

MINUTES AND PROCEEDINGS
Of the
Municipal Council of Pictou co.
APRIL SESSION, 1889

First Day

Tuesday, April, 16th – Council met at 10 a.m. The Warden opened the meeting with prayer. Clerk called the roll. All the Councilors were present except three. The papers on file with the clerk were distributed to the several committees. On special motion the asylum accounts were handed to the Finance Committee to be examined and audited. The memorial of the Board of Revision and Appeal, remonstrating against the disallowance of a part of their account presented in January term, was read; but no action thereon. The Warden called the attention of the Council to the first section of the New Franchise Act, requiring the appointment of Revisers at the half-yearly meeting. The Warden read the Treasurer's half-yearly report. On motion the Council adjourned until 2 p.m. to enable the Committee to go to work.

AFTERNOON – The minutes of previous meeting were read and approved. The papers filed with the Clerk since last meeting were distributed to the proper Committees. A letter from Charles McKinnon, Pictou Landing, was read and referred to the Clerk. A memorial from Simon Bannerman and others complaining of a clerical error in their assessment, was referred to the Assessment Committee.

Clr. Bell introduced and read a petition from residents of Riverton, protesting against a change made in the statute labor limits. On motion it was referred to the Committee on Statute Labor.

On motion of Councilor McKenzie, seconded by Clr. Kitchin, the following resolution was passed:

“Whereas the overseers of poor in Section No. 4 have been applied to for support by Duncan Cameron and Mary Cameron his sister; and whereas the same parties having some real and personal property, have conveyed the same to the overseers of poor in accordance with section 30, chapter 35, R.S.

Resolved that the Council grant an order to said overseers to sell said property, and convey the same; the proceeds to be appropriated as ordinary funds of said poor district.”

Clrs. McKenzie and Kitchin brought up the question of damages on the Short Line. Mr. Bell thought some means should be taken to ascertain the amount due, with a view to a settlement with the parties; then the county might claim the amount from the Dominion Government. Clr. J.D. Fraser thought the county was not liable. Clr. Dewar agreed with Clr. Bell. Clr. Arch McKenzie thought it was the duty of the Council to settle the matter. Clr. Bell proposed the appointment of a committee to ascertain the facts. The Warden considered the Government responsible. Clr Colin Fraser thought the committee should also be authorized to inquire into the means necessary to be adopted in order to have the claims settled. Clr. Ross supported the proposal. Clr. Bell moved, seconded by Clr. Colin Fraser as follows:

Resolved: That a committee of three Councilors be appointed to ascertain the amount of damages sustained by persons on the portions of the proposed line of the Short Line Railway, which have been abandoned and are not now a part of the road as being built by the Dominion Government, and the said Committee should report to the next January term of this Council in detail the persons who have sustained damages with an approximate estimate of the amount of such damages and also should report on the legal position of the County, the Short Line Railway Company and the Dominion Government with respect to such damages; and also what

legislation may be required to enable this County to dispose of this matter in such a manner as may best preserve the interests of this County and of the persons immediately affected by such damages.

The resolution passed.

The remainder of the afternoon was devoted to committee work and the Council adjourned to meet at 9 a.m. to morrow

Second Day

WEDNESDAY – FORENOON SESSION – Council met at 9 a.m. The minutes of last meeting were read and approved. The memorial of the Pictou Steam Ferry Co. was read by the Warden and referred to the Nominating Committee.

The petition of Allan McQuarrie and others for a road was received and referred to the Committee on Roads and Bridges.

Moved by A.J. McKay, seconded by Colin Fraser, that the Government Road and Bridges allowance be expended by Supervisors. – Carried.

Clr. Oliver presented a deed of dedication of lands at Westville instructed by the Black Diamond Coal Co. On motion it was referred to the Road and Bridges Committee.

The following resolution was moved by Clr H.S. Fraser seconded by Clr Colin Fraser.

Whereas: In Road Board No. 2, there are many bridges but all of small size and therefore not of the class which comes under the operations of the Bridge Act. and the burden on the mid road board for the maintenance of these bridges exceed what is borne by other road boards in which the road monies (supplemented by monies expenditures and the Bridge Act; and whereas the bridge at Wilson Smith's Mill was damaged and virtually destroyed by a storm in January, thus imposing an expense of at two hundred dollars on the Road Board;

Therefore resolved, that the sum of \$100 be granted from the fines now or about to become in the possession of the County Treasurer to Road Board No. 2.

