

**TOWN OF DIGBY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 4, 2012**

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

STAFF PRESENT: Tom Ossinger, CAO
Matthew Raymond, Director of Finance
Susan Rice, Administrative Assistant
Richard Parry, Special Constable/By law Enforcement Officer

Regrets: Councillor Ron Matsusaki

A. ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

B. Public Hearings

- A. Seek an Order to Demolish Building – 117 Queen Street
The Administrator of Dangerous and Unsightly updated Council on 117 Queen Street. The Town has been dealing with this property since June of 1997 and there has been nothing done about the property and the building is getting to be unsafe and unsightly. The shingles of the roof are falling off and there is a hole in the roof in the front of the building. There have been complaints from the court house because the shingles are falling off and hitting vehicles at the Court House. There is bricks falling off the building and the exterior and interior is being compromised because no one is looking after it. Ulric Schlawitz stated that he has not received any email in over a year because he had a problem with his email account. The Administrator stated that he also sent out register letters to Mr. Schlawitz in regards to the property but two of them were returned to the Town office. The last time the building was inspected was in the summer of 2011 an interior and exterior inspection was done. The Council mentioned that they do not want to see a historic building being taken down if it can be salvaged. In 2011, Heritage Nova Scotia made a presentation to Council that they would like to restore the building in question and two weeks

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after the presentation the owner did not give them permission to restore because they wanted the building for free. The Town would like to see Mr. Schlwitz plans for the building but Mr. Schlwitz stated that he does not have plans at this time. The shingles that are hitting vehicles is not coming from the roof Ulric stated but that they are coming from the recycling cart located beside the building because it has shingles in it and the shingles are blowing out of the cart. The Town is going to ask the Building Inspector to inspect the building if the Town has a right to expropriate, and also check the Municipal Government Act for vacant buildings. An update will be given to Council at the next meeting.

The Public Hearing was adjourned.

C. AGENDA

C.1 Additions/Deletions

Addition under New Business J.1 Camping in Fishermen's Park, J.2 Coyotes, and J.3 Doctor Recruitment.

C.2 Agenda

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Harvieux and seconded by Councillor Brittain that the agenda of September 4, 2012 be approved with the following additions New Business J.1 Camping in Fishermen's Park, J.2 Coyotes, and J.3 Doctor Recruitment.

Motion Carried.

D. DELEGATION AND PRESENTATIONS

D.1 Terry Gilbert Re: Digby Centre

Terry Gilbert informed Council that she had an idea in regards to painting the white sails on Digby Centre band stand. The cost would be approximately \$300.00 worth of paint and \$100 honorarium each for two students. Ms. Gilbert thought that the theme for the white sails could be "From the Sea".

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E. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

E.1 August 7, 2012

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bartlett and seconded by Councillor Harvieux that the minutes of August 7, 2012, be approved as presented.

Motion Carried.

F. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

G. REPORTS

G.1 CAO's Report

Report in the package. The CAO informed Council that he received an email from Canada Post in regards to installing a handicap parking space on Church Street next to the ramp. Discussion ensued. The CAO informed Council that there is a handicap parking space on Water Street in front of Mag Pye's Restaurant. The CAO will discuss the handicap parking with Canada Post in Halifax to see if they want to pursue it any further and bring back his findings. Council asked about the development agreement with Brian Comeau and Neil Nichols. The CAO stated that the agreement is ready to be signed by Mr. Comeau and Mr. Nichols and then file it with the Province. The CAO stated that the civic numbering will be addressed during the site preparation and it is in its final stages.

G.2 Staff Reports

a) Returning Officer's Report

Report in package. Nomination for Council commenced today.

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G.3 Budget Committee Report

A) 2012/13 Operating Budget

Motion:

***Moved by Councillor Harvieux and seconded by Deputy Mayor Bartlett that the general operating budget for the Town of Digby for the 2012/13 fiscal year in the amount of \$4,404,008.00 be approved.
Motion Carried***

B) 2012/13 Tax Rates

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Turnbull and seconded by Councillor Harvieux that the tax rate for the 2012/13 fiscal year be set as follows:

***Residential \$1.94 per \$100 of assessment
Residential Resource \$1.94 per \$100 of assessment
Commercial \$3.99 per \$100 of assessment
Business Occupancy \$3.99 per \$100 of assessment***

Motion Carried

C) 2012/13 Garbage Rate

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bartlett and seconded by Councillor Manzer that the annual residential garbage rate for the 2012/13 fiscal year be set as follows:

\$214.00 per dwelling unit.

