

## COUNTY COUNCIL

Pictou, January 12, 1886

Council met at 10 a.m. Twenty Council members present. That Warden took the chair and stated that he usually at the first meeting of a new council referred to the matters generally affecting the municipality but that the present council should know as much on these matters as he did.

The Warden appointed Councilors H.S. Fraser, John McDougald and Roderick McDougald, a committee to nominate all standing committees.

The Treasurer presented his report, which was read and laid over to be handed to the auditor for examination. The liabilities of the municipality at this date were \$4000 and in addition to this there were some bills not in and the debentures for right of way for Eastern Extension.

It was moved that a special committee be appointed on highway labor – carried.

The nominating committee reported the following committees which were adopted:

*Poor* – McLellan, Hugh Denoon and Jeffrey McColl

*Finance* – J. McDougald, H.S. Fraser, Colin Fraser, Alex Fraser, and R. McDougall

*Roads* – A. J. McKay, J.R. McDonald, John McKay, B. Maxwell and J.D. Fraser

*Public Property* – Donald Fraser, Robert Dewar and John Weir

*Assessment* – James Kitchin, Ales McHardy, and Thomas McDonald

*License* – C. Dwyer, J.R. McPherson, and Alex Grant

*Highway Labor* – D. Fraser, C. Dwyer, Alex Grant, G.M. McKay, and D.G. McDonald

*Auditors* – Wm. Cameron, South River, and David McKeen

The Warden read the endorsement on the several accounts and papers that had been handed to the clerk, to date, and gave the same to the committee appointed to examine them. Some remarks were made by councilors as to whether the County or Polling Sections 1, 2 and 7 (which constituted the board of health) were liable for the expense of the quarantine regulations for preventing the spread of small pox, but nothing definite arrived at.

Petitions for new roads were presented and handed to the committee and while doing so the Warden imposed on the committee the necessity of putting a stop to the opening of so many new roads, and in view of the stand taken by the courts in making the county liable for any accident may they happen on our roads and bridges, they should be very cautious.

A long discussion took place on assessment, the Warden having brought the circular issued by the Provincial Committee to the notice of the Council. The question was left over until some future day.

The Council adjourned at 2 p.m. to meet at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, to allow committee to meet this afternoon.

Jan'y, 13<sup>th</sup> 1886

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### MORNING SESSION

Council met at 10 a.m., all present except G.W. McKay.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. Coun. McColl protesting that they were not a full records of the proceedings gave notice that unless a reporter was employed to give the

newspapers a fuller report of the proceedings of the council he would every morning move to have the minute amended and made fuller.

The Warden handed to the various committees' accounts and other papers received by the clerk since yesterday. The Warden called the notice of the Council to a number of accounts against the county received this morning, notwithstanding the advertisement that no accounts would be received after 2<sup>nd</sup> January. On motion it was resolved that the accounts now presented be handed to the Auditor. Councilor Dwyer stated that the Town of Pictou would no doubt make arrangements about the hay scales at the market and as the Town Council would meet on Friday night, he wished the Council to take no action until then.

A petition from Scotsburn in reference to Railway damages for Short Line was read, and considerable damages had over it. It was moved by Coun. D. Fraser, seconded by Coun. McHardy that the whole matter be laid over until May meeting.

It was moved as an amendment by Coun. McColl, sec'd by Coun. Denoon, that a committee of three be appointed to look into and report on all matters connected with land damages of Short Line Railway. Coun. Fraser withdrew his motion, and the amendment was carried on division.

A resolution was passed asking Town Councils of Pictou and New Glasgow to meet with a committee of this Council on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> inst., at 2 p.m. to adjust county rates.

The Warden brought before the Council the matters of Baillie's Bridge, River John, and read correspondence with Commission Board of Works in reference to it.

The matter of reporting proceedings of Council was handed to nominating committee to do as they think best. Murphy's bridge at River John was placed under the bridge act. The damages at Baillie's Brook Bridge was referred to Road Board No. 4. Adjourned to meet at 2 p.m.

Jan, 14<sup>th</sup>

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#### MORNING SESSION

The Council was opened by the Warden in the usual manner. All the Councilors were in their seats. On motion the name of Coun. G. McKay was put upon the roll as being present all day yesterday, and the minutes of yesterday afternoon adopted, as read by the Clerk. Coun. Hugh S. Fraser, Chairman of the Nom. Com. reported that they had nominated the following Councilors, a Committees to report upon a petition in reference to damages incurred by the petitioners on account of the Short Line Railway; viz., James Kitchin, Alex McHardy and John McDougald.

Coun. Kitchin complained that the assessors in some cases neglected to follow the instructions, as property owned by him was assessed in two sections, which is not what the law requires.

Coun. McHardy drew the attention of the Council to the applications of several widows, to the Committee on Assessments, claiming exemption on \$400 on each of their assessments.

The Warden read a petition on behalf of the Pictou Coal and Iron Co. asking the Municipality to grant them a bonus or subsidy, and also setting forth the benefit the carrying on of a large work such as that proposed would be to the County.

Coun. Hugh Denoon would like to know what guarantee the company were willing to give that they would expend the amount slated. He knew of cases in other countries, where companies failed to fulfill their promises when such aid was given them. On motion of Coun. J.D. Fraser, a special committee was nominated to consider the matter and report to the council.

Coun. Denoon said that there was a misunderstanding regarding the boundary between the town of Pictou and Section 7, and the keeping up of two bridges. One was put under the Bridge Act and erected contrary to his wishes. His reason for bringing the matter up was to have the limits defined.

On motion of Coun. McColl it was referred to Road Boards No's 1 and 2.

Regarding the legal time for handling in the Poor Accounts there was a difference of opinion. Coun. McColl brought the matter up and said that the committee did not intend to report on them at this term.

Then the best way to deal with the questions proposed by the Local Legislature for the purpose of obtaining the views of the people in reference to changes in the present assessment law was considered, and the Warden read the letter sent by the Commission.

Coun. Dwyer was of the opinion that each councilor should answer the questions for himself as he had already done to the best of his ability. Coun. A. Grant took the same view of the subject. Coun. J.D. Fraser thought that the committee should be appointed for the purpose and made a motion to that effect but which was lost, an amendment that the Council answer individually, moved by Coun. A. Grant being passed.

The Nominating Committee reported that they had nominated the following Councilors as a Committee to consider the advisability of granting a subsidy or other support to the Pictou Coal and Iron Co. Donald Fraser, John R. McDonald, Jeffery McColl, A. Grant and Robt. Dewar, to adjust the rates between the towns of Pictou and New Glasgow, and the Municipality. Jas Kitchin, Jeffrey McColl, R. McDougall, John McDougald and Hugh S. Fraser.

At 11.50 it was moved and carried, that in order to enable the several committees to get through with their work, the Council stand adjourned until 10 a.m. to-morrow.

Noon – By an oversight, the remarks of Coun. Denoon on the circular sent by the Commissioners appointed by the Local Legislature, saying that it had worked well in New Brunswick and also that it met the views of many of the leading and most intelligent farmers of the county as is shown by the following resolution which was passed by them at a meeting the other day, and which read as follows –

#### PICTOU DIVISION GRANGE

Annual Session, 1886

“This Grange by an unanimous vote resolved to support the Municipal Assessment Bill now before the Local Legislature, it having passed its second reading.”

Signed,

JOHN R. McKENZIE

Master

JAN. 15<sup>th</sup>

#### MORNING SESSION

Council opened at 10 o'clock a.m. pursuant to adjournment. On the roll being called all the Councilors were present with the exception of Clrs. McColl and Donald Fraser.

Minutes of yesterday read and adopted.

The endorsements of several papers coming before the Council were read by the Warden and handed to Committees.

He read also the report of the General Assessors and gave it to the Committee on Assessments.