The resolution passed.

A letter from Wm. Gammon claiming damages for injury to his horses on a road was read and referred to the Road and Bridge Committee.

The petition of Jas. Sutherland, Sec 10 for an advance for fencing was read. Clr. J.D. Fraser moved, seconded by Clr. Kitchin that the petition be ordered to lie on the table. Clr. Sutherland opposed the motion. Clr. Colin Fraser thought there were several circumstances in this case which deserved consideration. Clr MacDougall said such cases should be very carefully considered; but it would be discourteous to refuse to receive it. The motion was withdrawn and the petition referred to the Road and Bridge Committee.

Clr. R. McDougall brought to the notice of the Council the fact that prisoners committed under the Scott Act were placed in the debtors' room in the jail. He was of the opinion that being criminals they should be put in the criminal cells.

The Committee then went to work and at 12:30 the Council adjourned until 2 p.m.

AFTERNOON SESSION – Council met at 2 p.m. The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

Clr. Bell read the report of Wm. Smith, Inspector of Licenses, showing a balance in favor of County of \$149, and made explanation thereon.

On motion the report was received and referred to the Finance Committee.

A petition from residents of Thorburn for a road was presented and ordered to be referred to the Road and Bridge Committee.

A petition from the New York and Nova Scotia Iron Company asking for a subsidy was presented and read. Clrs. Ross and Dewar supported the prayer of the petition. Clr. Kitchin said that last session the matter had been deferred until January, 1890. Clr J.D. Murray thought nothing should be done until the time allowed to the Pictou Iron Co. should expire. Clr. Bell said the New York Co had shown an intention to go on, and would probably build their railway, and ought to be assisted. The Warden said the Pictou Iron Co. had a *bona fide* contract with the Dominion Government, and had been delayed in getting the approval of the Local Government to the subsidy voted by the Council and thought the Council should do nothing. Clr Grant proposed that the Council should hear Mr. McGillivray, Solicitor for the New York Company. Mr. McGillivray then addressed the Council briefly, saying that all the company wanted was an assurance that if the Pictou Iron Company should fail to earn the subsidy offered in 1888, within the time mentioned or any further time to which the offer might be extended by the Council, then the subsidy should be given to the New York Co. Clr. Ross thought it was useless to send the petition to the Railway Committee, as all the members of that committee were opposed to it. Clr. McDougall said the Pictou Iron Co was required to spend \$250,000 in smelting works as well as to build the railway, whereas the New York Company might build the railway for the purpose of carrying away the ore to be smelted elsewhere. He thought faith should be kept with Mr. Bartlett's Company. Clr. J.D. Fraser said no fault could be found with the composition of the Railway Committee. The benefits of the undertaking proposed to be aided would be confined to one or two sections, while the expense would be borne by the whole County and every section of the County should be represented. The petition was referred to the Railway Committee.

The petition of Alex Grant, Collector of County rates, for Sec. 16, for 1888, asking for a refund of money paid to the Treasurer was read by the Warden.

Clr. A.J. McKay read the report of the Road and Bridge Committee as follows:

REPORT OF ROAD AND BRIDGE COMMITTEE

Your committee beg leave to bring to your notice the following recommendations for confirmation:

Petition from inhabitants, Thorburn to include streets to their road limits. Recommended

Petitions, rate payers, Stellarton, to lay out, straighten and define Main Street, Stellarton, Recommended.

JAMES ROY, Com

Petition, ratepayers of Stellarton, relating to street from Halifax Co. office to railway station. Deferred.

Petition of Charles Smith, Sec. 21, for Pent Road. Recommended.

F.W. MCKENZIE, Com

John Fraser, Fox Brook, petition for Pent Road, Recommended.

JAMES S. FRASER

Petition against road from Hattie's Bridge to Piedmont Valley. Recommended be deferred to first Jan'y term.

Petition from residents, Sec 21, for leave to place gates on an old road. Not recommended.

Petition of ratepayers, Marsh, against closing old road

We find no petition on file applying to have said road closed.

