

**DIGBY TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
May 7, 2007**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Frank Mackintosh
Councillor Bob Handspiker
Councillor Ben Cleveland
Deputy Mayor, Sherri Lewis
Councillor Danny Harvieux

STAFF PRESENT: Tom Ossinger, Town Clerk
Bonnie Duncan, Recording Secretary
Matthew Raymond, Deputy Clerk

REGRETS: Councillor Jean Brittain
Councillor Mike Bartlett

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Mackintosh called the meeting to order at 6:50 PM.

B. AGENDA

B.1 Additions/Deletions

C.1 Dean Kenley, Mike Daley, Scallop Days Committee

B.2 Approval

Moved by: Councillor Harvieux

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Lewis

That the agenda of May 7, 2007 be approved with the above addition.

MOTION CARRIED.

C. DELEGATION

Mike Daley and Dean Kenley of the Scallop Days Committee explained to council that there will be four buskers and 12 gymnasts for the Scallop Days festival. They requested the use of the green area from Club 98 to the promenade as well as the green area on the other side of the promenade for seven shows over the weekend, as this area is away from the road and will be safer for children to participate in games and other events. The first show will be Friday night from 6pm until 9pm. Three shows Saturday from 12pm until 9pm, three Sunday from 12pm until the fireworks begin. There will possibly be more vendors in the area as well.

There was discussion regarding possible damage to the trees and flowers in that area, and Mayor Mackintosh stated that the Scallop Days Committee would be responsible for any damages that occur during this event. Council will review the request and a letter will be sent with the Council's decision.

D. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

D.1 April 2, 2007

Page 5, F.4 should read DSWN not SDWN.

Moved By: Councillor Handspiker
Seconded By: Councillor Harvieux

That the minutes of April 2, 2007 be approved with the correction on page 5.

MOTION CARRIED

D.2 April 26, 2007, Special Council Meeting

Moved By: Councillor Handspiker
Seconded By: Councillor Cleveland

That the minutes of April 26, 2007 be approved with the following amendment: That the Town of Digby agrees to partner with the Municipality of the District of Digby in an attempt to hire a doctor for the Digby General Hospital. The Town will share the total costs in this recruitment attempt; however, total costs are not to exceed \$10,000.00 for hiring of the recruitment firm and up to \$100,000 over five years for an incentive package.

E. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

E.1 Low Income Property Tax Exemption.

During the Council meeting of April 2, 2007, Council passed a motion to increase the tax exemption amount from \$90.00 to \$250.00. The Town Clerk reviewed the policies from other units and created a new form based on the Cape Breton Regional Municipality Policy.

The new form explains in detail the requirements for qualification. As of January 2008 deadline for application submission will be April 30th. An extension will be allowed this year due to changes.

Moved By: Councillor Cleveland
Seconded By: Councillor Handspiker

That the revised policy be adopted for use by the Town of Digby

MOTION CARRIED

F. REPORTS

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

a) Accounts Payable

Moved by: Councillor Cleveland
Seconded by: Councillor Harvieux

That accounts payable in the amount of \$146,215.85 be approved for payment.

MOTION CARRIED.

b) Bethany Bargain Bin

Move By: Councillor Handspiker
Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Lewis

That Bethany Bargain Bin be exempt from the deed transfer tax.

MOTION CARRIED

c) Continuing Education

Moved By: Councillor Cleveland
Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Lewis

That the Town Clerk, Tom Ossinger participates in continued education for his CAO qualifications.

MOTION CARRIED

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F.2 FIRE, POLICE, AND LICENSE COMMITTEE

Councillor Handspiker presented the Fire, Police and Licensing report for April, 2007 with the addition that H. Neil Nichols application for business license be approved by Council.

Moved By: Councillor Handspiker
Seconded By: Councillor Cleveland

That Council approves H. Neil Nichols application for a business license at 100 Water Street, Digby.

