

April 20, 2026

The Financial Services Committee for the Municipality of the County of Pictou met in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Administration Building by videoconference and teleconference on Monday April 20, 2026, at 8:20 p.m.

**PRESENT**

- 1 Clr. Joe MacDonald
- 2 Clr. Deborah Wadden
- 3 Clr. Darla MacKeil
- 4 Clr. Ronald Baillie
- 5 Deputy Warden Wayne Murray
- 6 Warden Robert Parker
- 7 Clr. Donald Parker
- 8 Clr. Larry Turner
- 9 Clr. Peter Boyles
- 10 Clr. Randy Palmer
- 11 Clr. Andy Thompson
- 12 Clr. Chester Dewar

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Sueann Musick, Director of Corporate Services/Deputy Clerk  
Karen Cornish, Deputy Municipal Treasurer  
Brian Cullen, CAO, Municipal Clerk-Treasurer  
Logan McDowell, Director of Public Works & Development  
Adam MacInnis, Communications Officer  
Rhiannon McNair, Director of Business Operations, Broadband Initiative

**ABSENT**

Evan Hale, Director of Emergency Services

**CALL TO ORDER & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Clr. MacKeil, Chair of the Financial Services Committee called the meeting to order and acknowledged that we are on the ancestral territorial lands of the Mikmaq people.

**AGENDA**

It was moved that the agenda be approved as presented.

Moved by: Clr. Boyles

Seconded by Clr. Turner

**Motion Carried.**

## **ERRORS OR OMISSIONS/CORRECTIONS TO MINUTES**

Clr. MacKeil asked if there were any errors, omissions, or corrections in the minutes for March 16, 2026, March 23, 2026, and the in-camera meeting of March 23, 2026, the members of the Committee entered no errors, omissions, or corrections. The Chair proclaimed the minutes of the meeting on March 16, 2026, March 23, 2026 and the in-camera meeting of March 23, 2026, as the official record of the meeting.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence was also received from the Municipality of Barrington requesting a five-year freeze on power rates and an exploration of public ownership of Nova Scotia Power.

## **REPORTS NOT REQUIRING A MOTION**

- 7.1 Communications – Reviewed for information
- 7.2 Recreation — Reviewed for information.
- 7.3 Warden’s Report — Reviewed for information.
- 7.4 Internet Report - Reviewed for information.
- 7.5 Healthy Pictou County Report — Reviewed for information.
- 7.6 Tax Receivable Report — Reviewed for information
- 7.7 Deed Transfer Tax Report - Reviewed for information

## **REPORTS REQUIRING MOTION**

### **8.1 Accounts**

Motion: It was moved that the Accounts for March 2026 be approved as presented.

Moved by: Clr. Turner

Seconded by: Clr. Palmer

**Motion Carried**

### **8.2 Internet Accounts**

Motion: It was moved that the Internet Accounts for March 2026 be approved as presented.

Moved by: Warden Parker

Seconded by: Clr. MacDonald

**Motion Carried**

## **BUSINESS ITEMS OR ITEM REQUIRING ACTION**

### **8.6 Acceptance of three parcels of land into the tax-exemption policy**

**Motion:** It was moved to accept the three parcels of land into the tax-exemption policy that include:

- AAN 11129307 Merigomish and Area Recreation and Social Association, located at 1682 Shore Road, Merigomish

- AAN 11129315 Merigomish and Area Recreation and Social Association, located at 1682 Shore Road, Merigomish
- AAN 11129323 Merigomish and Area Recreation and Social Association, located at 1682 Shore Road, Merigomish

Moved by Clr. MacDonald

Seconded by Clr. Palmer

**Motion Carried**

**9.2 Municipal Service Grant Amounts**

Council discussed tightening the grant-allocation policy, reviewing eligibility criteria, and ensuring alignment with provincial best practices. It was agreed its Municipal Service Grant policy would be reviewed at a future Committee of the Whole meeting.

**9.2 Acceptance of the quote for paving the MOPC parking lot**

Motion: It was moved to accept the quote of \$41,000 plus HST for paving the MOPC parking lot by Weeks Construction.

Moved by: Clr. Dewar

Seconded by: Clr. Palmer

**Motion Carried**

**9.3 Tax Collection Policy Update**

Motion: It was moved to accept the updated Tax Collection Policy that includes new guidelines regarding increased arrears correspondence, thresholds for tax sale, and conflict-of-interest provisions

Moved by: Clr. Wadden

Seconded by: Clr. Palmer

**Motion Carried**

**9.4 Pictou County Sports Hall of Fame Concerns**

Pictou County Sports Hall of Fame board concerns noted; Council agreed no new council appointment at this time and its policy regarding elected members sitting on outside boards would be reviewed at a future Committee of the Whole meeting.

**DEFERRED BUSINESS**

No business was deferred

**MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION**

No motions were brought forward for reconsideration.

**COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Events were brought forward for community announcements.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Clr. MacKeil declared the meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

---

CHAIRPERSON

---

MUNICIPAL CLERK