

**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 21, 2008**

Present: Mayor Frank Mackintosh
Deputy Mayor Sherri Lewis
Councillor Mike Bartlett
Councillor Ben Cleveland
Councillor Bob Handspiker
Councillor Danny Harvieux
Councillor Jean Brittain

Staff Present: Tom Ossinger, Town Clerk
Matthew Raymond, Deputy Clerk
Susan Rice, Recording Secretary

A. CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m

B. AGENDA

B.1 Additions/Deletions

None.

B.2 Approval

Moved by: Councillor Handspiker

Seconded by: Councillor Brittain

That the agenda of July 21, 2008 be approved as presented.

Motion Carried.

C. 2008/2009 Budget

Moved by: Councillor Cleveland

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Lewis

That the budget committee recommend that Council approve the general operating budget for the Town of Digby for the 2008/2009 fiscal year in the amount of \$3,954,286.00.

Motion Carried.

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a) Tax rate

Moved by: Councillor Cleveland
Seconded by: Councillor Handspiker

That the tax rate for the 2008/2009 fiscal year be set as follows:

Residential	\$1.92 per \$100 of assessment
Residential Resource	\$1.92 per \$100 of assessment
Commercial	\$3.84 per \$100 of assessment
Business Occupancy	\$3.84 per \$100 of assessment

Motion Carried.

b) Garbage Rate

Moved by: Councillor Cleveland
Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Lewis

That the annual residential garbage rate for the 2008/2009 fiscal year be set as follows:

\$190 per single family dwelling
\$190 per apartment unit

Motion Carried.

c) Interest on Outstanding Taxes

Moved by: Councillor Cleveland
Seconded by: Councillor Bartlett

That simple interest at a rate of 20% per annum be applied each month on all tax arrears, and that interest at a rate of 20% per annum be applied each month on the 2008/2009 taxes starting the month of September 2008. Interest related to each month is to be calculated based on the month end balance and recorded on the tax roll the first day of the following month. The Clerk/Treasurer for the Town of Digby is to be empowered to collect by warrant all outstanding taxes after the due date.

Motion Carried.

d) Low Income Property Tax Exemption

Moved by: Councillor Cleveland
Seconded by: Councillor Brittain

That the persons who meet the conditions below be granted a \$250.00 exemption on their 2008/2009 residential property taxes.

1. Legal title to the property resides with the tax payer.
2. Exemption shall not be granted to any account showing arrears.
3. The tax payer is a resident of the property.
4. An application form must be completed and processed for each year. (Schedule A)
5. The maximum taxable household income shall not exceed \$15,000.00. As all low income residents are eligible for the GST rebate, a federal income tax return must be filed annually. Documentation for proof of income is required for all persons living in the household. A copy of each of their income tax returns is to be attached to the application. (T4 SLIPS ALONE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED)
6. Deadline for completed applications to be received is May 30th.

Motion Carried.

e) Tax Certificate

Moved by: Councillor Cleveland
Seconded by: Councillor Bartlett

That the fee for a tax certificate be set at \$25.00.

Motion Carried.

f) Sewer Service Charge

Moved by: Councillor Cleveland
Seconded by: Councillor Handspiker

That an annual sewer service charge shall be \$4.11 per 1,000 gallons of water consumption in accordance with the Town of Digby Bylaw respecting the regulations of sewer service charges.

Motion Carried.

The meeting was adjourned by Councillor Bartlett and seconded by Councillor Harvieux at 8:10 p.m.

MAYOR

TOWN CLERK