The Warden explained briefly the causes which led to an action against the Municipality for \$1,000 damages. A woman in the eastern part of the county was injured by falling into a hole

at the end of a bridge and claimed that the road was unsafe. At the May meeting a committee was appointed to look into the matter considered there was no case against the county. When the case came before the court he paid all the attention possible to it, and had witnesses summoned. The previous fall the inspector pronounced the bridge safe, and there was two feet between the wheel track and the hole into which the woman fell. The accident having occurred in daylight it was naturally supposed that she was more to blame than the county authorities. However judgment was given against the county for \$200 with expenses, the whole of which would appear in the report of the committee on Finances.

He (the Warden) suggested that each Councilor should consider in which way the county could be forced in some measure from liability of that kind, but at this time was not himself prepared to say how. A full minute was of the proceedings before Court was taken by the Treasurer (Mr. McDonald) and would be shown to any Clr. wishing to see it.

Clr. G. McKay remarked that the Warden in May last advised contesting the case. The Warden said that the statement was corroborated by Clr. John W. Fraser and Robert Dewar. Rob't R. McPherson defended the action the committee had taken. The minutes of May meeting not being at hand the discussion was dropped.

By unanimous vote of the Council and after their nature was explained, petitions was received from Clrs. Donald Fraser, T. McDonald and Robert Dewar.

Some discussions arose regarding the proper way to deal with arrears of taxes accumulating on the property of non-residents; Clr. Kitchin introduced the subject.

Clr McColl, Chairman of the Committee to consider the advisability of aiding the Pictou Coal and Iron Co. read the report of the Committee which on motion was received and had over to be taken up for consideration and the discussion at another time. The report was only signed Clrs. McColl, Donald Fraser and A. Grant, the remaining members of the Committee, Clrs. John Rod McDonald and Robert Dewar, refusing to sign.

The Council then adjourned until 2 p.m.

Council met at 2 p.m. and the minutes of the forenoon meeting were read by the Clerk and adopted without any change.

None of the committees being ready to report and no other business coming before the Council it adjourned till 10 a.m. to-morrow.

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Jan. 16th

Council met at 10 a.m. On the roll being called all the Councilors were present with the exception of Coun. McColl.

A letter from a person at Barney's River was read by the Warden stating that application had been made to the authorities of the Lunatic Asylum in Halifax for liberty to send an insane man there. He read also the answer sent by Dr. Reid which showed that the wards are at the present time over crowded, their being fourteen or fifteen harmless imbeciles from Pictou Co. and needed persons cannot be taken in.

Coun. Robt. Dewar asked if the Committee in charge of the Harmless Insane Building, had made a report, and what time the Building was likely to be finished, no report was made up to that time by the Committee.

The report of the Committee on Roads and Bridges was received, and taken up for consideration.

The report was adopted as below.

“Your committee beg leave to present the following report on the Road and Bridge Service.”

#### PETITION FOR CONFIRMATION

1. Road leading from Four Mile Brook to Cemetery. Not confirmed
2. Alteration of road from Concord, Middle River, to Glengarry R.R. Station. Confirmed.
3. Alteration of road in Brooklyn, road leading to Mill Brook. Not confirmed.
4. Pent road for Thos. Wetherby, Fraser's Mountain. Confirmed.
5. Pent road for William A. McDonald, Garden of Eden. Petitioner paying damages through his own land. Confirmed.
6. John Doherty and others for extension of Marshy Hope road to connect with road at Sutherlands River. Not confirmed.
7. Duncan A McPhee of Hopewell for confirmation of road. Not confirmed.
8. Pent road from Second Division Scotch Hill, to Scotsburn Church. Confirmed.
9. Alteration of road leading from Alex Gordon's New Lairg to Stewiake Road. Confirmed.
10. Road from Sutherlands River to Vale Colliery. Not confirmed.
11. David McKenzie, Big Meadows, Scotsburn for Pent Road. Not confirmed.
12. Road from Cross Roads at Grants Bridge to Hopewell Station, not confirmed.
13. Road leading from 4-6 Mile Brook. Confirmed.
14. Alteration of road from West Side, West Branch. East River. Deferred to May Term.
15. Alteration of road leading from Middle River to Alma. Confirmed.

#### OPENING OF NEW ROADS AND ALTERATIONS IN NEW ROADS

Committees were recommended on the following roads:

1. Freeholders North Shore, Cape John for main road to shore.
2. Inhabitants Section 5 and 6 for alteration of road leading from Alex McLeod's to Daniel McKay's. Jas. S. Fraser, Com.
3. Main Road near residence of Daniel Oliver to some convenient spot near Westville. A.W. McBean, Com
4. Freeholders, Sections 4 and 5, for committee to lay out a road between Robt Murray's and Alex Murray's, Jas. S. Fraser, com.
5. Hugh Murray, West Branch, River John for Pent road. Jas. S. Fraser, Com
6. Pent Road for Daniel McKenzie, Piedmont Valley, Francis McKenzie, Com
7. Inhabitants Clish St. Westville, for street along Clish Street to Duff Street, A.W. McBean, com
8. Freeholders Westville, to lay out street leading from Black Diamond St. past the Methodist Church, A.W. McBean, Com.
9. Freeholders, Westville, for road from end of Haymond's road to Fox Brook road. A.W. McBean, com
10. Road from West River R.R. Station to County Line. Deferred to May term.
11. Inhabitants, Trenton, for Committee to lay out street. Not granted.
12. Road from Archibald's Saw Mill to St. Paul's main road. Deferred till May.
13. Hugh McLean, Marshy Hope, for pent road. Francis McKenzie, Com.
14. Angus McKinnon, Wentworth Grant for pent road, Francis McKenzie, Com.
15. John J. Munro and Alex Sutherland for road in the rear of Marshy Hope, Not granted.
16. Alteration of road from West River to Pleasant Valley. Jas. S. Fraser, Com.
17. Ratepayers, Stellarton, for road from South Stellarton to road east side of East River. A.W. Mc Bean, com.

18. Petition for deviation of road from William Sutherland's to Daniel McLeod's in road from Stewiake road to Gairloch Church, Jas. S. Fraser, Com.
19. Petition for widening pent road through the lands of Alex Ross, between Lansdowne crossing and Stewiake road. Jas. S. Fraser, Com.
20. John Fraser and others Stellarton or Committee to lay out a road from Railway Station eastwardly. A.W. McBean Com.
21. Petition for extension of Crichton St. to Carriboo road. Jas. S. Fraser, Com
22. Fred McDonald Sunny Brae, fro a committee, Not granted.
23. Petition for Freeholders, Poll Sec 2. for committee to lay out a road through the lands of Mrs. Dobson. The road is known as the Line Quarry Road. Jas. S. Fraser, Com.

#### CLOSING OLD ROADS

1. Petition from Alex. Munro, Scotsburn to close old road leading from the present West Branch pent road to old West Branch Road. Granted.
2. N.P. Olding and James McMillan for closing of old road at French River. Granted.
3. Daniel Fraser, McLellan's Mountain, for closing old road. Granted.
4. Petition to close old road from Chas. Grahams to road leading from Lime Rock to Rod. McKenzie's. Deferred to May Term.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

1. Petition Phoebe Dobson in *re* Quarry Road. Your committee believe that portion of road leading through the lands of the petitioner, or heirs of the late James Dobson, Carriboo, has not been lawfully laid out.
2. Report of Supervisors of Public Property Township of Pictou in *re* the Shedd encroachment on Pictou Island.  
Ordered that the encroachment complained of be removed.
3. Report of Supervisors of Public Grounds Township of Egerton received.  
Referred back to the supervisors for a fuller report.
4. Application from A.W. McBean for display in making return for laying out Fraser's street, Westville. Granted.
5. Report Supervisors Public Grounds Maxwellton, regarding a committee to lay out a pent road from Donald McIntosh's to main road at Alderground. Recommended.
6. Inhabitants' Sec. 25. for money to remove culvert.  
Referred to Road Board No. 3. All of which is respectfully submitted.