Petition for road at Toney River. Recommended.

JAMES S. FRASER, Com

Confirmation of alteration in the road from John McBeath's to Sutherland's, between Hugh Sutherland's road and John Park's gate. Recommended that the matter be deferred to first Jan'y term, as there is nothing to show that the notices required by law were posted up.

Precept to extend the public road from George Sutherland's to Munroe's westwardly down Bear Brook to main post road, Wm. Robertson's.

Recommended that the same be also deferred to first Jan'y term, as the papers do not show that the proper notices have been posted up.

Claim by William Gammon of River John for damages to his horses and wagon at different times, purported to be caused by neglect of the proper authorities in keeping the roads between River John and Pictou in a passable condition.

Recommended that said petitioner present the amount of his claims to the Municipal clerk for consideration.

Petition of James Sutherland, Sec. 10, for payment of fencing. Not recommended.

Dedication of street by Black Diamond Co. to Municipality. Recommended to be accepted.

Petition respecting gates by Samuel Cameron, Elgin. Recommended the matter be deferred to first Jan'y term.

Petition for a new road limit by Samuel Cameron, Elgin. Not recommended.

Petition of ratepayers, Thorburn, for a road. Recommended.

ALEX MCHARDY, Com,

Petition for confirmation of Thorburn police district.

Recommended the matter be deferred for the present for the following reasons: First, that it appears that the last laid out boundaries extend too far into adjoining Sections, especially in one direction. Secondly, that an influential petition was presented from some of the inhabitants within the contemplated boundaries, objecting strongly against its confirmation for the present, and that their appears to be what your committee consider, financial difficulties in the way at present for confirmation of said Road District.

The Provincial Road Grants is recommended to be apportioned as follows, viz: -

Road District No. 1	\$2038.00
“ “ “ No. 2	1310.00
“ “ “ No. 3	2205.00
“ “ “ No. 4	1,321.25
Total	\$6,874.25

Sgd

ALEX J. MCKAY
JOHN D. FRASER
JAMES CAMPBELL
JOHN F. OLIVER

Court House,
April 17, 1889

On motion the report was received and read clause by clause.

On the clause referring to a change made by the Supervisors for Egerton in a road, Clr. McDonald asked for the reason why the recommendations of the Supervisors were not concurred in. Clr. J.D. Fraser explained the reasons that led to the Committee's action – principally that nothing was known of the cost to be incurred. Clr. McDougall thought that since the road was necessary and the cost sure to be small, no interest would suffer from the adoption of the Supervisor's Report. Clr. Bell suggested that the Sup. Report should be adopted with the

condition that a conveyance of the land be taken, and the sum for fencing fixed. The clause was sent back to the Committee for amendment.

On the clause referring to James Sutherland's claim for fencing, Clr. Sutherland urged that the matter be deferred to the Jan'y term. The clause, however, was adopted.

The remainder of the Report was adopted clause by clause.

On motion, the Clerk was instructed to provide Minute Books for the Boards of Health.

Clr. Bell referred to the bad state of the roads throughout the county, and thought the matter should be discussed in the Council, and means devised for improving them. He proposed that in each township some bad piece of road should be selected, and drained, or built with brush or gravel as an experiment. The cost of the work need not exceed \$75 in each township in a year. Clr. Dewar agreed, but thought the work should be done in every polling Section. Cl. J.D. Fraser said the experiment of making roads with brush had already been tried in his Section and was successful. He thought persons should be employed for the special purpose of watching the roads and making repairs as needed. Clr. Arch. McKenzie said the past winter had exceptional, but there was no doubt something should be done. He thought surveyors of highways should be authorized to repair roads at any season of the year when the repairs should be required. Clr. R. McDougall said the great problem was to find out how good roads can be secured. He thought Mr. Bell's suggestions should be adopted. When the people should see the success of such experiments, they might be willing to go further. Clr. Matheson said the first thing to be done was to get anew Statute Labor Law. He thought brush was useful on roads, but it should be small.

Some discussions occurred on the large amounts of last year's assessment uncollected in several districts. The Treasurer and Clerk were directed to press for payment of these amounts.

