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**Minutes of County Council
MAY TERM**

Morning Session

Jan'y 6th – Council opened in the usual manner. Roll of Committee was called by the Clerk, the following were absent, J.R. Collie, John R. McPherson, and Robert Dewar.

The Warden read the endorsements on several papers, and afterwards handed them to the proper committees. Then followed some routine work. An abstract of the Treasurer's report was read by the Warden, which gave the following amounts. Amount received since Jan. \$5,776.18, Paid out \$6,097.74. The balance on hand is \$3055.89. It was moved by Coun. John D. Fraser, seconded it by Coun. McColl, that the reporter of the Jan'y term be engaged for the current term. Carried unanimously.

Coun. McColl asked if the Com of Council appointed to look after the interests of the County in the Short Line Railway affair had any report to make. He gave as his reason for putting the question that he had information that the Act concerning it was amended so that contractors could take any material, such as soil, stones, wood & c., for its construction from neighboring lands, and that the county would have to pay the damages to be settled by arbitration. If this were so it was a serious matter for the county.

The Warden and Coun Donald Fraser, two of the com. gave a verbal report. They said that they drove over the line from Tatamagouche to Rogers Hill and were of the opinion that the Co. deserves credit for the care they exercised in keeping clear of valuable property. Coun. Robert Maxwell a contractor corroborated the report of the Warden and Coun. Fraser, saying that in one instance he got the engineer to change the location of the road to save damages on the county.

A letter was read by the Warden from Donald Gray, Esq., one of the Commissioners of Stellarton Police district informing the council that the Com's had purchased a site for the Lockup and accepted a tender for its erection. Also asking power to levy the cost of site on the district.

The Warden said that they (the commissioners) had gone ahead too fast, as the site and plans should have been approved of by the three nearest Councilors. Coun. J.C. McKay said that he site offered by Mr. Rutherford was not considered suitable by the people as it was not in a central place. Coun. Donald Fraser thought it better that Coun. McKay should inform the Commissioners of the view the Council took upon the matter, and that a memorial be got up by the inhabitants of the district. The Warden said that a petition was the regular way for such matters to come before the Council, or that the people would signify their approval by a special public meeting. Coun. Hugh S. Fraser thought the matter was dropped as the appropriation made for it in the estimates was not called for. Coun. McKay explained that it was their opinion that it could be built more cheaply by getting the whole grant at once.

Coun. McColl gave notice of a resolution which he will move tomorrow in reference to the Road Grants which provides for one general supervisor for the whole county with deputies in each section.

Moved, seconded and passed that the Council adjourn till 2 o'clock p.m. to allow the road Boards to meet.

Afternoon Session

Council met at 2 p.m.

Minutes of last meeting read and adopted.

The Warden read a letter which he received from the late Dr. Clay, who was immigration agent at Halifax in which was stated that he had numerous enquiries from persons in the old country, desirous of engaging in sheep farming in this county. He wanted to have an idea of the capabilities of this county for that purpose, also whether the Council would give persons investing capital in the industry a bonus by way of exemption from taxation or otherwise.

Coun. Meikle moved and Coun. David Ferguson seconded that the letter be referred to a special committee to report on. The nom. Com. were instructed to appoint said committee.

Several petitions regarding roads were handed to the Warden who read the endorsements and gave them to the Road Committee.

Coun. Angus McMillan, Sec. 13 asked for information which was the legal assessment list for levying the poor rates on; the one given to the Clerk of Poor by the assessors or the list as altered by the Com. on Assessment. The case in point was this. The proprietors of factories at Trenton appealed to the Com of Assessment from the amounts the sums were lowered by the Com. The Clerk of Poor for that Sec. had no official notice of the reduction and he delayed levying the Poor rates until he would hear from the Council.

Coun David Ferguson said that the Council concurred in the recommendation of the Committee, and if their work would not be sustained there would be no need to ask for persons appealing to come before them. Moved by Coun Angus McMillan, seconded by Coun. Meikle "That the Clerk be instructed to order Andrew Marshall, Clerk of the Poor, for Sec. 13, to levy the poor rates on the reduced valuation of those Factories" carried.