MOTION CARRIED

F.3 STREETS, SEWER, AND PUBLIC PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Councillor Cleveland presented the Streets, Sewer and Public Property Committee report for the month of March 2007.

a) Bridgewater Conference

Moved by: Councillor Cleveland
Seconded by: Councillor Harvieux

That Superintendent Murley attends the Bridgewater Conference May 2007.

MOTION CARRIED

b) Electronic Correspondence

Moved By: Councillor Cleveland
Seconded By: Councillor Harvieux

That all correspondence and meeting packages be sent by e-mail to all council members and staff. Each Councillor will have the option to receive hard copies if they so wish.

MOTION CARRIED

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c) Spring Clean up

Councillor Handspiker inquired as to the possible date for spring clean up. There was discussion on what items could be put at the road side at this time. One large item can be placed out with regular garbage every week.

F.4 TOURISM COMMITTEE

The Tourism Committee report for April was accepted as presented.

F.5 TIDEVIEW TERRACE

Councillor Cleveland presented the Tideview Terrace report for the month of April. There was discussion regarding the building of the replacement facility. It is hoped the building will be constructed within a five mile radius of the current building.

F.6 DIGBY AND AREA RECREATION COMMISSION

Councillor Cleveland presented the DARC report for the month of April. Report accepted as presented.

F.7 LIBRARY BOARD

No meeting. No report.

F.8 WASTE CHECK

Deputy Mayor Lewis presented the April waste check report. Budget concerns were discussed as well as the hiring of a by-law enforcement officer to work for waste check to help identify illegal dumping in rural areas. Discussion ensued regarding the difference already visible with the new recycling program in place. The Town Clerk informed Council that solid waste disposal for April 2006 was 108 metric tons. In March of 2007, solid waste disposal totaled 47 metric tons. There has been a significant difference within a year.

F.9 PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

No meeting. No report.

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F.10 TREE COMMITTEE

No meeting. No report.

F.11 EMERGENCY MEASURES ORGANIZATION

No meeting. No report.

F.12 WATER COMMISSION

No Report.

F.13 INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

Councillor Cleveland presented the Industrial Report.
Accepted as presented.

F.14 DIGBY AREA LEARNING ASSOCIATION

No Report.

F.15 SENIOR'S SAFETY BOARD

No Report.

F.16 PESTICIDE COMMITTEE

Deputy Mayor Lewis and Councillors Harvieux and Bartlett will be attending an information session in Bridgewater in May.

F.17 CLERK, TREASURER'S REPORT

Town Clerk Ossinger presented the Clerk Treasurer's report to Council.

F.18 Funding of DARC Grant

Funding of Capital through the grant program was discussed. The province has approved their share of the funding. It was suggested that if DARC borrows the funds from the Municipal Finance Corporation, the Municipality of the District of Digby and the Town of Digby could guarantee it.

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G. CORRESPONDENCE

G.1 Child Care Connections

Moved By: Councillor Cleveland
Seconded By: Councillor Handspiker

That June 2007 be declared Child Care Awareness Days.

MOTION CARRIED

G.2 Hospitality Room UNSM Conference

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Lewis
Seconded By: Councillor Handspiker

That a regional hospitality room should be hosted during the UNSM fall conference.

MOTION CARRIED

G.3 Relay for Life

Due to upcoming workshops and conferences in the next few weeks, there will not be enough councillors available to participate in this event. There will no charge to the Relay for Life Organization for the use of the DARC facilities during their event.

G.4 Life Plex Golf Tournament

Councillors will be unable to attend this event as well. They will send some lapel pins and ink pens.

G.5 Building Code Coordinator

Information letter to inform Mayor and Council that May 6 to 12th is Building Safety Week.

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H. NEW BUSINESS

H.1 Wharf Rat Rally- Town Sponsorship

The Town Sponsorship for the 2007 Wharf Rat Rally will be advertised during the Kids Chopper Build Off.

I. QUESTION PERIOD

None

J. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting adjourned on motion of Councillor Handspiker and seconded by Deputy Mayor Lewis. TIME: 7:40 P.M.

MAYOR

TOWN CLERK