma started every game in her second year at Lock. They beat Acadia in the AUS final to win the AUS banner but they lost in the National final game against Guelph that year 28-0. In Emma’s third year (2012) St. F.X. had what is known as the “dream team”. Emma played with 4 other girls that year who went on to play in the Women’s Rugby World Cup this past August representing Canada and winning a silver medal. It was their best performance in history. That year they won the AUS title once again and they hosted nationals at St. F.X. where they beat Guelph in the national final 37-0. The same team that beat them the prior year 28-0. That year Emma was an AUS all-star and a CIS tournament all-star. In her fourth year (2013) Emma was named captain of the team. They lost many of their starters and had a bit of a rebuilding year. St. F.X. still managed to beat Acadia in the AUS finals held at UPEI where Emma was named ASU tournament MVP. The team continued on to Nationals where they lost their first two games but beat Laval in the 5th place game. Emma started every game that year at Lock and was named an AUS all-star, AUS tournament MVP and a CIS All-Canadian. 2014 is Emma’s last year of eligibility but was the most special of them all. That season Emma played 8-man, as well as a bit of Lock. The St. F.X. team was young but very eager to improve and show the country what they were made of. They won their 17th consecutive AUS title for X-women rugby when they beat the host Acadia on their own pitch in overtime. Emma Taylor was named AUS all-star, AUS Conference MVP and the AUS tournament MVP. The team went onto nationals held at Guelph University where they came from behind in every single game but ended up winning another national title. The 4th in history for X women rugby and Emma’s 3rd since attending St. F.X. 2014 Emma Taylor was named a CIS All-Canadian, a CIS tournament all-star and the CIS tournament MVP.

On behalf of Municipal Council and the residents of the Municipality Clr. Turple, Warden Baillie and Deputy Warden Thompson presented Emma Taylor with a certificate of recognition for her achievements in the sport of rugby.

RECOGNITION OF INDIVIDUALS & GROUPS – COBEQUID DISTRICT FIRE DEPT.

Clr. D. Parker informed Council that a week ago there was a rescue in Great Village where one of the fire departments in Colchester County had the foresight to order the equipment and train their firefighters for that particular situation. It was an excellent example of what we ask of our fire departments almost every day to be prepared, equipped and trained to carry out rescues. In this case it was a young man who was trapped in a grain bin on a farm in Great Village and there is no easy way to get a person out. You

have to have a special piece of equipment called a Grain Bin Rescue Kit and you have to be trained to use it.

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. D. Parker and seconded by Clr. Turple that a letter be sent to the Cobequid District Fire Department thanking them for their foresight and preparedness.

Motion carried

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Clr. S. Fraser reminded everyone the Dinner Theatre will be held this week-end in Lismore on March 6th – 8th, adding that she could provide tickets to anyone who is interested in attending.

RECESS

The meeting recessed at 7:13 p.m. for a meeting of the Financial Services Committee.

RESUME

The meeting resumed at 7:20 p.m.

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 February:

1. Reviewed the report of the Recreation Coordinator for the months of December and January.
2. Considered several applications for funding. (Resolution to follow)
3. Selected Eugene McManus as the Municipality' "Volunteer of the Year".
4. Reviewed a draft policy on the procurement of goods and services and requested that the CAO seek a legal opinion on the document before any further discussion is undertaken.
5. Reviewed the list of Accounts Paid for the month of January.
6. Discussed the reduction of health authorities and the need for a mechanism for dealing with concerns and complaints arising at the Aberdeen Hospital. Clarification will be sought from the Pictou Health Authority on the procedure to be followed after April 1st.
7. Agreed to hold a discussion at a future meeting on the local economy and that the Economic Development Officer be present for those discussions.
8. Discussed recent changes to the procedure for developing meeting agendas.
9. Discussed the lack of a performance evaluation system for municipal employees and the merits of implementing such a system.

DATED at Pictou, N.S. this 2nd day of March, 2015.

(Sgd.) Randy Palmer
Jamie Davidson

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. Palmer and seconded by Clr. Davidson 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 February:

1. Met with a resident from Riverton who expressed concerns with regard to fire hydrant rates levied by the Municipality.
2. Reviewed the report of the Building Inspector, By-Law/Dog Control Officer and Warden for the month of January.
3. Reviewed the report of the Development Officer for the calendar year ending December 31, 2014.
4. Discussed operating issues related to the Lyons Brook Pumping Station.
5. Discussed concerns relating to snow removal on municipal sidewalks.