The Warden read a petition from a widow woman residing in Keppoch, stating that she has a son who is insane, although not dangerous, but who is in the cause of considerable trouble in other ways, and praying that the Council investigate the case with the view of giving her some help. Coun John D. Fraser thought it was the duty of the Overseers of Poor to look after the person. Coun Dewar said he knew the persons interested and that the petition stated the case truly. The petition was referred to the Committee on Poor.

The Nom Committee recommended the following Councilors a special Com on Dr. Clay's letter, viz: Donald Fraser, Rod McDougall, Thos McDonald, John R. McDonald and Angus Davies. Recommendations confirmed.

Coun Donald Fraser said that on the death of Mr. Baxter the late jailer, Mr. J.D. McKenzie was appointed in his stead, and Mr. McKenzie made some necessary improvements about the jail, and that he wished to lay the matter before the Council. The Warden said that it was the duty of the Com. on Public Property to attend to it.

The following resolution was moved by Coun, seconded by Coun Wm. Smith.

"Whereas it, has been reported to the Council that amendments have been made to the Short Line Railway Act. (so called), by which the county is made liable for damages to soil & c., which was not provided for in the Original Act. Therefore resolved that the Warden telegraph the Prov. Sec'y to send immediately a certified copy of said Act as passed at the last meeting of the Legislature.

A petition from Wm. F. Shedd regarding building moved on to a road in Pictou Island was handed over to the Com on Roads and Bridges.

The Council adjourned by motion till 10 o'clock tomorrow

Morning Session

Jan'y 7th – Council opened at 10 a.m. All the Councilors were present. Minutes at last meeting read by clerk and adopted.

A postal card from Mr. Underwood, New Glasgow, asking permission to build a shed in connection with the jail at that place was handed to the Com on Public Property.

The Clerk drew attention of the Council to the careless manner in which many papers sent him were made up, it being almost impossible to keep parts of them from getting lost.

The following is the report of the Special Committee on Dr. Clay's Letter: "Your committee to whom was referred Dr. Clay's Letter of the 14th April in relation to lands for stock raising in the county of Pictou, are of the opinion that lands suitable for sheep, and stock farms can be obtained in the following localities in Pictou County, viz – Piedmont Valley, Barney's River, Blue Mountain, East Branch of East River, Mount Thom, and West Branch of River John can be purchased at a rate of \$3.00 to \$4.00 per acre for lands about half cleared and in pasture.

The average price of hay is about \$10 per ton; potatoes and turnips about 25 cents per bushel.

We know of no farms that can be rented, the practice being unusual in this County.

The local taxation in Pictou County is low but capitalists engaged in sheep and stock raising are not entirely exempt from taxes which however are merely nominal.

We recommend that the foregoing information be forwarded to Mr. Clay in reply to his enquiry.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

(Donald Fraser

{ Thomas McDonald

Com { R. McDougall

{ John R. McDonald

{ Angus Davies

The report was received and adopted by motion.

Coun. McColl asked permission to withdraw the motion of which he gave notice to yesterday regarding the supervision of Roads and Bridges. The seconded being willing it was withdrawn.

"Resolved that the Road and Bridge moneys granted by the Legislature to the Municipality of Pictou County be expended under the Supervision of Supervisors of Roads and Bridges."

John McDougald

Jeffrey McColl

Resolution carried.

Moved by Coun McColl, seconded by Coun John McDougald and passed.

"Resolved that the amendments made at May term a.d. 1883 to Bye-Law VI of "Road and Bridge Service" be repeated and that bye-law as in force at the passing of said amendments be adopted."

The Council adjourned till 2 p.m.

Afternoon Session

Council met as per adjournment. Minutes of last meeting read and sustained.

