

November 2, 2020

The Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou met in the Pictou County Wellness Centre on Monday, November 2, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The CAO called the meeting to order and invited Councillors to pray or reflect, as may be their preference, to help Council focus and properly do the work of the Municipality.

**REPORT OF RETURNING OFFICER**

The Chief Administrative Officer read the report of the Returning Officer as follows:



**REPORT OF THE RETURNING OFFICER  
MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF PICTOU  
RE: ELECTION RESULTS – OCTOBER 17, 2020**

As a result of the Municipal Council election held on October 17, 2020, I am pleased to report the following:

**MUNICIPAL COUNCIL**

DISTRICT 1:	Don Butler		Acclaimed
DISTRICT 2:	Deborah Wadden		Acclaimed
DISTRICT 3:	Robbie MacInnis	171	Elected
	Darla MacKeil	579	
DISTRICT 4:	Mary Woolridge-Elliott		Acclaimed
DISTRICT 5:	Wayne Murray		Acclaimed
DISTRICT 6:	Robert Parker	558	Elected
	Erinn Wright	249	
DISTRICT 7:	David Parker		Acclaimed
DISTRICT 8:	Peter Baird	270	Elected
	Larry Turner	385	
DISTRICT 9:	Peter Boyles		Acclaimed
DISTRICT 10:	Donna MacGregor	206	Elected
	Randy Palmer	526	
DISTRICT 11:	Gregg MacDonald	334	Elected
	Andy Thompson	500	
DISTRICT 12:	Cory Hudson-Chisholm	67	Elected
	Chester F. Dewar	600	

There are 17,202 electors in the Municipality. In the 6 contested seats 8,863 voters were eligible to vote. The average voter turn-out was 50.4%. 2,994 votes were cast by internet and 1,471 votes were cast by telephone. 13 votes were spoiled and 7 declined. Only 15 electors visited the voter kiosk at the Pictou County Wellness Centre.

I would like to congratulate each of you and wish you a very successful term of office. It was enjoyable working with you all.

JOSEPHINE MACDONALD  
RETURNING OFFICER

## **COUNCILLORS' OATH OF ALLEGIANCE & OFFICE & CODE OF CONDUCT**

The Municipal Clerk administered the Oath of Allegiance and Office to all members of Council.

### **PRESENT**

Dist.	1	Clr. Don Butler
	2	Clr. Deborah Wadden
	3	Clr. Darla MacKeil
	4	Clr. Mary Woolridge-Elliott
	5	Deputy Warden Wayne Murray
	6	Warden Robert Parker
	7	Clr. David Parker
	8	Clr. Larry Turner
	9	Clr. Peter Boyles
	10	Clr. Randy Palmer
	11	Clr. Andy Thompson
	12	Clr. Chester Dewar

### **IN ATTENDANCE**

Donn Fraser, Solicitor, Mac Mac & Mac  
Brian Cullen, CAO, Municipal Clerk-Treasurer  
Karen Cornish, Deputy Municipal Treasurer  
Carolyn MacIntosh, Deputy Municipal Clerk  
Sueann Musick, Communications Officer  
Jane Johnson, Recording Secretary

### **ELECTION OF WARDEN**

Clrs. Robert Parker and Andy Thompson were nominated for the office of Warden and all nominees accepted the nomination.

Clr. R. Parker addressed Council and reported that he was honored for the last 4 years to serve as Warden. He thanked former Deputy Warden Murray for his assistance over the last 4 years as well as staff. He pointed out the importance of visibility in the County for the role of Warden. Even though he does not have an office in the Administration Building, he is available 24/7. Highlights over the last 4 years include high speed internet that is desperately needed and he pointed out there are some people in this province who do not want us to do this. This could be the key that will allow our county to move forward. He informed Council that one of the best moves was hiring Sueann Music as our Communications Officer who looks after social media and it has made a great difference. We have to watch for road safety at all times, speeding is an issue and it has to be dealt with at the Police Advisory Committee. Clr. R. Parker reported that he commits to further work with the fire departments because they are very crucial to our communities. Economic Development was turned over to the Regional Enterprise Network so we have to push them a little harder to get more out of it. We must find ways to deal with the environment and business. Clr. R. Parker informed Council that he commits to work hard on behalf of everybody and to have a rural

government for our county. He reported that he works well with the Mayors on different projects. We all must be mindful of mental health for all the people we represent and we have to do better.

