

**TOWN OF DIGBY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 6, 2013**

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

STAFF PRESENT: Tom Ossinger, CAO
Matthew Raymond, Director of Finance
Leslie Young, Accounts Payable Clerk
Richard Parry, By law Enforcement Officer/Special Constable

A. ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER

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

B. PUBLIC HEARING

None

C. AGENDA

C.1 Additions/Deletions

None.

C.2 Agenda

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Harvieux and seconded by Councillor Bartlett that the agenda of August 6, 2013 be approved.

Motion Carried.

D. DELEGATION AND PRESENTATIONS

D.1 Jimmy MacAlpine--RENS

Deputy Warden Jimmy MacAlpine gave an overview of RENS structure and plans to Council. The Deputy Warden is the UNSM representative for RENS. The proposed idea of RENS will be a board made up of local business people along with Municipal representation and Provincial representation along with an Executive Director. Deputy Warden feels that RENS is required to move forward with economic development for Municipality and

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Town of Digby. The Deputy Warden says that RENS in this area will include municipalities and towns from Barrington to Digby. He would like to see it up and going by spring of 2014 for this area. A meeting with officials will be coming up in the near future.

E. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

E.1 July 2, 2013

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Harvieux and seconded by Councillor Turnbull that the minutes of July 2, 2013, be approved as presented.

Motion Carried.

F. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

G. REPORTS

G.1 CAO's REPORT

The CAO's Report was presented.

G.2 BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT

Councillor Bartlett started by saying that 3 councillors had a private meeting to discuss the budget himself along with Councillor Handspiker and Councillor Manzer went through the budget line by line and reviewed areas to cut the budget they feel that \$0.19 on the Commercial rate is a hike and \$0.05 on the residential rate no motion or presentation was put forward. Deputy Mayor Brittain presented budget report for the tax rates for the 2013-14 operating budget.

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a) Tax rate

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Brittain and seconded by Councillor Harvieux that the tax rate for the 2013/14 fiscal year be set as follows:

<i>Residential</i>	<i>\$1.99 per \$100 of assessment</i>
<i>Residential Resource</i>	<i>\$1.99 per \$100 of assessment</i>
<i>Commercial</i>	<i>\$4.18 per \$100 of assessment</i>

AYES

**Councillor Harvieux
Deputy Mayor Brittain
Mayor Cleveland
Councillor Turnbull
Motion Carried.**

NAYS

**Councillor Handspiker
Councillor Manzer
Councillor Bartlett**

b) Garbage rate

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Turnbull and seconded by Councillor Bartlett that the annual residential garbage rate for the 2013/14 fiscal year be set as \$221.00 per dwelling unit
Motion Carried.

c) Interest on outstanding taxes

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Brittain and seconded by Councillor Turnbull 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 of the 2013/14 taxes as per the Town of Digby Installment Billing Policy #2009-01. The Clerk for the Town of Digby is to be empowered to collect by warrant all outstanding taxes after the due date.

Motion Carried.

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d) Tax certificate

Motion:

***Moved by Councillor Manzer and seconded by Councillor Turnbull that the fee for tax certificate be set at \$25.00
Motion Carried.***

e) Sewer Service Charge

Motion:

***Moved by Councillor Turnbull and seconded by Councillor Handspiker that an annual sewer service charge shall be \$5.55 per 1,000 gallons of water consumption in accordance with the Town of Digby by law respecting the regulations of sewer service charge.
Motion Carried.***

f) Grants to organizations

Motion:

***Moved by Deputy Mayor Brittain and seconded by Councillor Manzer that the Grants to Organization total be fixed at a maximum of 1% of Town budget of the previous year total revenue.
Motion Carried.***

G.3 OLD DIGBY ACADEMY

S/Cst. Richard Parry updated council on the pre-bid site visit with contractors; confirmation was received regarding the existence of asbestos in the boiler room area. S/Cst Parry is recommending to Council that a contract be awarded for the removal of the asbestos.

Motion:

***Moved by Councillor Handspiker and seconded by Councillor Turnbull that Dean Sauve Property Maintenance & Management be contracted to perform the asbestos abatement at 117 Queen Street for the quoted price of \$2200.00 with the work to be completed on/or before August 14, 2013.
Motion Carried.***

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G.4 PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A planning meeting was held on July 23, 2013, to deal with an application for 184 Victoria Street for change of use. This change can be done with a development agreement.

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Brittain and seconded by Councillor Harvieux that the Town enter into a development agreement with ~~A. Fells/D.J. Fells/Marantha Christian Centre~~ Richard Foote to enable the development of a residential dwelling and accessory commercial use (print and promotion) at 184 Victoria Street (PID 30224315).

Motion Carried.

G.5 DIGBY AREA RECREATION COMMISSION

Report in package.

H. CORRESPONDENCE

H.1 Letter from Tri-County Women's Centre

Information item.

H.2 Letter from Department of Health and Wellness

Information item.

H.3 Letter from AMANS

Information item.

H.4 Letter from Sherry Longmire

A letter was sent to the Western Regional Housing Authority and copied to the Town of Digby regarding the exterior condition of the public housing units on Third Avenue and King Street by local resident Sherry Longmire. Discussion ensued; perhaps Council can ask S/Cst Parry to go past and have a look from an unsightly standpoint and perhaps go from there as to exterior maintenance. Council is also asking for the CAO to draft a letter to be sent to the Department of Housing with reference to the letter received by the concerned resident.

H.5 Email regarding Town and Gas Tax Allocation

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Information item.

H.6 Letter from Wharf Rat Rally

Wharf Rat Rally is asking for permission to waive vendor fee for the property at 100-102 Montague Row owned by Don Bondy, allowing WRR to include that property as part of its vendor area. Council informed Wharf Rat Rally event manager Laura Simmons that if they have written confirmation from the property owner for permission to use the space as part of the vending area for the rally no vendor fee will be required. Council also brought up concerns about the camping that was being done specifically fisherman's park, event manager Laura Simmons says that she will have security go by the park around 9 pm to ensure no one is camping there.

I. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

None.

J. NEW BUSINESS

None.

K. IN CAMERA

None.

L. ADJOURNMENT

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

MAYOR

Clerk