

**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**January 1883**

**COMPLETE RETURN OF MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS**

Section 1 – John Ferguson by acclamation

2 – Donald Fraser “

3 – Votes polled, 178. John Sutherland, 92; J.J. Stramberg, 86; majority 6

4 – Dr. J.R. Collie, by acclamation

5 – A.J. McKay “ “

6 – Votes polled, 196. J. Rod. McDonald, 108; Rod’k. McKay, 88; majority, 20

7 – David Ferguson, by acclamation

8 – Hugh S. Fraser “

9 – Votes Polled, 138. Angus Davies, 84; W. McDonald, 54; majority 30

10 – Votes polled, 154. Robert Maxwell, 84; G.H. Sutherland, 70; majority 14

11 – Votes polled, 106, John R. McDonald, 66; Daniel Sutherland, 40; majority 26

12 – Votes polled, 71, Jeffery McColl, 36; Daniel Desmond, 35; majority 1

13 – Votes polled, 107, Angus McMillan, 60; John Murray, 47; majority 13

14 – Votes polled, 106, Robert McNeil, 79; John Munro, 26; majority 53

15 – Votes polled, 148, John McPherson, 93; Alex. McHardy, 55; majority 38

16 – Thomas McDonald by acclamation

17 – Votes polled, 331, Jas. C. McKay, 115 John McDonald, 110(both elected); Dr. J.F. McDonald, 106; majority 9 and 4

18 – Wm. F. Cameron by acclamation

19 – William Smith “

20 – Votes polled, 146, Robert Dewar, 92; H. H. Bruce, 54; majority, 38

21 – John D. Fraser, by acclamation

22 – Rod’k McDougall “

23 – John McDougall, M.P. by acclamation

24 – Votes polled, 99. David J. Meikle, 53; Daniel Ross, 46; majority 7

Pictou Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>

The Council met today at 11 a.m. All the Councilors elect were present except Donald Fraser, Sect. 2 and were duly sworn in. Robert McNeil, Esq., was unanimously re-elected Warden, and after a few remarks took the chair. Coun. McColl rose to ask whether the presiding officer of a Section was eligible for nomination as Councilor, as it was his opinion that under the act of Corporation of 1879 he was not. He had reference to the case of Thomas McDonald, (sec 16). Coun McColl asked the question before Coun. McDonald was sworn, but the greater part of the discussion was carried on afterward and in the end the matter dropped.

The Council adjourned until 2 o’clock.

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The Council met again at 2 p.m.

The Warden appointed the following as the Nominating Committee – Hugh S. Fraser, John McDougald and David Meikle, which was unanimously approved.

At this stage of the proceedings the Council called for the Treasurer's report. The Warden was of the opinion that the Treasurer was not aware that he should be present at this time.

Coun. McColl said that according to the Bye-Laws it was his duty to be present, and a messenger was accordingly sent after him.

Donald Fraser, Coun. For Sec. 2, being present was sworn in and took his seat.

The Warden stated that he had had a petition sent to him last August by the representatives of the Short Line Railway Company, praying a special meeting of the Council in order to ascertain whether the Council would grant them a free right of way. In a correspondence with Col. Snow which he also read he had stated that such a meeting was inconvenient, as the councilors live such a distance from the County town. Council Rod McDougal did not in any way wish to hinder the material progress of the County; but was of the opinion that the county was at the present time heavily burdened with railway damages and thought the best way to deal with the matter was to refer it to the Special Committee. Coun. Fraser (Sec.2) thought it would be better to delay a few days as Col Snow would shortly be in town. After some discussions the council agreed to hand the matter over to the Special Committee and the Warden instructed the Nomination Committee to appoint the same.

The Treasurer read an abstract of his report for the year ending Dec 31, 1882. In this it appeared that the income of the County was \$34,749.21. Expenditure \$24,257.86, leaving a balance of \$10,591.35, Coun. McColl asked if the railway damages were paid? The Warden informed him they were.

The Warden read a letter from the Provincial Asylum in reference to certain claims due prior to 1878 asking when the debt would be paid. Coun. McColl asked whether the account was correct. The Clerk informed him that it was. The account was handed over to the Finance Committee.

The Treasurer said that there were certain amounts due the County by friends of persons in the Asylum and wished to consult the committee on the subject.

The Chairman of the Nominating Committee submitted his report, naming the following councilors for the several committees. Finance – Hugh S. Fraser, John McDougald, Angus McMillan, Rod McDougall, John R. McPherson, Roads and Bridges – Alex. J. McKay, Rod McDonald (no.6), Rob Maxwell, John McDonald, Wm. Smith, Public Property – Donald Fraser, Jas. C. McKay, Rob. Dewar, Assessments – David Ferguson, Thomas McDonald, John D. Fraser. Licenses – John Ferguson, John Sutherland, Angus Davis. Poor – J.R. Collie, J.R. McDonald, Jeff McColl. He also reported that they nominated the following councilors as a Special Committee on the railway matters, Donald Fraser, Jeff. McColl, J.R. Collie, John McDougald, Rob. Maxwell, Wm. Smith, John D. Fraser.

It was moved and carried unanimously, that the report be approved. The Warden announced it was customary that closing and confirmation of roads should come up on Thursday.

The Council then took up the accounts. The Warden enquired whether the Council wished the indurations read. J.R. MacDonald (Sec.6) thought it would be better to do so. They were accordingly read. The chairman of the Finance Committee (Hugh Fraser) was instructed not to accept any account without its passing through the hands of the Clerk and being regularly endorsed.

The Warden drew attention to the number of harmless insane sent to Halifax, and that the Asylum there is overcrowded. According to the last returns 50 insane persons belonging to this County, 27 of whom are harmless. He said that this is an important matter, and that some action will require to be taken on it. He wished the committee to investigate the matter thoroughly and

see if the law will allow each Section to be charged with the expense of patients sent from it. He thought that might prevent some of the patients being sent to the Asylum. Coun. Donald Fraser said that we might well take an example from Antigonish in the way of keeping poor and harmless insane.

A communication was read from a party, asking if the Council would sell crane storage in the basement of the Court House, New Glasgow. A letter from parties wishing to rent part of the Market House, New Glasgow, and a petition was presented from Grant on that a Poor House, with a Model Farm in connection, where the poor who are able to work and the harmless insane could be employed, be established in the County. It was moved, seconded and carried that the paper be handed over to the Committee on Poor.

The Council then adjourned.

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Pictou Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> 10 a.m.

The roll was called, the following Councilors were absent, Donald Fraser, Jeffery McColl, James C. McKay and Robert Dewar. The minutes of yesterday's proceedings were then read by the Clerk. The minutes were approved. The Chairman of the Nominating Committee recommended that D.W. McKean and Fred W. Fraser, Commission Merchant be County Auditors – unanimously approved. The Warden suggested to the Convener of the Committee on Roads and Bridges the desirability of making amendments to the instructions given to the Road overseers.

Coun Hugh S. Fraser asked whether the pounding of cattle was a County or Sectional charge. The Warden informed him that it was a Sectional charge. The Warden stated that he had petitions for roads on the table, and read the endorsements. The papers were handed over to the proper committee. Donald Fraser, James C. McKay, Jeff McColl and Robert Dewar came into court and answered to their names.

A petition was read from Sec. 20, asking the attention of the Council to the uncollectible taxes in that Section, which brought out a good deal of discussion on the assessment law. Coun. McColl said that the poll tax was the hardest tax to collect, also that he knew of an instance in one of the mining districts where the collector had to give 5 per cent to one of the company's clerks to collect said tax, whereas he only got 3 per cent himself, that being the only way to collect it. Coun. Rod'k McDougald thought it very hard for those who are already heavily taxed to have to pay their uncollected bills, also that the Council should take into account the individual tax payer. Coun. McDougald, Westville, showed that the uncollectible taxes must come back on the sections next year and that other Sections are in the same state as Section 20, citing his own instance, and thought that the Council could do nothing with it. Coun. McColl thought that both the owner and resident should be assessed. The petition was handed over to the Assessment Committee. Coun. McColl remarked, that the term personal property is very indefinite, and that it is difficult to understand what it includes. He said that there are large amounts of money in the county that are not assessed, and cited the case of two gentlemen whom he knew that have more property than any one of twelve sections. Who are scarcely assessed on cent. Coun Rod'k McDougald did not think that any one of the Council is satisfied with the present mode of assessment and that it is necessary that a Law Amendment Committee be appointed. Coun. John D Fraser said that the assessment to affect taxes if the sections were uniformly assessed. At this stage the County Auditors were sworn in by the Clerk. John d. Fraser moved, seconded by John Rod'k McDonald, the following resolutions: -

“Whereas, the County Assessment Act is generally unsatisfactory and

“Whereas, we believe that many changes can be made to modify and improve said Act that will be generally beneficial.