Signed { A.J. McKay  
           { John D. Fraser  
           { James McKay  
           { John Rod McDonald  
           { Robert Maxwell

The adoption of the above report took up almost all the forenoon session.  
 Coun Donald Fraser said that the com. on Public Property would like to have a conference with the Town Council of Pictou.

Coun. Dwyer in answer said that the Town Council at a meeting last night had framed a resolution which he would furnish on Monday.

At one o'clock the council adjourned until 2 p.m. on Monday.

Jan. 18th

The Council opened at 2 p.m. all were present except Coun. G.M. McKay.

The minutes of Saturday's meeting were approved as read by the Clerk.

A letter from G.W. Underwood Esq. Warden of New Glasgow was read saying "that in the opinion of the Town Council of New Glasgow 8 per cent of the County Rates was all they felt themselves entitled to pay under their present circumstances."

Warden McNeil remarked that there has always been a difficulty in making arrangements with the Town Councils of Pictou and New Glasgow in adjusting the rates, and thought that something should be done to prevent a dead-lock occurring in the future and delaying the completion of the arrangements until the close of the session.

The Warden read also a letter and resolution by the Town Council of Pictou regarding the transfer of the Market Building and hay scales to the town, which was handed to the committee on Public Property.

Coun. John Rod McDonald said that if they were given over to the town the country people would have no place on which they could stand their teams and the town would do with them as it pleased.

Coun. Denoon considered the market building a disgrace.

Coun. Rod McDougall's said that the matter was safe in the hands of the committee.

The Warden drew the attention of the Council to an affair which was previously before them viz., that holes are cut in the ice and left, without being marked to warn travelers. The Dominion Government alone could make a law compelling persons to bush such holes.

Coun. John McDougald M.P. said that a Bill of the nature required was before Parliament for two years, but having come in with others, it was dropped.

Other Councilors spoke of the danger attending this neglect.

The Warden suggested that the Council memorialize the Government in reference to the matter.

Coun. Denoon wished to move that a committee of three be appointed to frame a resolution to be sent to the government.

The Warden said that there should be a definite time fixed at which the Overseers of Poor should hand in their accounts.

Coun. McColl remarked that the law was clear on the point and that the Overseers have to make up their accounts up to the tenth day after the Council rises in January and that they have thirty days in which to send them to the Clerk.

At half-past four the Council was adjourned to meet at 10 a.m. tomorrow.

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#### MORNING SESSION

January 19<sup>th</sup>

Council met at 10 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. Roll called by the Clerk and all the Councilors answered to their names except Coun. Robert Maxwell.

The minutes were adopted as read.

Coun. Rod McDougall asked if the committee on the Homeless Insane Building were to give in a report. The Warden in answer stated that all the information he could give with reference to it, was that the debentures had been sold at a premium, and the proceeds placed to the credit of the County in the Pictou Bank for the purpose intended.

Coun. McColl, one of the committee, informed the Council that they expected to have had the building completed about this time, but owing to some misunderstanding about the heating apparatus the completion of the work was delayed a month, but that it would be finished about the first of March.

A report will be submitted to the Council before the session is over. Sickness in the family of Mr. McQuarrie, chairman of the commissioners was the cause of its not being present before.

Coun. Thos. McDonald gave notice that he would move a resolution proposing a way to aid the Pictou Coal and Iron. Co. It was laid upon the table for consideration.

Coun. McColl complained that some councilors appeared to have anticipated the defeat of the report and wished to get at the matter by another way.

The following resolutions was discussed at some length,

*“Whereas*, the present system of County government is entirely different from that in operation when the present County Assessment Act originally passed through the Legislature in as much as the members of the Municipal Councilors are elected by the rate payers, and are directly responsible to them, while the members of the Old Court of Sessions were life appointees and irresponsible.

And *Whereas*, some of the subjects to be assessed under the County Assessment Act such as “Personal Property” are very indefinite, and it appears that no Court having jurisdiction in Nova Scotia is able to define it, thereby causing the “term” to be construed differently, not only in different countries but in different sections of the same county, thus causing great trouble and annoyance.

*Therefore Resolved*, “That this Council respectfully request the Legislature in case they are not able to agree to pass a new Assessment Law, to so amend the present Act on the following points: -

1<sup>st</sup> Give the County Councils power to make for their County to make the assessment by a By-Law to be confirmed by the Governor in Council.

And 2<sup>nd</sup>, Pass an explanatory act defining what the term “Personal Property means”.

Moved by Jeffrey McColl, seconded by Hugh D. Denoon,

Coun. McColl said that the answering the questions sent by the Local Governments should not affect their voting for this resolution.

Coun. Kitchen thought that the committee on assessments last year had recommended something similar to what Coun. McColl proposed.

Coun. Kitchin thought that the committee on assessments last year had recommended something similar to what Coun. McColl proposed.

Couns. Colin Fraser and John d. Fraser favored Coun. McColls motion.

On the Warden making some remarks Coun. McColl said that he would insist on having a deputy appointed if the Warden should continue to advise the Council on matters coming before them without leaving the chair.

Coun. Rod McDougall remarked that the Council had enough to do in enforcing laws already made without making more.

Coun. Denoon was strongly of the opinion that the views of the Council as a whole, would have great influence with the legislature.

Coun. Dwyer did not think that there was anything wrong in the resolution. It was asked to take effect only provided the Legislature does not pass a new Assessment Act. There was a great deal of property in the County which escaped taxation, and there was much need that a clear definition of personal property was made.

On motion 2 p.m. was fixed as the time at which the report of the committee on the proposal to grant a subsidy, or other aid to the Pictou Coal and Iron Co.

The Chairman of the committee on Poor, (Coun. McColl) read their report which was received by motion and held over for consideration.

The Council then adjourned till 2 p.m.

Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>

#### AFTERNOON SESSION

Council met at usual hour. The minutes of forenoon meeting were read and adopted without alteration.

The report of the Committee to consider the advisability of granting a bonus to the Pictou coal and Iron Co. was read by the warden. He also read the resolution relating to it, of which Coun. Thos McDonald gave notice: -

The report is in effect as below:

“Your committee have, therefore, after due consideration agreed to lay before the Council three ways in which the matter could be arranged satisfactory to Mr. Bartlett as representing the Company.

1<sup>st</sup>. The County of Pictou to give the Company a bonus of Fifty Thousand Dollars, payable as the work progresses, in sums of \$5,000, each sum of \$5,000 to be paid for every \$40,000 expended by the Company. The books and accounts of the Company to be always a subject to the supervision of a person appointed by the Council. Or,

2<sup>nd</sup>. The County of Pictou to take \$50,000 of stock in the Company, and to pay up calls on the same as paid by other shareholders, but all to be bonafide calls, the County to have the privilege of appointing one of the Directors, and the capital of the Company to be not less than \$400,000, all paid up, Or,

3<sup>rd</sup>. The County of Pictou to pay the Company twenty cents per ton for every ton of pig iron made annually up to 15,000 tons, or fifteen cents per ton for every ton of pig iron made annually up to 25,000 tons; or twelve and a half cents per ton for every ton of pig iron made annually up to 35,000 tons. This proposal to end in four years if no pig iron is made by that time – nothing to be paid when the Company makes ten per cent on their outlay.

Your committee while submitting these proposals to the Council do not feel bound for any of them to express their opinion on them. At the same time, every member of the Committee is satisfied that the manufacture of pig iron and perhaps eventually that of steel fails, could be entered into in this County with any prospect of success, the Council should make a great effort to accomplish it.

