

**DIGBY TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 2, 2009**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Ben Cleveland
Deputy Mayor Mike Bartlett
Councillor Jean Brittain
Councillor Danny Harvieux
Councillor Brian Manzer
Councillor Ron Matsusaki
Councillor Peter Turnbull

STAFF PRESENT: Tom Ossinger, Town Clerk
Matthew Raymond, Deputy Clerk
Susan Rice, Recording Secretary

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Cleveland called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

B. AGENDA

B.1 Additions/Deletions

There were additions under new business African Heritage Month Proclamation, South West Nova Transition House, and Mayor's Report.

B.2 Approval of the agenda

a) February 2, 2009

Moved by: Councillor Harvieux

Seconded by: Councillor Manzer

That the agenda of February 2, 2009, be approved as presented with the following additions under new business.

MOTION CARRIED.

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C. DELEGATION

C.1 GBS Communication – Les Berry and Taylor Moran

Les Berry and Taylor Moran of GBS Communication presented a power point presentation to Council in regards to GPS units in municipal vehicles. Taylor showed Council how the Fleet complete software works when the GPS is in a vehicle. It will show the Town Clerk and Council on where the vehicle is, if the vehicle is speeding, etc. It will help the municipality save on fuel consumption; it will show how much salt is being used and where it is being used. The Mayor quoted that "Big Brothers are watching" and Taylor stated that he gets that asked a lot but the GPS is used to help cut cost for fuel and help keep employees employed, and keep their fleet safe so that less maintenance on the vehicles. Les and Taylor stated that he will hand out portfolios that give you a cost of how much it will be. They stated that they are going to each municipality to do a presentation in regards to GPS in municipal vehicles. GBS Communication does not do emergency vehicles as yet. Taylor stated that they work with each municipal unit to find out what they need and specify the GPS unit to their needs.

C.2 Canadian Cancer Society

Tim Alison and Brenda Burgess presented a power point presentation to Council in regards to the funds that are received from the Community and where it goes. Tim also stated that Nova Scotia has the highest rate of cancer in Canada. Tim informed Council that research is going on all the time with the funds they raise and the money is also used to help children that have cancer go to camps and help fund the Cancer Lodge in Halifax for people that have to have treatment. Tim stated that he wanted to thank the Community for raising a lot of money during Relay for Life and how well organized it is.

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C.3 Jeff Sunderland – Digby Harbour Port Authority

Jeff from the Digby Harbour Port Authority made a presentation to Council in regards to the boat launch. Jeff is requesting from Council to use the Maiden Lane right-of-way on Casey's. The local RCMP, Fire Department, Department of Fisheries, Economic Development, Digby Area Tourism Association, Municipality of Digby and Town of Digby would like to see the boat launch. The boat launch will be used for visitor as well as local people and groups. Jeff would like to enter into an agreement with the Town or to purchase the property requested. Deputy Mayor Bartlett asked about all the wood that is there and who would clean up the debris. Jeff stated that they would clean up the debris if it is on their property but the property has to be surveyed first. Discussion ensued with parking of vehicles and trailers. Council asked about liability issues but Jeff stated that the Digby Harbour Port Authority would be responsible for all liability issues. If the project goes through, it will start by the end of month and hope to be done it so that it can be used for this summer. Casey's are aware that the Digby Harbour Port Authority is coming before Council to make a presentation to acquire land to put the boat launch on. Council asked how much would they pay for the land and Jeff stated to lease the property \$1.00 because the project is approximately \$100,000. The cost of the project does not include surveying of the land. The Town Clerk stated that if Council accepts the request then the Town has to permanently close the street and it can be done by policy and the process is not as long as if we did it by bylaw. Council asked if we could lease a street. The Town Clerk did not know but will find out and bring back to the Streets meeting in February. The adjacent land owner would like to meet with Council; therefore, the Clerk will ask the adjacent land owner to come before the Streets meeting in February. The Town Clerk stated that under the MGA we must sell land at market value but there is an out that the

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Town does not have to sell or lease for market value. Jeff Sunderland asked Council if the Heritage Building will be open this summer for the boaters to use the washrooms, showers, and laundry facilities. Deputy Mayor Bartlett stated that we hope to have all the facilities working by the summer.

**D. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING
D.1 JANUARY 5, 2009**

Moved by: Councillor Brittain
Seconded by: Councillor Harvieux

That the minutes of January 5, 2009, be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.

E. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None.

F. REPORTS

**F.1 FINANCE COMMITTEE/ADMINISTRATION
COMMITTEE**

Report for January 2009 was reviewed and accepted as presented.

a) Repeal the current Interim Tax Billing Bylaw

Moved by: Councillor Brittain
Seconded by: Councillor Harvieux

That Council approve the first reading of Bylaw #2009-02 A Bylaw to Repeal the Town of Digby Instalment Billing Bylaw 1976-01.

MOTION CARRIED.