“Resolved that a Special Committee be appointed to recommend such amendments as they may advise,” which was passed and the Nominating Committee were instructed to appoint a committee to suggest the necessary amendments.

It was resolved that no petition be received after noon on Friday next except by a majority vote of the council.

Council adjourned till two P.M.

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The Council met again at two P.M.

Minutes of the forenoon’s meeting read and approved. The Warden read a petition from William Baxter, Marshy Hope amend railway damages. Moved by John D. Fraser and seconded by Wm. Smith that the paper be referred to the Finance Committee. Motion carried, and the paper was accordingly handed over to the committee. It was moved and carried that the reports of the proceedings of the Council be printed and that the matter of compensation be left to the Finance Committee.

The Chairman of the Nominating Committee recommended the following persons as a Special Committee on the assessment law: John D. Fraser, John, Rod. McDonald, Wm. F. Cameron, Jeff. McColl and Robert Dewar unanimously approved.

The Council then adjourned till 10 A.M. Thursday, a motion to that effect being made and carried, in order to give the several committees an opportunity to get through with their work.

At half past two Colonel Snow, accompanied by some members of the Railway Committee of Pictou, met the Special Committee and a discussion of the matter of the right of way took place. A full account of which will be given in the committee’s report.

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Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> 10 A.M.

Roll called. Minutes of yesterday afternoon’s meeting were read and approved. The Warden read a letter and telegram from the Warden of New Glasgow and a letter from the Inspector of Weights and Measures which were referred to the proper Committees. Read also a letter from the President and Secretary of the New Glasgow Agricultural Society, stating that at the last meeting of the Society, it was resolved, that the officers of the society should communicate to the County Council the great desire of the society, that the Council should combine with the proposed Poor House for the County a Stock Farm on which only thorough bred stock be kept. The resolution passed was as follows:

“That the President and Secretary be instructed to urge upon the attention of the County Council the necessity of establishing a County poor house and in connection therewith a farm for the breeding of thorough bred stock, and to assure the County authorities of their willingness to aid them by the use of their thorough bred stock and other support.” They also represented the advantages which the central position of New Glasgow affords for the establishment of such an Institution and farm, also that the society would be prepared to use every effort to procure assistance from the Town the Society and private individuals. The letter was given to the Committee on poor. Motion was put and carried that the Council adjourn until two P.M. 2 p.m.

Minutes of forenoon’s meeting read and approved. The Warden read the Treasurer’s report, in which it is stated that the accounts of collectors are now considerably changed as a large amount of cash has been paid in since the 1<sup>st</sup> of January, and is directed attention to Section 19,

which owes the amount of \$214 for 1879 and 1880. At a meeting of the Council in 1882 the son of the deceased collector was appointed collector and to pay in the arrears, but has failed to do so as yet on account of sickness. The matter requires prompt attention, or the amount may be lost to the Municipality. The greater part of the amounts due the County by the friends of patients in the Insane Asylum are not likely to be of much value to the Municipality, and it might be well to test the matter. The late Treasurer drew attention to the subject last year, Munsie Brothers paid \$38 to the Insane Asylum which closes their account in the full. Coun. Wm. Smith thought the matter concerning the Collector of Section 19 could be easily compromised. After some discussion it was moved and carried that the matter be referred to the Assessment Committee. The portion of the Treasurer's report which refers to the friends of persons in the Insane Asylum was referred to the Committee on Poor by motion. The following resolution was moved by John McDougald, M.P. and seconded by Hugh S. Fraser.

“Resolved that the Town Councils of Pictou and New Glasgow be notified by the Clerk to meet with this Council on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> inst. for the purpose of adjusting the proportion of county rates to be paid by said towns for 1883, motion carried.

As not one of the several committees had got through with their work there was no further business before the council which adjourned at 4:45.

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Pictou, Jany, 12.

Council met at 10 a.m. Roll called, absent Coun. Jeffrey McColl. Minutes of yesterday afternoon's meeting read and approved. Partial report of the Committee on Roads and Bridges and on Private Statute Labor up to No. 51 handed to the Warden. Moved by Coun. J.R. Collie, seconded by Coun. David Meikle, that the partial report be received, motion carried. The following petitions were granted: - No. 1, Hugh McDonald, Sandy Cove, 2, Charles Smith, Merigomish, 3, Alexander F. Smith, Merigomish, 4, Donald D. McLeod, Section 25, 5, David Mitchell, Merigomish, 6, Edward Finlayson, Merigomish, 7, Joseph R. Crockett, Middle River, 8, George F. Logan, Harwood Hill. 9, William McDonald, (A's son) Section 24, 10, Donald Grant, Carriboo, 11, Robert McLeod, West River, 12, James R. Porter, Green Hill, 13, William Cameron, Section 24, 14, Peter Ross Section 24, 15, Angus McPhee, Section 24, 16, Malcolm McKenzie, Fisher's Grant, 17, William Chisholm, Hopewell, 18, John McDonald, Hopewell, 19, Kenneth McKenzie, 20, D.A. McDonald, Bridgeville, 21, Gilvary Grant, East Branch, East River, 22, James Cameron, St. Paul's, 23, Murdoch McLeod, McLellan's Brook, 24, John and A. McDonald, Vale Colliery – granted to John only, 25, Hector Munro, Fox Brook, Sec. 17, 26, John W. Dobson and John Murray, Carriboo, 27, James McDonald, Bailey's Brook, 28, Alex D. Ross, Carriboo, 29, Kenneth McAulay, Carriboo, 30, Morrison McDonald, Carriboo, 31, John A. Campbell and Daniel McKay, Hardwood Hill, each to receive three days labor. 32, Hugh and William McLeod, Hardwood Hill, each to receive half their labor, 33, John J. Murray and Alex. Murray, West Branch, River John, granted to John J. Murray only, 34, Alexander Reid, Little Harbour, 36, John Innes, Section 3, 37, James and Matthew Patriquin, Section 4, granted to Matthew Patriquin only, 38, Daniel Murray, Section 11, 39, Hugh McLeod, Six Mile Brook, 40, Wm. Sutherland, Six Mile Brook, granted, 41, Thomas McKay, East River, 42, James Wagner, petitioned for his statute labor be transferred to Road Sec, 225: petition was not granted on the ground that as the Road Sections are liable to be changed from time to time, Section 225 might be in another part of the County next year. 43, David McLeod, Section 13, 44, Alex Sutherland, Section 7, 45, James Robinson, Sec. 13, one half of his labor granted, 46, George Sutherland, Sec. 16, 47, Donald McGlashan, Sec. 13, 48, Hugh and John McKay, Mount Thom, 49, Joseph

B. Jardine, Whitehall, 50, Robert Sutherland, Whitehall, 51, David W. and William Beaton, Pleasant Valley, granted to David W. Beaton only.

Moved and seconded that the Council adjourn till two o'clock. Motion carried.

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Council met again at two, p.m.

