The Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou met in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Administration Building and by video-conference, on Monday, December 6, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

## **PRESENT**

Dist. 1 Clr. Don Butler

2 Clr. Deborah Wadden

3 Clr. Darla MacKeil

4 Clr. Mary Elliott

5 Deputy Warden Murray (by video-conference)

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**

Brian Cullen, CAO, Municipal Clerk-Treasurer
Karen Cornish, Deputy Municipal Treasurer
Carolyn MacIntosh, Deputy Municipal Clerk
Sueann Musick, Communications Officer
Logan McDowell, Director of Public Works & Development (by video conference)
Jane Johnson, Recording Secretary

#### HISTORICAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Warden R. Parker acknowledged the 104<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Halifax Explosion and the 32<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the École Polytechnique massacre and the impact both have had to Canadians.

#### **CALL TO ORDER & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Warden R. Parker 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, and to remember our indigenous communities. He acknowledged that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People.

#### **AGENDA**

It was moved by Clr. Dewar and seconded by Clr. D. Parker that the agenda be approved with additions regarding the Abercrombie round-about and recognition of volunteers on committees.

Motion carried.

#### **MINUTES**

It was moved by Clr. MacKeil and seconded by Clr. Turner that the minutes of December 6, 2021 be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence was received and acknowledged from the following:

(a) Thank You Letters (uncirculated) for Municipal Grants have been received from the Tatamagouche Regional Academy (Bursary) & Pictou County Cases for Smiles (Children's Hospital Pillowcase Project).

#### **BROADBAND PROJECT UP-DATE**

The CAO gave a brief update on the highlights of the broadband project for the months of October and November, 2021. There has been a number of things starting to take shape over the last few weeks that include the control room being built and electrical progress (panels to be installed on the weekend). The fiber install started a week ago, so work is progressing with Plexus. We are testing the wireless system and testing for interference between this building and the tower on Hardwood Hill. The results so far have been positive regarding speed using TV white space. They are waiting on electrical components for Hardwood Hill and then they can operationalize that tower. There is a fee every time you go up the tower so they are waiting to install equipment so it will be a one-time fee. The tower installs should start within the next week with the installation of the bases. They are finalizing the operational packages on what we will sell to individual ISPs that wish to come onto the network. They are also working on finalizing other operational aspects for the network and looking to be operational in the New Year.

- Clr. Butler asked if we are making any progress with financial support from the provincial government and Warden R. Parker replied that when the Auditor General's Report was released there was concern about insufficient control of funds by Develop NS. He wrote a letter to the Premier expressing our concern that we did not receive any funding from Develop NS but has not received any response to date.
- Clr. Wadden asked if we would be working with the Town of New Glasgow and the CAO replied that we would be looking at dedicated resources specifically for the County.
- Clr. Wadden asked for more information under contracts and the CAO replied the "onboarding" is the process of bringing ISP's onto the network and "emerging services" could be companies.
- Clr. Wadden asked about market conditions and the CAO replied that has not happened to date. The focus has been getting the service up and running but that discussion will take place.
- Clr. Wadden referred to home installations and asked for further information regarding training required with the equipment and the CAO replied that they are negotiating with the various ISPs interested coming onto the network to identify what are they buying from us and how they are coming onto the network.
- Clr. D. Parker asked where 25% of the fiber has been installed and the CAO replied in the West River area. He asked are they going to hire more staff and the CAO replied they will be hiring a 3<sup>rd</sup> party to do the final scope of the work.
  - Clr. D. Parker asked when we expect to do this hiring and the CAO replied in the early New Year.
- Clr. Palmer asked about tree trimming and the CAO responded that one of the challenges is on the make ready and to work with the owners of the poles to fine tune that process so we would control the tree trimming on future phases.

Deputy Warden Murray reported that he is using his own internet tonight and there is no comparison to being connected to our internet last week.

Clr. Wadden reported she does not understand why Develop NS did not help us and Warden R. Parker replied they stated we only had 5,500 homes to connect to the internet and that information was inaccurate. Warden R. Parker reported many changes have been made and there is a lot of frustration from other areas across the province as well.