Nothing special being before the Council, the Warden took up a resolution deferred from the January Term to the current term, in reference to the reduction of the number of councilors from twenty-five to thirteen. Coun. Hugh S. Fraser said that the law could not be changed until after the council meets in Jan. 1885, therefore he was in favor of deferring it until then, so that it could come before the people in the interval. Coun Maxwell also wished it to be deferred to the January term for the same reasons, saying that it should be made an issue at the coming election of Councilors. Coun Dewar, the mover of the resolution, thought that it should receive the serious consideration of the council. Coun. McColl was in favor of the resolution, but would add a rider to it that the Mayor of Pictou and the Warden of New Glasgow be members of Council *ex-officio*. Coun. Jno. Ferguson although representing one of the smallest sections was not in favor of the motion. He said that it might effect a small saving in one respect as the work done there could be as well done by fewer persons, but it would likely be counterbalanced by councilors representing districts with which they were unacquainted. Moved by Coun Hugh S. Fraser, seconded by Coun. Maxwell, that the consideration of the motion be deferred till the coming January term. Carried.

Coun John D. Fraser reads a resolution in reference to pounds, which he will move tomorrow morning.

Mr. Bell, M.P.P., being present, on the request of Coun McColl, he was asked to give some explanation regarding the "Bridge Act". Mr. Bell on rising said that he thought the council made a mistake in not taking advantage of the Act to its fullest extent. Pictou of all the counties in the Province were in debt over \$100,000 for road advances made to them. These now have become a Provincial debt on which Pictou Co. pays its share of the interest. Some counties are likely to draw more than their proportion of the money loaned under the Act, which loan will in all probability, become a Provincial debt, so that Pictou County if it does not use its share, will have to pay interest on money used by other counties. The present road grant was entirely inadequate. According to the Provincial Engineer it will take \$1,000,000 to rebuild permanently the bridges required in the province, and is \$500,000 the amount available. Pictou share under the Act is \$40,000 and he strongly advised the council to use it for the reasons he gave. The Warden said that the Council being unacquainted with the provisions of the Act took no action under it at their first meeting after its passage, but that at the last January term resolutions were passed, putting four bridges under the Act. Copies of the resolutions were sent to the Legislature, but no notice had been received by the council of anything being done. The Government Engineer who was expected to come and examine those bridges was not sent as yet. Coun. David Ferguson asked Mr. Bell if the Sawmill Bridge could be put under the Bridge Act. Mr. Bell in reply said that it would require a special act as the Bridge was not built in compliance with it. He said that the Engineer should not be then allowed to disappoint the Council as he has done.

Mr. Bell took the opportunity afforded him of making some remarks on the grant provided in the estimates for the Exhibition purposes. He spoke of its smallness, and urged the council to take a greater interest in matters concerning the welfare of the farmers. Exhibition he said were the best educators and a proper knowledge of farming would do ably enhance the value of every acre of land in the country. The town and citizens of New Glasgow have acted in a liberal manner, so the council should supplement what they have done. If the council do not grant more than it has already granted it should not be hampered with conditions.

Mr. Bell also brought to the notice of the council the case of two of Coun. Maxwell's constituents to whom road advances were made before the county was incorporated, and who did not get paid yet. Coun. Maxwell stated the amounts in question were \$40.00 and \$20.00.

The Warden said the proper way to bring up the matter was by petition.

Council adjourned by motion till 10 o'clock tomorrow,

MORNING SESSION

Jan'y 8th – Council opened at 10 a.m.

Roll called by the Clerk. All the Councilors answered to their names.

Minutes of last meeting were adopted as read.

The resolution in reference to pounds was read by the Warden. Moved by Coun. John McDougald: seconded by Coun Hugh S. Fraser, that it be referred to a special committee. The non-committee recommended the following Councilors who were appointed said Committee, viz.

J.D. Fraser, Wm. Smith, J.R. McPherson, John Rod McDonald and John McDougald. The Report of the Committee on the New Glasgow market was read and laid over by motion till the afternoon.

The following Act was read by Warden which was sent him in answer to his telegram.

House of Assembly, 15th March, 1884

Ordered to be sent to the Council for concurrence.