Minutes of forenoon's meeting read and approved after a few trifling inaccuracies were rectified. A partial report on the confirmation of roads No. 51 to 71 was handed to the Warden by the Committee on Roads and Bridges. It was moved, seconded and carried that the Partial Report be received. The following are the results, each case being made the subject of a separate motion: 52 Pent road for Donald McLean, Rogers Hill; recommended that the applicant pay damages, keeping up a swing gate, also not to throw up drains on the side of road. Confirmed as recommended. 53, alteration of road from South Dalhousie to Plainfield, confirmed, 54, Road at Westville from Highfield Farm to Drummond road confirmed. 55, Road leading from Elgin, West Branch, East River to Lorne to intersect the Hopewell Road; recommended that it be not confirmed, motion put and carried that it be not confirmed, 56, Road from Carmichael's road to Cape John road not recommended as they thought a Pent Road would answer the purpose. Coun. Donald Fraser, Sec 2, thought it very necessary; motion put and carried that it be not confirmed. 57, Road from the Drummond to the end of Stellarton, recommend that it be deferred till the May term; motion put and carried that such be done. 58, Road from Concord to West Branch road confirmed. 59, Road from Marshy Hope to Baillie's Brook confirmed. 60, Road from Vale Colliery to Sherbrooke; pent road confirmed. 61, Road from Carriboo to Sea View Cemetery, recommended that it be not confirmed and that they apply to the Supervisor of roads; motion put to that effect and carried. 62, Road from English's South Line to McCulloch's road Wentworth Grant deferred to the May term as recommended. 63, Road or Street in Westville from the College Block to the Methodist Church confirmed. 64, Road or Street in Westville from Prince Albert Street to Greenwood Street confirmed. 65, Road from Railway Siding, Battery Hill to Stewiake road, deferred to the May term as recommended. 66, Returned to the Road Committee for further explanation. 67, Pent road for William Campbell, Westville, confirmed, 68. Road from Black Brook road to County Line confirmed. 69, Pent Road from Anthony McLellan's to Roger's Hill road confirmed. 70, Pent road for Robert McLean, Lorne to Marshy Hope; petitioner to pay damages, confirmed as recommended. 71, Alteration of road near Glengarry Station to West Branch road confirmed.

No further business being before the Council is adjourned till ten o'clock tomorrow so that the several Committees' might get through their work.

Note – At four p.m. P.S. Archibald, Chief Engineer of Government Railways along with the Railway Committee of Pictou, met the council's special committee in the Court House. A short discussion took place anent the right of way. The special committee before taking any action will endeavor to get all the information on the subject.

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Pictou, Jan 13.

Council opened at 10 a.m. Roll was called. Coun. J.R. Collie, having been called away last night on important business was excused from attendance. All the Councilors with that exception were present. Minutes of yesterday afternoon's meeting were read and approved. Coun. John Ferguson, Section 1, wished to know in what way he could bring before the Council

what he considered an important matter, that is, to prevent the sailing of ice boats on the harbor, which he thought a public nuisance. The great speed of the boats, and their appearance, frightening horses so as to make them unmanageable, and that he himself had to leave his teams at home when the ice boat was on the harbor, and cited instances of horses running away getting badly hurt. Coun. David Ferguson, Section 7, corroborated what Coun. John Ferguson said, and also that horses are more difficult to manage when the ice is in a suitable condition for running an iceboat, owing to the slipperiness of the ice, making it dangerous for a person to get out of his sleigh to hold his horse. Coun. J. McColl said the same complaints were made about iceboats running on the Rivers. Coun. J.D. Fraser thought the best way to deal with the subject was to memorialize the Provincial Government, or pass a by-law and ask the sanction of the Government. Coun. John Ferguson said that to prevent the "running of ice boats on the harbor would only affect one individual. The Warden said that a memorial stating facts and properly signed would enable a committee to take hold of the subject. Nothing further was said on the matter, nearly all the councilors were engaged in committee work. Council then adjourned until two o'clock.

Council met again at 2 p.m. Minutes of forenoon's meeting read and approved. The Warden read a memorial from Mr. Alex. McHardy, complaining against W.G. Johnstone as Reviser. The memorial was referred to the committee on Nominations, motion being put to the effect and carried. Moved by Hugh S. Fraser, and seconded by John McDonald that the council adjourn till ten a.m., Monday, motion carried. Council adjourned at half past two to enable Councilors catch the 3 p.m. train for their homes.

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January 15<sup>th</sup>

Council met at 10 a.m. Roll called. Absent: Councilors Alex McKay, John R. McDonald, Angus McMillan, Thomas McDonald, and Robert Dewar. Minutes of Saturday afternoon's meeting read and adopted as read. The chairman of the Nominating Committee proposed the following Councilors as a committee to meet Town Councils of Pictou and New Glasgow this afternoon at 2 p.m., in order to adjust the proportion of rates to be borne by said towns for 1883. Jeffrey McColl, John McDougald, Roderick McDougall, Donald Fraser and Hugh S. Fraser; unanimously approved. A petition for pent road from Carriboo section was deferred to May term. The Clerk was instructed to advertise it. Motion being made to that effect and carried, Council adjourned till two p.m.

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Council met again at 2 p.m.

Minutes of forenoon's meeting read, and approved. Councilors A.G. McKay, John R. McDonald, Angus McMillan and Thomas McDonald gave satisfactory reasons for being absent from the forenoon's meeting and were excused. A partial report from the Committee on Roads and Bridges was handed to the Warden, who read the endorsements. It was moved and carried that the Partial Report be received. The Warden read a memorial from several gentlemen of Pictou petitioning against sailing of ice boats on the harbor and rivers. The petition shows that damage has been done to property and lives endangered on account of said boats. It was moved by Coun. John Ferguson and seconded by Coun. Donald Fraser that a special committee be appointed to report on the matter. The Warden instructed the Nominating Committee to appoint the same. The following are the petitions confirmed or rejected: 72, Petition from Alex. Hugh and Andrew Munro Section 12, for separate road limits, J. S. Fraser Committee, granted. 73, Petition for road from Elgin to Hopewell, East River, James S. Fraser Committee, granted, 74.

Petition for Road Committee on road from Hopewell to Grant's Mills, J.S. Fraser Committee, granted. 75, Petition for alteration of road leading from Salem Church to Mill Brook. J.S. Fraser Committee, granted. 76, Road or street from the Halifax company's office to the Railway Station recommended, James W. McKenzie committee, granted. 77, Petition of John McB Cameron, East River St. Mary's for pent road, recommended J.W. McKenzie committee, granted. 78, Petition of D. McIvor and others of Barney's River for pent road, recommended, J. W. McKenzie, committee, 79, passed over. 80, Petition from Salts Springs for change of road limits, not granted. 81, Petition for alteration of road leading from Glengarry to Middle River Church, not granted. 82, Complaint of William Fraser and others of McLellan's Brook against D.W. Cooke, surveyor of road District No. 369 for neglect of duty; committee recommended that legal proceedings be taken against said surveyor, motion carried that such be done. 83, Complaint of James Hudson and others against the Hopewell & Eureka Woolen Mills Cos. for an obstruction in road leading from Hopewell to Fifteen mile Stream; recommended that it be referred to the supervisors of Public Property, recommendation confirmed. 84, Report of James S. Fraser, road committee on road of James McDonald, West River, recommended that the report be filed, granted. 85, Petition of David Sinclair, Section 15, not granted no objections.

Petitions for Private Statute Labor granted: 91. Robert McIntosh, McLellan's Mountain. 92, John McKay, Back Meadows. 93, Hugh Dewar, Barney's River. 94, Alex. Grant, Stellarton. 95, John McIvor, Upper Barney's River.

The Nominating Committee proposed the following Councilors as a Special Committee on the matter of sailing ice boats on the harbor; John Ferguson, Jeffrey McColl and J.R. Collie – Unanimously approved. Council adjourned till ten o'clock to-morrow.

Council opened at 10:25 a.m. Roll called, all the Councilors were present. Minutes of yesterday's afternoon's meeting read and after trifling alteration was made were adopted. The following report was read by the Warden.

To the Municipal Council of Pictou, January term, 1883. At a joint meeting of committee of County Council of Pictou County and the Town Councils of Pictou and New Glasgow for the purpose of settling their share of the expenses of the County for the year 1883. It was agreed that the town of Pictou should pay Three Thousand Four Hundred and Twenty-six dollars and thirty cents and the town of New Glasgow the sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred and Twelve dollars and fifty cents being respectively 12 per cent and 8 per cent on the whole amount chargeable for Town and County purposes. The foregoing sum being inclusive of the proportion for Eastern Extension Railway damages payable by the said towns for the current year.