#### RIVERVIEW HOME CORP. BOARD REPORT

On behalf of the Riverview Home Corporation Board of Directors, Clr. D. Parker reported that they are in the middle of a CEO review, and they were notified in mid-November it is their turn for a review of the Corporation's governance structure and audit. We have purchased 3 group homes, in New Glasgow, Stellarton, and Lourdes. The funding of Riverton is based on per diem and if they continue in that manner, they will be \$500,000 short by March/22 on funds needed to pay down the mortgage for the significant renovation that was done to the facility. Only 2 out of 213 permanent staff have refused to get vaccinated and 4 more who are off on long term have not communicated their status. They started a new group of 13 residence councillors, so they are pleased to attract people for those positions.

Warden R. Parker asked if they still own a property in Truro and Clr. D, Parker replied that they rent that property and still run it.

Clr. Palmer asked if you are buying group homes there is less money for Riverview so why purchase these homes.

CIr. D. Parker replied the province is trying to move as many of these people into the communities as possible.

Clr. Palmer asked if there was any discussion about selling the Riverview Home and Clr. D. Parker replied there has been none.

## **NEW SCOTLAND BUSINESS PARK REPORT**

Clr. D. Parker reported Somerled (a DORA Construction Company) has been working on an 82 residential unit and requirement for some commercial units on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of that building. They had a meeting with a local developer to build a small development. There has been a noticeable interest so hopefully there will be significant uptake in the next year.

## RESOLUTION - PACE BY-LAW - 2<sup>ND</sup> READING

Clr. Boyles presented a resolution to Council as follows:

RESOLUTION (Second Reading)

<u>BE IT RESOLVED</u> by the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou that Council adopt the following Property Assessed Clean Energy Program By-Law:



# MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF PICTOU PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY PROGRAM (PACE) BY-LAW

## 1. Title and Purpose

- 1.1. This By-law shall be known as the Property Assessed Clean Energy Program By-law and may be referred to as the PACE By-law.
- 1.2. The purpose of this By-law is to allow the Municipality of the County of Pictou to create a financing program to support the installation of solar photovoltaic panel systems on private properties, with the consent of property owners. Property owners will make payments on the solar panels through a charge levied on the property.
- 1.3. This By-law does not exempt any person from complying with the requirements of other by-laws or regulations in force within the Municipality of the County of Pictou and from obtaining any license, permission, permit, authority, or approval as otherwise required by the Municipality, the Province of Nova Scotia, Nova Scotia Power, or the Government of Canada.
- 1.4 This By-law shall apply only to solar photovoltaic panel systems installed through the Solar PACE Program.

#### 2. Definitions

2.1. In this by-law, words used in the present tense include the future; words in the singular number include the plural; words in the plural include the singular; and the word shall be mandatory and

not permissive. All other words carry their customary meaning except for those as defined in this section.

- 2.2. For the purposes of this Bylaw:
  - 2.2.1. CAO means the Chief Administrative Officer for the Municipality, or his or her designate.
  - 2.2.2. "Certification of Completion" means a municipally issued form completed and signed by the Solar Contractor, and counter-signed by the property owner, stating that installation of Solar Equipment has been completed on the property.
  - 2.2.3. *Deputy Municipal Treasurer* means the Manager of Finance for the Municipality, or his or her designate.
  - 2.2.4. Municipality means the Municipality of the County of Pictou.
  - 2.2.5. PACE Customer Agreement means the written, signed Property Assessed Clean Energy Program Customer Agreement between the owner of a Qualifying Property and the Municipality for purchasing, installing, and potentially financing of Solar Equipment.
  - 2.2.6. PACE Charge means the Property Assessed Clean Energy improvement tax levied on the property pursuant to s.81A of the Nova Scotia Municipal Government Act.
  - 2.2.7. *PACE Program* means a program established by the Municipality under which owners of qualifying properties may obtain financing for solar photovoltaic panel installations.
  - 2.2.8. Qualifying Property means a property located within the Municipality of Pictou defined as eligible in the Solar PACE Policy and subject to any land use or building-type restrictions contained in the Solar PACE Policy or the Participant Agreement.
  - 2.2.9. "Solar Equipment" means a solar photovoltaic panel system, and accessory equipment, that the Solar Contractor will install on private property with consent from property owners.