Signed

Henry C.D. Twining

Clerk

“An Act to amend the Act to incorporate the Great American & European Short Line Railway Company. Be it enacted by the Governor in Council and Assembly as follows:

1. In all cases where land or material has been taken under Section 12, Chapter 70, Revised Statutes “Third Series” by this Company whether taken before or after the passing of this Act, the recompense for injury to the land, and the value of earth, stones or gravel dug or taken away for railway purposes, and for damages to the proprietors or possessor, one by the Warden of the Municipality, they to choose a third, and in the event of their failing to agree upon a third, the same to be appointed on the application of any of the parties interested, by the County Court Judge for the district in which the land in respect to which damages are to be determined shall lie. Two of the said arbitrators may make an award and the award shall be in writing signed by the arbitrators making it. The arbitrators shall be entitled to a fee of one dollar which shall be added to the damages and the whole amount paid by the County with six per cent interest from the filing of the award.
2. Either party may appeal to the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia, according to the provisions of Section 52, Chapter 70, “Third Series”.
3. All Acts or parts of Acts inconsistent with the foregoing are hereby repealed.

28 March 1884

Then passed in Council

Robert Boak

(Sg'd) President

25 March, 1884

Then passed in the House of Assembly

(Sg'd)

A. MCGILLVRAY

Speaker

I hereby certify the foregoing to be true and correct copy of an Act passed as aforesaid.

H. CROSSKILL

D'y Sec'y.

Halifax, 7 May 1884

After the Act was read there followed a considerable discussion on it. Coun. J.D. Fraser thought the only thing that could be done was to file a protest against the action of the Legislature. Coun Dewar blamed the representatives of the county for letting such representatives of the county for letting such an act pass. Coun Donald Fraser did not think that the sub-contractors could take the materials specified therein. Coun John Ferguson knew of a considerable quantity of wood having been taken under the section which this Act revives. Coun John McDougald moved and Coun. Collie seconded as it was a legal question that it be referred to legal counsel. Coun J.R. McPherson knew of unnecessary damage done under Sec 12, chapter 70 of Revised Statutes, was of opinion that action should be taken in the matter immediately. Coun. McColl said that the Council was in a particular position as there was no Short Line Railway now building that they as a Council could not recognize the Co. as such, since they had no deposited their plans in the office of the Registrar of Deeds. He thought that an effort should be made to have the Act disallowed. Coun Collie said that although no plans were registered, it was evident that the road was in course of construction. Coun. McColl would as a last resort rescind the resolution passed in January, 1883, granting the company the Right of Way. He said also that the company could prevented from filing their plans until matters were arranged to the satisfaction of the council.

Coun John McDonald agreed with the proposition to employ the best counsel. The resolution was put before the council and carried unanimously.

The Nom. Committee was instructed to recommend said special committee.

Council adjourned till 2 p.m.

AFTERNOON SESSION

May 8th – Council met at 2 p.m. Minutes of forenoon meeting read and sustained. The Chairman of the Committee on Nominations read their report as follows:

“Your committee on Nominations beg leave to recommend that the following Councilors be a committee that the following Councilors be a committee to report with respect to the Bill amending the Act to Incorporate the Great America and European Short Line Railway Company passed by the Legislature of Nova Scotia in 1884, viz, Donald Fraser, Dr. Collie, Jeffrey McColl, John McDougald and Rod McDougall.

Signed Hugh S. Fraser }
David J. Meikle } Com
John McDougald }

The report of the Committee on Statute Labor returns is as follows:

“To the Warden and Councilors of the Municipality of Pictou. The Committee on Statute Labor Returns beg leave to report that the following Returns have not been received.

In Sec. 10 – 295; Sec. 18 – 437; 435; 440; 448; 449; 464; 465; Sec 20 – 496; 498. We would recommend that the Surveyors of Highways be proceeded against as the law directs, unless that within thirty days from this date the returns be deposited with the Clerk, or satisfactory reasons be given by the Councilors of these districts why such returns have not been made.

Jeffrey McColl
Donald Fraser

The report was received and adopted. Coun. McColl said that Sec. 18 was an exceptional case as some of those returns were supposed to be in the hands of the late Coun. Cameron at the time of his death.

A memorial from the inhabitants of Stellarton, respecting a Lock-up at that place was read and given to the committee on Finance. The following Bridges were put under the Bridge Act by separate resolutions viz: Alma Bridge, Lismore Bridge, McLeod Bridge, Lower French River Bridge, Marshy Hope Road, Bridge at Moore's Ford, W.B. River John, Baillie's Bridge at Cape John, Bridgeville Bridge, New Bridge on road from Vale Colliery to Sherbrooke, Bridge at Gray's, Hopewell Bridge at Sutherlands, Garden of Eden.