(Signed) JEFFERY MCCOLL

*Chairman Committee of County Council*

JOHN D. MACLEOD

*Mayor, Town of Pictou*

D.C. FRASER,

*Warden, Town of New Glasgow.*

#### MEMO

Assessment for 1882.....	\$26,335.00
Less off:	
For Clerk.....	\$300.00
For Treasurer.....	250.00
“ Auditors.....	40.00

“ Assessors.....	500.00
“ Collectors.....	750.00
“ Wardens &c.....	500.00
“ Printing.....	250.00
“ Road Damages.....	500.00
‘ Contingencies.....	200.00
“ Municipal Elections.....	200.00
	<u>\$3490.00</u>
	\$22,845.00
Pictou pays 12% of the above	\$2,741.40
Proportion of Railway damages for 1883, whole amount \$6,848.00 at 10%	684.90
	<u>\$3426.30</u>
New Glasgow pays 8% of above	\$1827.60
Proportion of Railway damages for 1883, whole amount \$6849.00at 10%	684.90
	<u>\$2512.00</u>

The Warden said that there was a discrepancy in the amounts paid by the towns of Pictou and New Glasgow – that nothing could be done with it in the meantime, but that in future it would require to be guarded against. The chairman of the committee (Coun. Jeff McColl) agreed with the Warden as to the discrepancy, said that they had no precedent to go by, and that they levied the rates to the best of their ability. The report brought up a great deal of discussion on the assessment law and the manner in which the county is assessed. The Clerk drew attention to the low assessments of the factories in the vicinity of New Glasgow, naming the amounts several of them are assessed for, showing how ridiculously low they were. Coun. McColl remarked that he would like that those factories were valued even lower than they are, for the reason that people would be more likely to recognize the careless and mischievous manner in which some assessors do their work. He also said that hitherto such conduct on the part of the assessors was winked at, but that it was now time that something was done to rectify this state of matters – that the assessments of some sections of the county are lower now than they were fifteen years ago, although said sections progressed considerably in that time, citing Section 15, in which is the village of Vale Colliery, as an instance. The Warden said that although such was the case in a few sections, in the majority of instances it was quite the reverse. Farms would have brought a higher price even forty years ago than now. The majority of Councilors seemed to concur with the Warden and his opinion. Coun. J.R. McPherson remarked that the village of Vale colliery is in one end of the section, and that the other part, instead of progressing, has gone back, - farms in some instances being left vacant, the owners not being able to sell them at any price. Coun. David Ferguson said that he did not think that farm property, if put on the market would bring any more than the amount placed opposite it in the assessment roll. Coun. John D. Fraser (Merigomish) said that his section has gone back on account of crops failing and cattle dying within the last five years, the people he said are flocking into the towns or leaving the country. Coun Robert Dewar thought that the larger factories should be assessed higher, more especially those that are controlled companies as they draw capital from other sources. Coun. McColl said

that apparently the council was satisfied with the present assessment law. Coun. Rod.k McDougall said that it was not satisfactory for him that the county districts were not uniformly assessed, also that the way the factories near New Glasgow are assessed show how the assessors do their work. Coun. John Ferguson No. 1 was not satisfied with the assessment law of with the manner in which it is worked. Farms of the same value in different sections being assessed showed a disparity of one-half in some cases.

Report of the committee on Licenses was read by the Warden, motion put out and carried that the report be received. The following is the report "your committee had very little business before them of five Clerks of Licenses appointed last year only one sent in any report. James McRae, clerk of License for Polling Sec's. No.'s 1,2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, West Pictou. Reports only one violation of the law in his district. He prosecuted the offender but failed to gain the case, for want of sufficient evidence. Your committee would recommend that Clerks of License who have not sent in any report be asked to do so to this Council at the May term.

John Ferguson (Chairman)

John Sutherland

Angus Davies,

Moved and carried that the report be adopted. Further report of roads confirmed (72 ½), Road leading from New Glasgow to Glen Falloch granted, J.S. Fraser committee. (79) Petition for road from John Stalkers to join district road on East side of Barneys River granted. J.W. McKenzie committee. (86) Petition of James McKay and Alex. McQuarrie Lorne for separate road limits, recommended that the road be included in highway limits beginning at Hugh Fraser's south line, granted. (87) Charles Fraser and others for division of road limits deferred to May term. (89) Petition of Thomas Gilchrist and others of River John Road for change of road limits from Thomas Murray's West line to his East line deferred to the May term. (90) Petition of Alex McHandy and Daniel McDonald for new road limits from School House, Vale Colliery to Sherbrooke Road. Petition Granted. Council adjourned until two o'clock.

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Council met at 2 p.m.

Minutes of forenoon meeting read and approved.

The Warden read the letter from Mr. W. H. Harris tendering his resignation as commissioner of the court house on account of old age and infirmities. The Warden suggested that the Committee on Nominations take a note of the matter. Suggestion approved.

Report of the Committee on Assessments handed to the Warden. Moved by Coun. Hugh S. Fraser, seconded by Coun. Angus McMillan, that the report be received; motion carried. The Warden read the report.

We, your Committee on Assessment, after due deliberations on the several matter brought before us, beg leave to submit for your consideration the following report, viz:

1<sup>st</sup> We recommend that the following amounts be struck off the several assessment rolls for the year 1882:

Assessment Roll: Poll Sec. No. 1 (Pictou Island); \$2.83; (Fishers Grant), \$9.69; 2- \$14.40; 3 - \$29.65; 4 - \$13.01; 5 - \$16.03; 6 - \$20.82; 7 - \$9.92; 8 - \$28.41; 9 - \$3.04; 10 - \$2.94; 11 - \$4.56; 12 - \$16.07; 13 - \$9.10; 14 - \$13.02; 15 - \$18; 16 - \$12.51; 17 - \$18.22.

Assessment Roll Poll Sec. No. 18 - \$7.12; 19 - \$12.62; 20 - \$42.23; 21 - \$18.09; 22 - \$9.83; 23 - \$50.55; 24 - \$6.67; for the year 1881, 24 - \$3.09. Total \$392.39

Your committee find that out of the above amount the sum of \$72.70 are taken on Non-Resident land distributed over the several districts as follows:

Polling Dis. No. 2 - \$10.29; 3 - \$6.92; 4 - \$3.45; 7 - \$1.50; 8 - \$21.29; 9 - \$8.05; 10 - \$2.64; 12 - \$3.57; 16 - \$4.13; 21 - \$3.50; 22 - \$3.53; 23 - \$4.00 Total \$72.78

Your committee would recommend that the County Treasurer be directed to keep a record of the said amount of taxes due from Non-Resident Lands, as directed by Sec 42 and 43, Chap. 21, Revised Statutes, Fourth Series.

Your committee having examined the several petitions laid before them would recommend that action be taken on them as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> – Petition of D.W. McDonald and D.A. McPhee, school teachers, asking for refundment of taxes paid by them.

Your committee would recommend that petition be not granted, believing that the Acts of 1880-1 render, School teachers liable to pay taxes for all assessable property.

2<sup>nd</sup> – Petition of J. McIntosh and law applying for return of money paid for excessive taxation in 1882.

Said petition deferred till May term

3<sup>rd</sup> – Petition of J. McIntosh and Dewar for reduction on valuation of assessment for the year 1883.

Recommend it be deferred till May term.

4<sup>th</sup> – Petition of Messrs Allan, John and Alex. McKenzie, in asking for reduction of valuation of assessment.

Petition not filed on affidavit, therefore not recommended.

5<sup>th</sup> – Petition of James McDonald, Poll. Sec. No. 20, asking for refundment of \$4.00 taxes, claiming that he over valued.

Petition not recommended, not having been filed on affidavit.

