

September 6, 2016

The Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou met in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Administration Building on Tuesday, September 6, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

**PRESENT**

Dist.	1	Clr. Sally Fraser
	2	Clr Deborah Wadden
	3	Clr. Darla MacKeil,
	4	Warden Ronnie Baillie
	5	Clr. Robert Parker
	6	Clr. Jim Turple
	7	Clr. David Parker
	8	Clr. L. 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  
Karen E. Cornish, Deputy Municipal Treasurer  
Carolyn MacIntosh, Deputy Municipal Clerk  
Jane Johnson, Recording Secretary

**CALL TO ORDER**

Warden Baillie 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 County.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence was received and acknowledged from the following:

- (a) Minister of Internal Services regarding Emergency Radio Communications in Rural Pictou County.
- (b) Letters of appreciation (uncirculated) for financial assistance were received from the following: Pictou County 4-H, Remembering Canada's Heroes, & the Canadian Red Cross.

**RECOGNITION OF INDIVIDUALS & GROUPS – DONALD & DAVID ROBESON**

Clr. S. Fraser informed Council that she would like to publicly recognize Don and Dave Robeson of Merigomish. These two gentlemen built a full-size replica of the old Merigomish Train Station on their family property. I was recently invited for a tour of the facility and was amazed by the countless number of hours that they devoted in securing our community's past. This historical replica personifies a lifelong dream of these two men. Through careful collection, preservation and restoration, they have captured village life in Merigomish dating back to the days of the intercolonial railway.

As a village, we thank you for your contribution of education to future generations. As your Councillor, I thank you for being model citizens in District One and as your neighbour, let me just say that "Gentlemen don't come any finer".

On behalf of the Municipality Warden Baillie, Deputy Warden Thompson and Clr. S. Fraser presented a certificate of recognition to Donald & David Robeson thanking and acknowledging them for their contribution to District 1.

## **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **TERRY FOX RUN**

Clr. R. Parker reported that on September 18<sup>h</sup>, 2016 it will be the 36<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Terry Fox Run. A lot of money has gone into research and he would like everyone to think of friends and families that have lost their battle with cancer over the years. Clr. R. Parker informed Council that he will be participating in the run on the Pictou Waterfront again this year and would welcome donations.

### **ABERCROMBIE FIRE DEPT. FUN DAY**

Clr. Turner reported that on September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016 the Abercrombie Fire Department will be having a fun day from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

### **TERRY FOX RUN**

Clr. S. Fraser reported that on September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016 there will be a Terry Fox Run in District 1 at 1:00 p.m. from the Lismore Community Center.

### **PORK CHOP BBQ & PUB**

Clr. S. Fraser informed Council that on September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016 there will be a Pork Chop BBQ and Pub from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Lismore Community Center.

### **HOPEWELL CEILIDH**

Clr. Dewar informed Council that the Hopewell Ceilidh was rained out this year but they still sold 265 turkey dinners and 360 pieces of pie with everything sold out. The event was still a success despite the bad weather.

### **PICTOU-NORTH COLCHESTER EXHIBITION**

Clr. R. Parker reported the Pictou-North Colchester Exhibition will be opening tomorrow and will run until Sunday. Council has been very good to support the exhibition over the years and Clr. R. Parker encouraged everyone to support the event.

## **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 August:

1. Reviewed the report of the Recreation Coordinator for the month of July.
2. Considered several applications for financial support. (Resolution to follow)

3. Reviewed the list of Accounts Paid for the month of July.
4. Met in closed session to discuss matters relating to contract negotiations.

DATED at Pictou, N.S. this 6<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2016

(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.

Clr. D. Parker reported that he was not in attendance at that meeting and noticed the Municipality is advertising for a Manager in the Finance Office. He asked was this discussed and Warden Baillie replied that the position had been approved several years ago and is only now being filled.

Clr. D. Parker asked if a salary range has been established for the position and Warden Baillie replied at that time the amount was \$60,000 to \$70,000.

Motion carried.

### **PROPERTY SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT**

Clr. Dewar 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 August:

1. Reviewed the report of the Building Inspector and Warden for the month of July, and the reports of the By-Law/Dog Control Officer for the months of June & July.
2. Considered a recommendation from the Director of Public Works & Development on the award of a tender for upgrades to Pump Road. (Resolution to follow)

DATED at Pictou, N.S. this 6<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2016.