Motion Carried.

D) 2012/13 Interest on Outstanding Taxes

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Harvieux and seconded by Deputy Mayor 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 2012/13 taxes as per the Town of Digby instalment billing policy

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#2009-01. The Treasurer for the Town of Digby is to be empowered to collect by warrant all outstanding taxes after the due date.

Motion Carried.

E) 2012/13 Tax Certificate Fee

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Brittain and seconded by Deputy Mayor Bartlett that the fee for a tax certificate be set as \$25.00.

Motion Carried.

F) 2012/13 Sewer Service Charge

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Manzer and seconded by Councillor Brittain that an annual sewer service charge shall be \$5.95 per 1,000 gallons of water consumption in accordance with the Town of Digby Bylaw respecting the regulations of sewer service charges.

Motion Carried.

G.4 ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE REPORT

The Administration Committee has met and will be reviewing department head job descriptions and then they will be forwarded to the Committee of the Whole.

G.5 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

A) Accounts Payable

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Brittain and seconded by Councillor Turnbull that the accounts payable in the amount of \$555,659.66 be approved as presented.

Motion Carried.

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B) Cruise Fundy-Quest for Adventure

The cruise ship will be arriving on October 3, 2012, from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Harvieux and seconded by Councillor Turnbull that Council approve the \$500.00 to Cruise Fundy—Quest for Adventure.

Motion Carried.

G.6 TIDEVIEW TERRACE

The old Tideview Terrace is being demolished today.

G.6 DIGBY AND AREA RECREATION COMMISSION

Report for August was reviewed and accepted.

G. 7 LIBRARY BOARD

No meeting. No report.

G.8 WASTE CHECK

No meeting. No report.

G.9 PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

No meeting. No report.

G.10 REGIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

No report.

G.11 WATER COMMISSION

Report for August was reviewed and accepted.

G.12 INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

The Industrial Commission report is inserted in the Mayor's report.

G.13 DIGBY AREA LEARNING ASSOCIATION

No meeting. No report.

G.14 SENIOR SAFETY BOARD

No meeting. No report.

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G.15 ANNAPOLIS/DIGBY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

No report.

G.16 POLICE ADVISORY BOARD REPORT

No meeting. No report.

G.17 AIRPORT COMMITTEE

No meeting. No report.

G.18 MAYOR'S REPORT

Report for August was reviewed and accepted. The Mayor informed Council about the potential new doctor for the area. There is a doctor looking at coming next year in May or June and he has to provide two years of service in Nova Scotia with no financial incentives. The doctor is excited to have a clinic to work at and it the clinic should be up by the end of the year if they receive the permits.

G.19 UPPER CLEMENTS PARK

No meeting. No report.

G.20 OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY REPORT

No meeting. No report.

G.21 DATA Report

No meeting. No report.

G.22 MEDIC REPORT

Dr. Beukes and Bander will be leaving and Digby site applied for another nurse practitioner. Digby is know a Clinical Assessment Physician Site (CAP) and Dr. Black has agreed to mentor them. There has been doctors filling in at the emergency room.

The CAO commented that any Councillor that does not submit a report for the package will not be listed on the agenda. The CAO and Administrative Assistant will work on a new Council agenda.

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H. CORRESPONDENCE

H.1 Letter from MP Mylene Freeman

Information Item.

H.2 Letter from Tri County Woman's Centre

Information Item.

H.3 Letter from MLA Allan MacMaster

Information Item.

I. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

None.

J. NEW BUSINESS

J.1 Camping in Park

During the Wharf Rat Rally, there were several tents camping out at the Fishermen's Memorial Park. Discussion ensued. Signs shall be posted at the Fishermen's Memorial Park in regards to no overnight parking at the park.

J.2 Coyotes

Discussion ensued in regards to coyote sightings in the Town. A suggestion was that we put something on our website in regards to public awareness regarding coyotes and make sure they contact DNR, but we do not want to startle the citizens just want to know that they are around. The CAO will contact DNR in regards to the coyotes sightings.

J.3 Project Manager Report – Waste Water Project

The CAO presented a report from the Project Manager on Waste Water Project.

J.4 Fishermen's Memorial

The Fishermen's Memorial Park will be on Sunday, September 16, 2012 at 2 p.m. An ad will be put in the paper.

K. IN CAMERA

None

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L. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting adjourned on motion of
Councillor Harvieux and Turnbull TIME: 7:25 p.m.

MAYOR

CLERK