The question of bounties to manufacturing industries is a new one here and to them, and so there is a variety of opinions as to the propriety of it. We do not care to express any opinions on it, but would leave the whole matter open for discussion.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JEFFERY MCCOLL

DONALD FRASER

ALEX GRANT

“The other members of the Committee Messrs. McDonald and Dewar refuse to sign,

JEFFERY MCCOLL

Chairman”

Coun. McColl moved and Coun. A. Grant seconded, that the report be not adopted, and that the following resolutions be approved instead: -

“Whereas it has been brought to the notice of this Council that the large iron deposits in this County would be extensively worked if the Municipality would in some way show that these iron deposits should be worked;

And, whereas the only ways the municipality can show their anxiety to have this done by giving bonus, taking stock in such an enterprise or giving so much per ton of pig iron made from these deposits;

And whereas this Council think the most satisfactory way this can be done will be by giving a fixed price per ton, or a fixed sum per account for results;

Therefore, Resolved, That the Municipality of Pictou County will pay the first company that produce 20,000 pounds of pig-iron per annum in Pictou County, partly or wholly from the iron deposits of the County, for a period of fifteen years from this date; or until the year 1900 if 15,000 tons per annum be made and then to cease. No payment to be made when the company makes six per cent on their outlay. The sum offered to be reduced twenty per cent if the towns of Pictou and New Glasgow will not become a party to it.

And further resolved that application be made to the Legislature for such Legislation as may be necessary to carry therefore going resolution with effect.”

Coun. J. Rod McDonald moved and Coun. Rod McDougall seconded, as an amendment the following: -

“Whereas the Pictou Coal and Iron Co., has applied for aid and encouragement is the development of Iron Manufacture in Pictou Co. and whereas, this Council while recognizing that the proposed works may be of great advantage and value.

In view of the large indebtedness already incurred for the Eastern Extension Railway, Short Line and Stellarton Branch Railway Damages and for the Insane Asylum and also mindful of the heavy burden now assessed on the County do not feel that the grant proposed is justified under the present circumstances.

Therefore resolved that the application of the said Company or any other company be not granted.”

The matter being taken up for discussion several Councilors expressed their views.

Coun. Dewar one of the Committee refusing to sign the report, gave his reasons for not doing so, he thought that the Council had no right to entertain any of the propositions as either would be a transaction of doubtful benefit to the County which is already heavily taxed. A large amount of capital is invested in the County by men who are carrying on enterprises on their own responsibility, and it would be manifest by unfair to give a new enterprise undue advantages over them.

Coun. Rod McDougall favored the views of Coun. Dewar. He said that the iron industry was already well protected having \$2.00 by customs duty and Government bounty per ton in its favor.

Coun. J. Rod McDonald said that the information he had from Mr. Bartlett, before the committee was sufficient to make him vote against the resolution, as he said no capitalist in the County would take shares in the Company.

Coun. A. Grant remarked that the Councilors who had just spoken, looked only upon the disagreeable aide of the question, did not think but that proposal to give 20 cents per ton was reasonable.

Coun. McColl said that the proposition to give the Co. 20 cts per ton, was founded on the principle practiced by the Local Government in relieving those who first worked Gold mines in the Province from the payment of royalties, and that no Councilor should be five minutes in making up his mind how he should vote on the question.

Coun. Dewar remarked that the principle was wrong and that to pay 20 cts. per ton would be as injurious as the direct vote of \$56,000.

Coun. J.D. Fraser is the course of a rather long speech said that he was a member of Council for six years, and each year there was a scheme before them by which taxation would be increased. Citing the case of the city of Bellville, Ont. Which had some experience in the giving of bonuses, showed how unprofitable they had turned out and read the reply of the mayor of the city, to some enquiries, saying that with their present knowledge they would not have voted a dollar for the purpose. The iron trade was in a depressed condition all over the world and if a bonus was granted in the face of all this knowledge it would be the most radical measure ever passed in this County.

Coun. A. Grant said that Coun. Fraser should not only mention cases which turned out badly but also those that turned out well.

Coun. Dwyer on rising said that there were so many resolutions and amendments that he did not know to which Coun. Fraser was speaking. He did not think it was right to throw cold water on the scheme.

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Coun. J.R. McPherson gave mention showed as hesitation in voting for measures which had benefited the County government.

Coun. Donald Fraser spoke of the natural advantages of the locality for the carping of such work. His section he knew was against the proposal yet he would be a benefit directly or indirectly to the County. Although the iron trade is depressed the production of steel is on the increase. Some men who profess to be the champions of the poor man show by their actions that they wish to keep him poor. What had been the means of building up Old Glasgow might have like effect as New Glasgow. Named towns in Ontario such as St. Thomas and Stratford which had been greatly benefited by giving bonuses to Railways.

He was in favor of deferring the consideration of the resolution.

On motion of Coun. McColl it laid over until 2 p.m. tomorrow.

The report of the Committee to adjust the rates between the towns and the Municipality was adopted.

The report is as below.

Municipality of Pictou, Jan. 1886

The Committee appointed to meet with Committees of the Town Councils of Pictou and New Glasgow to apportion the County Rates to be paid by these Incorporated Towns to the Municipality, beg leave to report.

The Joint Committee agreed that as the whole amount was .....	\$3302400
To which was added estimate for small pox .....	<u>800.00</u>
	\$33824.00
To Railway Damages Eastern Extension.....	<u>\$6309.00</u>
	\$27515.00
For Clerk,	\$3000.00
“ Auditors	40.00
“ Assessors	600.00
“ Printing	250.00
“ Treasurer	250.00
“ Collectors,	750.00
“ Warden, & c.	750.00
“ Roads, & c.	<u>500.00</u>
	\$3,440.00

To be paid by Incorporated Towns and County..... 240,75.00

Up to the point the Joint Committee agreed, but when the appointment was to be made the Committee for New Glasgow would not agree that more than 8 per cent of this amount in addition to the New Glasgow proportion of the Eastern Extension Railway Damages \$603.90 should be paid by that town.

Your Committee have agreed with the Pictou Town Council as to the amount to be paid by the Pictou Town.

Your Committee would recommend that the Warden arrange the share to be paid by New Glasgow with the Town Council of New Glasgow at \$2600.00 in full of County Rates and Eastern Extension Railway Damages payable by them during the ensuing year.

Your Committee would recommend that if the Town Council of New Glasgow will not agree to this amount that means be taken to have the sums apportioned as provided by Law.

Your Committee would further recommend that for the settlement of what amounts are to be paid by the Incorporated Towns in the future, the Legislature be applied to at its coming session to make such on Law that may prevent further disputes on this question:

All of which is respectfully submitted:

Signed -

JEFFERY MCCOLL  
JAS. KITCHIN  
H.S. FRASER  
JOHN MCDOUGALL  
R. MCDOUGALL

Municipality of Pictou Jany. Term, 1886

At a Joint Meeting of a Committee at this Council and a Committee of the Town Council of Pictou be apportioned the amount of County Rates to be paid by the Town of Pictou.

That the Town of Pictou pay the Municipality of Pictou the sum of Three Thousand and Eleven dollars and forty cents as their proportion of County Rates and Damages for Eastern Extension Railway for the current year – the same to be paid on the 1<sup>st</sup> December, 1886 or if not paid then interest at the rate of six per cent to be added thereto until paid.

Pictou, N.S. Jan. 1886

JEFFERY MCCOLL  
Chairman Committee County Council  
C. DWYER  
Chairman Committee Town Council

On motion the Council adjourned until 2 p.m.

Jan 20<sup>th</sup>

#### MORNING SESSION

Council opened at 10 a.m. Roll called by the Clerk, minutes of yesterday afternoon read and approved. Coun. A. McHardy asked if the town of Pictou was two years in arrears for County Rates.

Coun. John McDougald gave notice on motion in reference to the Polling District lately established; he also read the report of the Commissioners for the Harmless Insane Asylum as follows:

The Commissioner on County Asylum beg leave to submit the following brief report.

The Commissioners are glad to say that the building is now nearly completed, and they expect to have it all finished by the 1<sup>st</sup> of March.

Work to be done to building by them is to put second coat of plaster on all the inside doors and finishing to be put up; wainscoting on halls stairs, etc; the whole wood work to be painted. This is the bulk of work to be done to the building.

Your Commissioners will submit a full report in May Term 1886 all of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN MCQUARRIE

J.C. REID

for Commissioners

Read also a report from the Committee

“Your Committee on the County Asylum beg to report respecting the letter of David Huggan of Avondale that the Asylum at Stellarton is expected to be in readiness for the reception of patients about the first of March next, when the wards at Mount Hope can be relieved of a large number of quiet imbeciles from Pictou Co.

