

**DIGBY TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Monday March 6, 2023
Council Chambers**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Ben Cleveland, Chair
Deputy Mayor Mike Bartlett, Vice Chair
Councillor Peter Turnbull
Councillor Paul Saulnier
Councillor William McCormick

STAFF PRESENT : Tom Ossinger, Chief Administrative Officer
Leslie Brinton, Executive Assistant

REGRETS:

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Cleveland called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

B. PUBLIC HEARING

B.1 None.

C. AGENDA

C.1 Additions/Deletions

None.

C.2 Approval

Motion

Moved by Councillor Turnbull and seconded by Councillor Saulnier that the Agenda for March 6, 2023 be as approved as presented.

Motion Carried.

D. DELEGATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

D.1 None.

E. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

E.1 February 6, 2023

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bartlett and seconded by Councillor McCormick that the Minutes of February 6, 2023 be approved as presented.

Motion Carried.

E.2 February 21, 2023 Special Council Meeting

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Saulnier and Councillor McCormick that the Minutes of February 21, 2023 be approved as presented.

Motion Carried.

F. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

F.1 Former Mount Street School

The former Mount Street School was discussed. Council is interested in retaining that property And continue to rent the downstairs to the Digby Area Foodbank. The rental amount will be \$8.83 per square foot annually.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Saulnier and seconded by Deputy Mayor Bartlett that the Town of Digby retain the former Mount Street School PID 30226765 for the following uses

- ***Bottom floor be used as a Community Space for not for profit groups, and the lease rate be \$8.83 per sq. ft. annually which includes, utilities and snow removal***
- ***Top floor will be used for affordable housing units***

Motion Carried.

G. REPORTS

G.1 Chief Administrative Officer Report

The Chief Administrative Officer was presented. The CAO is reporting that the tax sale that was scheduled for March 6, 2023 was cancelled as the only property on the list was sold and all arrears were paid. The new By Law Officer is setting into her position very well the CAO is very pleased With her performance to date. There are a total of 13 accommodations registered with a total of 231 rooms and to date we have collected \$1120 in levy fees. The Property Valuation Services Board has approved a fiscal 2024 budget there is no increase to the Town over the last year budget. The subdivision application for the properties on Harris Road, Shore Road and Third Avenue have all been submitted and under review by the Subdivision Officer. The mini-home located at 74 Sydney Street that was acquired by the Town needed some immediate repairs and they have been done. The CAO and Director of Public Works discussed relocating the mini home to the vacant land on the corner of Victoria Street and Carleton Street then renovate to a move in ready state and place it on the market for sale. The renovation can be done by Public Works Department the lot is served by water and sewer.

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bartlett and seconded by Councillor Saulnier that the mini-home located at 74 Sydney Street be moved to the vacant lot on the corner of Victoria Street and Carleton Street and renovate to a move in ready state and place it on the market.

Motion Carried.

G.2 Committee of the Whole Report

There are three recommendations coming forward from the Committee of the Whole.

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bartlett that Council approve the application through Southwest Nova Biosphere for trees at Vantassel Lake should funding be available and the trees will be located in the predetermined site as discussed.

Motion Carried.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Turnbull and seconded by Deputy Mayor Bartlett that Council Adopt the Administrative Policy #2023-02 Asset Management.

Motion Carried.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Saulnier and seconded by Councillor McCormick that the Town of Digby host the NSFJ Conference Casino night at Digby Pines during the Spring Conference for a cost of \$3,600 and draft correspondence asking neighbouring Municipalities for financial assistance to offset these costs.

Motion Carried.

G.3 Waste Check Report

The Report was circulated in the package.

G.4 Digby Area Recreation Commission Report

The report was distributed in the meeting package. DARC is holding a Volunteer Fair at the Curling Club on April 19th this is an item we can add to the upcoming newsletter.

H. CORRESPONDENCE

H.1 Autism Acceptance Month

The Autism NS South West Chapter is asking the Town to participate in the Autism Acceptance Month by raising a flag and hold a short ceremony we did this last year. They are asking Council for a date that might work and perhaps a Monday night around Council or Committee of the Whole might work best.

H.2 Epilepsy Association

The Epilepsy Association is asking for support for Purple Day on March 26th by wearing purple ribbons during Purple Day and all throughout epilepsy awareness month. Council directed staff to order ribbons.

I. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

I.1 None.

J. NEW BUSINESS

J.1 Tri-County Pregnancy Care Centre

The Tri-County Pregnancy Care Centre is requesting a donation to help cover operating costs and programming so that they can continue to support the Yarmouth and Tri-Counties area. Council referred this request to the Community Grants for consideration.

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bartlett and seconded by Councillor Saulnier that the Tri-County Pregnancy Care Centre financial request be referred to Community Grants for consideration.

Motion Carried.

Mayor Cleveland provided a brief update to Council on the new doctor. Doctor Prince Jumbo is now seeing patients at the clinic. And there is the possibility of another Doctor to come.

K. IN CAMERA
K.1 None.

L. ADJOURNMENT

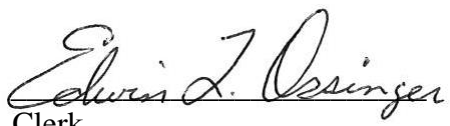
Motion:

Motion for adjournment was moved by Councillor Turnbull and seconded by Councillor McCormick at 6:36 P.M.

Motion Carried.



Mayor



Clerk