

Minutes of a Town of Pictou Regular Council meeting convened 6:30 pm at the CN Station Council Chambers on the above date. Mayor James Ryan presiding.

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

**ALSO PRESENT:** Kyle Slaunwhite, Public Works  
Jonathan Daye, Accountant  
Heather Beaton, CAO Assistant  
Jo-Anne McNamara, Meeting Recorder

**REGRETS:** Nicole MacDonald, Acting CAO  
Michelle Young, Meeting Recorder

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Ryan called the meeting to order.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION: To approve the agenda with the following additions:  
9a. PARL Board Request  
9b. Date for Next Committee of Council Meeting

CARRIED

***RTC-03-15-21-2531***

**3. PRESENTATIONS**

a. Heritage Advisory Committee (HAC) – Heritage District  
Chair St. Clair Prest made a presentation on behalf of the Heritage Advisory Committee. He referenced a presentation booklet put together by the members requesting a donation of \$5,000 from the Town. This funding would be used to install banners on street poles and plaques to designate East Front Street as a historically significant district.

**4. PROCLAMATIONS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

a. Purple Day Proclamation  
Mayor Ryan proclaimed March 26, 2021 as Purple Day in an effort to raise awareness of epilepsy.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

a. Regular Council – February 22, 2021

MOTION: That the Regular Council minutes of February 22, 2021 be approved with one clarification – under 3a Water Rate Study: the recommended charges for re-establishing water service of \$70 be decreased to \$60.

CARRIED

***RTC-03-15-21-2532***

b. Recreation & Parks – February 23, 2021

MOTION: That the Recreation and Parks minutes of February 23, 2021 be accepted.

CARRIED *RTC-03-15-21-2533*

c. Committee of Council – March 1, 2021

MOTION: That the Committee of Council minutes of March 1, 2021 be approved.

CARRIED *RTC-03-15-21-2534*

**6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

a. Wastewater Pumping and Treatment Emergency Costs

MOTION: To approve the expenditure of \$100,800 in fiscal year ending March 31, 2021 for emergency repair work to Sinclair Lift Station and the WWTP.

CARRIED *RTC-03-15-21-2535*

b. Surplus Funds 2020-21

MOTION: To approve transferring \$215,000 of the 2020-21 operating surplus into the following reserves:

\$70,000 - Fire Truck Reserve

\$65,000 - Housing Authority Reserve

\$80,000 - Waterfront Development Reserve

CARRIED *RTC-03-15-21-2536*

MOTION: To approve \$46,000 of additional spending for the following:

\$20,000 Recreation and Parks (playground upgrades)

\$10,000 Public Works

\$12,000 Fire Station Communication upgrades and electrical

\$ 4,000 Office Technology

CARRIED *RTC-03-15-21-2537*

The remainder of the surplus will transfer into the General Reserve, per Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).

c. Operating Budget

MOTION: To approve the Town operating budget for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2022 with expenditures totaling \$6,144,339 (\$5,081,479, plus \$562,860 in financing and transfers and \$500,000 in education) with tax rates being set at \$1.64/100 of residential and resource assessments; \$4.34/100 of Commercial Assessments; and \$0.32/100 of Commercial Assessments contained within the Business Improvement District of the Town; and, that the Town Treasurer be authorized to release sewer capital charges at a flat rate of \$103.43 and sewer operating charges at a rate of \$152.84 based on the methodology described in the by-law; and, that the rate of \$156.36 be charged per dwelling unit for Curbside Collection; and 15.2 cents per \$100 of assessment for Fire Protection (Hydrant Rental) and that tax bills be due and payable 60 days from date of issuance; and that amounts past due be charged interest at the rate of 18% per annum.

CARRIED *RTC-03-15-21-2538*

- d. New Member Appointments – Recreation and Parks Committee  
MOTION: To appoint Carrie-Lynn Souza, Kiera Souza, Chelssie Moland and Chris Sereda as members of the Recreation and Parks Committee.  
CARRIED *RTC-03-15-21-2539*

- e. Marina Operations  
A discussion was held on the marina operations for the 2021 season, noting that it is important for the marina to remain open at a reduced level.

Staff were given direction to issue an Expression of Interest for the operation of the marina for the 2021 season giving full disclosure as to how the season could look this year.

- f. OHS Policy Review and Approval  
MOTION: To approve the OHS Policy as presented.  
CARRIED *RTC-03-15-21-2540*

**7. RECOMMENDATIONS/REPORTS FROM PRIVATE SESSION**

**8. REPORTS**

- a. Municipal Corporation Reports
- i. Pictou County Wellness Centre  
No report
  - ii. Pictou County Shared Services Authority  
No report
  - iii. Riverview Home  
New independent living program is in progress; online auction is presently taking place; next meeting is March 25, 2021.

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. PARL Board Request  
Council agreed to write a letter of support to the federal government to reconsider a cut of \$4,000 to PARL, used for audio books utilized by those with vision impairments.
- b. Date for Next Committee of Council Meeting  
The next Committee of Council Meeting will be held on April 6.

**10. CORRESPONDENCE**

**11. PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS**

- Question about having wireless internet installed along waterfront
- Comment that the timeline for the Marina RFP is important as provincial licensing for food vendors can take a long time

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

APPROVED

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James J. Ryan  
Mayor

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Kyle Slaunwhite  
Superintendent of Public Works