7<sup>th</sup> – Petition of Edmund D. Stewart, asking for return of money, claiming to have paid taxes on the same property in Sec. No. 5 and 24.

Deferred till May term.

7<sup>th</sup> – Withdrawn

8<sup>th</sup> – Petition of John J. Sutherland, Barney's River, asking for reduction of \$150.00 in valuation of property.

Recommended to be deferred till May term.

9<sup>th</sup> – Petition of Michael Patterson, Poll sec. No. 20, asking for refundment of taxes paid for 1880.

Petition not filed on affidavit, and no clause shown should be granted. Therefore not recommended.

10<sup>th</sup> – Petition of John Urquart, asking for the refundment of the sum of \$2.72 of uncollectible taxes paid the County Treasurer by mistake.

Recommended that the petition be granted and said amount be charged back to Sec. No. 17.

11<sup>th</sup> – Petition of D.W. Fraser, Collector of Sec. No. 18, asking for refundment of the sum of \$7.91 of uncollectible taxes paid the County Treasurer by the sureties in his absence.

Recommended that the petition be granted and that the said amount be charged back to said Section No. 18.

12<sup>th</sup> – In the matter of the of protest of Rate-Payers of Polling District No. 20, against the proceedings of Council in the matter of returning "Dead Bill" to the several Sections to be added to the following years taxes.

Said protest not considered, law already providing for such cases.

In the case of the late John McDonald, Collector of Polling District 19, which shows by the Treasurer's report a balance due the County of \$214.00. After deducting the amount of \$45.31 of uncollectible taxes still leaves a balance due the County of \$168.79. His son, Alexander McDonald, appearing before the committee, who was appointed Collector in January meeting of Council last past, states that from the manner in which the rolls and accounts were kept, he is unable to collect the outstanding debt. The said Alexander McDonald agreeing to become responsible for the one half of the said \$168.79. Your committee recommend that the said offer be accepted, and that the bill of \$45.31 of uncollectible taxes be charged to the said Poll Sec. No 19 and the rolls be discharged.

Your committee would recommend that hereafter collectors be more punctual in the discharge of their duty and comply more fully with their instructions by having their several accounts settled at the end of the year.

Also would recommend that the Assessors appraise the property in their respective Districts nearer to a cash value that they have hitherto been accustomed to do. A few instances have been brought to the notice of your committee, which cite for example: The Nova Scotia Forge Company's property, \$8,000.00; The Glass Company, \$4,000.00; The Steel Company, \$2,000.00; and many other cases which is generally believed to be far below the average assessed value.

Your committee respectfully bring to your notice that residents in the corporated towns owning real estate in Country Districts refuse to pay the taxes levied on such property and eventually go to sum up the amount of "Dead Bill".

Therefore recommended that your special committee on Assessment Law give the matter their due consideration.

Your Committee recommend that the following orders be passed, viz:

Ordered that the County Treasurer pay to John Urquhart, or order, out of the County Fund the sum of \$2.72 and that the said ....[the last line is missing]

Ordered that the County Treasurer pay to D.W. Fraser or order the sum of \$7.91, out of the County fund and that he said sum be charged to Poll. Sec. No. 18.

All of which we respectfully submit.

DAVID FERGUSON  
THOS. MCDONALD  
JOHN D.FRASER

Moved by Coun. McColl, seconded by Coun. Angus McMillan, that the report be adopted. Motion carried.

Moved by Coun. McColl, seconded by Coun. Wm. Smith, that the County Treasurer be authorized to take action on that part of the Assessment Committee's report in reference to the amount lost by John McDonald, late collector of Sec 19 and take security from Ales. McDonald for the amount therein mentioned. Motion carried.

The chairman of the Law Amendment Committee read their report. Moved and carried that the report be laid over till tomorrow.

Report of the Committee on Poor was read by the Warden. Moved and carried that the report be laid over till tomorrow.

Coun. McColl gave notice to the council that tomorrow he will move a resolution the tenor of which is as follows: to memorialize the Provincial Government to make the Poor a county

charge, also for authority to issue debentures, payable in thirty years, to establish proposed poor house and farm if necessary.

Coun. McColl drew the attention of the Warden to the case of a criminal who was brought back from Halifax to the Pictou jail, and will likely remain in jail for eighteen months longer, the expense of which is paid by the county, whereas it should be paid by the Dominion Government.

Another partial report from the Committee on Roads and Bridges was read by the Warden. Moved and carried that the report be received and adopted. Motion carried. Report is as follows:

Your committee on Roads and Bridges having carefully examined all the Road Returns handed to us for that purpose find that there is room for improvement still. Numbers are imperfectly filled in, others made no return of labor performed in their proper columns, and in many instances we could not discover whether work was actually performed or not.

Out of the 582 Road Returns, 57 are missing as follows – Section 2-31, 30. 3-49, 54, 61, 65, 72, 75. 5-103, 119, 6-136, 161, 7-183, 184, 193. 8-2113. 9-222, 224, 226, 247. 10-256, 274, 282, 285, 11-292, 294 298, 299, 302, 12-311. 13-321, 151-351, 361, 369, 371. 16-388, 402, 17-409. 18-433, 439, 441, 444, 445, 447, 451, 454, 455, 459, 461, 462, 463, 464. 19-468. 20-496, 508. 21-517, 532, 24-574.

In limits 571, 394, 101, 249, 18, 249, 485, work has only been partially performed, so far as can be inferred.

James McLean, Road Limit 324 returned \$2.25, and Alex Reid, Limit 74, returned \$1.75 of commutation money, which were deposited with the Municipal Clerk to be expended upon the roads under the direction of the Council.

Among the many errors, a very common one is the exemption of property holders from the commutation of labor on account of ill-health, sometimes by consent of Road Overseer, and other times by Doctor's Certificates. Your committee sees no reason why, on account of sickness, any person should be exempt from paying his property tax, and see no authority why a Road Overseer or Doctor can exempt such persons from such labor. Among the 55 petitions for private labor, very few have specified the number of days which they had to perform according to order of last January.

Recommended that the Councilors of each Section notify all surveyors who have not sent in their Returns to do so before May term, with the explanations, and in default, that the Municipal Clerk be authorized to deal with them as the law directs.

Recommended also that the day of meeting with persons appointed to distribute Statute Labor instructions be on the first Monday of May at 10 A.M.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

A.J. MCKAY

JOHN ROD'K MCDONALD

JOHN MCDONALD

Wm. SMITH

ROBERT MAXWELL

Council adjourned.

Jan 17<sup>th</sup>

Council opened at 10 a.m. Roll called all the councilors answered to their names. Minutes of yesterday afternoon's session read and approved without any alteration. The Warden read the report of the committee on law amendments. The report is as follows:

“That before suggesting any modification or amendment, we attempt to carry out the present Assessment Act except as stated below. 1<sup>st</sup>, that the opinion of the law officers of the crown be had as to what constitutes personal property or goods and chattels, and that the instructions of the assessors be amended in accordance therewith.

2<sup>nd</sup> That the County Council be empowered to form a scale for the valuation of all cattle, horses, sheep, swine, farm produce, and farm utensils.

3<sup>rd</sup> That the law be so amended that the tenant and proprietor be both assessed, and if the taxes be not collected from the tenant the property be held for the taxes, or if the proprietor be a resident of any incorporated town, the taxes be held as a charge against the property or collectable in the same way from the proprietor as if he resided in the district.

4<sup>th</sup> Assessors to be instructed to carry out sections 88 and 89 of County Assessment Act in reference to coal and joint stock companies.

5<sup>th</sup> That the Council be given power to appoint one, two, or three assessors for each polling section and otherwise to regulate the system of making the system of assessment as circumstances may demand.

6<sup>th</sup> That the law be amended so that the Assessor must make his returns on or before the 31<sup>st</sup> of December of each year.

JEFF. MCCOLL,  
JOHN D. FRASER  
JOHN ROD. MCDONALD  
Wm. F. CAMERON  
ROBT. DEWAR

It was moved and carried that the report be taken no clause by clause.

1<sup>st</sup>, clause passed as recommended.