The report on the committee on roads is as follows: -

1. Road from Salem Church, Greenhill to Mill Brook, referred back to committee for Jan'y term 1885.
2. Road from Kerr's Middle River to Westville, confirmed.
3. Extension of North Street, Westville.
4. William Dunbar and others against closing road at Hardwood Hill, not granted as proper steps were not taken.
5. Petition of W.F. Shedd, granted.
6. Petition of inhabitants of Bay view for road to shore, not granted.
7. Petition of. Duncan G. Campbell, Glencoe, for closing road, granted.
8. Petition of Duncan C. Grant, Blanchard closing old road, granted
9. Petition of Angus McDonald, French River, for closing old road, granted.
10. Petition of James R. Gammon for closing old road, granted.
11. Petition of residents of West River Station for Pent road, granted J.S. Fraser, Com.
12. Petition of Wm. Bigney, River John for closing old road, granted.
13. Petition of James Ritchie, West Branch for pent road, granted, J.S. Fraser, Com
14. Petition of inhabitants of Union Centre Middle River, for Committee in alteration of site.
15. Petition of inhabitants, Stellarton for street, Halifax Co's office to Railway Station J.S. Fraser, Com.
16. Petition of David A. McLeod, Westville, for Pent road, granted A.W. McBain, com.
17. Petition of John Sutherland, John Munro; and others of Carriboo, for road Albert McKean, Com
18. Petition for street in Westville, granted, A.W. McBain, Com.
19. Petition of inhabitants of Trenton for Supervisor, granted.
20. Petition for alteration of road at Hopewell, not granted.
21. Petition for John McLean, Lorne, Surveyor of Highways, for refund of expenses incurred in prosecuting Overseers of Highways for neglect of duty, the amount to be paid out of the fine money, and the computation money for this year be remitted him by the Overseers.

The Road Grant for the present year is	\$8393.00
To bal, due per Trea. statement	<u>132.64</u>
	\$8525.64

Apportioned as below;

Road Board No. 1,	\$2406.00
“ “ No. 2,	1576.00
“ “ No. 3,	2931.00

“ “ No. 5,

1612.64

\$8525.64

Over expenditure of last year and Treasurer's percentage to become first charge on the grant.

Each petition was taken up separately and passed by motion.

Moved and carried that the Council stand adjourned till 10 o'clock tomorrow.

MORNING SESSION

May 9th – Council opened at 10 a.m. Minutes of last meeting were read and sustained. The Warden read the report of the Committee on the New Glasgow market.

“Your committee appointed to meet with the Committee of the town of New Glasgow beg leave to report as follows. The Committee of the town of New Glasgow have reported to us that they agree to the condition named in the report of your committee made in January last on the subject of the market House, New Glasgow. Under these circumstances, your Committee would recommend that the Warden of the County “be authorized” to complete the transfer of the market property of the said town for themselves and their successors on the conditions named in the report of January past, except that the insurance on the market house may be reduced from five thousand to two thousand dollars and to be leased for a term not to exceed fifty years, and for a fee of twenty-five cents per annum all which is respectfully submitted.”

Donald Fraser

John D. Fraser

“Resolved that the Com's report on New Glasgow market be adopted with this addition that the lease provide for keeping the market building in good repair as at present and that no other buildings be placed on the grounds without the consent of the County Council.

John McDougald

Angus Davies

Motion carried

The special committee on the resolution respecting Pounds, beg, to recommend that the following Resolution be adopted:

Resolved that the By Law XIII of Pounds, be amended by adding the following sections hereto.

Section 6 upon the Petition of Twenty One holders of any Polling District the Warden of the Municipality with the approval of a councilor for such District may grant any pond keeper authority to purchase or lease lands and erect a pound thereon, and the cost thereof not exceeding forty dollars for any pound shall be paid by the County Treasurer, and shall be chargeable to the Polling District in which such pound is situated. The petition aforesaid shall be filed with the County Clerk, and animals may be impounded in any pound erected as above provided.