The following resolution was moved by Clr. Bell, seconded by Clr. A.J. McKay:

Resolved – That this Council recommend each road which is notoriously bad, and which is in a very public place, and to try the experiment of draining such road by a covered drain at a depth of 3 ½ to 4 feet, running lengthwise under the middle of the road, and discharging into each available outlet, constructed with brush, poles or stone. That such a piece of road should not exceed one quarter mile in length, and that the road board should make a special return of the cost of such permanent construction. If preferred, the road board may construct the road with poles and brush laid across the road and covered with earth, the cost to be returned as above.

Clr. Hugh McKenzie said draining had been tried with much success in his Section. The Resolution was carried.

At 5 p.m. the Council adjourned to meet at 9 a.m. to-morrow

THIRD DAY FORENOON SESSION

Council met at 9 a.m. The minutes of last meeting were read and approved. Clr. Dewar read the report of the committee on public property as follows –

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC PROPERTY APRIL TERM

To the Warden and Municipal Council April Term, 1889

Your committee beg leave to report as follows. We have made an inspection of the old Court House and County Jail and found the same in good order; no repairs required.

Your committee have before us the report of the commissioners of county property in the town of New Glasgow, recommending much needed repairs on the Court House and Lockup. Your committee would therefore recommend that this council order the commissioners to make

the necessary repairs on the Court House and Lockup in New Glasgow; the amount not to exceed \$500.

We have before us the report of the commissioners of the Lockup at Westville recommending the erection of a small kitchen for the keeper. We recommend that the council order the commissioners at Westville to erect a kitchen for the keeper, by tender and contract, not to cost more than \$100.00

Your committee have before them the report of the commissioner appointed to insure county buildings. We are pleased that the instructions of the council were carried out. Your committee find that all the public buildings are insured in good offices, and at very reasonable rates.

With regard to the Pictou County Asylum, the buildings appear to be in good condition. In the main building stairways are so arranged as to afford a great safeguard to the inmates in case of fire. There is a large supply of water in or near the building, which is available in the case of fire; but, in the event of fire occurring, the safety of the inmates would be the first consideration, and it is questionable if the attendants at the institution could afford to give much time in attempts to extinguish fires. The introduction of water into the building by pipes from New Glasgow water works, or other source affording sufficient pressure would be an additional safeguard from accidents by fire, and would be of advantage in furnishing a full supply of soft water, which has now occasionally to be hauled on carts or by sleds. The question of an improved soft water supply is worthy of consideration, provided the cost is not too great. The building is now occupied to its full capacity, the patients at 31st Dec., 1888, being sixty-five insane, and twenty-two paupers.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ROBERT DEWAR
ALEX GRANT
ALEX MCKENZIE

On motion the report was received. On motion, consideration of the report was deferred to January Term.

Clr. Dewar proposed an amendment to the law respecting the laying out of roads, requiring that when the petitioner for a pent road is ordered to pay the damages, in such cases the damages should be paid to the treasurer before the road is confirmed. The matter was deferred to the January term.

Clr. Hugh S. Fraser read the report of the Nominating committee as follows:

REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Your committee on nominations beg to report as follows:

Be it resolved by the Municipal council of Pictou County, that the following persons respectfully shall be officers of the municipality as hereinafter set forth, viz;

SURVEYORS OF HIGHWAYS AND LIMITS

In Section No. 4, Road Limit No. 97; Christopher Brown in place of James Perrin, left the place.

In Section No. 9, Road Limit No. 229; James E. Barry, in place of Wm. Sutherland, over age.

In Section No. 12, Road Limit No. 312, Simon Murray in place of Geo. I. Stewart left the place.

In Section No. 3, Road Limit No. 83, Duncan McKenzie in place of James Holmes

Road Limit No. 85, James Holmes in place of William Murray

Road Limit No. 86, William Murray

In Section No. 2, New Road Limit No. 21

Road Limit No. 27, William Bickers, in place of John McNaughton

Road Limit No. 26, George McKay, in place of William L. McKay
Section No. 15, Road Limit No. 356, William Hepburn, in place of John J. Naysmith
Section No. 25, Street Commissioner, Charles McMillan, in place of Alex'r Wylie

FERRYMEN

For Pictou Harbor, the Pictou Steam Ferry Company.