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b) Policy on Interim Tax Billing

Moved by: Councillor Brittain
Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Bartlett

That Council approve the Instalment Billing Policy #2009-01 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.

c) Amended Policy on Low Income Property Tax Exemption

Moved by: Councillor Brittain
Seconded by: Councillor Turnbull

That Council approve the Low Income Property Tax Exemption Policy #2007-02 Amended February 2, 2009.

MOTION CARRIED.

d) Accounts Payable

Moved by: Councillor Brittain
Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Bartlett

That the accounts payable in the amount of \$168,246.50 be approved for payment for the month of December.

MOTION CARRIED.

F.2 FIRE, POLICE, AND LICENSE COMMITTEE

Report for January 2009 was reviewed and accepted as presented.

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**F.3 STREETS, SEWER, AND PUBLIC PROPERTY
COMMITTEE**

No report was presented.

F.4 TOURISM COMMITTEE

Report for January 2009 was reviewed and accepted as presented.

F.5 TIDEVIEW TERRACE

No report.

F.6 DIGBY AND AREA RECREATION COMMISSION

Report for January 2009 was reviewed and accepted as presented.

F.7 LIBRARY BOARD

No meeting.

F.8 WASTE CHECK

Report for January 2009 was reviewed and accepted as presented.

F.9 PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Report for January 2009 was reviewed and accepted as presented.

F.10 EMERGENCY MEASURES ORGANIZATION

No meeting.

F.11 WATER COMMISSION

Report for January 2009 was reviewed and accepted as presented.

F.12 INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

No meeting.

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F.13 DIGBY AREA LEARNING ASSOCIATION

Report for January 2009 was reviewed and accepted as presented.

F.14 SENIOR SAFETY BOARD

Report for January 2009 was reviewed and accepted as presented.

F.15 PESTICIDE COMMITTEE

No meeting.

F.16 ANNAPOLIS/DIGBY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

There was a meeting the Mayor stated and he had mentioned some highlights in his Mayor's report.

F.17 CLERK TREASURER'S REPORT

Report for January 2009 was reviewed and accepted as presented.

F.18 POLICE ADVISORY BOARD REPORT

No report was presented. Councillor Harvieux stated that it is hard to take notes and Chair the meeting at the same time and Councillor Turnbull stated that he will do up the reports for the meetings. Councillor Turnbull stated that S/Sgt. Barrett is asking if any Councillors have any priorities they would like the RCMP to look at. Councillor Manzer stated that there was an RCMP Officer talking on the cell phone and with it being a law it does not look very good. Councillor Turnbull and Harvieux will inform the S/Sgt of this.

F.19 AIRPORT COMMITTEE

Report for January 2009 was reviewed and accepted as presented.

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G. CORRESPONDENCE

G.1 South West Health – Resignation from Ronald Horrocks

Information purposes only.

G.2 Letter from Municipality of Annapolis

Information purposes only.

H. NEW BUSINESS

H.1 Transverse Grooves – Racquette Intersection

Councillor Matsusaki asked about the Racquette intersection because there is a lot of accidents during the tourist season and could be transverse grooves on Shore Road and Victoria Street be put in to slow the traffic down. There is also a confusion of signage at that intersection. The Mayor stated that there used to be speed bumps on the road but was removed by the snow plow and the grooves were on the street but made too much noise and the neighbourhood complained. The Mayor stated that he will talk to S/Sgt. Barrett regarding the Racquette intersection and ask if he could talk to the Safety Officer for highway traffic to see what they suggest and bring back this item to the Streets agenda.

H.2 Tri County Regional Science and Technology Expo

Moved by: Councillor Brittain
Seconded by: Councillor Turnbull

That Council do not approve to donate to the Tri County Regional Science and Technology Expo.

MOTION CARRIED.

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H.3 Flag Day – Proclamation

The Mayor proclaimed February 15, 2009, as Flag Day in the Town of Digby.

H.4 Tri County Multicultural Group

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Bartlett
Seconded by: Councillor Harvieux

That Council forward this request to budget considerations.

MOTION CARRIED.

H.5 Scallop Day Request

Deputy Mayor Bartlett presented a letter to Council asking them to use the marina from August 6, 7, and 9; use the Courier parking lot on August 8, from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.; Water Street closure on Sunday, August 9, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Public Works Department to help out with barricades, etc; financial support in the amount \$,4,500 for the festival and \$1,000 for the Queen; and the use of Admiral's Walk from August 5 to 9 for vendors and let the Scallop Day Committee look after the vending permits for the weekend. The Mayor stated to Deputy Mayor Bartlett is to inform S/Sgt. Barrett with the traffic closures as soon as possible.

H.6 Mayor's Report

The Mayor presented a Mayor's report to Council and he will try to have one every month.

H.7 African Heritage Month

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The Mayor proclaimed February as African Heritage Month in the Town of Digby.

H.8 Southwest Nova Transition House

Moved by: Councillor Brittain
Seconded by: Councillor Harvieux

That Council forward it to budget consideration.

MOTION CARRIED.

I. QUESTION PERIOD

None.

J. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting adjourned on motion of Deputy Mayor Bartlett and Councillor Brittain.
TIME: 8:45 p.m.

MAYOR

TOWN CLERK