Clr. Thompson addressed Council and stated that they have a lot of work to do as there is an urgency for us to get positive results, and he felt that we have to change the role of Warden for our Municipality. Clr. Thompson advised that he is a life-long resident of Plymouth and learned from his parents, Jack and Ruth and from his grandparents before them who were leaders in Plymouth and Pictou County. Founding members of our local credit union, co-op store and the Plymouth Fire Department. His father, Jack, left an indelible mark on local minor sports. Whether it was fitting an entire ball team into a '72 Pontiac station wagon for a game in Antigonish or getting kids to the rink for a hockey game, Jack made a difference in so many lives, and for this we are thankful. His mother, Ruth, was right there helping out behind the scenes. But she is a leader as well. After entering retirement, she was the Chair of the Credit Union Board. Her more recent volunteering was as secretary/treasurer of the Plymouth Community Centre. She was the go-to person to getting over \$300,000 in grants and donations for capital upgrades and he thanked her for her help and your stubborn determination to make our communities more active, healthy, and social. Their values of community and service are values he and his wife, Shelley, live every day. They are values instilled in their 3 adult children, Dylan, Skyler, and Sam. Clr. Thompson stated that he comes from good stock that has shaped his outlook on getting involved in solutions rather than simply pointing out problems. He informed Council that he is an East Pictou grad, and went on to University obtaining 2 degrees including a Bachelor of Arts from St. FX and a Bachelor of Journalism from King's College and worked as a journalist for a community weekly, the Chronicle Herald and CBC TV. With his heart always in Pictou County, he spent the past 20 years working in sales and service. Currently in his 4<sup>th</sup> term on Council, he is ready to serve and putting his name forward to lead our Municipality here in Pictou County but more importantly to be a voice for Pictou County to our counterparts in Halifax and Ottawa. Clr. Thompson committed to be a full-time Warden, adding that we have a lot of work to do. We have to lobby the province for funding help for the internet project. As well we need to find solutions with other areas of concern like the Abercrombie/Trenton connector intersection and sidewalks along the Westville Road. We need to establish a rapport with the Provincial Government. Politicians talk to politicians. One of his first acts as Warden would be to call the ministers involved with these and other files to move them forward. Clr. Thompson expressed that our Municipality needs to take a more active leadership role with the NSFM. The benefit for us is quite evident, building a network for lobbying. He committed to seek out leadership positions for the NSFM. We need funding partners for our internet project. To date, we have received no funding from either the provincial or federal governments. We need funding to make this project a success. Right now the internet project is estimated to cost between \$70 and \$100 million when completed. We have just embarked on the first phase of this project. This phase is \$11.4 million. Seven million of this is debt financed. We need the province and feds to help us with this project. We have work to do for our communities. Council needs to review grant programs to help make our community facilities accessible. This can be done with a stronger focus on tailoring our grant programs to take advantage of provincial and federal funding. This work can be done by our yet-to-be-formed Accessibility Committee. We have work to do to help with our economy which is suffering from the double whammy of the impacts of COVID-19 and also the impact the closure of Northern Pulp is having on our region. The foundations are in place with the established REN, Ignite, DEANS and the Chamber of Commerce. Clr. Thompson advised that he would work with these organizations to promote economic development to help move us forward. We need to work to create a "Team Pictou County" approach to promote our area for investment and expansion. We have to be active participants for the overall good of our communities. It is our civic obligation. And we have work to do to hear everyone's voice around the Council table. As your Warden he understands that we come from 12 unique backgrounds. Diversity of opinion will be encouraged. If it isn't encouraged we will continue to be governed by the tyranny of the majority. Bad behavior is not necessary to get your point across. He will not condone bad behavior. It is not becoming of this Council. As Warden he will promote healthy and respectful debates. We not only represent our districts we represent our Municipality with our decisions. He committed to reviewing our Code of Conduct to make improvements, if necessary, to hold us to account. We have many challenges as we move forward. And we also have many opportunities to seize upon. As we chart out our next 4 years he asked for Council's support for our future, adding that he has the energy, passion, and experience to lead Council forward.