(Sgd.) Chester Dewar  
Randy Palmer

### **MOTION**

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

Motion carried.

### **MUNICIPAL ALCOHOL PROJECT**

Clr. Wadden reported a few highlights as follows:

Our Committee certainly appreciates the continued support from all our respective Councils especially the Letters of Concern re the Liquor Control Act amendments. We have no updated information as to where that stands.

We have a Bridging the Gap Facebook page resulting from our Inter-generational event held earlier this year and it seems to be working out well keeping in touch with the interested youth from this function with the possibility of coming up with other ideas for future workshops.

We are currently in the process of applying for a Chronic Disease Innovation Grant with the hope of planning some type of Northern Zone Intergenerational Function. Our Committee has actually been the group who developed the Model for the Intergenerational Forum and have been recognized across the province for our lead on this role.

In closing, we are in the process of acknowledging our appreciation to our respective councils which you will likely receive before our October Council meeting, but I would like to serve notice here that this is a very active and focused committee strongly supported by our Councils. We are very proud of the fact that we maintained our Vision and our Mission throughout our past few years of this committee's lifespan. We know elections are coming up in October and each of us want you to know how important it will be to continue councils' strong participation and representation on this committee. Some of the players may change, but we hope the MAP committee will continue with good representation and with strong municipal support.

I think one of our strong points has been that we do not come to councils looking for funding for our projects but work very hard applying for grants through various avenues, primarily provincial, for the funding we require to bring our projects to the forefront and so far that has worked quite well for us.

Other than that, I think our minutes are pretty self-explanatory as to where our committee is right now.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP**

Clr. R. Parker reported that the group met twice and once with our MP, Sean Fraser to bring him up-to-date on what the group has been doing. He is an important player to have on side as we look at different strategies in order to improve the employment in this County. Any money that was being invested in Atlantic Canada would go towards the Atlantic Growth Strategy. The 5 items that fit under that strategy are immigration, infrastructure, tourism, trade & innovation and climate change. If we had any jobs related to those particular fields we would have a better chance of getting funding at the Federal level. He was very interested in becoming an ex-officio member of the Working Group and that was granted to him. The Working Group met last week with the 20/20 group and discussed economic growth and how to better our communities. Once the 20/20 group were excused there was discussion on the development of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for an Economic development Plan. Clr. R. Parker informed Council that he met with the CAO this morning about an RFP and the representatives from each municipal unit are taking back to their Councils to ask for approval of an RFP to do an economic study. The CAO had informed him that it will take several weeks to get the RFP ready and approved. They are looking for a plan that will allow them to work on the different economic pillars.

### **AGREED**

It was agreed that the CAO develop a Request for Proposal (RFP) for an Economic Development Plan for Pictou County.

### **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:

#### **Municipal Services:**

D01 Barney's River Stn. School House Museum	\$ 1,400.00	Window, Roof & Door Repairs
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D02 Little Hbr. Community Centre	5,000.00	Continuation of Renovations to Community Centre
D09 Abercrombie Cemetery	3,900.00	Storage Shed Repairs & Head Stone Restoration
D09 Abercrombie Community Centre	3,422.00	Storage Barn & Groundskeeping
D09 Abercrombie Fire Department	7,000.00	Thermal Imager & Charger
D09 Mt. William Cemetery	2,350.00	Maintenance Expenses
D14 SBI 4-H	<u>500.00</u>	Flowers, Trophies, Christmas Turkeys, Awards Night Exp. & Achievement Days Exp.
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$ 23,572.00</b>	

Council:

NS Library Association	\$ 200.00	Conference Sponsorship
Molly's Rainbows Society	100.00	Event Expenses
Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library	2,500.00	Books & Rocket Language Services to assist in Refugee Settlement & Retention
Pictou County Safe Harbour	<u>7,500.00</u>	Assistance with health, Education and transportation Needs of two Syrian families.
	<b>\$ 10,300.00</b>	
<b>GRAND TOTAL:</b>	<b><u>\$ 33,872.00</u></b>	

DATED at Pictou, N.S. this 6<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2016

(Sgd.) Deborah Wadden  
Darla MacKeil

**MOTION**

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

**AMENDMENT – MOLLY'S RAINBOWS**

It was moved by Clr. S. Fraser and seconded by Clr. Davidson that the Council Grant for Molly's Rainbows Society be increased from \$100.00 to \$250.00  
The motion to amend carried.