Respectfully submitted

JEFFERY MCCOLL

Chairman

Pictou, Jan. 1886

Both these reports were received.

A resolution was moved by Coun. A. McHardy in reference to the amounts to be contributed by Sections 21 and 24 towards the support of a pauper one Robert Love.

The Councilors representing these districts could not agree about the matter before the Committee on Poor:

Coun. J.D. Fraser said that there was a yearly dispute about those old paupers and also as to which was the last legal settlement of the Rob't Love. He wanted it deferred until this was settled which could not be done except through a legal process.

Coun. McHardy voted that Love should be supported on the same basis as the other old pauper's viz. by  $\frac{2}{3}$  one section and  $\frac{1}{2}$  by the other.

Coun. McHardy's resolution was carried.

Coun. Kitchin read the reports of the committee on assessments as below:

Your committee on assessments No. 12, 1883 \$2.33; No. 7 1884 \$8.91; No. 13 1884 \$9.75; No. 10 1884 \$1.90; No. 3 1885 \$11.52; No. 12 1885 \$13.36; No. 7 1885 \$9.51; No. 16 1885 \$4.30; No. 18 1885 \$8.08; No. 8 1885 \$5.08; No. 21 1885 \$10.56; No. 22 1885 \$6.46; No. 2 1885 \$2.43; No. 9 1885 \$2.15; No. 15 1885 \$37.20; No. 6 1885 \$4.60; No. 17 1885 \$57.44; No. 23 1884 \$32.75; No. 4 1883 \$7.27; No. 5 188 \$2.96

Struck off the roll of No. 1 for 1885 the amount assessed against the Acadian Coal Co. as they paid rates for said property in sec 17, \$48.18; not to be added to roll No. 1 for 1886, No 19 1885 \$23..21; No. 14, 1885 30 cts.

In respect to the several assessment rolls before and we beg to say that we found large uncollected balances on many of them from 1883 downwards, many of them came before your committee in Jan. of last year and in many cases we recommended them to be sent to the several collectors in order that the several balances due this County on said rolls might be collected, and regret to find our recommendation was not attended to and that they have not been sent back, consequently no effort has been made to collect said balances through the negligence of the officer whose duty it was to attend to this matter, we therefore recommend that the matter be strictly attended to in the future and that all collectors who will not attend to their duties in collecting said balances be proceeded against according to law.

APPEALS AND PETITIONS

Your committee having examined the several appeals and petitions left before them beg to report as follows:

1<sup>st</sup>, The appeal of Christy McLeod, White Hill, Sec 18 dismissed, not filed in time.

2<sup>nd</sup>, The petition of Alex McMillan of Sunny Brae, for exemption of taxation for years 1886 and 1887. We recommend that he be exempt for the year 1886, as he had his mills burnt in 1885.

3<sup>rd</sup>, The petition of Mrs. Wm. Cameron of Saltsprings. We recommend that the valuation of her property be reduced \$400 as the law directs.

4<sup>th</sup>, The appeal of Angus Ross of Mount Pleasant against his assessment for the year 1886. We recommend that he be exempted from taxation for that year.

5<sup>th</sup> Petition of widow Annabell Cameron of Loch Broom, dismissed.

6<sup>th</sup>, The appeal of J.B. Hamblin & Co. of Sec 2, against the amount of the assessment and for a refund of taxes for 1885.

We recommend that no refund be made, but that the assessed valuation of their lobster factories be reduced \$600 for the year 1886, as part of the property they have assessed for in No. was assessed in the Town of Pictou.

7<sup>th</sup>, Appeal of Ernest Clark for a reduction of the assessed valuation of his property, Dismissed.

8<sup>th</sup>, appeal of Hector McKenzie, dismissed set filed in time.

9<sup>th</sup>, Appeal of Daniel Robinson of Barney's River dismissed not died in time.

10<sup>th</sup> Appeal of Mrs. Hector McLean, Big Island for a refund of County Rates for the year 1885. We recommend that the sum of \$6.11 be refunded to her, having discovered on the examination of the roll that the amount of her assessment had been increased \$400 after the same had been perfected by the Assessors and having the Assessor's certificate to the effect.

11<sup>th</sup> Appeal of Thomas D. McDonald of Brooklyn, Sec 13 for a refund at taxes on the amount of \$100, being an error in adding up the items composing the assessed valuation of this assessment for the year 1885. We recommend that the sum of \$100 be refunded.

12<sup>th</sup> Appeal of Susan Haggart, dismissed.

13<sup>th</sup> Appeal of James Seiveright Sec 16 for a refund of taxes for the year 1885, wrongly assessed on him in Sec. 16, having paid taxes of the same property in Sec 15 where he resides. We recommend that the sum of \$3.27 also that his name be struck off the roll of No 16 with amount opposite it, he being assessed for the same property in Sec 15.

14<sup>th</sup> Appeal of Rob't H. Cunningham of Barney's River, for reduction of the assessed valuation of his property, appeal 'dismissed'.

15<sup>th</sup> Appeal of John Copeland of Lower Barney's River, for a reduction of the assessed valuation of his property, appeal dismissed.

16<sup>th</sup> Appeal of John C. Cameron of Sec 7 for a refund of taxes on account of an error in the addition of the real and personal property in the assessment roll of 1885 of \$100. We recommend that the sum of \$1.02 be refunded to him.

Your Committee on examining the rate rolls for the present year regret to find that the assessors, owing to a misconstruction of their instruction and of the law, have been placing the names of ratepayers resident in one section and owning property in another, down on the several rate polls where the property is situated. This error arises we are convinced from the Assessor's understanding the term Municipal District as (now in Sec 69 of Municipal Assessments) to mean Polling Districts. Your committee would therefore recommend that the instructions to be issued to Assessors define clearly and explicitly the meaning of municipal District and that it does not

mean a Polling District. That in the future every person a resident of the Municipality of the County be assessed for the whole of his assessed property in the Polling District in which he resides, and that the several Assessors in the several Polling Districts after appraising the property found in their said several sections owned by persons in other sections transmit by mail to the Assessors of the District where the party resides, a statement of the valuation of such property which shall be added to the valuation of the property of such person in the section where he resides, and further that the several Assessors be instructed to exempt widows, school-teachers, and juniors, in respect to the valuation of Real Estate to the extent of \$400, and be assessed for the excess together with the whole of their whole assessable personal property.

Your Committee find that on many of the rate rolls of the county, considerable sums are set down as being assessed on lands of non-residents, and that it has been the practice of the Committee on Assessments to strike such sums off the rate rolls.

Your Committee see no good reason for continuing such practice had as they believe it to be illegal and unjust, and that all the assessable property of the County should bear its lawful proportion of the burdens of the County and recommend that in no case shall such sums be struck off, but that the several Collectors be strictly required to make a return to the County Treasurer of all the uncollected of the several non-residents on their several rolls, and that the Treasurer have them duly entered in a book kept for such purpose according to law.

Your committee regret to find that in many cases the Collector's have not complied with their instructions as recommended by Your Committee of last year, and have not made their returns to a Justice of the Peace of the several defaulters within the time required by such instructions, and recommend that in future any By-law of the Municipality for neglect of duty on the part of Collectors of County Rates be strictly enforced and that the Collectors be furnished with pointed instructions attached to the respective rate rolls, clearly authorized by this Council for making a return of the several defaulters to a Justice of the Peace. All of which we respectively submit.

Signed {JAS. KITCHIN  
{A. McHARDY  
{THOS. McDONALD

Coun. Donald Fraser praised the recommendation of the report and moved that it be received and adopted, which was done unanimously.

The Warden suggested that a committee be appointed to prepare instructions for Assessors and that no better could be found than the Committee on Assessments.

On motion of Coun. Colin Fraser the Nom. Committee were instructed to appoint a committee for the purpose.