#### 3. Administration

- 3.1. The owner of a Qualifying Property may apply to have their property evaluated for suitability by the Solar Contractor and receive a cost estimate for the project.
- 3.2. The owner of a Qualifying Property wishing to proceed with the Solar Program must sign a Solar PACE Participant Agreement. Before signing the Agreement, the property owner must:
  - 3.2.1.sign a contract with the Solar Contractor agreeing to the cost estimate provided; and
  - 3.2.2. submit a deposit to the Municipality as set out in the Municipal Fees Policy approved by Council, which will be deducted from the final project cost at completion or applied to the first payment.
- 3.3. The owner of the Qualifying Property shall sign the Solar PACE Participant Agreement, agreeing to either:
  - 3.3.1.pay the full cost of the project upon completion; or
  - 3.3.2.finance the project through a Solar Energy Improvement Charge.
- 3.4. The property owner may opt for Municipal financing for the installation of Solar Equipment on the property. Financing shall be subject to the written approval and agreement of the CAO, or

designate, on behalf of the Municipality, and the execution of a Solar PACE Participant Agreement by the owner of the Qualifying Property. The conditions that must be met for approval include:

- 3.4.1.the owner of the Qualifying Property is not in default of any municipal taxes, rates, or charges;
- 3.4.2.the owner has paid the application fee and/or required deposit;
- 3.4.3.any additional conditions specified in the Solar PACE Participant Agreement are met.

## 4. Solar Energy Improvement Charge

- 4.1. The Solar Contractor shall submit to the Project Administrator, who in turn will submit to the Director of Corporate Services, a copy of the signed Solar PACE Participant Agreement and Certification of the Completion of the Solar Equipment installation.
- 4.2. The Solar Energy Improvement Charge shall become payable upon submission of the Certificate of Completion by the Solar Contractor. The Solar Energy Improvement Charge shall be calculated on the basis of the total cost of the project less any federal, provincial, or other funding, such as the Solar Homes rebate from Efficiency Nova Scotia.
- 4.3. The Solar Energy Improvement Charge may consist of:
  - 4.3.1.the cost of the Solar Equipment, including all labour costs for installation, permitting fees, and applicable taxes;
  - 4.3.2.applicable PACE Program service fees; and
  - 4.3.3.interest accrued on the charge including any additional interest arising due to any default of payment.
- 4.4. The Solar Energy Improvement Charge shall be paid in equal instalments over a period of 10 years, on which interest shall be payable as set out in Section 6 and in the Solar PACE Participant Agreement. Property owners may elect to make larger contributions and pay off the Charge at an earlier date.
- 4.5. In the event of a default of any payment under the Solar PACE Participant Agreement, the outstanding balance shall be immediately due and payable. Interest shall be accrued on the amount then due and payable at the same rate applied by the Municipality for unpaid taxes and charges in default.
- 4.6. The Deputy Municipal Treasurer shall maintain a separate account of all monies due for the Solar Energy Improvement Charge pursuant to this By-law and identifying, for the subject property:
  - 4.6.1.the names of the property owners, property assessment and AAN, PID, and civic address;
  - 4.6.2.the amount of the Solar Energy Improvement Charge levied; and
  - 4.6.3. the amount paid on the Solar Energy Improvement Charge.
- 4.7. Wherein any property assessment list prepared pursuant to this Section, a property has been omitted by error or has been assessed in error or has been assessed for a Solar Energy Improvement Charge for a greater amount or a lesser amount than the property should have been assessed, the Deputy Municipal Treasurer may at any time amend the property assessment list to correct the error and adjust the assessment.

#### 5. Lien

5.1. A solar Energy Improvement Charge may be levied against the property upon completion of the project to secure all costs incurred by the Municipality to reimburse the Solar Contractor.

- 5.2. The lien provided for in this By-law shall become effective on the date on which a Certificate of Completion is filed with the Deputy Municipal Treasurer stating that the installation has been completed.
- 5.3. Where the owner of a Qualifying Property opts for instalment payments, the portion of the Solar Energy Improvement Charge payable annually shall be equal to the total Charge divided by 10, less the required deposit under Section 3.2.
- 5.4. A Solar Energy Improvement Charge imposed pursuant to this By-law constitutes a first lien on the property and has the same effect as rates and taxes under the Assessment Act and the Municipal Government Act.
- 5.5. A Solar Energy Improvement Charge pursuant to this By-law is collectible in the same manner as rates and taxes under the Municipal Government Act. The Charge will be invoiced on the tax bills clearly indicating the charge is separate from Municipal property taxes.
- 5.6. The lien provided for in this By-law shall remain in effect until the total charge, including any accrued interest, has been paid in full.