Section 7, if in any Polling District no pound be erected as above provided, animals may be lawfully impounded in a building or enclosure owned or in possession of a pound keeper in such District provided such building or enclosure be approved by the Warden of the Municipality and by a councilor for the District and a certificate of such approval be filed with the Municipal clerk.

Section 8, all regulations and bylaws of the council inconsistent herewith are repealed.

Respectfully submitted:

John D. Fraser

John McDougald

John R. McDonald
John R. McPherson
William Smith

Moved and carried that it be approved and sent to the Governor in council for his approval.

Moved by Coun. J.D. Fraser, seconded by Coun. Smith, "That two hundred copies of the By Law respecting Pounds when it shall receive the sanction of the Governor in council, be published and at least five be forwarded to each councilor in the Municipality, carried.

Coun. Hugh S. Fraser asked if the Committee on insane were ready to report, Coun. McColl said they were not, but gave some verbal explanations. There was some discussion which several Councilors were not in order as there was nothing tangible before the Council.

"We your Committee on assessment after due deliberation on the several matters brought before us, beg leave to submit the following report."

1. Wm. McDonald Sec No. 17 appeal from assessment made in 1883, said petition withdrawn by said Wm. McDonald, therefore no action taken.

2. John Arthur Sec No. 17. appeal from assessment made in 1883, appeal withdrawn, consequently no action taken.

3. Appeal of Hugh Walker, Sec 20 against an Assessment of \$3.00 made on property which he did not own or occupy at the time said Assessment was levied.

Your committee recommend that as the Collector's Rolls are now in the hands of the Collectors and therefore no action can be taken further then recommend petitioner to apply for refundment of such amount of County Rates, as it overrated and now levied on him, at some future meeting of this Municipal Council.

4. Petition of Wm. J. Irving, Sec. No. 20 for refundment of taxes. Your committee would recommend that the petition be not granted.

5. Petition of Wm. McDonald, Sec. No. 24, for refundment of taxes paid in 1883. Recommended that petition be not granted.

6. Petition of James Sutherland, Sec. No. 20, for reduction of valuation on Assessment Roll for 1883. Would recommend that the petition be not granted.

7. Petition of Peter McIntosh, Sec. No. 21, against illegal Assessment made in 1883. would recommend that the petition be not granted. All of which we respectfully submit.

David Ferguson,
William Smith
Thomas McDonald

Report received and adopted by motion.

EVENING SESSION

May 9th – Council met at 2 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Minutes of forenoon meeting read and adopted.

The Report of the committee on nominations read.

The committee on Nomination beg to submit the following Report: -

We recommend the following persons herein named to be appointed to the several respective offices, viz:

FOR SURVEYOR OF HIGHLANDS

Polling Dis. 1 – For Road limit, No. 1: James Ross vice Alexander McLeod, left county.

District No. 2 – Road limit, No. 19: James Weir vice James D. Clark, left county.

Road limit, No. 35 ½; John Urquhart for Urquhart's road.

District No. 5, Road limit 129; James Cotter vice John Collie, left country.