The CAO advised that balloting would be done electronically using the devices assigned to each member of Council. In the event of a tie vote, the MGA dictates how the tie is to be broken. In that instance both names will be placed into a box and a name will be drawn by the CAO.

Following a tabulation of the electronic votes, the CAO declared Clr. Robert Parker elected to the office of Warden of the Municipality and administered the Oath of Allegiance and Office to Clr. R. Parker.

Warden R. Parker assumed the chair and thanked colleagues for their support. He extended his special thanks to his wife Colleen for all of the work she does on his behalf and acknowledged the values instilled in him and his siblings by his parents, paying particular reference to his mother who was a teacher and taught him the values of hard work and treating people with kindness.

### **ELECTION OF DEPUTY WARDEN**

Warden Parker invited nominations for the office of Deputy Warden. Clr. Murray was nominated and accepted the nomination. There being no further nominations, the CAO declared Clr. Murray to be Deputy Warden for the Municipality and administered the Oath of Allegiance and Office to Clr. Murray.

Deputy Warden thanked Council for putting faith in him again and he stated that he enjoyed the last 4 years as Deputy Warden.

### **MINUTES – OCTOBER 5<sup>TH</sup> & 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2020**

It was moved by Clr. Turner and seconded by Clr. Boyles that the minutes of October 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried.

### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Warden R. Parker selected Clr. MacKeil, Deputy Warden Murray and Clr. Dewar to sit on the Nominating Committee.

### **RECESS**

Council recessed at 8:05 p.m. for a meeting of the Nominating Committee.

### **RESUME**

Council resumed at 8:40 p.m.

### **REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

#### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Nominating Committee of Council is pleased to submit the following recommendations for the 2021/22 Council term:

#### **MUNICIPAL COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS STANDING COMMITTEES & OUTSIDE BOARDS**

2020/21

<b>STANDING COMMITTEES</b>	
Financial Services	Full Council
Property Services	Full Council
Committee of Council as a Whole	Full Council
Executive	Full Council