Clr. Dewar asked for further information on the Council Grant regarding health care assistance for Pictou County Safe Harbor and Clr. S. Fraser replied that is dental care that is not covered.

The motion, as amended, carried.

**RESOLUTION – PUMP ROAD TENDERS**

Deputy Warden Thompson presented a resolution to Council as follows:

**RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS tenders have been called for the completion of upgrades to Pump Road;

WHEREAS a total of 3 tenders were received as follows:

	<u>TENDER AMOUNT</u> <u>(Excluding HST)</u>
C. F. Construction	\$151,777.20
S W Weeks Construction	157,069.60
Blaine F. MacLean Excavation	146,674.40

WHEREAS the Director of Public Works & Development advises that the low bid meets all of the requirements of the tender;

WHEREAS the Director of Public Works & Development and the Property Services Committee recommends the acceptance of the lowest tender;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou that Council accept the tender submitted by Blane F. MacLean Excavation in the amount of \$146,674.40 for upgrades to Pump Road.

DATED at Pictou, N. S. this 6<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2016.

(Sgd.) Andy Thompson  
Jamie Davidson

**MOTION**

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

Clr. D. Parker reported that he was very pleased this is moving forward and pointed out this will cost each resident of that road and there are only 7 residents approximately \$11,000 each in order to get their road upgraded and taken over by the Municipality. The residents have agreed to that amount and are pleased it is moving forward.

Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION – AD HOC ROAD COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS**

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 nominations for the 2016/17 Council term:

<b>OUTSIDE BOARDS</b>	
Ad Hoc Road Committee	Sally Fraser, Deborah Wadden, Darla MacKeil, Ronald Baillie, Andy Thompson, Randy Palmer

DATED at Pictou, N. S. this 6th day of September, 2016

(Sgd.) Deborah Wadden  
Darla MacKeil

**MOTION**

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

**AMENDMENT – CLR. D. PARKER**

It was moved by Clr. S. Fraser and seconded by Clr. L. Fraser that the motion be amended to add Clr. D. Parker’s name to the Ad Hoc Road Committee.

The motion to amend carried.

The motion, as amended, carried.

**CONGRATULATORY LETTER – TOWN OF NEW GLASGOW**

Clr. Palmer reported the Town of New Glasgow made a major announcement several weeks ago about Web.com coming to Pictou County and they are going to create upwards of 360 jobs. He wanted to congratulate the Town of New Glasgow for bringing that company to Pictou County for the jobs that are desperately needed.

**MOTION**

It was moved by Clr. Palmer and seconded by Clr. Turple that Council send a letter to the Town of New Glasgow congratulating the Town on the hard work in bringing Web.com to Pictou County with the help of Career Connections, Nova Scotia Business Inc., and Crombie Reit.

Clr. D. Parker noted these may not be ideal jobs but they are paying more than minimum wage.

Motion carried.

**WATER QUALITY ISSUES IN LITTLE HARBOUR**

Clr. Wadden reported that she had the opportunity to attend a very informative presentation put on by the Aquaculture Association of Nova Scotia and the Sea farmers Association about keeping the waters clean in Little Harbour. The presentation was done in a partnership with the Aquaculture Association, the NSCC and Paul Berdeski concerning the importance of oyster fishing to our economy. This group went back to 1954 gathering data and comparing it to what we are seeing today. The amount of development along the coastal areas in Pictou County has increased many times over. Other issues affecting our coast are failing septic systems, clear-cutting, agriculture, industry and the list goes on and on. The focus of last week’s discussion was on the coliform levels being found in their test results. This type of pollution is from warm blooded mammals which would be animal or human such as deer, birds, and so on. When the coliform levels reach 43 shellfish fishing is shut down and does not reopen until the levels have gone back down. Since 2011 we have seen we have seen an increase in coliform levels in the results and some results were over 200. Several years ago Melmerby Beach was shut down due to the high coliform levels but they never did conclusively determine what caused the problem at Melmerby Beach but we know it never happened before and has not happened since. When the levels of coliform reach 43 the industry is