DATED at Pictou, N.S. this 2nd day of March, 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 from our workshop in December there are three areas we are focusing on:

- a. Policing: Role of Police and alcohol harm-prevention programming. Sophie has met with both the New Glasgow Regional and the RCMP to see how we can further work together on some of the suggestions from our workshop.
- b. Grad events non -school related)
Goal is to open the lines of communication more, not arrive at a consensus. School representatives and police/RCMP are on board. We are planning a session at each school (3sessions in total). Inviting 10-15 youth and 5-10 supportive adults at each session

- c. Municipal & Community Events
 - a) Review our Municipal Bylaws
 - b) Review some of the Liquor Licenses for various institutions - in particular the Wellness centre as it is municipally owned.

Our next meeting is March 26, 2015.

RESOLUTION – MUNICIPAL GRANTS

Clr. S. 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 approve the payment of the following Municipal Grants:

Recreation:

Parker Keatley	\$ 150.00	D4 Clr. Allotment (Rehab. Expenses)
West Branch & Area Comm. Assoc.	150.00	D5 Clr. Allotment (Youth Recreation Pgms.)
Scotsburn 4-H Club	150.00	D6 Clr. Allotment (Sponsorship)
Durham Community Hall	150.00	D7 Clr. Allotment (Hall Mtnc./Kiosk Lighting)
Plymouth Community Centre (Fitness Pgm.)	150.00	D11 Clr. Allotment (Snow Clearing)
Hopewell 4-H Club	150.00	D12 Clr. Allotment (Pgm. Expenses)
East Pictou Silver Blades	150.00	D13 Clr. Allotment (Pgm. Expenses)
Valley View Villa	1,000.00	Program Expenses
Highland Derby Dolls	300.00	Leadership Grant (Skills Clinic)
East Pictou Silver Blades	680.00	Program Grant
Heather Scotia Skaters	1,360.00	Program Grant
New Glasgow Minor Hockey Assoc.	300.00	Program Grant
Pictou Co. Female Hockey Assoc.	920.00	Program Grant
Pictou Co. Minor Hockey	1,360.00	Program Grant
Pictou Minor Hockey	1,880.00	Program Grant
Stellarton Minor Hockey	280.00	Program Grant
Thorburn & Dist. Minor Hock. Assoc.	3,000.00	Program Grant
Trenton Minor Hockey Assoc.	500.00	Program Grant
Westville Area Minor Hockey Assoc.	1,200.00	Program Grant
Heatherbell Pipes & Drums	100.00	Program Grant
Highland Derby Dolls	100.00	Program Grant
Kanokai Judo Club	172.50	Program Grant
New Glasgow Karate Club	100.00	Program Grant
Pictou Co. Gymnastics Club	862.50	Program Grant
Pictou County Rec. Athletic Soc.	262.50	Program Grant
Pictou Soccer Club	832.50	Program Grant
Stellarton Area Minor Girls Softball Ass.	547.50	Program Grant
Trenton & Area Minor Softball	100.00	Program Grant
Seniors Outreach Luncheon	150.00	D2 Clr. Allot. (Seniors Programs)
Seniors Outreach	150.00	D1 Clr. Allot. (Seniors Programs)
Nighthawks U-14 Volley Ball	100.00	Program Grant
Pictou Co. Rec. & Athletic Society	<u>1,000.00</u>	Capital Gt. (Wheels & Fencing)
	<u>\$17,257.50</u>	

Council:

Pictou Co. Children With Autism Association	\$ 500.00	Sponsorship Expenses
Pictou Co. Highland Dance Assoc.	250.00	Ship Hector Scottish Heritage Championship Sponsorship
Chignecto East Reg. Science Fair	\$ 250.00	Fair Expenses
Northumberland Reg. High Sch.	<u>100.00</u>	Leadership Camp – Madalyn Nielsen
	\$ 1,100.00	
TOTAL:	<u>\$18,357.50</u>	

DATED at Pictou, N.S. this 2nd day of March, 2015.

(Sgd.) Sally Fraser
Deborah Wadden

MOTION

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

Motion carried.

EMERGENCY RESOLUTION – CLOSURE OF VIC

It was agreed that Council discuss the closing of the Visitor Information Center in Pictou.