<b>OUTSIDE BOARDS</b>	
Ad Hoc Road Committee	Randy Palmer, Peter Boyles, Andy Thompson, Darla MacKeil, Mary Elliott
Age Friendly Communities Committee	Peter Boyles
144 Construction Engineering Flight	Peter Boyles, Dave Freckelton (to Nov/21)
Climate Change Advisory Committee	David Parker, Larry Turner, Peter Boyles, Mary Elliott, Dominic Boyd (to Nov/22), Gordon Galvin (to Nov/22)
Community Grant Review Committee	Robert Parker, Wayne Murray, Darla MacKeil, David Parker, Chester Dewar, Randy Palmer
Cruise Ship Committee	Deborah Wadden
deCoste – Pictou Library Feasibility Oversight	Larry Turner
Eastern Mainland Housing Authority	Linda Priske (to 2021)
Fences Arbitration Committee	Joyce Roode (to Nov/24)
Fire Liaison Committee	Larry Turner, Don Butler, Peter Boyles, Mary Elliott
Friends of the River John Library Board	Mary Elliott
Hector Arena Commission	Darla MacKeil, Mary Elliott, Ken Pettipas (to Nov/22)
Heritage Advisory Committee	Don Butler, Deborah Wadden, Peter Boyles, Wayne Murray, Larry Turner
Ivor MacDonald Memorial Rink	Randy Palmer, Andy Thompson, Don Butler
Municipal Alcohol Project (MAP)	Deborah Wadden
Municipal Audit Committee	Robert Parker, Wayne Murray, FS Chair, Andy Thompson, Deborah Wadden, Richard Feehan (to Nov/22), Susan Robinson (to Nov/21)
New Scotland Business Park	David Parker, Randy Palmer, Larry Turner
Noise Committee	Robert Parker, Wayne Murray & Clr. for area with Complaint
Northumberland Fisheries Museum & Heritage Association Board	Darla MacKeil
NRHS School Advisory Council	David Parker
NSFM Delegates	Full Council
Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library Board	Deborah Wadden
Pictou Co. Genealogy & Heritage Society	Peter Boyles
Pictou County Shared Services Authority	Robert Parker
Pictou Co. Sports Heritage Hall of Fame	Andy Thompson
Pictou Co. Wellness Centre Bd. Authority	Robert Parker
Pictou Landing Harbour Authority	Deborah Wadden
Pictou-North Colchester Exhibition	Darla MacKeil, Chester Dewar
Planning Advisory Committee	Don Butler, Andy Thompson, David Parker, Randy Palmer, Earle Cameron (to Nov./22), 1 Non-Elected TBD
Police Advisory Board	Wayne Murray, Andy Thompson, Randy Palmer, Gordon Gillis(to Nov/22), Gwen Savage (to Nov/22), Sally Fraser (to Nov/21) + DOJ Appointment (Charlene Thompson)
REMO: Unified Command Group	Robert Parker, Wayne Murray
REN Liaison Oversight Committee	Wayne Murray
Riverton Guest Home Corporation	Don Butler, Chester Dewar, Larry Turner, Earle Cameron (to Dec. 31/22), Bonnie Allan (to Dec. 31/21)
Riverview Home Corporation	David Parker
Sinclair Island Fishermen's Association	Deborah Wadden
Source Water Protection Comm - New Glasgow	Andy Thompson
Source Water Protection Comm - Pictou	Darla MacKeil, Wayne Murray
Source Water Protection Comm. - Trenton	Peter Boyles, Deborah Wadden
West Pictou School Advisory Committee	Wayne Murray
<b>OFFICERS</b>	
Relief Building Inspector	Mike Thompson
Development Officer (Subdivision By-Law)	Jeffery Turnbull
Development Officer (Wind Energy LUB)	Jeffery Turnbull
Dog Control Officer	Anne MacCarthy
Relief Dog Control Officer	John Fillier
Poundkeepers (Dogs)	Pictou County SPCA & Dog Control Officer/Relief DCO
Poundkeepers (Animals @ Large)	Wally Ross
Returning Officer	Josephine MacDonald (to Nov/23); Donna MacLean, Dep RO (to Nov/23)

DATED at Westville Road, NS this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of November, 2020.

(Sgd.) Wayne Murray  
Chester Dewar  
Darla MacKeil

**MOTION**

It was moved by Deputy Warden Murray and seconded by Clr. Dewar that Council adopt the report of the Nominating Committee.

Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION – MUNICIPAL GRANTS**

Clr. Palmer presented a resolution to Council as follows:

**RESOLUTION**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou that Council approve the payment of the following Municipal Grants:

Municipal Services

D04	Salem United Church Cemetery	\$ 900.00	Operating Expenses
	West Branch Community Hall	<u>4,182.33</u>	Heat Pump
		\$5,082.33	

DATED at Westville Road, NS this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of November, 2020.

(Sgd.) Randy Palmer  
Don Butler

**MOTION**

It was moved by Clr. Palmer and seconded by Clr. Butler that the preceding resolution be adopted as presented.

Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION – SCOTSBURN/LYONS'S BK. SIDEWALK WINTER MTNCE.**

Clr. Boyles presented a resolution to Council as follows:

WHEREAS public tenders were called for the clearing of snow on municipal sidewalks located at various locations for the 2020/21 and 2021/22 winter seasons;

WHEREAS tender awards were issued for all locations with the exception of Scotsburn & Lyon's Brook which required legal review;

WHEREAS the lowest bid for this location, submitted by Blaine F. MacLane Excavation, has been found to be non-compliant with tender specifications due to conditions that cannot be considered by the Municipality;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou that Council award the contract for 2020/21 and 2021/22 winter snow maintenance for the Scotsburn and Lyon's Brook sidewalks to Highland Meadow Ranch which was the lowest compliant bid.

DATED at Westville Road, NS this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of November, 2020.

(Sgd.) Peter Boyles  
David Parker

**MOTION**

It was moved by Clr. Boyles and seconded by Clr. D. Parker that the preceding resolution be adopted as presented.

Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION – BANK SIGNING AUTHORITIES**

Clr. D. Parker presented a resolution to Council as follows:

**RESOLUTION**

1. That the Royal Bank of Canada (“Royal Bank”) is appointed banker for the Customer.
2. That two signatures required: One of the Warden or Deputy Warden along with one of: CAO or Deputy Municipal Clerk are authorized on behalf of the Customer from time to time:
  - a) to withdraw or order transfers of funds from the Customer’s accounts by any means including the making, drawing, accepting, endorsing or signing of cheques, promissory notes, bills of exchange, other orders for the payment of money or other instruments or the giving of other instructions;
  - b) to sign any agreements or other documents or instruments with or in favor of Royal Bank, including agreements and contracts relating to products or services provided by Royal Bank to the Customer; and
  - c) to do, or to authorize any person or persons to do, any one or more of the following:
    - i) to receive from Royal Bank any cash or any securities, instruments or other property of the Customer held by Royal Bank, whether for safekeeping or as security, or to give instructions to Royal Bank for the delivery or other transfer of any such cash, securities, instruments or other property to any person named in those instructions;
    - ii) to deposit with or negotiate or transfer to Royal Bank for the credit of the Customer, cash or any security, instrument or other property, and for those purposes to endorse (by rubber stamp or otherwise) the name of the Customer, or any other name under which the Customer carries on business, on any security or instrument;
    - iii) to instruct Royal Bank, by any means, to debit the accounts of third parties for deposit to the credit of the Customer; and
    - iv) to receive statements, instruments and other items (including paid cheques) and documents relating to the Customer’s accounts with or any service of Royal Bank, and to settle and certify the Customer’s accounts with Royal Bank.
3. That all instruments, instructions, agreements (including contracts relating to products or services provided by Royal Bank and documents made, drawn, accepted, endorsed or signed (under the corporate seal or otherwise) as provided in this Resolution and delivered to Royal Bank by any person, shall be valid and binding on the Customer, and Royal Bank is hereby authorized to act on them and give effect to them.
4. That Royal Bank be furnished with:
  - a) a copy of this Resolution; and
  - b) a list of the names of the persons authorized by this Resolution to act on behalf of the Customer, and with written notice of any changes which may take place in such list from time to time, and with specimens of the signatures of all such persons; each certified by the Warden and CAO of the Customer; and
  - c) in writing, any authorization made under paragraph 2(c) of this Resolution.

5. That any document furnished to Royal Bank as provided for in paragraph 4 of this Resolution shall be binding upon the Customer until a new document repealing the previous one has been received and duly acknowledged in writing by the branch or agency of Royal Bank where the Customer has its account.

DATED at Westville Road, NS this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of November, 2020.

(Sgd.) David Parker  
Peter Boyles

**MOTION**

It was moved by Clr. D. Parker and seconded by Clr. Boyles that the preceding resolution be adopted as presented.

Motion carried.

**ADJOURN**

It was moved by Clr. Turner and seconded by Clr. MacKeil that the meeting adjourn.

Motion carried. (9:03 p.m.)

Robert Parker  
Warden

Brian Cullen  
Municipal Clerk