#### 6. Interest

- 6.1. Interest will be payable on any balance owing on the Solar Energy Improvement Charge at a rate set out in the Solar PACE Policy.
- 6.2. Interest shall accrue on any Solar Energy Improvement Charge or portion thereof which remains outstanding from the date of billing.
- 6.3. Interest is payable annually on the amount outstanding, whether or not the owner has elected to pay by instalments.

#### 7. No Municipal Liability

7.1. The Municipality is not responsible for the quality of the Solar Equipment, or the quality of the work carried out by the Solar Contractor and as a result, the Municipality shall not be liable for any damage, direct or consequential, loss or liability or injury caused by the supply of Solar Equipment, its installation, or use by the owner.

DATED at Pictou, NS this 6th day of December, 2021.

(Sgd.) Peter Boyles Larry Turner

#### **MOTION**

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

Motion carried.

#### **RESOLUTION – NOMINATIONS**

Clr. MacKeil 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 following appointments for the 2020/21 term:

| OUTSIDE BOARDS                    |                               |  |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Municipal Audit Committee         | Susan Robinson (to Nov/23)    |  |
| Police Advisory Board             | Kevin MacDonald (to Nov/23)   |  |
| Planning Advisory Committee       | Jeramie Lewis (to Nov/23)     |  |
| Climate Change Advisory Committee | Violet McCullough (to Nov/23) |  |

DATED at Pictou, N. S. this 6th day of December, 2021.

(Sgd.) Darla MacKeil Mary Elliott

## **MOTION**

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

Motion carried.

#### **RESOLUTION – COVID-19 POLICY**

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

## **RESOLUTION**

<u>BE IT RESOLVED</u> by the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou that Council adopt the following policy with respect to COVID-19:

POLICY #2021-12-54



## MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF PICTOU COVID-19 POLICY

## 1) Purpose

a) To provide direction and alter administrative provisions of certain municipal policies enacted by the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou.

## 2) Policy statements

- a) The following changes to policy are hereby enacted in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic:
  - i) POLICY #2021-11-08 MUNICIPAL VEHICLES: All sections pertaining to staff use of vehicles are hereby suspended, until otherwise directed by the Chief Administrative Officer.
  - ii) POLICY #2019-03-21 CONFERENCE/SEMINAR/TRAINING ATTENDANCE & EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT POLICY:

Section 9 (9) (a) - (c) are hereby suspended.

iii) POLICY #2019-05-52 MUNICIPAL SERVICES GRANT POLICY:

Section 6 (a) - (d) Ratepayer Meeting Requirements are hereby suspended for the duration of Order of the Chief Medical Officer for Nova Scotia, as amended, limiting gathering numbers;

Section 7 (a) Financial Statements shall be amended in accordance with the following policy statements;

- (1) The following terms shall now be applied to the Municipal Services Grant Policy:
  - (a) A Councillor may receive applications via email at any point from qualified applicants.
  - (b) The Councillor shall make a recommendation to a Committee of the Whole for the Municipal Council the amount of grant that an organization shall receive.
  - (c) The Municipality shall advertise on its website the new process for approval of Municipal Services Grants.
  - (d) A Municipal Councillor may contact any group to determine if they have any requirements for a Municipal Services Grant.
  - (e) Prior to payment of a municipal services grant a copy of the most recent financial statements of the organization shall be provided to the Administration of the Municipality.
- d) The aforementioned policy amendments shall remain in effect until the State of Emergency to help contain the spread of COVID-19 as been lifted by the Province of Nova Scotia, unless repealed by Municipal Council at an earlier date.
- e) This policy may be extended and or amended by the Municipal Council at a duly called meeting of the Municipal Council.

#### 2) Repeal

All former policies with respect to COVID-19 are hereby repealed.

<u>DATED</u> at Pictou, NS this 6<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2021.

(Sgd.) David Parker Mary Elliott

## **MOTION**

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

Motion carried.

## RESOLUTION – STUDENT EMPLOYMENT POLICY

Clr. Butler presented a resolution to Council as follows:

## **RESOLUTION**

<u>BE IT RESOLVED</u> by the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou that Council adopt the following policy with respect to student employment:



#### STUDENT EMPLOYMENT POLICY

## **PURPOSE**

To establish a uniform policy for the employment of students by the Municipality of the County of Pictou.