2<sup>nd</sup>, clause raised some discussion. Coun. Donald Fraser. Sec.2, showed that there is a good deal of difference of value in cattle, some cows being worth twice as much as others and that a fixed scale of values would be prejudicial. He thought a fixed value on all unimproved lands would be more equitable. Coun. John D. Fraser contended that there were great differences between the values of unimproved lands as in cattle. Coun. John McDougald, M.P., said that a tabulated scale for stock or any chattels would not be consistent with the present assessment law. Clause passed as recommended.

3<sup>rd</sup>, clause passed.

4<sup>th</sup>, Moved and carried that the 4<sup>th</sup> clause be erased.

5<sup>th</sup> clause passed.

6<sup>th</sup> clause, moved by Coun. McColl seconded by David Ferguson that the clause be amended by substituting 15<sup>th</sup> Dec. for 31<sup>st</sup> Dec. Motion carried. Report adopted as amended.

Report of the Committee on poor which was held over from last evening for consideration was taken up by the Warden. Moved and carried that the report be taken up clause by clause.

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON POOR

To the Warden and Members of the Municipal Council of the County of Pictou, January term, 1883.

We your committee on Poor; beg leave to report that we have examined the returns of the Overseers of Poor as handed to us with the following results. If returns have been sent in from all the sections, though some sections have been very tardy in doing so.

On Sec. 1 there is a bal. of \$5.84 due Overseers, There is an account of \$20.00. Not received.

In Sec. 2 there is a bal. on hand of \$131.68  
 In Sec. 3 there is a bal. on hand of \$52.62  
 In Sec. 4 there is a bal. due Overseers of \$2.64  
 Return not signed by Overseers  
 In Sec. 5 there is a balance on hand of \$35.70  
 In Sec. 6 there is a bal. on hand of \$21.29  
 In Sec. 7 there is a balance on hand of \$25.26  
 Return not signed  
 In Sec. 8 there is a balance on hand of \$31.08  
 In Sec.9 there is a balance on hand of \$18.75  
 In Sec. 10 there is a balance due Overseers \$71.61  
 In Sec. 11 there is a balance on hand of \$39.16  
 In Sec. 12 there is a balance on hand of \$7.26  
 In Sec. 13 (Churchville) bal on hand of \$23.17  
 In Sec. 13 (Fr. Mtn.) balance on hand of \$[??]  
 The returns of this section not well arranged.  
 In Sec. 14. there is a balance on hand of \$9.59  
 About 10 percent is charged for collecting  
 In Sec. 15 bal. on hand of \$81.26  
 In Sec. 16 bal. on hand of \$95.99  
 In Sec. 17 balance due Overseers \$7.79  
 In Sec. 18 bal. on hand of \$340.95  
 In Sec. 19 bal. on hand \$12.19  
 In Sec. 20 bal on hand \$6.83  
 In Sec. 21 bal. due on Overseers \$27.73  
 Returns not signed by Overseers  
 In Sec. 22 bal. on hand \$13.49  
 In Sec. 23 bal. due Overseers \$143.63  
 In Sec. 24 bal on hand \$8.16

Some of the returns appear to be signed in the same hand-writing and your committee would call the attention of Councilors to this matter, and see that the practice is not continued.

There is nothing in the accounts before us to show whether the whole of the bills have been collected or not.

The accounts of many sections are not kept so well as they should be and we would recommend that the Councilors should see all the Poor accounts for their sections before being forwarded to the Clerk, so that he could have put in proper order, and also be enabled to give the committee any explanation required.

We would recommend that so long as the present system is continued a book be kept in the Clerk's office in which the accounts of each section shall be entered so that the committee may see at once the whole matter of the Poor in former years.

The petition of George McLeod of Section 2 asking for relief from certain rent referred to us we would recommend to the favorable consideration of the Overseers of the Poor of that Section and hope that he shall see fit to reduce the rent, but your committee feel that the Council has no legal control over the matter. We would ask your assent to the following sums to be assessed on the several sections for the support of the poor for the year 1883:

No. 1, \$300; No. 2, \$50; No. 3, \$300; No.4 \$55; \$1,200

No. 5 \$0; No. 6, \$50; No. 7 \$450; No. 8 \$250;	\$830
No. 9 \$550; No. 10 \$320 No. 11 \$160; No 12 \$225	\$1205
No. 13 (Churchville), \$143; No. 13, (Fr. Mt.) \$100; No. 14 \$120	\$365
No. 15 \$60; No. 16, \$50; No. 17 \$250; No. 18 \$250;	\$510
No. 19 \$160, No. 20 \$100; No. 21 \$250; No. 22 \$70;	\$580
No. 23, \$800; No. 24 \$160;	\$900
Total amount to be assessed	<hr/> \$5,740

The overseers of Section 24 are required to pay the Clerk and Treasurer of Section 21 the sum of \$68.00 as their proportion of the cost of the keeping of the poor of Section 21. The same to be pardon on or before the 1<sup>st</sup> December 1883.

With reference to the matter of amounts due by friends of patients in the Lunatic Asylum, we find the sum amounts to \$242.86 of this sum \$42.06 has been paid in lately, and the sum of \$25.00 is not yet due, leaving a bal. of \$215.80 still due most of which has been standing on the Treasures Book for some years. We would recommend that the Treasurer be authorized to collect this balance at once, of from the information he can obtain from the councilors from the sections to which they belong, he finds there is any probability of collecting the amounts, otherwise that their names be struck off the Books.

The Resolution of the Town Meeting of Sec. 19 and letter from the Agricultural Society of New Glasgow, together with a resolution of said society, asking that a county poor house be established in the county and that a model or stock farm be attached thereto has had our serious consideration. In connection with this matter, the fact that a large number of the harmless insane now in the asylum in Dartmouth at a very large cost of the county, will likely be sent back to the municipality shortly. For the simple reason on that there is not sufficient room for them in the asylum, has had a large influence on what we propose recommending as the insane are a county charge we see no reason why the poor should not also be made a county charge.

We would recommend:

1<sup>st</sup>, that a committee be appointed to take the whole matter of a county poor house, with or without a model of stock farm into careful consideration and report to the council at the May meeting with all the information they can collect and that their report be prepared and published in the newspapers of the county, at least three weeks before the meeting of the council in May so that the councilors may be prepared to discuss, and act on it at once. 2<sup>nd</sup>. That this committee also report the probable cost of a building with grounds attached, to accommodate our harmless insane should the council not agree to the proposal of a county poor house at present; at the same time keeping in view the probability of its being enlarged into a county poor house. 3<sup>rd</sup>. That this committee, if appointed be instructed to confer with the town council of Pictou, and New Glasgow, and see if they would agree to join with the county in the matter of a county poor house with or without a Model or Stock Farm attached.

All of which is respectfully submitted

James R. Collie

Jeff McColl

John R. McDonald objecting to last clause on Section 3  
1<sup>st</sup> clause, adopted as recommended.

2<sup>nd</sup> clause, Coun. Donald Fraser said in reference to the 2<sup>nd</sup> clause, that the county has plenty of ground and perhaps buildings in both Pictou and New Glasgow, suitable in the meantime to accommodate the poor. Coun. Fraser said that he would do all his power to keep the institution out of either of the towns, as the ground the county owns in said Towns, is much too valuable for that purpose and that it should be established in a country district, passed as recommended. 3<sup>rd</sup> clause Coun. Robert Maxwell moved as an amendment that the 3<sup>rd</sup> clause be struck out, but on being informed that the clause was not binding, withdrew the amendment passed as recommended.

Moved and carried that the report be adopted as a whole.