SUPERVISORS OF ROADS AND BRIDGES

For Pictou Road District No. 1, Allan McQuarrie

For West River Road, District No. 2, Daniel A. McKenzie

For Egerton Road, District No. 3, James McDonald, (Iron Ore)

For Maxwelton Road, District No. 4, John Fraser for polling section No. 21, 22, and 24; Joseph Fraser for polling sections No. 19 and 20

ASSESSORS

Section No. 18, Robert McArthur in place of Donald Gordon, leaving the place.

Section No. 12, Alexander Sylvester in place of Geo. I Stewart.

In Section No. 24 James Ross in place of Alexander McDougall.

Committee to inquire respecting means of relatives to support pauper, lunatics, etc., under Section 37, Chapter 38, Revised Statutes.

For Egerton Township, William F. McKenzie, (N.G.)

STIPENDIARY MAGISTRATE.

For River John, John Gollan, in place of James Kitchen.

OVERSEER OF THE POOR.

In Section No. 13, Roderick McKay, in place of David Ross, leaving the place.

SURVEYORS OF LUMBER AND BARK

Section No. 17.- Sam Cameron, Centredale; Daniel Foster Elgin; Thomas McDonald, Lorne; Andrew McKay, Lorne; Arthur Proudfoot, Lorne.

THE BOARD REVISION AND APPEAL

James S Fraser, West River; James T. Thompson, St. Pauls; Alexander McDougall, Blue Mountains.

REVISORS

For Revisal Section, No. 1, Polling Districts No. 1, 2 and 7, Daniel McDonald, John McIvor and John J. Logan.

For Revisal Section No. 2, Polling Districts No. 3 and 4, William Henry, Allan Fraser, and George Munro.

For Revisal Section No. 5 and 6, Andrew W. Murray, John Reid and Roderick McKay.

For Revisal Section No. 4, Polling Districts 8 and 9, John D. Cameron, Samuel W. McDonald and Duncan C. Davies.

For Revisal Section NO. 5, Polling District No. 10 and 11, John McKay Wallace Munro and Philip Gordon.

For Revisal Section No. 6, Polling Districts No. 12, 13 and 14, James W. Fraser, Robert Mitchell and James A. McIntosh.

For Revisal Section No. 7, Polling Districts No. 15 and 16, W. Scott Fraser, John McPhie and John McDonald, (Roy.)

For Revisal Section No. 8, Polling Districts No. 17 and 25, J.D. McLean, John McQuarrie and John F. Cameron.

For Revisal Section No. 9, Polling Districts 19 and 20, Donald McDougall, Esq., William McGillivray, Esq., and Laughlin Blair.

For Revisal Section No. 10, Polling Districts No. 21, 22 and 24, James Grant Esq., Alexander Fraser and James D. Grant.

For Revisal Section No. 11, Polling Districts No. 18 and 23, Robert Fraser, Robert McArthur and M. Sutherland, M.D.

Respectfully submitted.

H.S. Fraser, A.C. Bell, R. McDougall- Committee on Nominations. Court House, Pictou, 18th April, 1889.

On motion the report was adopted. On motion the persons named in the report were appointed to the several offices to which they are therein respectively designated.

Clr. John McDonald read the report of the committee on statute labor as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON HIGHWAY LABOR

To the Municipal Council of the County of Pictou, April Term 1889.

Your committee on highway labor beg leave to report as follows:- We find that the road returns missing in January term have since been returned.

Your Committee recommend that the following parties be allowed to perform their Statute Labor on their own roads as set forth in their respective petitions.

In Section No. 4 John Innis.

In Section No. 5 John J. Murray

In Section No. 15 Robert P. Fraser

In Section No. 25 Duncan McKenzie

The petition of Alex McKay of Glenfalloch to include in road Section No. 351 the road from Glenfalloch to Fisher's Grant road at Big Gut.

Your committee recommend that the petition be granted and that the above road be included.

The petition of ratepayers of Riverton, Section No. 17 against the change of Road limits between Stellarton and Riverton.

Your committee recommend that old limits still be retained. Neil Matheson.

John McDonald.

On Motion the report was received and adopted.

Clr. McKay read a supplementary Report of the Committee on Roads and Bridges as follows:

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

Road and Bridges Report:

Petition inhabitants Stellarton for committee to lay out and define streets.

