

**TOWN OF DIGBY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TOWN HALL
February 1, 2016**

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

STAFF PRESENT: Tom Ossinger, Chief Administrative Officer
Matthew Raymond, Director of Finance
Leslie Young, Executive Assistant

REGRETS: Mayor Ben Cleveland

A. ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER

The Deputy 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 Handspiker and seconded by Councillor Bartlett that the Agenda of February 1, 2016 be approved as presented.

Motion Carried.

D. DELEGATION AND PRESENTATIONS

D.1 Acaciaville Conway Jordantown Betterment Society

Cary Johnson, Brenda Francis and Brad Barton presented to Council on behalf of the Acaciaville Conway Jordantown Betterment Society they are proposing a Community Center for the Conway area which would be a multipurpose facility open to all individuals that would include a school as well as space for functions for large groups of people, an industrial kitchen as well as office space, a medical clinic just to name a few. The Provincial Government has pledged their support but they

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are asking for support from local governments as well as Federal Government support. Currently TIR is reviewing their plans to see if any efficiencies can be made however the group is not willing to compromise any of the proposed services. The group is asking for a commitment from the Town of Digby of \$50,000 for the next 2 years. We will await more information from the Society once the TIR review is complete. Council thanked the Society for their presentation.

E. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

E.1 January 4, 2016

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Harvieux and seconded by Councillor Turnbull that the Minutes of January 4, 2016 be approved as presented.

Motion Carried.

F. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

G. REPORTS

G.1 Chief Administrative Officer Report

The CAO reviewed his report with Council. The tax sale by tender for 58 Water Street closed on January 14th we received 3 tenders a report has been compiled and will be discussed under new business. The Mount Street School lease agreement has had a couple of changes made by the Salvation Army Legal department and we will discuss In Camera. TMC Law partner Andy Montgomery has retired we now have a new associate Lisa Wight. The Senior Management team has resumed meeting and working on HR policies we are trying a new format for staff consultation once staff input is received a report to the Committee of the Whole will be presented. The 2016 Municipal and Schoolboard Election is coming in October we need to appoint a returning officer and give some consideration to the preliminary list of electors this will be discussed under New Business. The CAO also wanted to inform Council of the date for closure of the Registry of Deeds Office in Digby is February 26, 2016 this will be soon published as the closure date and the office wanted Council to be aware prior to the paper announcement.

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G.2 Committee of the Whole Report

The Committee of the Whole report is attached. The Committee is recommending the write off of old business occupancy tax accounts. The lease agreement with the Conway Workshop to lease a piece of land in the Industrial Park. The acceptance of the ownership of the vacant land at the former Tideview Terrace Nursing Home based on the 2015 Department of Health and Wellness Mandate.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Harvieux and seconded by Councillor Handspiker write off the following business occupancy tax accounts:

Tax Account Number	Taxes	Interest	Total
07094566000	3,356.10	6,305.71	9,661.81
10059828000	1,695.72	2,594.86	4,290.58
10060400000	983.13	1,115.04	2,098.17
07096283000	677.20	1,199.09	1,876.29
00060443000	348.55	666.61	1,015.16
07096232000	399.94	690.53	1,090.47
10060435000	354.15	493.31	847.46
Total	7,814.79	13,065.15	20,879.94

Motion Carried.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Turnbull and seconded by Councillor Bartlett that Council enter into in conjunction with the Municipality of the District of Digby a lease with the Conway Workshop Association on a year to year basis for a portion of land located on Shreve Street adjacent to Conway Workshop PID #30130116.

Motion Carried.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Bartlett and seconded by Councillor Manzer that Council accept ownership of the vacant land at the former Tideview Terrace Nursing Home with restrictions on its use based on the 2015 Department of Health and Wellness mandate.

Motion Carried.

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G.3 Digby Area Recreation Commission Report

The report is attached. Councillor Turnbull wanted to mention that each Council Member has received in their mailbox a list of items that DARC has done in the past decade at the Arena and the Curling Center just for your information.

G.4 Western REN Report

The Western REN CEO report is attached. The report is an information item for Council.

H. CORRESPONDENCE

H.1 Letter-Canadian Seniors Curling

A letter from Rob Hersey was received requesting \$250.00 from the Town of Digby to purchase scallops for a Taste of Digby event to be held during the Seniors Curling event in March.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Turnbull and seconded by Councillor Handspiker that Council participate in the Taste of Digby with a \$250.00 donation.

Motion Carried.

H.2 Letter-Digby Regional High School

A letter was received from Dawson Acker from Digby Regional High School asking for support for the Encounters with Canada Program. The registration fee is \$589.00 he is asking for any financial assistance that Council could provide. Council discussed the request however we are unable to offer financial help at this time a letter will be drafted and sent.

H.3 Letter-Southwest African Heritage Gala

A letter was received from the Southwest African Heritage Month Committee asking for support in purchasing a table for eight people for the Gala Dinner and Dance on February 27, 2016.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Harvieux and seconded by Councillor Bartlett that Council purchase a table for the Southwest African Heritage Month Dinner and Dance Gala the cost is \$160.00.

Motion Carried.

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I. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

I.1 None.

J. NEW BUSINESS

J.1 Tax Sale by Tender-58 Water Street

The tax sale by tender was held. We received three bids for this tax sale by tender. Council now has two options either accept the highest tender or reject all tenders and put the property back up for sale by tender or public auction. Discussion ensued.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Harvieux and seconded by Councillor Handspiker that Council accept the bid of \$21,600 from Christine Harnish for 58 Water Street PID # 30232474.

Motion Carried.

J.2 Appointment of Returning Officer

The CAO discussed with Council the appointment of a Returning Officer for the October Municipal Election. In 2012 we had appointed Susan Rice as returning officer. For this election we need to appoint a new returning officer. The CAO is recommending the appointment of Leslie Young as the new Returning Officer.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Harvieux and seconded by Councillor Handspiker that Leslie Young be appointed as the Returning Officer for the Municipal Election.

Motion Carried.

J.3 Preliminary List of electors

Council should begin discussing the method in which we will use for the preliminary list of electors. In 2012 we used the Provincial List with not a lot of issue we have until April to make the decision. The returning officer can investigate the cost of the provincial list and the federal list and we can move forward from there.

K. IN CAMERA

K.1 Lease Agreement and Personnel

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Harvieux and seconded by Councillor Bartlett that Council move to In Camera.

Motion Carried.

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Council moved out of In Camera

Motion:

***Moved by Councillor Turnbull and seconded by Councillor Bartlett that Council approve the Lease Agreement as amended with The Governing Council of the Salvation Army in Canada for the Lease of the property at 53 Mount Street PID # 30226765.
Motion Carried.***

L. ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

***There being no further business the meeting adjourned on motion of Councillor Harvieux and seconded by Councillor Bartlett at 8:13 p.m.
Motion Carried.***

MAYOR

CLERK