

**DIGBY TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 3, 2008**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Frank Mackintosh
Councillor Bob Handspiker
Councillor Jean Brittain
Councillor Mike Bartlett
Councillor Danny Harvieux

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

REGRETS: Councillor Ben Cleveland
Deputy Mayor Sherri Lewis

A. CALL TO ORDER

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

B. AGENDA

B.1 Additions/Deletions

There was two additions one under Delegation C.1 Peter Robertson and the other under new business H.6 Senior Girls Basketball.

B.2 Approval of the agenda

Moved by: Councillor Handspiker
Seconded by: Councillor Bartlett

That the agenda of March 3, 2008 be approved with the following additions.

MOTION CARRIED.

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C. DELEGATION

C.1 Peter Robertson – Wharf Rat Rally

Peter Robertson made a presentation to Council regarding the rumours that was going around about exotic dancers but there is no exotic dancers coming. Mr. Robertson informed Council that the Strip Club Rally Bikers are coming. Mr. Robertson informed Council that a newsletter will be forward to the Town Clerk so that he can forward to Council and keep them up-to-date on what is going on.

D. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

D.1 February 4, 2008

Moved by: Councillor Harvieux
Seconded by: Councillor Handspiker

That the minutes of February 4, 2008, be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.

E. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes of February 4, 2008.

F. REPORTS

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

Report for February 2008 was reviewed and accepted as presented.

a) Accounts Payable

Moved by: Councillor Handspiker
Seconded by: Councillor Bartlett

That the accounts payable in the amount of \$396,553.96 be approved for payment for the month of February.

MOTION CARRIED

b) Travel Policy

The Town Clerk presented the Travel Policy to Council regarding the increase of the mileage rate from .3987 cents per kilometre to .43 cents per kilometre. The Town Clerk stated that the Town has been tied to the Provincial rate since April 1999. Discussion ensued with the rate increase.

Moved by: Councillor Bartlett
Seconded by: Councillor Handspiker

That the Council approve the amended Travel Policy as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.

F.2 FIRE, POLICE, AND LICENSE COMMITTEE

Report for February 2008 was reviewed and accepted as presented.

F.3 STREETS, SEWER, AND PUBLIC PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Report for February 2008 was reviewed and accepted as presented.

a) Votex Electronic Voting System

Moved by: Councillor Brittain
Seconded by: Councillor Handspiker

That the Town writes a letter to the province regarding the displeasure of having to run two voting systems at the same time if we choose to use the electronic voting system.

MOTION CARRIED.

F.4 TOURISM

Report for February 2008 was reviewed and accepted as presented.

a) Town Loop Sign

Councillor Bartlett informed Council that the Tourism Committee has been working on a sign to promote the 3km loop and it has been done. The funds will be coming from the summer concert series budget.

Moved by: Councillor Bartlett
Seconded by: Councillor Handspiker

That Council approve the 3 km loop sign at a cost of \$1,700 plus tax.

MOTION CARRIED.

F.5 TIDEVIEW TERRACE

No report was presented, but Councillor Handspiker gave a verbal update. Councillor Handspiker stated that the plans for the new building is ongoing and also stated that the last rain storm we had Tideview had 6" of water in their basement and is not covered by insurance.

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F.6 DIGBY AND AREA RECREATION COMMISSION

Report for February 2008 was reviewed and accepted as presented.

F.7 LIBRARY BOARD

No meeting.

F.8 WASTE CHECK

Report for February 2008 was reviewed and accepted as presented.

F.9 PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Report for February 2008 was reviewed and accepted as presented.

a) Rezoning – 34 Third Avenue

The Town Clerk informed Council that Robert VanTassell is requesting to rezone his property on 34 Third Avenue from R1 to R2.

Moved by: Councillor Brittain
Seconded by: Councillor Bartlett

That Council approve the first reading of the rezoning application of 34 Third Avenue from R1 to R2.

MOTION CARRIED.

b) Rezoning – 19 Carleton Street

The Town Clerk informed Council that Terry VanTassell is requesting to rezone his property on 19 Carleton Street from C3 to R2.

Moved by: Councillor Brittain
Seconded by: Councillor Bartlett

That Council approve the first reading of the rezoning application of 19 Carleton Street from C3 to R2.

MOTION CARRIED.

The date for the public hearings to rezone the properties will be on April 7, 2008 at 6:30 p.m.

c) Public Participation Policy

The Town Clerk stated to Council that the Town's Public Participation Policy is out of date and needs to be updated to be in line with the Municipal Government Act.

Moved by: Councillor Brittain
Seconded by: Councillor Harvieux

That the Public Participation Policy as presented be approved. (See attached)

MOTION CARRIED.

d) Review of MPS/LUB Including ICSP

The Town Clerk informed Council that the Integrated Community Sustainability Plan is mandatory for all municipalities in Nova Scotia to do to get the gas tax revenue. The Deputy Clerk, Councillor Brittain and the Town Clerk went to a workshop in Yarmouth last week regarding the ICSP and the Clerk stated that the ICSP should be in conjunction with the MPS/LUB.

Moved by: Councillor Brittain
Seconded by: Councillor Harvieux

That Council approve to undertake this process in conjunction with the review of our MPS/LUB.

MOTION CARRIED.

e) Wellfield Protection Well #3

The Town Clerk stated to Council that during the public process with the Municipality of Digby regarding the Wellfield Protection for our well which took place in 2004-05 one well (#3) located on Victoria Street was not included in the review.

Moved by: Councillor Brittain
Seconded by: Councillor Handspiker

That Council proceed with the process to reopen and complete the process to ensure Well #3 located on Victoria Street be included in the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw.