The report of the committee on Poor was read, received and adopted as follows:

To the Warden and Municipal Council, Jan. Term, 1886

The Committee on Poor beg leave to report:

1<sup>st</sup>, Only a portion of the accounts from the different districts are before us owing to some misunderstanding, and we have no report to make on them.

2<sup>nd</sup>, The sums required for the support of the Poor in the several sections for the year 1886 are as follows, which we would ask you to confirm;

Polling Sec. No. 1, Fisher's Grant	\$75.00
“ “ “ 2, Carribou,	50.00
“ “ “ 4, River John	500.00
“ “ “ 6, Dalhousie,	450.00

“ “ “ 8, Greenhill,	800.00
“ “ “ 10, Gairloch.	210.00
“ “ “ 12, Albion Mines	100.00
“ “ “ 13, Churchville,	200.00
“ “ “ 15, McLellan’s Mtn.	150.00
“ “ “ 17, West Branch,	800.00
“ “ “ 19, Baillie’s Brook,	150.00
“ “ “ 21, Merigomish,	150.00
“ “ “ 23, Westville,	600.00
“ “ “ 25, Stellarton,	600.00
“ “ “ 27, Pictou Island,	?
“ “ “ 3, Cape John	350.00
“ “ “5, W.B. River John	100.00
“ “ “7, Hardwood Hill	50.00
“ “ “9, Mount Thom	100.00
“ “ “11, New Lairg	300.00
“ “ “13, Fraser’s Mt.	80.00
“ “ “14, Little Harbor,	200.00
“ “ “16, East Branch	400.00
“ “ “18, Middle River,	290.00
“ “ “20, Barney’s River	370.00
“ “ “22, Blue Mt.	95.00
“ “ “24, Wentworth Grant	<u>100.00</u>
Total	\$6770.00

3<sup>rd</sup>, Owing to the unequal way in which the Poor Rates are distributed over the county, we think that the time has come that the question of making the whole county a Poor District should be considered, and we would recommend that the Councilors should between this and May discuss the matter with the Ratepayers, and report to the Council at the May Term, so that some action should be taken.

Your committee would vote you to pass the following orders:

1<sup>st</sup>. That Anthony Rodger’s Jr. pay to the Overseers of Poor for Polling Sec. 7, seventy cents per week from the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 1886, towards the support of his father Anthony Rodgers, Snr. as long as the remains a charge on the section.

2<sup>nd</sup>. Ordered that the Overseers of Poor for Polling Sec. No. 21 – Dollars for the support of Old Paupers, said sum to be paid on or before the 1<sup>st</sup> day of December 1886.

3<sup>rd</sup>. Ordered That no overseer of Poor be allowed to supply the Poor with goods out of his own store.

A petition from Overseers of poor for Polling Sec. No. 24, in reference to the support of Robert Love a pauper, has been laid over until further evidence is produced.

On looking over the overseers of Poor’s accounts as far as presented we find that although there is a slight improvement on former years in the way they are kept still there is room for further improvement, such as keeping the receipts of monies received from Collectors, and monies borrowed separate and the same way be said in reference to monies paid out.

We would recommend the Councilors should look over all their accounts before being handed to the Clerk, so that when any information is required on them, they could give the explanation is required on them, they could give the explanation necessary.

Your committee would call the attention of the Council that although there is a new Polling Section, No. 25 formed, there is no change in the Poor Sections.

Further evidence being produced in reference to Robert Love to pauper. Your Committee cannot agree on what should be done in this matter.

All of which is respectively submitted

CHAS. McLENNAN }

JEFFERY McCOLL }

H.D. DENOON }

Com

The Committee on Licenses reported that no license was asked for, and therefore none were granted.

Council adjourned by motion until 2 p.m.

Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>

#### EVENING SESSION

Council met at 2 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. The minutes of forenoon meeting were read and adopted, also the auditors report which was handed to the committee on Finance.

Coun. John McDougald, M.P., moved the following resolution of which he gave notice in the forenoon.

“Whereas the Municipal Council of Pictou County on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of January 1882 apportioned to the several districts and places in the county their respective shares of the land damages for the Eastern Extension Railway.

And whereas an amendment and readjustment of the said appointment is necessary in consequence of a new Polling District, (No. 25), having been formed in 1885, whereby the valuation and boundaries of Polling Districts numbers 12 and 17 have been affected.

Be it therefore resolved that the said appointment on Polling District, Numbers 12 and 17 be so amended and re-adjusted that the Polling District below mentioned shall hereafter pay the following proportions and shares of the Eastern Extension Railway Damages, viz: -

Polling District No. 12, as now established 1 ½ per cent; Polling District No. 17, as now established 4 ½ per cent; Polling District No. 25, as now established 7 ½ per cent.

Moved by John McDougald, seconded by Rod McDougall.

The resolution was confined by unanimous vote.

The motion of Coun. McColl and the amendment moved by Coun. J. Rod McDonald in reference to the Pictou Coal and Iron Co., was now taken up for discussion.

Coun A. McHardy in speaking on the subject said that it was an entirely new feature in the history of the county for a company to ask encouragement of this nature. He was opposed to all species established, and to give such aid would create a bad precedent. The present industries would be taxed for one not any more deserving of encouragement than they are. If an industry cannot thrive under the favorable conditions which the iron trade is prosecuted better not have it showed what the Vale Co. had done without asking for, or getting a bonus.

Coun. A. Grant said that the production of iron would increase the output of coal and thereby benefit the mines.

Coun. Donald Fraser spoke of the low prices which can be obtained at the present time for farm produce. He favored the extension of the market. The establishment of smelting works would increase the demand, and raise the price of products. He thought that his constituents were against granting a bonus but he acted on his own responsibility.

Coun. J.D. Fraser could not understand how a country could be made rich by taxing itself, Produce from Ontario, P.E. Island, and the Western part of the Province comes into the county so that our farmers have to compete with those places, and consequently the population of the county would require to be greatly increased before there would be an appreciable raise in the prices. He corroborated Coun. Dewar's remarks in reference to the young men leaving the farm.

The amendment was put to vote and names asked for. In favor – Councilors Rob't Dewar, Chas. McLennan, A. McHardy, Jas. Kitchin, H.S. Fraser, R. Maxwell, H.D. Denoon, Colin Fraser, Rod McDougall, J.Rod McDougald, A.J. McKay and J.D. Fraser, 12.

Against – Councilors G.M. McKay, C. Dwyer, Jeffrey McColl, Thos. McDonald, John Weir, J.R. McPherson, A. Grant, A. Fraser, John McDougald, Donald Fraser, D.G. McDonald, and Jas. McKay, 12. An equal number being for and against the amendment it was thus negative.

Coun. McColl's resolution was then put. For – Councilors John McDougald, D. Fraser, G.M. McKay, C. Dwyer, Jeffery McColl, Thos. McDonald, Jas. McKay, John Weir, A. Grant, J.R. McPherson, D.G. McDonald and A. Fraser, 12.

Against – Councilors A.J. McKay, H.S. Fraser, J.R. McDonald, Jas. Kitchin, A. McHardy, Chas. McLennon, Robt. Dewar, John D. Fraser, Rod. McDougall, Colin Fraser, H.D. Denoon, Robt. Maxwell and Robt McNeil, 13.

The resolution was lost by a majority of one.

Coun. John McDougald moved the following resolution which was seconded by Coun. Thos. McDonald.

“Whereas the Pictou Coal and Iron Co. has applied for aid and encouragement in the development of Iron industries in Pictou Co. and whereas the development of such industries will benefit the commercial agricultural and other interests of the municipality, and it being desirable to encourage the manufacture of Iron and Steel in the county of Pictou.

