

September 21, 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, September 21, 2026, at 8:30 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
10 Clr. Randy Palmer
11 Clr. Andy Thompson
12 Clr. Chester Dewar

IN ATTENDANCE

Brian Cullen, CAO, Municipal Clerk-Treasurer
Sueann Musick, Director of Corporate Services/Deputy Clerk
Logan McDowell, Director of Public Works & Development
Rhianon McNair, Director of Business Operations, Broadband Initiative
Evan Hale, Director of Emergency Services
Adam MacInnis, Communications Officer
Samantha Rankin, Administrative Assistant

ABSENT

9 Clr. Peter Boyles

CALL TO ORDER & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Clr. 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. Turner

Seconded by: Deputy Warden Murray

Motion Carried

ERRORS OR OMISSIONS/ CORRECTIONS TO MINUTES

Clr. Palmer asked if there were any errors, omissions, or corrections in the minutes for August 17, 2026. The members of the Committee entered with no errors, omissions, or corrections. The Chair proclaimed the minutes of the meeting on August 17, 2026, as the official record of the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was presented.

REPORTS NOT REQUIRING A MOTION

Director of Public Works and Development's Report

Staff provided an update on the proposed streetlights for Blue Acres. Six locations have been identified, and the Municipality is awaiting final pricing from the contractor.

The Warden raised concerns regarding the lack of painted crosswalk markings on the Blue Acres sidewalks. Staff advised that the Department of Public Works has been notified and continues to indicate the work will be completed.

Questions were also raised regarding winter road maintenance contracts. Staff advised that contractors have been contacted regarding the optional third year of their agreements and responses are being received. Any contracts not renewed will be rebid.

Development Officer's Report

Reviewed for Information

Emergency Services Report

Reviewed for Information

Fire Inspection Report

Reviewed for Information

Bylaw Enforcement Report

Members received an update regarding ongoing unsightly premises files that have been forwarded to legal counsel for further action. Staff advised that several files remain with Patterson Law and are progressing through the required statutory processes.

Building Official's Report

Discussion took place regarding demolition permits, including the proposed demolition of the former pulp mill. Staff advised that an application has been received and is under review, with the permit expected to be issued shortly pending completion of the review process.

BUSINESS ITEMS REQUIRING A MOTION

Cost Share Agreement - Nova Scotia Public Works

Committee considered the annual request from the Province to submit eligible J-Class roads for consideration under the cost-share paving program. Staff advised that previously submitted projects had not been approved due to provincial funding limitations rather than project eligibility.

Discussion took place regarding the distinction between J-Class roads and other provincial roads, as well as the Province's ability to complete upgrades independently of the cost-share program. Members expressed concern regarding the condition of Greenwood Street and the need for improvements.

Motion: A motion was made to submit Greenwood Street and Old Row Road under the Nova Scotia Public Works Cost Share Agreement for consideration in 2027

Moved by: Clr. MacKeil

Seconded by: Clr. Thompson

Motion Carried

Upper Plymouth/ Churchville Water Project

Clr. Thompson requested that staff work with Council representatives to define a potential service area and develop a survey to gauge resident interest in extending municipal water service to Upper Plymouth and Churchville. He noted ongoing concerns regarding water quality and quantity in the area, as well as opportunities for future residential growth.

Staff advised they could assist with defining the project area and preparing the survey.

Motion: A motion was made to direct staff to work with Council representatives to define a project area and conduct a survey of property owners regarding interest in municipal water service in Upper Plymouth and Churchville.

Moved by: Clr. Thompson

Seconded by: Clr. Turner

Motion Carried

Fly Ash Concerns

Staff advised that Clr. Boyles had indicated earlier in the day that the matter had been resolved and requested the item be removed from the agenda. No discussion took place.

DEFERRED BUSINESS

No deferred business.

MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION

No motions of reconsideration were brought forward.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Events were brought forward for community announcements:

- Appreciation for Council's support of the Pictou-North Colchester Exhibition and recognition of the success of this year's event.
- HarbourFest in Lismore, Seniors Outreach activities, and Meals on Wheels programming.
- Recognition of Sam Reed for representing Team Canada at the Universal Rugby Games in South Africa and winning a gold medal.
- Appreciation to organizations supporting local food banks.
- Recognition of the success of the Terry Fox Run and fundraising efforts throughout the County.
- Promotion of the Little Harbour Fire Department plank salmon dinner.
- Congratulations to Dr. Ella McLean on celebrating her 100th birthday.
- Updates on community programming and events at the Churchville Hall and Garden of Eden Community Centre.

IN CAMERA SESSION

Motion: A motion was made that Council move In Camera to discuss Property Matter.

Moved by: Clr. Turner

Seconded by: Clr. Mackeil

Motion Carried.

LEAVE IN CAMERA

Motion: It was moved to leave the in-camera session of the meeting.

Moved by Clr. MacKeil

Seconded by Clr. Wadden

Motion Carried

ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business before the meeting, so Clr. Palmer declared the meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

CHAIRPERSON

MUNICIPAL CLERK