## **POLICY**

The Municipality supports the employment of students as a means of providing both financial support for their academic programs and skills that are relevant to those programs and their career goals. The following criteria shall be used in the recruitment and selection of student employees:

- 1. The Municipality will use a variety of communication methods to advertise student employment opportunities.
- 2. Students must be enrolled in a full-time post-secondary educational program at the time of their application.
- 3. Applications will be screened on the basis of educational merit and any related work experience which may be an asset to the position sought.
- 4. Where financial assistance is being received by the Municipality from another level of government for specific student positions, the guidelines of the funding organization will be given priority.
- 5. Successful applicants will be chosen by the respective department head.
- 6. The salary for students shall be determined by Municipal Council and shall be as follows:

| April 1, 2022 | \$14.72/hr. |
|---------------|-------------|
| April 1, 2023 | 14.94/hr.   |
| April 1, 2024 | 15.20/hr.   |
| April 1, 2025 | 15.50/hr.   |

7. All previous policies with respect to the employment of student employees are hereby repealed.

<u>DATED</u> at Pictou, NS this 6<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2021.

(Sgd.) Don Butler Chester Dewar

## **MOTION**

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

Motion carried.

#### **RESOLUTION – MUNICIPAL GRANTS**

Clr. Dewar presented a resolution to Council as follows:

## **RESOLUTION**

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

#### Recreation:

Lismore & Dist. Recreation Committee \$ 1,000.00 Walking Track & Seating around Ballfield @ Community Ctr.

<u>DATED</u> at Pictou, NS this 6<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2021.

(Sgd.) Chester Dewar Don Butler

#### MOTION

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

Motion carried.

## RESOLUTION - DESTRUCTION OF DOCUMENTS

Clr. Palmer presented a resolution to Council as follows:

#### RESOLUTION

<u>WHEREAS</u> the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou has adopted a adopt a by-law which provides for the destruction of any documents or records after they are no longer required for municipal purposes;

WHEREAS the aforementioned by-law has been approved by the Minister of Municipal Affairs;

<u>WHEREAS</u> administrative staff has undertaken a process of reviewing obsolete files with a view to seeking the necessary approval to destroy those which are no longer required, in accordance with the Destruction of Documents By-Law;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou that Council authorize the destruction of the documents described in the attached affidavit of the Municipal Clerk which indicates that he has personally examined each document or record and confirms that there is nothing of value therein.

<u>DATED</u> at Pictou, N. S. this 6<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2021.

(Sgd.) Randy Palmer Chester Dewar

## **AFFIDAVIT OF CLERK**

IN THE MATTER OF THE DESTRUCTION OF DOCUMENTS AND RECORDS OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF PICTOU.

- I, Brian Cullen of New Glasgow, in the County of Pictou, Clerk of the Municipality of the County of Pictou, do make oath and say:
- 1. That I am Municipal Clerk of the Municipality of the County of Pictou.
- 2. That I have personally examined each of the documents or records listed immediately below pursuant to a by-law permitting the destruction of documents and records which are no longer required.

## SHELF # CONTENTS

| A1-7  | Nov/2015 – Feb/2017 Minute CD's                                  |
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|       | Feb/2017 – Dec/2017 Minute CD's                                  |
| A1-8  | 2017 & Prior Closed Personnel Files                              |
|       | 1992 – 1994 Employee Pension Plan Records                        |
| A1-9  | 2016/17 Correspondence & Duplicate Meeting Files                 |
| A1-10 | 2016/17 Correspondence & Duplicate Meeting Files                 |
| A1-12 | 1995 + Standard Life Pension Plan Records                        |
|       | 2005/06 – 2011/12 Employee Group Insurance Plan Files            |
|       | Walker Commission Files  |
| A2-7  | 2009 – 2012 Capital Charge Receivable Reports                    |
| A2-12 | Inception – 2002 Capital Charges Files                           |
| A4-12 | 2001 & Prior St. Light Area Rate Files                           |
| A4-14 | 2011/12 Payroll Files  |
| A6-10 | Board of Health Section 39 Applications                          |
|       | 1987 – 1994/95 On-Site Sewage Disposal Application Decision Logs |
| A7-1  | 2014/15 Cancelled Cheques & Invoices                             |
| A7-2  | 2014/15 Cancelled Cheques & Invoices                             |
| A7-9  | 2014/15 Cheque Stubs   |
| A7-14 | 2001/02 Interim & Final Tax Billing Reports                      |
| A7-16 | Oct 2011 – Aug 2012 Tax Receivable Reports                       |
| A7-31 | 2011/12 Ledgers  |
| A7-38 | Feb 28/12 – May 22/12 Audit Trails                               |
|       | May 22/12 – Aug 13/12 Audit Trails                               |
|       | Aug 14/12 – Oct 19/12 Audit Trails                               |
| A7-43 | 2016/17 Mortgage Companies                                       |