Be it therefore resolved as follows:

First, The Blast Furnaces, Rolling Mills, Machinery, Plant, Workshops, Buildings, Railways and other property belongings to say incorporated Co. or other proprietor engaged in the smelting or manufacturing of Iron and Steele n the county of Pictou, while employed for the purposes of said industry, shall be exempt from assessments for, and payment of all local and municipal taxes, within the municipality for a period of 20 years, from the time such proprietor shall have furnished proof, to the Municipal Council or the said of the said County that \$200,000 have been *bona fide* expended in the establishment of such works then operation, provided such proof be furnished before 1<sup>st</sup> July, 1880, and provided such exemptions shall not extend to land and dwelling houses.

Several Councilors who had voted against Coun. McColl's resolution thought that no harm could come from passing his motion and done being put to vote it was carried by 18 to 3.

Councilors Jas. Kitchin, A. McHardy and Thos. McDonald were appointed a committee to prepare instructions for Assessors & c.

Afterwards the Council adjourned until 10 a.m. to-morrow.

Jan. 21<sup>st</sup>.

Council met at 10 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. On the roll being called, all the councilors were present.

The minutes of last meeting were adopted as read by the clerk.

Coun. G.M. McKay drew the attention of the council to a paragraph in the reports which he though, by going to the country, would have a damaging effect on his character and business.

The basis of the paragraph was a dispute which took place between the Warden and Coun. McKay regarding a statement which the latter alleged the former had made during the May Term, and which the Warden denied having uttered. Coun. McKay said that he desired to approach the matter in a friendly manner, and did not wish to take up much of the Council's time. He re-iterated what he had said on a previous occasion, and defied contradiction. Those who knew him from childhood could vouch for his truthfulness.

The Warden again denied the charge, and read the portion of the Minutes of May meeting which referred to the case, but no mention was made of it in them. He stated that what Coun. McKay said was untrue.

Coun. Donald Fraser remarked that the reporter should sit apart from the Councilors, and also that the reports were influenced by Clrs. Dewar and J.D. Fraser.

This Coun. Dewar said was a serious charge, but it has not the slightest foundation, in fact.

Coun. McColl asked the Warden to withdraw what he said in reference to Coun. McKay. He was more to blame than the Warden for contesting the case, but he would not be a member of a Council who would allow the Warden to term a statement by any Councilor as untrue. This not being done Coun. McColl left the Council.

The Warden read a document regarding the legislation required for the right of way for the extension of the railway from Stellarton to Pictou, which was received.

A resolution was passed in reference to the provisional management of the Harmless Insane Asylum.

To the Warden and Councilors of the Municipality of Pictou:

Jan. Term 1886

Your Committee on Public Property beg leave to report as follows:

Your Committee finds the new Court House in the town of Pictou in good order, and not requiring any expenditure at present.

An offer has been submitted to us by the Pictou Gas Light Co. (limited) for furnishing all the fixtures necessary for lighting the Court House, for a sum not to exceed Eighty dollars (\$80.00) which, in our opinion, is a very reasonable offer; but at present we would recommend to let the matter lie over, and if found necessary it can be taken up at the May Term.

Your Committee also visited the old Court House and Jail, and found the debtors room in a very dilapidated condition, the plaster on the walls and ceiling all broken and falling off. Also a long felt want of a water closet in the building.

Your Committee would recommend that one of Heap's Patent Dry Earth Closets be put in the debtors' room, as an experiment, and the ceiling and walls of said room be plastered. The sum of One Hundred dollars (\$100.00) will, in our opinion, be sufficient for the necessary repairs and improvements, and we appropriated and expended under the superintendence of Commissioner of the Court House, or the Clerk of the municipality.

Your Committee on Public Property in their report of Jan. Term, 1885, suggested that the County Market grounds, market building and hay scales in the town of Pictou, be offered to the Pictou Town Council, on condition that the Town Council would erect a market building in every way suitable for the town and country.

And whereas by vote the Town Council of Pictou, dated the 16<sup>th</sup> day of January, 1886, expressed their willingness to take the said market building, hay scales and grounds.

Therefore your committee would beg leave to renew the offer of 1885, and that the Warden of the County be authorized on behalf of this Council to lease the said market grounds, hay scales, and building for a term of years not exceeding twenty-one (21) years, and then to renew

the lease from term to term. That is to say, on condition that the town of Pictou will repair or enlarge the present market building or erect a new building that will afford ample accommodation to the country for a county market, and that the hay scales and market will be kept in good order, and that the charges for weighing hay will not exceed former rates, and that existing regulations will not be interfered with, without the concurrence of the County Municipal Council. Also, that in the event of the municipality again requiring said market grounds and buildings at any time may have the same by paying the town of Pictou, the amount expended upon the said buildings or grounds.

The Warden of Municipality, and the Mayor of the town of Pictou, at the time being, shall be commissioners to ascertain the value of such improvements, and in the event of the said Warden and Mayor not being able to agree, they shall select a third party to determine the same and the award of the said Commissioners shall be final.

Your Committee's attention has been called to the condition of the furnace in the Court House at New Glasgow, and we would recommend that the Commissioner of Public Property in the town of New Glasgow be authorized to make such repairs as in their opinion will be necessary to keep the building safe from fire, and prevent loss to the building in any other manner.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Donald Fraser  
Robert Dewar  
John Weir

The portion of the report referring to the petition of Roderick Henderson, was struck out. Coun. Dwyer said that, as one of the citizens of Pictou, he would certainly object to the taking over of the market building and grounds upon the conditions mentioned in the report, and graphically described the present dilapidated state of the market.

Quite an animated discussion took place about the bridge built by Mr. Wm. McKay, across Barry's Brook. The Warden explained that the bridge was put under the Bridge Act and that the Council had nothing to do with it, but that it was under the charge of the Provincial Government.

The Warden read the names of the Treasurer's bondsmen, viz: Messrs. Isaac A. Grant, William McLaren, and George McKenzie, M.D., which were accepted.

To the Municipal Council of Pictou.

Jan. Term., 1886

Your committee on Highway Labor beg to report that they have carefully examined the Statute Labor returns submitted to them, and are happy to report that surveyors of highways have shown more care in making up their returns than they have in previous years.

Your committee find the following Statute Labor returns wanting, and would recommend that if said returns were not sent to the Clerk of the Municipality on or before the May meeting of this Council, that the Clerk is requested to proceed as the law directs, against delinquent surveyors of highways, unless such surveyors, or the Councilor of the district make satisfactory explanations in connection with the matter at the May meeting of this Council.

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#### PETITONS FOR PRIVATE STATUTE LABOUR

Section 1. Malcolm McKenzie, Hogg Munro & Co.

Sect. 2. A. Ross, Dan McKenzie, Simon McQuarrie

Sect. 3. Albert Gollan, Jas. D. Gollan, J.D. Miller, Ed Heighton, John Inues, Thomas McKay.

Sect. 4. Jas. Patriquin, Matthew Patriquin,

- Sect. 5. John J. Murray, Wm. McKay, John Adamson, Robt Rae.  
 Sect. 6. Geo McIntosh, ½ Labor, A. McKenzie, ½ do. John McKenzie  
 Sect. 7. Geo F. Logan, Alex Sutherland,  
 Sect. 8. Geo Hamilton, J.D. Cameron, Alex Haliday ,Chas. H.Clark, Thos. A. Donald, John J. McCabe. (not granted)  
 Sect. 9. Rodk Munro, Jas. McDonald, (sic)  
 Sect. 10. James McDonald, asking communication money to be refunded (not granted)  
 Sect. 11. Jas. Fraser, Philip Gordon  
 Sect. 12 Alex Sylvester  
 Sect 13. Daniel G. McDonald  
 Sect. 14. Ed McGregor  
 Sect. 15. Angus Campbell, John Cameron, Kenneth McKenzie, Hector Fraser, Hugh McDonald, and Son, D.G. McDonald, R. McIntosh  
 Sect. 16. W.D. Fraser, D.C. McDonald, John R. McIntosh, John A. McDonald  
 Sect. 17. John McDonald, W.D. McDonald, Jno McDonald, Samuel Cameron, Alex Cameron. Petition to change road limits to 438. (not granted)  
 Sect. 18. John R. McQuarrie, Jas. A. Collie, Norman McLeod, Jas. McLeod, Joseph Jardine, Frances Ross, John R. McLeod.  
 Sect. 19. Chan McKinnon, (2 days) Jas and Hugh McDonald  
 Sect. 20. Joseph and Wm. Irving, Robert McLeod, John McIvor, Gabriel Innes, And. Murray, Jas. Sutherland  
 Sect. 21. Robt. Smith, David Mitchell  
 Sect. 22. John McIntosh, Norman Green, Duncan Hood  
 Sect. 23. William Madden  
 Sect. 24. David Hill, David McDonald, Rodk McDonald, John Mitchell  
 Sect. 25. Alex Grant,

All of which is respectfully submitted.