District No. 6 – Road limit 151; John Carson vice Geo. McLean, left country.
 Road Limit 160; David Munro vice George Sutherland
 District No. 7, Road Limit, No. 170; Wm. Stevenson vice Edwin Reid, released from office
 Road Limit, No. 176; Joseph McLean vice D. Campbell
 Road Limit, No 176 ½ ; Duncan Campbell from D. McLean’s to cross road at Rod McKenzie’s
 Road Limit, No. 186; James McLean vice Frank McLean, absent.
 Road Limit, No. 190; Donald McQuarrie vice Daniel Cameron, deceased.
 Polling Dis. No. 9 – For Road Limit, No. 236; John Williams vice Mr. McLeod, left county.
 Road Limit 241; Geo. McGillivray, vice Road McGillivray, left County.
 Road limit No 245; Kenneth D. Munroe vice Wm. McBeth, left District
 District No. 15 – Road limit No. 352; John N. McDonald vice Thos McLeod left district.
 District No. 16 – Road Limit No. 385 Isaac McKay vice R. Taylor, deceased.
 Dis. No. 19 – Road Limit No. 469; John Cameron vice Angus Chisholm, over age
 Road Limit No. 471; Peter McLellan’s vice Donald McEachern, over age.
 Road Limit No. 582; David Sutherland, from D. Sutherlands to J. McLeod’s road.
 Polling Dis. No. 8 – Road Limit No. 198; from Jas. Fraser’s point to Douglas Road including
 School House Road, John W. Fraser vice Dan Ross
Assessors of Polling District – No. 1 – David McDonald vice A. McLeod, left county
Surveyors of lumber for Polling District, No. 9 – Daniel Graham, West River Station
Constable for Polling District No. 19 – Jas. Murdock
Pound Keeper in District No. 1, Wm. McPherson, Fisher’s Grant
Collector of Police Rates for Stellarton Police Division, Alex Grant of Hopewell
To be a Supervisor of Roads and Bridges – For Pictou Road District No. 1, Allan McQuarrie. For
 West River Road, District No. 3, Wm McKay, Town Gut. For Egerton Road District No. 3,
 Hugh Fraser, (A’s son) Lorne. For Maxwellton Road, Dis. No. 4; except Polling District No. 19
 and 20, John Fraser, Garden of Eden. For Polling District No. 19 and 20 to be known as No. 5,
 John T. Irving, French River.

Resolved that James Ross and Angus Cumming’s road be included in Road Limits No. 573, in Polling District No 24.

Resolved that Road Limit No. 383, in Polling District No. 16, be amended to read as follows: “From Kiln to John McDonald’s south line” and that officer for distributing statute labor-instructions be notified thereof.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Hugh S. Fraser } Committee

David Meikle } on

John McDougall } Nominations,

Report Adopted. The Warden read the report on Short Line Railway Act.

“The undersigned committee appointed to consider the Bill passed by the Local legislature in 1884 amending the Act incorporating the Great American and European Short Line Railway Company, beg to report that after a careful examination of the Bill and having obtained the opinion of counsel as to the effect, we do not recommend the counsel to any action respecting the Bill at present; but leave the matter with this committee further inquiry any consideration.

Respectfully submitted, Donald Fraser, John McDougald, James R. Collie, Rod McDougall, Com.

Coun. McColl one of the committee dissented from the opinions of the others and moved an amendment seconded by Coun. J.D. Fraser. “Whereas at an adjourned meeting of this council

of the January term 1883, it was resolved under false representations that the Right of Way through the county for the Great American and European Short Line Railway should be made a county charge.

And whereas from information that has since been received, that under the Act incorporating the said Railway Co., there are various other charges for earth, stone, gravel and all other material for the construction of said Railway is also a county charge contrary to the understanding when said Right of Way is passed.

Therefore resolved that the said resolution be rescinded and expunged from the minutes of said adjourned meeting, until said company makes such arrangements as will be satisfactory to a committee composed of the Warden and five members of this council.”

Coun. McColl in support of the amendment said that the action of the Co. was an outrage on the County. The Councilors were then to protect the rights of the County. Then was the time to rectify the matter. Coun. J.R. Collie thought that the probabilities were that this matter did not originate with the Co.; did not think that the representatives deceived the Council. All the members were just as anxious to protect the interests of the county as Coun. McColl. The Committee only asked time to deliberate on the matter.

Coun. John McDougald said that the amendment would have no legal effect. The past actions of the Co., do not justify the supposition that the Co., would ask any more than the Right of Way.

Coun. J.D. Fraser said the amendment provided only for holding the matter over in favor of the County.

Coun. Donald Fraser was of the opinion that there are too many interests at stake to make it safe to do anything rashly; no harm could come of a little delay. Coun. Rob Dewar thought the idea of appointing the Committee was to file a protest against the Government. Coun. McColl said that the interests of the taxpayers were greater than those particularly interested in the railway. The opinion of the legal counsel employed by the Committee should be made public as it was paid for by the people’s money. Coun. J.D. Fraser said that this Canada of ours appears to be run altogether in the interests of Capitalists.

Amendment – For Jeff McColl, William Wm. Smith, J.C. McKay, J. Rod McDonald, David J. Meikle, Robt. Dewar, J.D. Fraser, H.S. Fraser.