| A7-47 | 2016/17 Telepayments (Taxes & Water) |
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| A7-50 | 2002 Assessment Roll Changes         |

- 3. That the aforesaid list does not contain any document or record exempt from destruction pursuant to Section 3 of the by-law governing the destruction of documents.
- 4. That to the best of my knowledge there is nothing of value contained therein.
- 5. That the said documents and records are no longer required by the said Municipal Council.

Brian Cullen, Municipal Clerk

SWORN before me at Pictou, in the County of Pictou and Province of Nova Scotia this 25<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021.

Carolyn MacIntosh Commissioner of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia

#### **MOTION**

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

Motion carried.

## **ROUND-ABOUT SPEED LIMIT**

It was moved by Clr. Boyles and seconded by Clr. Turner that a letter be sent to the Minister of Public Works, with copies to the local Area Manager, the Abercrombie Fire Department and the RCMP asking that the speed limit on the Abercrombie round-about be reduced.

Clr. Turner reported he had some concern from residents that the speed limit should be reduced.

Motion carried.

#### **VOLUNTEERS ON COMMITTEES**

Clr. Boyles suggested that residents of the Municipality who volunteer to sit on Council's various committee receive gift cards acknowledging their service. The volunteers who sit on these committees contribute so much of their own time and some do not even claim their mileage.

## **MOTION**

It was moved by Clr. Boyles and seconded by Clr. Turner that residents who sit on Council committees on a voluntary basis receive a \$25 gift card from the Municipality.

Clr. Butler asked if residents receive any mileage to attend meetings and Warden R. Parker replied they can claim mileage if they choose to do so.

Clr. Wadden reported any volunteers she deals with do not expect any recognition and suggested a donation in their name to a charity.

Clr. Thompson suggested these residents be encouraged to fill out their mileage forms because they would receive more money claiming their mileage than receiving a \$25 gift card.

Clr. Boyles commented he just wants to thank these people for sitting on these committees.

## **MOTION TO TABLE**

It was moved by Clr. Wadden and seconded by Deputy Warden Murray that the motion be tabled until the next meeting of the Financial Services Committee.

Motion carried. (Nay Votes: Clrs. D. Parker, Turner, Boyles & Warden R. Parker)

#### **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Clr. Dewar reported that the weather line has changed the telephone number and a lot of people do not know the number has been changed.

The Communications Officer advised that she could promote the new number on all our media platforms, including the next edition of Rural News & Views that will be going in the New Year.

Clr. Elliott informed Council that the Melville-Seafoam Hall will be having a variety concert on Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> to raise funds to keep the hall going.

Clr. Wadden reported St. Georges Church, New Glasgow will be holding their annual Christmas Dinner on December 25<sup>th</sup> from 12 to 2 pm, tickets are free, call the church office so they will know how many are looking for the dinner.

Clr. D. Parker reported the Saltsprings 4-H Club are celebrating 40 years.

Clr. Dewar suggested the 4-H club receive a recognition in the New Year.

#### **EMERGENCY RESOLUTIONS**

There were no emergency resolutions.

#### REFERRALS TO COMMITTEES & COUNCIL

Clr. Turner reported he was asked on behalf of the Abercrombie Fire Department for a Letter of Support from Council so they can secure funding to repair their roof that has been leaking.

Clr. Thompson asked for an update on the sidewalk design work in the Plymouth area on when it will be awarded and when work will begin.

Clr. Boyles asked if Council is going to be doing anything for the BC flood victims because Council sent money after the fires in Ft. MacMurray several years ago.

Clr. Wadden reported she would like to have a discussion on extreme weather conditions as to how we are prepared on what may come.

#### **ADJOURN**

It was moved by Clr. MacKeil and seconded by Clr. Elliott that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried. (8:20 pm)

Robert Parker Warden

Brian Cullen Municipal Clerk