D.G. McDonald

C. Dwyer

Donald Fraser

Alex Grant

Geo McKay

The above report was adopted unanimously

The auditors report is as follows:

To the Warden and Councilors of the municipality of Pictou, January Term 1886.

Gentlemen your auditors beg to report that they have examined the books of the Municipal Clerk and Treasurer and found the same correct. There is \$4226.80 in the hands of the Treasurer and a balance of \$4364.22 due from the town of Pictou, \$2497.70 due from the Town of New Glasgow and a balance of \$3803.50 due from Collectors for 1885 and from collectors of previous years \$495.68. A considerable portion of this amount has been paid in by District collectors since the accounts were balanced, which shows the necessity of councilors urging upon their respective Collectors to pay into the Treasury in December instead of waiting until January.

We find the fines paid by Justices of the Peace to be \$80.65 during the year and \$200 for forfeited bonds paid by Sheriff.

The total liabilities of the Municipality at the close of the year were \$6238.09 exclusive of Railway and Poor Asylum Debentures. The assets are \$15,255.07 the details of which appear in the Treasurer's report.

Respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM CAMERON

D.W. MCKEAN } Auditors

Below is given an abstract of the Finance Committee's report.

To the Municipal Council of Pictou Jan. Term 1880.

Your committee on Finance having examined the accounts placed before them and the report and references of the auditors, beg to report as follows:

The sum of \$6549.79 herein after recommended to be paid for the services of 1885 should be added to the Liabilities of the County at 31<sup>st</sup> December 1885 as set forth in the last report of the Municipal Treasurer.

We recommend the following accounts to be paid out of the Fines moneys, viz:

To Donald Murray per act.	\$12.59
“ John Fraser “ “	15.00
“ Wm. McDonald “ “	11.50
“ J.J. Irving “ “	7.02
“ George Hoon “ “	5.00
“ Alex. McKinnon “ “	11.00
“ Ann Chisholm “ “	<u>3.00</u>
Total	\$64.52

We recommend the following accounts be paid.

To the assessors for 1885	\$655.00
For medical services & c.	135.00
“ Prothonotary justices & c.	129.06
“ Constables & c.	93.86
“ Jail Accounts & c.	2262.22
“ Printing Stationary & c.	130.55
“ Road Committee Supervisors & c.	223.50
“ Bushing Ice	
“ Subject to order of Warden	84.42
“ Miscellaneous Bills	<u>2836.79</u>
	\$6549.79

We also beg to make the following recommendations, viz

- 1<sup>st</sup>. That the medical attendance on prisoners in Pictou Jail for 1886 be arranged for by the Clerk and Warden.
- 2<sup>nd</sup>. That commissioners to be paid collectors in Pictou Jail for 1886 be as follows; In section No. 25 two per cent in other actions three per cent.
- 3<sup>rd</sup>. That the sum of five hundred dollars be assessed on Stellarton Police District for Police Purposes for the current year.
- 4<sup>th</sup>. That the sum of four hundred and fifty dollars be assessed on Westville Police Division for the current year (viz, sixty five dollars for Fire Purposes and the balance for police purposes.
- 5<sup>th</sup>. That \$20 be granted for a Ferry between Carriboo Island and the Mainland, subject to existing regulations.
- 6<sup>th</sup>. That the payment in the Treasurer's accounts for 1885 as contingencies be approved of.

7<sup>th</sup>. That the Treasurer make immediate demands for the payment of the amount due from the towns of Pictou and New Glasgow for County Assessment, and notify collectors and their bondsmen to settle accounts forthwith to the end of 1884.

8<sup>th</sup>. That the Clerk take steps to enforce payment of Fines due the Municipality which have been collected by Justices of the Peace in 1884 and 1885 not yet paid over.

9<sup>th</sup>. That the salaries of the under mentioned Municipal officers for 1886 be fixed as follows:

The Sheriff is Jailor at Pictou, caretaker of Courthouses, attending criminal suits & c.	\$200.00
The Jailor at New Glasgow,	200.00
“ “ “ Westville	75.00
“ “ “ Stellarton	75.00
“ “ “ River John	60.00

The County Treasurer for salary and postage and for Road and Bridge services one per cent, on amount of County Road Grant

	425.00
The Mun. Clerk for Salary, Postage and Stationary	500.00
Revisers of Electoral Lists for Districts 1, 2, 7,	\$15.
“ “ “ 3, 4,	15
“ “ “ 5, 6,	15
“ “ “ 8, 9	15
“ ” “ 10, 11	15
“ “ “ 12, 13, 14	15
“ “ “ 17, 25	15
“ “ “ 15, 16	15
“ “ “ 18, 23	15
“ “ “ 19, 20	15
“ “ “ 21, 22, 24	15

Your committee submit the following estimate of the sums required for the services of the year 1886 and recommend that the County be assessed therefore.

#### ESTIMATE

County Clerk for salary, stationary and postage	\$500
County Treasurer for salary and postage	425
County Auditors	40
Sheriff for services	130
Jailors at Pictou, New Glasgow, Westville, Stellarton and River John	610
Revisers	165
Collectors	750
Assessors	500
Warden and Councilors	800
Municipal Elections	200
Removal of Lunatics & c.	400
Maintenance of Lunatics	6,000
Grand and Petit Jurors	600
Public Buildings (Insurance, Fuel, Repairs & c.)	700
Printing, Stationary & c.	300
Bushing Ice	100
Road Damages, Committee's & c.	300

Board Bedding & c. for prisoners	700
Inquests, Prosecutions & c.	600
Contingencies	500
County Asylum Debentures	1500
For Public Schools	10,600
To pay debentures and Interest for Eastern Extension Railway. Damages to be levied as apportioned by Municipal Council on 16 <sup>th</sup> Jan. 1882 with amendment passed 20 <sup>th</sup> Jan. 1886,	<u>6,039</u>
Total	\$32,819

Loss proportions for Railway Damages and General County rates payable by the Towns viz:

For Pictou	\$3,011.40
New Glasgow	<u>2,600.00</u>
	\$27,207.60

Balance twenty-seven thousand to hundred and seven dollars and sixty cents to be assessed on the County of Pictou, outside of the towns of Pictou and New Glasgow.

Respectfully submitted  
 JOHN MCDOUGALD }  
 R. McDOUGALD }  
 COLIN FRASER }  
 ALEX FRASER }

Committee

The report adopted unanimously

The committee appointed to report on the petition of landowners at Scotsburn for remuneration for Short Line Railway Damages, reported as follows which was adopted.

To the Municipal Council of Pictou County Jan. Term 1886

Your committee on Short Line Railway Damages, beg to report that they have considered the petition of land owners at Scotsburn respecting Land Damages for the Short Line Railway, and after examination of Acts and Documents relative to the said damages.

Your committee recommend that the matter be taken up for determination at the half yearly meeting of the County Council and that legal advice be obtained as to the action to be taken, the committee to report again at next meeting of Council. All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAS KITCHIN  
 ALEX MCHARDY  
 JOHN MCDOUGALD

The Chairman of the nominating committee read their report which was adopted as a whole.

The minutes of the meeting were read by the Clerk and approved, also the minutes as read from day to day were approved as a whole after which the council adjourned.

Pictou Jan'y term 1886  
 Robert McNeil *Warden*