Granted.

A.W. McBain, Com.

Report for Supervisors of public grounds, Egerton, in reference to a change made by them in the road leading from Thorburn, through Marsh Settlement to Sherbrook Road, and also a recommendation for fencing road.

Recommended that the report of said Supervisors be adopted and that Daniel McDonald receive the sum of Thirty dollars for land damages and fencing in connection with this as a per-agreement attached. Passed.

Petition from James Ritchie & Sons, of West Branch of River John for a road along bank of Mill Dam, up Stream, on the North side of said Stream through lands of John. A. Matheson.

Granted. Jas. S. Fraser, Com.

Alex J. McKay, Chairman.

On motion the Report was received and read clause by clause and passed.

Clr. Bell read the report of the Finance Committee as follows:

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The committee on Finance beg to report as follows:

We have examined and passed the following accounts and recommend that they be paid by County Treasurer:

Removal of Lunatics.

Nicholson	constable	\$20.00	
James R. McDonald	“	3.35	
Roderick McCulloch	J.P.	2.00	
			_____ \$25.35

Printing.

Pictou News		24.91	
Eastern Chronical		2.75	
“	“	adv.	2.30
Telegram		.25	
			_____ \$ 30.21

Bushing Ice.

Alex McKenzie, Commission'r	9.00	
Robt. McKay	33.50	
Wm McGregor	15.00	
John Cameron	27.32	
		84.82
Board of Revisors per ac.		
Dan Chisholm, conveying		
prisoners to County Jail	8.40	
Stellarton lock up	1.50	
		9.90
Est G. W. Underwood	2.50	
Sheriffs as Commissioner		
public property, omitted in		
January		339.91
Wm. F. McKenzie and others		
appraising road	4.50	
		529.69

We also recommend that the sum of \$17, 85 be paid out of fines money to supervisors of Road Board No. 1, as per account.

Having examined the account of Mr. Smith, prosecutor under the Canada Temperance Act, we find a balance in his hands due the county of \$149.39, out of which we order him to pay \$40.00 into treasury. The balance of \$109.39 we recommend leaving in his hands for the present, on account of cases pending decision.

In reference to imprisonment under the Canada Temperance Act, we recommend that the Sheriff carry out the provisions of the law.

A.C. Bell, Arch McKenzie, Rod McDougall, Colin Fraser, High S. Fraser.- Finance Committee.

On motion the report was received and adopted.

Clr. Kitchen read the report of the Assessment Committee as follows:

REPORT OF RAILWAY COMMITTEE.

To the Municipal Council of the County of Pictou, April Term, 1889.

Your committee on Railways beg leave to submit the following report, viz.:

That your committee have considered the petition of the New York and Nova Scotia iron and railway Co. limited, for a subsidy in aid of building a railway etc. And as your committee at the January term last past recommended that the consideration of the petition of said company then submitted to them be laid over for future consideration, and which recommendation was confirmed by the Council, we would now recommend that this Council take no further action in the matter until after the expiration of the time granted to the Pictou Iron and Coal Co. expires, viz. the first say of July A.D., 1890.

Jas. Kitchin, R. McDougall. John D. Murray, John D. Fraser.

Consideration of the report was deferred. Clr. Sutherland read the report of the Committee on Poor as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON POOR.

To the Municipal Council of Pictou County, April Term, 1889.

Committee on poor beg leave to report.

1st. The accounts from the several districts have been audited and found correct so far as received, but Sec/ 5 did not report; in many cases returns were incorrectly filled out; and in returns of Sec. 25, vouchers were missing.

2nd. We find that the amount expended for the support of the poor for the year ending 31st. January amounts \$6, 527.90 so far as reported.

3rd. In the matter of the petition of overseers of poor for District No. 24, asking that the sum of \$50 be assessed on the section for the support of the poor instead of the amount of #31 as voted at their last meeting.

We recommend that the prayer of the petitioners be granted and that the overseers of poor of District No. 24, be authorized to assess on said poor district the said sum of \$50.00.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Geo. H. Sutherland,
W.C. Olding,
Dan Desmond.