shut down but they are seeing readings as high as 200 in some of the inlets along our coast. They are sporadic but they are still reaching levels of 200 in some areas since 2011 but because they are not public swim areas the information goes to Halifax and stays there. She was able to find out the testing is done by the Federal Government's Department of Environment and Climate Change in Halifax. This is a serious concern all along the coast of Pictou County and not just District 2.

### **MOTION**

It was moved by Clr. Wadden and seconded by Clr. S. Fraser that Tom Smith from Sea Farmers be invited to make a presentation to Council on the coliform levels in our coastal waters.

Motion carried.

### **WATERSHED MANAGEMENT**

Clr. Wadden pointed that a few of the districts along our coast do have water and sewer and we depend on our wells as well as septic systems to maintain our water supply. This is one of the biggest issues we are facing today as a result of climate change and it is time that Council becomes more proactive on this issue. We have many issues in this county effecting our water supply but this is not about pointing fingers, it is about putting our heads together and coming up with a solution for the whole county. This is a project that we need to be at the table working on together. One of the suggestions received at a presentation last week was the initiation of a Watershed Committee for watershed management. She would also like to credit Steve Goodwin who was at the meeting who spoke specifically to the suggestion and it was he who asked the crowd there and it was supported. She has raised the concerns in her area regarding failing septic systems and their impact on the community. The distance and lack of population to bring this system to Little Harbour would be very expensive but there are other options available.

### **MOTION**

It was moved by Clr. Wadden and seconded by Clr. Davidson that the Mayors and Warden Committee, in consultation with First Nations, be asked to consider the formation of a Watershed Management Committee.

Clr. R. Parker asked if the Municipality already had Councillors sitting on a Watershed Committee and the CAO replied all water utilities are required to have a Watershed Management Plan.

Clr. Turner pointed out the residents in Abercrombie are concerned about the leeching from the Landfill Site and he knows testing is done. He stated that he would like Earl Cameron to make a presentation to Council on the leeching because the residents are quite concerned. Clr. Turner reported that he would request on behalf of the residents that Earl Cameron give a report on the leeching and he would forward it to all the residents of District 9.

Clr. Wadden reported that it is important that the Municipality is involved with the towns as part of a Watershed Management Committee.

Clr. Johnson informed Council that both Deputy Warden Thompson and he are on the Forbes Lake Watershed Committee with the Town of New Glasgow and that Management Plan works very well.

Motion carried.

### **EMERGENCY RESOLUTION**

There were no emergency resolutions.

### **REFERRALS TO COMMITTEES & NOTICES OF MOTION**

Clr. Dewar asked that at a future Property Services Committee meeting that a letter be sent to the Departments of Transportation & Agriculture requesting they remove the weeds on the shoulders of paved and graveled roads.

Clr. Davidson asked that the Linacy Fire Dept. Loan Guarantee be put on the agenda for the next Financial Services Committee meeting.

Clr. L. Fraser reported that he heard that the government has been talking about shutting down the Riverview Home so he would like to add to this item to a future committee meeting.

Clr. D. Parker informed Council that he sits on that Board and the current Minister has declared that all institutions will close, however there is no plan going forward as to how that would be affected. There are people living at the Adult Residential Center for all their adult life and they are not likely to be successful in a community setting. The Board members are concerned about the quality of life of the residents in that home.

Clr. R. Parker reported that we have to be careful regarding the weeds in the fall because there are certain ones that are excellent feed for the bees.

Clr. R. Parker asked that the Westville & Area Refugee Group's financial request be put on the next Financial Services Committee agenda.

Clr. Turple gave notice to Council that he will not be reoffering in the October 15, 2016 Municipal Election.

### **ADJOURN**

It was moved by Clr. Johnston and seconded by Clr. L. Fraser that the meeting adjourn.  
Motion carried. (8:00 p.m.)

Ronald Baillie  
Warden

Brian Cullen  
Municipal Clerk