Clr. R. Parker reported there was an announcement this week that the visitor information centre in Pictou is going to close and he felt that it was important that Council take some position on that decision as Pictou County relies on tourism during the summer months and if the VIC is eliminated then we are just encouraging more people to by-pass Pictou County. Furthermore, the Town of Pictou has been working on making changes into the entryway into the town so the Tourist Bureau is more accessible for tourists. A lot of people still need a tourist bureau instead of relying on computer technology. Clr. R. Parker informed Council that he would like to introduce a resolution with the full support of Council.

Warden Baillie informed Council that the Mayors and Warden met today with Pictou West MLA Karla MacFarlane and Sean Murray regarding the closing of the Visitor Information Center. A letter is going to be sent on behalf of the 6 municipal units in Pictou County and Karla MacFarlane the MLA is going to raise the issue in Halifax this week hoping we can come to some kind of resolution. The letter is asking the reason for the closure and for a meeting with the Minister.

Clr. R. Parker commented that there would be no need to send a separate letter if this issue is already being dealt with through the Mayors & Warden representing the 6 municipal units.

Clr. Turple commented that there are numerous people who go to various businesses in the Town as a result of referrals by the Tourist Bureau.

Deputy Warden Thompson reported one impact this has on tourism is that it removes restrooms out of the area. There are tour buses that will not tour the eastern shore because there are no washroom facilities. This is one of the basic needs for tourists and they should revisit the whole issue of rest steps because we need that infrastructure.

Clr. D. Parker pointed out that it is either all or nothing and there is no attempt to evolve with the times. There will no longer be anyone on the ferry coming from PEI passing out information promoting Pictou County as a destination. We need to be looking at other models that would be more cost efficient and it could mean less staff.

Warden Baillie reported the Mayors and Warden are going to meet in 2 weeks to see if there is a response to the letter.

RESOLUTION – COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Clr. Palmer 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 nomination for the 2014/15 term:

<u>OUTSIDE BOARDS</u>	
Go Clean Get Green Committee	Andy Thompson
New Scotland Business Park Bd. of Directors	Larry Turner, Andy Thompson, Jamie Davidson
Pictou Source Water Protection Committee	Jim Turple, Ronald Baillie

DATED at Pictou, N. S. this 2nd day of March, 2015.

(Sgd.) Randy Palmer
Jamie Davidson

MOTION

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

Motion carried.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Clr. R. Parker reported that he was of the understanding that the Economic Development discussion was on the Committee of Council agenda for next week because Mr. MacFarlane was not available this evening.

Warden Baillie apologized for the misunderstanding as he thought Clr. R. Parker still wanted to discuss economic development this evening.

PICTOU-ANTIGONISH REGIONAL LIBRARY

As Council's representative on the Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library Board Clr. S. Fraser reported that the Board has received notice from the Provincial Government that the HST rebate on books is being discontinued. Board Chair Troy MacCulloch has sent a letter of objection to Finance Minister Whalen expressing concern over that action as this change will decrease the book purchasing power by 10% and our local library system would face a reduction of the book budget from \$120,000 to \$108,000. She noted that after a prolonged freeze on library funding through 3 governments (Conservative, N.D.P. and now Liberal) the impact on staffing and services offered is unavoidable. Also this change will negatively impact more than just libraries, it is a tax on literacy that will affect any book purchases whether by institutions or by individuals. The municipal units have been very supportive of our library system locally and there has been some significant progress in how literacy services are delivered. I am thinking of The People's Place Library in Antigonish and the upcoming innovations to the Pictou Library.

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. S. Fraser and seconded by Clr. Wadden that Council send a letter to the Minister of Finance, with a copy to the Minister of Culture & Heritage, registering the concerns brought forward this evening.

Motion carried.

UP-DATE - BOUNDARY REVIEW

Warden Baillie reported that Clr. Johnston had placed the boundary review issue on the agenda but is not in attendance this evening. By way of information, he reported that our application to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board was submitted in December and to date we have not received any information on the date for a hearing on the application.

The CAO reported that some of the towns have had their hearing but the towns may be done first and then followed by the rural municipalities.

REFERRALS TO COMMITTEES & NOTICES OF MOTION

There were no referrals to Committees & Notices of Motion at this time.

ADJOURN

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

Ronald Baillie
Warden

Brian Cullen
Municipal Clerk