On motion the report was received and adopted, and the clerk instructed to write to the overseers for Se. 5 for their ac., and to the overseers for Sec. 25 for their vouchers.

The report of the Railway Committee be not adopted, but that the annexed resolution be passed, viz.:

Whereas by resolution of this Council passed in the Jan. term 1888, a subsidy of \$2000 per mile not to exceed in the whole the sum of \$20, 000, was voted to be paid to the Pictou Coal and Iron Company,

And whereas there is a possibility of said subsidy failing in its purpose, and in event of the ultimate failure of the Pictou Coal and Iron Company,

Therefore resolved, that the said subsidy shall inure and be payable to the New York and Nova Scotia Iron and Railway Company (limited) or to such Company as shall undertake and complete the railway and iron works referred to in said resolution subject to the same conditions and limit of time.”

Clr. Grant seconded the amendment; Clr. McKenzie opposed the amendment on the ground that the council should keep its hands free to vote the money for other objects, if the Pictou Iron Co. should not earn the subsidy. Clr. Colin Fraser was of opinion that the council had incurred certain obligations to the Pictou Iron Co., and ought to do nothing to interfere with these obligations. Clr. Dewar supported the amendment. Clr. McDougall thought it would be time enough for the county to bind itself to the New York Co. when it is released from its obligations to the Pictou Iron Co. Clr. Dewar thought the New York Co. had the right to come for a subsidy. Clr. Ross again urged the adoption of the amendment, stating that there was no reason why the New York Co., should not receive some assurance that its claims would be favorably considered.

Cr. J.D. Fraser thought the honor of the county required that the council should adhere to its obligations to the Pictou Iron Co. and do nothing to impair them.; also that if the Pictou Iron Co. should not earn its subsidy, the money should be used for other purposes. Clr. Dewar again supported the resolution. Clr. Bell said the subsidy should originally have been left open to any company, which would build the railway and iron works. If the Pictou Iron Co. should not construct the works before July 1st, 1890, and they were built by another company, that the other company should get the subsidy. If the proposed iron works could not be built without a subsidy of \$100, 000, he would support such a subsidy. He thought the effect of the amendment would be to hurry up both companies. Clr. J.D. Murray thought it was premature for any company to apply for a subsidy until the time allowed to the Pictou Coal and Iron Co. expires.

Clr. McDougall moved, seconded by Clr. A.J. McKay, that further consideration of the report and amendment be deferred till the January meeting, 1890.

This motion was carried on division.

The Warden read a petition to the legislature from the electors of sec. 2 and 3, asking for the establishment of a new polling section.

Clr. Bell read some of the sections of the act of this year providing for the borrowing of money for roads, pointing out that it re-introduces all the evil features of the old system of road commissions. He said the present method of expending the road moneys in this county is the best in the province, and moved the following resolution, seconded by Clr. J.D. Fraser:

Whereas the legislature of Nova Scotia at its session of 1889, has passed an act known as the Road Act of 1889, by which the sum of \$20, 981 is appropriated to the work of constructing and repairing roads in the County of Pictou.

Therefore resolved, that in the opinion of this Council all sums expended under this act in the county of Pictou, should be under the control of a board composed of the Warden and the Chairman of the several Road Boards, as to the apportionment and made of expenditure; and that the works carried on under this act should be under the supervision of such of the supervisors of roads for the county as such board should appoint.

A.C. Bell.

Pictou, April 18th, '89.

On motion Mr. McColl M.P.O. addressed the council briefly saying that he entirely agreed with the motion; and explaining the reasons that actuated the government in introducing the act. He said it was principally intended for new roads. He stated there was still to the credit of the county, under the Bridge Act about \$19,000 while the bridges recommended by the council will cost \$22,000 or \$23,000. Part of the money available under the new Road Act may be used for these bridges. In all County matters the three representatives for the County acted as one man. The resolution was supported by Clrs- Colin Fraser, J.D. Murray and A.J. McKay, and was passes unanimously.

The clerk was instructed to send a certified copy of the resolution to the Provincial Secretary.

A long discussion on assessments took place, but no actions were taken.

The minutes of the present meeting were read and approved. The minutes as read from day to day were adopted.

The Council adjourned *sine die*.

J. McG. Stewart,

Mun. Clerk.

April 18th, '89