The following resolution was moved by Coun. McColl and seconded by Coun. J. D. Fraser. That the Legislature should be applied to this winter for an Act to make the Poor a county charge, authorizing the purchasing, building and equipping of a County Poor House, with or with a Model or Stock Farm attached, if the Council in May should decide to do so; and also that the County be authorized to issue debentures to the extent of – thousand dollars, payable in thirty years, bearing interest at 5 per cent, if necessary. Coun. Robert Dewar thought that it was a serious matter to take action upon in the meantime, the people not being aware that the subject was before the Council. Coun. John McDougald thought that the resolution was immature and that it was of no use to ask the Legislature for authority to issue debentures, not knowing that the Council at the May term will decide to establish such an institution; Also that he was of opinion that the Council already had the power to make the Poor a county charge. Coun McColl drew attention to the large amount of poor rates paid by Section 1, on account of some public works being there, Westville being another case of the same kind. Coun. John Rod. McDonald said that the people of those sections have greater opportunities to earn money than the people of sections such as his own. Coun. John Ferguson said that many of the employees those in works belong to other sections of the county and that it was hard that the farmers in the vicinity of those works should have to pay high poor rates on their account. Coun. Angus Davies said that there is no public works in his section and that it is the heaviest taxed. Coun. J.R. McPherson did not think that the public works in his section increased the poor rates one dollar. There was some discussion on the exemption of public works from paying poor rates. Coun. McColl remarking that such works as the H & C B. Railroad will from accidents to employees be likely to add to the poor rates. Coun. Robert Dewar said that the people, especially of the eastern part of the county, are leaving their farms and are flocking into towns and villages that in all probability there will soon be a depression in the mining and manufacturing districts and it is very hard if those who remain on their farms will have to help to support them in times of depression. Moved by Coun. John McDougald and seconded by A.J. McKay, as an amendment to Coun. McColl's resolution, that the consideration of the resolution be deferred to the May term. Councilors McDoll, Meikle and A.J. McKay wished that the names of councilors voting for or against the amendment be taken. For the amendment, Councilors Donald Fraser, John Sutherland, J.R. Collie, A.J. McKay, J. Rod McDonald, David Ferguson, H.S. Fraser, Angus Davies, Robert Maxwell, J.R. McDonald, Angus MacMillan, John R. McPherson, Thomas McDonald, James C. McKay, John McDonald, Wm. F. Cameron, Wm. Smith, Robert Dewar, John McDougald, and David Meikle. Against councilors John Ferguson, Jeff McColl, John D. Fraser, Rod. McDougald. For the amendment twenty against four.

The following resolution was moved by Coun. McColl, seconded by J. Rod. McDonald.

That a committee be appointed to act in connection with committees that may be appointed by the Town Councils of Pictou and New Glasgow to take into consideration the question as to whether the cost of maintaining criminals in the county jail, and other charges in connection with the administration of justice should be a county charge or a claim against the Dominion Government, and that the committee communicate with the Attorney General of the Province, and the Minister of Justice of the Dominion on the subject. And further that the committee report at the May meeting of the Council, a copy of this resolution to be forwarded to the Town Councils of Pictou and New Glasgow.

Motion carried. Council adjourned till 2 p.m.

Council met again at 2 p.m., Minutes of forenoon's meeting read by the Clerk and adopted as read. Coun. Dewar brought a matter before the Council anent Statute Labor. He would like that regulations be made whereby overseers of roads could repair roads more than once in the year. These are, he said, on many of the roads in the county loose and fixed stones, which are left there from year to year which make the handling of loads very difficult, and entail great wear and tear on vehicles. It was moved and carried that the Council adjourn for one hour to enable some of the committees to get through with their reports. At half past three the Warden declared the Council open. The Warden read the following resolution, moved by Coun. David J. Meikle. Whereas much inconvenience and injury is caused to the traveling public by rolling and projecting stones on the highways, and

Whereas from inadvertence and other causes the surveyors of highways fail to remove them.

Therefore resolved that the Road Boards instruct their superintendents to expend a sum not exceeding one hundred dollars for their removal. It was moved as an amendment that the resolution be deferred until the May term. Amendment carried.

The following order was read by the Warden; In the matter of the support of old partners between Polling District No. 21 and No. 24, resolved that the following order is passed.

Ordered that the Overseers of Poor of Polling District No. 24, pay to the Clerk and Treasurer of the Poor in Polling District No. 24 the sum of \$68.00 for the support of Poor in said District No. 21, said sum to be paid said Clerk and Treasurer on or before the 1<sup>st</sup> day of December, 1883.

Signed

JOHN D. FRASER

DAVID J. MEIKLE

Order passed.

The Warden read the report of the committee on Public Property.

Your committee on Public Property beg to report as follows:

First. They are much pleased to find that during last summer the new Court House has been thoroughly repaired, and, though the expenditure far exceeds the estimates, yet we are of the opinion that the Commissioners acted wisely in getting the necessary repairs done in a thoroughly workman-like manner, and is not likely to cost the county more for many years to come. The Commissioners recommend to fence the grounds around the Court House, which they estimate at about Fifty Dollars, but your committee would not recommend the erect on of such a fence at present.

Second. The old Court House and Goal are in good repair, and order no further repairs required this term. All the rooms and cells are clean and orderly, and no complaints against the keeper.

Third. The Market House is not in good condition, but your committee would not ask for any expenditure this term.

Fourth. It has been brought to the notice of your committee that the Ice Boat belonging to the county has been taken, and considerably damaged, by parties unknown, and is now useless unless repaired. Therefore we would recommend that the said Boat be handed over to the Pictou Town Council, should the said Council undertake to repair it and keep it in readiness, in case of emergency, for the benefit of the town and county. But should the Town Council not agree to the above terms, we would recommend that said boat be sold at public auction for the benefit of the county.

Fifth. The Lockup at River John is reported, by the Councilor of the district to be in good repair and condition, which is very satisfactory. There is no report from Westville Lockup. There is no expenditure.

Sixth. Your Committee had two offers laid before them in reference to leasing the New Glasgow Market House in part or the whole with the grounds. Also a petition from William McDonald, asking the Council for renewal of his lease on the same terms as last year, and also that he would keep the market free of charge, subject to the market regulations. We also recommend that Wm. McDonald's petition be granted.

- (1.) Your committee are of opinion that portion or part of the market occupied by the County be continued as formerly, by the County.
- (2.) That the upper flat should be leased to the Town Council of New Glasgow for a period of twenty years, subject to the following terms – That the Town Council of New Glasgow will furnish the upper flat of the building for a Town Hall and keep the building insured and in good repair, also allow the county the use of the same for meetings for owner purposes. But should the county require the said building and Hall previous to the expiration of twenty years, the said County to remunerate the said Town Council, as may be deemed just and equitable, for the remaining part of the term, and should the Town of New Glasgow fail to keep the said building according to contract, the same shall revert to the County.

Your committee would further recommend, that should the Town Council of New Glasgow not comply with or accept the foregoing suggestions, that the offer of John C. Reid and Thomas B. Smith of New Glasgow be accepted, upon the same terms and subject to the same conditions.

The petition of the Stipendiary Magistrate, Stellarton Police District, is before us, setting forth the absolute necessity of a lockup being built within said district, and respectfully solicits an appropriation by your Council for the same.

The manager of the Halifax Coal Company offers a free site or lot whereon to build said Lockup. Your committee would recommend that the sum of Eight Hundred Dollars be assessed on the County for that purpose as follows: Four Hundred Dollars in 1883, and Four Hundred Dollars in 1884.

Respectfully submitted  
Donald Fraser  
Jas. C. McKay

Moved, seconded, and carried that the report be adopted as a whole.

Jan. 18<sup>th</sup>

Council opened at the usual hour. Roll called and all the councilors present except Coun. Jeffrey McColl. Minutes of yesterday afternoon's session read and approved.

The following resolution was moved by Coun. Donald Fraser, and seconded by Coun. Wm. Smith, the two oldest Justices of the peace in the Council; "Resolved, that the resignation of W.H. Harris, Esq., as commissioner of the Court House, be accepted, and that this Council record their high appreciation of his faithful and devoted services as a County officer through a long series of years."

Resolution passed unanimously.

The Nominating Committee proposed the following Councilors as a committee on County Poor House and Asylum: - Councilors J.R. Collie, Jeffrey McColl, John McDougald, William Smith.

On County charges for administration of Justice: - Councilors Alex J. McKay, John Rod'k McDonald, Jeffrey McColl, John McDougald, Rod'k McDougald.