MOTION CARRIED.

F.10 EMERGENCY MEASURES ORGANIZATION

The draft minutes of February 2008 was reviewed and accepted as presented.

F.11 WATER COMMISSION

No report.

F.12 INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

No meeting.

F.13 DIGBY AREA LEARNING ASSOCIATION

Report for February 2008 was reviewed and accepted as presented.

F.14 SENIOR SAFETY BOARD

No meeting. Councillor Harvieux informed Council that Dawn Thomas, Senior Safety Coordinator, and himself went to a meeting and there are funding programs going to be available. The Deputy Clerk stated to Council that the Province is giving \$5,000 to Senior Safety in the 2008-09 budget and there is two additional programs announced by the NS Department of Seniors. Bob Powell, Recreation Manager, will do the applications up but needs the Town to put in for it because Digby Area Recreation Commission is not eligible to put in for it. The grant will cost share up to \$5,000 and he is working on funding the other 50% or \$5,000.00. The Town is not being asked to fund any of the program but rather be the vehicle. Bob is meeting with member of the Senior Safety Committee to see how DARC might be able to put together Senior Fitness Program and apply for funding through Positive Aging Fund.

F.15 PESTICIDE COMMITTEE

No meeting.

**F.16 ANNAPOLIS/DIGBY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
AGENCY**

Report for February 2008 was reviewed and accepted as presented.

F.17 CLERK TREASURER'S REPORT

Report for February 2008 was reviewed and accepted as presented.

a) Digby Fisherman's Report

Moved by: Councillor Handspiker

Seconded by: Councillor Harvieux

That the Town of Digby grant the Digby Harbour Port Association and additional \$15,000 towards the purchase of Digby's Fisherman's Wharf from Maritime Harbours Society.

MOTION CARRIED.

G. CORRESPONDENCE

G.1 Sheree Halliday – Second Avenue Request

Sheree Halliday presented a letter to Council requesting that the closed section of Second Avenue adjacent to their newly constructed home be gravelled and snow removal provided. Each Councillor stated their opinion of the situation Councillor Handspiker stated that it should look at being done and if it does not open up the street there would be more houses built on it and increase the tax base. Councillor Harvieux stated that a policy should be done up for unopen roads and if the Superintendent of Public Works says it is not safe to do this then we should support the Superintendent's decision. Councillor Bartlett and Brittain agreed with Councillor Harvieux. Council decided to bring this issue up at this month's Streets meeting.

G.2 Cornwallis Reunion

Moved by: Councillor Handspiker
Seconded by: Councillor Bartlett

That Council refer it to budget consideration.

MOTION CARRIED.

G.3 Annapolis Blossom Festival

Moved by: Councillor Bartlett
Seconded by: Councillor Handspiker

That Council refer it to budget consideration.

MOTION CARRIED.

G.4 Destination Southwest Nova Association

Moved by: Councillor Bartlett
Seconded by: Councillor Handspiker

That Council refer it to budget consideration.

MOTION CARRIED.

G.5 UNSM – Bursary Program

Discussion ensued regarding the funding to help with a bursary program for municipality staff women.

Moved by: Councillor Bartlett
Seconded by: Councillor Harvieux

That the Town support the funding for a bursary program for municipality staff women based on the Deputy Mayor being involved with the program.

Ayes

Councillor Bartlett
Councillor Harvieux

Nays

Councillor Handspiker
Councillor Brittain
Mayor Mackintosh

MOTION DEFEATED.

G.6 Town of Annapolis Royal

Moved by: Councillor Handspiker
Seconded by: Councillor Bartlett

That Councillor Brittain forward this letter from the Town of Annapolis Royal to the Digby Area Recreation Commission meeting.

MOTION CARRIED.

G.7 Tri County Regional Science & Technology Expo

A letter be sent to the Tri County Regional Science & Technology Expo that the Town will not be able to help fund this event.

G.8 DARC – Age Friendly Communities Programs

This issue was brought up during the Senior Safety report.

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H. NEW BUSINESS

H.1 Appointment of Returning Officer

Moved by: Councillor Handspiker
Seconded by: Councillor Bartlett

That Council appoint Bonnie Duncan as the Returning Officer.

MOTION CARRIED.

H.2 FCM – Quebec City (May 30 – June 2, 2008)

Moved by: Councillor Bartlett
Seconded by: Councillor Handspiker

That Councillor Brittain and Deputy Clerk Raymond attend the FCM in Quebec City from May 30 to June 2, 2008.

MOTION CARRIED.

H.3 Temporary Borrowing Resolution – Capital Projects

Moved by: Councillor Harvieux
Seconded by: Councillor Handspiker

That the Temporary Borrowing Resolution be approved in the amount of \$285,000 for the streets, sidewalks, retaining walls, and transfer station for solid waste management.

MOTION CARRIED.

H.4 Resolution for Pre-Approval of Debenture Issuance

Moved by: Councillor Brittain
Seconded by: Councillor Harvieux

That the resolution for pre-approval of debenture issuance be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.

H.5 UNSM Municipal Property Tax Relief for Low Income Home Owners – Meeting Date

The Town Clerk informed Council that a meeting has to be set to discuss the property tax relief for low income home owners. The meeting will be on March 17, 2008 at 6:30 p.m.

H.6 Senior Girls Basketball

Councillor Bartlett informed Council that the senior girls basketball won the provincials and would like the town to send a congratulatory letter.

I. QUESTION PERIOD

None.

J. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting adjourned on motion of Councillor Handspiker and Councillor Bartlett
TIME: 7:50 P.M.

MAYOR

TOWN CLERK