

Minutes of a Town of Pictou Regular Council meeting convened 6:30 pm at the deCoste Entertainment Centre on the above date. Mayor James Ryan presiding.

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Nadine LeBlanc; Councillors Dan Currie, Melinda MacKenzie and Shawn McNamara

ALSO PRESENT: Nicole MacDonald, Acting CAO
Kyle Slaunwhite, Superintendent of Public Works
Jonathan Daye, Accountant
Heather Beaton, CAO Assistant
Gerry Isenor, G. A. Isenor Consulting Limited
Blaine Rooney, Blaine S. Rooney Consulting Limited
Michelle Young, Meeting Recorder

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ryan called the meeting to order.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: To approve the agenda as presented.
CARRIED

RTC-02-22-21-2517

3. PRESENTATIONS

a. Water Rate Model

Gerry Isenor and Blaine Rooney made a presentation on the Water Rate Model they were hired to complete for the Town of Pictou Water Utility. They explained:

- That water rates are regulated through the NS Utility and Review Board (NSUARB)
- The process for approval of the rates via the NSUARB
- That the last rate study was three years ago
- That the Town Water Utility is not allowed to run a deficit or to project a profit
- The breakdown of how the proposed rates were derived for a 3-year period

MOTION: To accept the study as presented and advance it to the NSUARB, with one change – that the recommended charges for re-establishing water service of \$70 be decreased to \$60.

CARRIED

RTC-02-22-21-2518

4. PROCLAMATIONS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

On behalf of Council, the Mayor acknowledged the success of the Winter Carnival and thanked the Recreation and Parks Committee, staff and volunteers for their efforts.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Regular Council – January 18, 2021
MOTION: That the Regular Council minutes of January 18, 2021 be approved with one correction to 9a – DM LeBlanc is not a Council representative for the foodbank.

CARRIED *RTC-02-22-21-2519*

- b. Recreation & Parks – January 19, 2021
MOTION: That the Recreation and Parks minutes of January 19, 2021 be approved.
CARRIED *RTC-02-22-21-2520*

- c. Committee of Council – February 1, 2021
MOTION: That the Committee of Council minutes of February 1, 2021 be approved.
CARRIED *RTC-02-22-21-2521*

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- a. Second/Final Reading – Sewer By-Law Amendments
MOTION: To approve second/final reading of the amendments to the Sewer By-Law.
CARRIED *RTC-02-22-21-2522*

- b. New Member Appointment – Recreation and Parks Committee
MOTION: To appoint Leah Heighton as a member of the Recreation and Parks Committee.
CARRIED *RTC-02-22-21-2523*

- c. Approval – Town Capital Budget
MOTION: To approve the Town Capital Budget for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2022 with expenditures totaling \$5,896,000 (of which up to \$1,647,000 is to be borrowed and \$366,000 is to be transferred from 2021-22 Town Operating); conditional on outside grants to support the breakwater/market wharf project.
CARRIED *RTC-02-22-21-2524*

- Question on the motion from the February Committee of Council meeting – it should read expenditures totaling \$5,896,000
- Question on amount of other street paving/patchwork to be done this year besides Water Street – \$100,000 in Operating
- Comment that the Water Street project and timelines need to have a comprehensive communication plan with businesses

- d. Pool Fee Increases
MOTION: To approve an increase in pool fees of no more than 8% effective April 1, 2021 (exact increases per staff report).
CARRIED *RTC-02-22-21-2525*

e. Water Services at Exhibition Grounds

MOTION: To provide a one-time grant to the Pictou North Colchester Exhibition in the amount of \$6,781.65 to cover costs associated with water service upgrades completed by the Town.

CARRIED

RTC-02-22-21-2526

7. RECOMMENDATIONS/REPORTS FROM PRIVATE SESSION

8. REPORTS

a. Municipal Corporation Reports

- i. Pictou County Wellness Centre
Report distributed with agenda package
- ii. Pictou County Shared Services Authority
Next meeting is March 22, 2021
- iii. Riverview Home
Next meeting is February 25, 2021

9. NEW BUSINESS

10. CORRESPONDENCE

11. PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

APPROVED

James J. Ryan
Mayor

Nicole MacDonald
Acting CAO