Motion carried unanimously.

Coun. John McDougald, M.P., read the County Auditor's report.

Read also as the chairman of the Committee on Finance, their report, which was very important, be laid on the table for consideration. Motion carried.

The Councilors being engaged looking over reports and in committee work, there was nothing further done. At half-past twelve the Council adjourned until two o'clock.

Council met at half-past two. Minutes from the forenoon read and approved.

The Warden took up the report of the Committee on Finance, and, after some explanation was given about some items which a few of the Councilors thought excessive, was adopted as a whole, motion being put to that effect and carried. An abstract of the report are as follows: -

The Auditor's Report finds the accounts of the Municipal Clerk and Treasurer correct, and winds up with the following remarks: "It is evident that the interests of the municipality are well protected in their hands. We mention the case of the jury called for the second week of the Supreme Court, October Term last, being notified by the Clerk in time to prevent their attendance when not required, thereby saving the Municipality a large sum. And finally we would respectfully call your attention to the small salary paid those efficient officers.

DAVID W. KEAN

FRED W. FRASER

Auditors

The Committee on Finance recommend that the following accounts be paid: - To Assessors, \$487; for Municipal Presiding Officers, \$103.50; to medical men, \$105; to Justices of the Peace, \$61.92; to Prothonotary and Clerk of the Crown, \$171.96; to Constables, \$113.28; to D.T. Cameron, per accounts, \$61.20; to Wm. H. Harris, Sheriff per account; \$170; to N.P. Olding, board of prisoners & c. \$272.25; to Joseph Baxter, board of prisoners, & c. \$516.75; to Wm. H. Harris, commissioner court house, \$196.15; to D. Matheson and C.W. Ives, commissioners repairing court house \$559.85; to M. Sutherland and John Brown, commissioners Westville lock-up, \$27.17; Pictou Market \$40; N. Glasgow, do \$30; for printing, \$180.97; for laying off roads in 1882, \$224.20; for miscellaneous services, \$71.59; to Dr. C.H. Munro, expenses on account of small-pox \$357.08; for revising jury lists, \$65.70; to Treasurer on account of Road and Bridge service, \$81.58; to Wm. Baxter, for refund of amount taken off his award for E. Extension Railway damages, \$150, to the Warden, allowance for office expenses

for 1882, \$25; for Cariboo Island ferryman, \$20; for Reporter, January term, 1883, \$25; Total; \$4,117.95.

From the remainder of the report we select, also recommended that \$450 be assessed on Westville Police Division for police purposes for the current year (1883); that hereafter no jail fees be paid by the County, and that the salaries of County officers for 1883 be fixed as follows:

- The Sheriff, as jailor at Pictou and for keeping Old Court House, attending criminal suits, & c.....	\$200
County Treasurer, for salary, postage.....	420
County Auditors.....	40
Sheriff for services.....	130
Sheriff as jailor for Pictou.....	200
Jailor at New Glasgow.....	200
Jailor at Westville.....	100
Jailor at River John.....	60
Clerk of the Market, Pictou.....	40
Revisers.....	180
Assessors.....	500
Collectors.....	750
Wardens and Councilors.....	700
Expenses of Inquests.....	150
Removing Lunatics.....	250
Lunatic Asylum.....	6,750
Petit Jurors.....	400
Grand Jurors.....	200
Public Buildings, for insurance, fuel repairs & c.....	500
Printing stationary postage, & c.....	250
Road Damages and Committees.....	500
Bushing Ice.....	100
Board and bedding for prisoners.....	700
Civil and criminal prosecutions.....	350
Contingencies.....	300
Old Debt.....	1,000
For Lock-up House at Stellarton.....	400
For Schools.....	10,660
To pay debentures and interest for Eastern Extension Railway damages to be levied as apportioned by Municipal Council 16 <sup>th</sup> Jan. 1882.....	6849
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Total amount to be assessed on the County for 1883.....	\$33,184

The Chairman of the Nominating Committee read their report anent County officers. The put down no name as Reviser for Sec. 15 as a letter was brought before the Council complaining against Mr. W.G. Johnston, the Reviser appointed by the section, and wishing the Council to decide who would be appointed Reviser for that section. Coun. John R. McPherson did not think that the complaint brought before the Council against Mr. W.G. Johnston was any reason why he should not be Reviser and that at the Section meeting there was not one dissenting voice against his appointment. It was moved and carried that the name of Mr. W.G. Johnston be added to the

list of Revisers. It was moved that the report be adopted as a whole. The Warden endorsed the papers from each Section separately.

The following resolution was moved by Coun. McColl, and seconded by Coun. John D. Fraser. That the Legislature be applied to, to pass an act giving the County Council power, to appoint one or more Stipendiary Magistrates in each County. Motion carried.

The Warden said that bondsmen of the County Treasurer would require to be approved of before the court.

The Committee on Roads and Bridges handed in the Warden a complete report. They had made several partial reports on previous days of the session. Moved and carried that the report be adopted as a whole as marked within.

The following resolution was moved by Coun. Donald Fraser, seconded by Coun. John D. Fraser: -

“Whereas the Pictou Agricultural Society has passed a resolution appointing a committee to procure and distribute information anent the potato beetle and the best method of destroying the same:

\*there is a line missing from the book that is totally unreadable\*

Resolved that the Councilor of each district be a committee to co-operate with and assist the said committee in the distributing of such information. Resolution passed.

The County Treasurer handed to the Warden the names of his bondsmen, who are as follows: - Hon. R.P. Grant, Mr. William McQuarrie and Mr. Isaac A. Grant, who were unanimously approved of.

Council adjourned till ten o'clock tomorrow.

Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>

Council opened at 10 a.m. Roll called, all the Councilors were present.

Coun. McColl gave satisfactory reasons for being absent from yesterday's forenoon's session and was excused from attendance.

Minutes of last afternoon's meeting were read and adopted.

The following resolution was moved by Coun. John McDougald, M.P. and seconded by Coun. J.R. Collie.

“Be it ordered that Sect. 3 of By-Law V, be appealed, and the following substituted therefore, viz: - The Overseers of Poor for the different districts, with the assistance of the Clerk or Treasurer, shall on or before the first day of the semi-annual meeting of the Council (in May) in each, render to the Clerk of the Municipality their accounts, with the necessary vouchers for the support of the poor up to the 30<sup>th</sup> day of April last, proceedings to be audited, examined and passed by the Council; and they shall also lay before the Council at the same time a correct statement of the number of poor in the several districts, and the sum required to support them.” Resolution passed. Moved and carried that the resolution be published along with Town officers list.

The following are the names of places where the Councilors will deliver instructions to Surveyors of Highways in their several Districts: Sec. 1 Pictou Island, at residence of Mr. Andrew Hogg; Sec. 1 Fisher's Grant, at residence of Matthew Sproul; Sec. 2 Three Brooks, Carriboo; Sec. 3, Holmes Schoolhouse; Sec. 4 Town hall, River John; Sec. 5 at the Councilors residence; Sec. 6 forenoon at Carson's, afternoon at R.T. Young's; Sec. 7 at residence of Alex

McKay, Esq. Mount Thom; Sec. 10 at residence of Richard Fraser, Esq. Mill Brook; Sec. 11 at residence of Daniel Sutherland, J.P. ; Sec. 12 at James Arthur's, New Glasgow; Sec. 13 Court House, New Glasgow; Sec. 14 Eastern Hall; Sec. 15, School House, McLellan's Mountain; Sec. 16, Glencoe School-house; Sec. 17 Hopewell; Sec. 18, at residence of Robert Fraser, Esq. Rockwell; Sec. 19 at residence of D.D. McDonald, Esq.; Sec. 20 at residence of Francis McKenzie, Esq., Kenzieville; Sec. 21, Hall, Merigomish; Sec. 22, Lock-up at Westville; sec. 24, at residence of Malcolm Fraser, Esq., Wentworth Grant.

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Robert McNeil *Warden*  
D.W. Matheson *Mun. Clerk*

Court House Pictou  
19<sup>th</sup> January 1883