

June 15, 2026

The Property Services Committee for the Municipality of the County of Pictou met in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Administration Building on Monday, June 15, 2026, at 7:00 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

Brian Cullen, CAO, Municipal Clerk-Treasurer
Adam MacInnis, Communications Officer
Logan McDowell, Director of Public Works & Development
Rhiannon McNair, Director of Business Operations, Broadband Initiative
Evan Hale, Director of Emergency Services

ABSENT

Sueann Musick, Director of Corporate Services/Deputy Clerk

CALL TO ORDER & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Clr. Randy Palmer, Chair of the Property Services Committee called the meeting to order and acknowledged that we are on the ancestral territorial lands of the Mi'kmaq people.

EMERGENCY RESOLUTIONS

No emergency resolutions were brought forward.

AGENDA

Motion: It was moved that the agenda be approved as presented.

Moved by: Clr. Boyles

Seconded by: Clr. Turner

Motion Carried

MINUTES

Clr. Palmer asked if there any errors, omissions or corrections to the minutes of June 15, 2026. There were no errors, omission or corrections to the minutes of June 15, 2026, so they were proclaimed as the official record of the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was received.

REPORTS NOT REQUIRING A MOTION

7.1 Director of Public Works and Development's Report – Reviewed for information

7.2 Development Office Report — Reviewed for information.

7.3 Streetlight Report — Reviewed for information.

7.4 GIS Report – Reviewed for information

7.4 Emergency Services Report — Reviewed for information.

7.5 Fire Inspection Report — Reviewed for information.

7.6 Building Officials Report — Reviewed for information.

7.7 Bylaw Officers Report – Reviewed for information

Discussion Highlights:

- Concern raised regarding faded crosswalk line painting, with staff noting follow-up with the province is ongoing.
- Update provided on sewer flow meter installations, with most major units installed and remaining work planned for summer.
- Staff confirmed progress on subdivision bylaw and private road policy review, with recommendations moving to the Planning Advisory Committee.
- Clarification given regarding zoning clearance letters, noting they confirm permitted uses rather than change zoning rules.
- Inquiry made regarding streetlight installation in Mount Thom, with staff to confirm completion.

BUSINESS REQUIRING ACTION

Moore Ford Bridge Replacement

Clr. Baillie reported on a June 3, 2026, community meeting attended by approximately 75 residents regarding concerns with the delayed replacement of Moore's Ford Bridge.

Key concerns included:

- Replacement timeline estimated for 2028, considered too long by residents.
- Emergency service delays due to required detours.
- Poor road conditions and longer travel routes.
- Economic impacts on local businesses and increased travel costs.

Residents expressed interest in possible interim solutions; however, the primary request was to expedite the project timeline.

Warden Parker noted the meeting was respectful and emphasized that Council advocacy has previously helped advance provincial projects. Councillor Dewar supported this, highlighting the importance of escalation to provincial decision-makers and the urgency related to public safety.

Motion: It was moved that Council send a letter to the province requesting an accelerated timeline for the replacement of Moore's Ford Bridge.

- Moved by: Councillor Ronald Baillie
Seconded by: Robert Parker
Motion Carried

THREE BIN WASTE MANAGEMENT

Councillor Deborah Wadden introduced the item following concerns raised at a recent ratepayers meeting in Little Harbour. Residents highlighted ongoing issues with garbage collection on private roads, where waste is placed at centralized pickup points. It was noted that animals, particularly crows, frequently disturb garbage bags, resulting in litter being spread along roadways.

Councillor Wadden advised that residents who had previously lived in other provinces, including Alberta, spoke in favour of a three-bin waste management system (green, blue, and black cart system), indicating it had been effective in reducing roadside litter and improving waste containment. While acknowledging that the County currently has a strong green cart program, residents expressed interest in exploring additional collection methods to address ongoing issues.

Discussion among Council members included:

- Recognition that garbage disturbance by wildlife is a common issue across multiple districts.
- The potential benefit of cart-based collection systems in reducing litter and improving overall cleanliness.
- Consideration of whether such a system could be implemented county-wide or independently from municipal partners (towns).
- The importance of consulting with waste management officials, including Shared Services, prior to any decision.

An additional suggestion raised was the possibility of bulk purchasing waste carts, allowing residents to voluntarily purchase them at a reduced cost rather than implementing a mandatory program. Council generally agreed that further review and expert input were required before proceeding.

DEFERRED BUSINESS

No deferred business.

MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION

No motions of reconsideration were brought forward.

IN CAMERA – PROPERTY ISSUE

Motion: It was moved to go in camera to discuss a private property issue.

Moved by: Clr. Boyles

Seconded by: Deputy Warden Murray

Motion Carried

ADJOURMENT

There was no further business before the meeting, so the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

CHAIRPERSON

MUNICIPAL CLERK