Against – John McDougald, Don Fraser, John Rod McDonald, Dr. Collie, J. Ferguson, John Sutherland, J.R. McPherson, J.R. McDonald, R. Maxwell, David Ferguson, Rod McDougall, Angus Davies, A.J. McKay, Angus McMillan. 8 for, 14 against.

Resolution put.

For – Dr. Collie, John Rod. McDonald, John McDonald, Angus Davies, Donald Fraser, John McDougald, Alex Fraser, David Ferguson, Robert Maxwell, A.J. McKay, John R. McDonald, J.R. McPherson, John Sutherland, John Ferguson, Rod McDougall

Against – J.C. McKay, Wm. Smith, Jeff McColl, D.J. Meikle, Robert Dewar, J.D. Fraser, Hugh S. Fraser.

For the resolution, 15 against 7.

“Resolved that the Committee on Short Line Railway amendment Bill have power to employ counsel and call a meeting of the County Council at an early day if necessary.”

J.R. Collie

Alex J. McKay

Passed

The following resolution was ruled out of order by the Warden.

“whereas it has come to the notice of this Council that certain amendments were passed at last session of the Local Legislative giving the Short Line Railway Co. (so called) the right to take all material required and make the same a charge on the County.

Therefore Resolved that this Council advise and recommend resistance to such confiscation of property and do pledge the County to defend all and any action at law that may be brought against any proprietor or taxpayer for the resistance of such appropriation of property and for all legal expenses so incurred.

Jeffery McColl
John D. Fraser

The Clerk read the minutes of the meeting which were adopted; also the minutes read from day to day which were adopted as a whole. Council adjourned.

Pictou 9th May, 1884
Robert McNeil, Warden
D.W. Matheson, Mun. Clerk

COUNTY COUNCIL

We have been requested to publish the bye-law of the Municipality, respecting Road and Bridge Service, as now enforced, viz,

1. The treasurer shall keep a special account of all the money by him received and expended for the Road and Bridge Service.
2. The Municipality shall be divided into four road districts; and a Supervisor of highways shall be annually be appointed for each such district.
3. The names limits and boundaries of the several road districts shall be as follows: - *first*, Pictou district shall embrace polling districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6. *Second*, West River District shall embrace polling districts 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, including the roads and bridges on the boundary line separating road districts. Nos. 1 and 2. *Third*, Egerton district shall embrace all the polling Districts within the Township of Egerton including the roads and bridges on the boundary line separating road districts Nos. 2 and 3. *Fourth*, Maxwellton shall embrace all the Polling Districts with the Townships of Maxwellton, including the roads and bridges on the boundary line separating Road Districts Nos. 3 and 4. “Boat Harbor Bridge shall be included in District No. 1 and Sutherland’s River Bridge in District No. 4.”
4. The Councilors, for the Polling Sections within the several Road Districts shall form and constitute a Road Board for the Respective Road Districts.
5. The amounts appropriated by the Council for the Road and Bridge Service shall be expended by each supervisor in his district, under the order of the Road board, in the manner prescribed by law.
6. No over expenditure will be allowed, except for necessary repairs on bridges made by order of the Chairman of the Road Board and consent of the Warden in writing, and payable out of the next year’s road appropriation for the Road District.
7. the accounts of the Supervisors shall be sworn to and certified as required by the law and thereupon, by written order of the Chairman of the road board, or of a majority of such board, the Clerk may certify the same for payment out of the Provincial Road Grant, or out of the funds of the Road and Bridge Service in the Treasurer’s hands as the case may be.

The Supervisors shall also file a duplicate account of their expenditure with the County Clerk.

8. The Supervisors shall hold office until their successors are appointed, and shall receive for their services the following remunerations be paid out of Road moneys, viz:
Five per cent commission on expenditure and salaries, not exceeding \$100 for each per annum.
 9. Notices of tender and public auctions and blank forms of contract (printed) for the Road and Bridge Service shall be supplied by the Municipality under the instructions of the Clerk to the Supervisors of Highway.
 10. Moneys for the Road and Bridge Service, payable out of the County funds, may be expended by the Supervisors of Highways by tender and contract, or otherwise, as the Road Board direct.
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