

**DIGBY TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY June 4, 2018
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
6:00 PM**

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

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

REGRETS:

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

B. PUBLIC HEARINGS

C. AGENDA

C.1 Additions/Deletions

None.

C.2 Approval

Motion

Moved by Deputy Mayor Brittain and seconded by Councillor Harvieux that the Agenda of June 4, 2018 be approved as presented.

Motion Carried.

D. DELEGATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

D.1 Dan Harvey-Multi-use Marine Facility Business case

The report was commissioned to investigate the potential of a marine facility there are a few locations discussed for the facility one being the location across from the former Visitor Information Center along Shore Road. Dan also discussed the cruise industry and the potential for attracting that industry to Digby and the economic spin off for the area. Boat building and repair is an industry that is growing with an aging fleet of boats there is an absolute need. Dan discussed the renewable energy sector and the tidal turbines. Currently the Digby Development Agency (DDA) is working together with the Digby Harbour Port Authority however these projects will take time. The Digby Harbour Port Authority was able to meet with the Premier last week on the project. Dan thanked Council for the opportunity to come and present.

D.2 Virginia Smith-Plastic Bag Ban

Virginia Smith is a resident of the Municipality of Digby and asked to come to Council tonight to speak on the problems around plastic bags. She was able to give the same presentation to the Municipal Council and she was encouraged when the Municipality agreed to adopt a ban on plastic bags. Virginia is here asking for the Town of Digby Council to also consider the Ban of Plastic Bags she feels is an international epidemic. Recycling is not the answer less than one percent of bags handed out are recycled and that is why she says recycling doesn't work and she feels that the banning of bags is the correct answer. Councillor Harvieux spoke on the discussions around the Waste Check board table which he is a member of and Councillor Harvieux says this will likely happen but if the Province was to introduce a province wide ban it would be better for them to take the lead on a ban. Some businesses are in favor as it will be a saving for them not to have to purchase bags however for some it might be a hardship if they have a lot of year's worth of bags sitting in storage. Deputy Mayor Brittain asked about the large box stores and whether they would have the ability to ban the plastic bags or would that have to be approved by a head office location that is something that will have to be asked. Plastic bags are just one small part of a plastic issue a lot of things that people purchase will come packaged in plastic of some sort and the plastic will not break down. Council did express that they did support the initiative to ban plastic bags they did not create a by law banning plastic bags. Council thanked Virginia for the presentation and will give consideration to here discussion on the banning of plastic bags.

D.3 Sherry Longmire-Trinity Anglican Church

Sherry Longmire along with Jackie Titus came to speak to Council asking for a \$500.00 financial contribution for the continuation of the summer tour guide at the church. Trinity is the only national historic site in Digby. Last year they welcomed over 300 visitors from around the world and will continue that again this year with the help of the Canada Summer Jobs Program however there are expenses related to this position that are not covered and that is why they are here asking for Council to consider their request of \$500.00.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Harvieux and seconded by Councillor Turnbull that Council grant a \$500.00 contribution to the Trinity Anglican Church.

Motion Carried.

E. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

E.1 May 7, 2018

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Brittain and seconded by Councillor Bartlett that the Minutes of May 7, 2018 be approved as presented.

Motion Carried.

F. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

F.1 None.

G. REPORT

G.1 Chief Administrative Officer

The Chief Administrative Officer report was distributed to Council for review. Deputy Mayor Brittain asked if anyone has considered attending the doctor recruitment workshop in Halifax

and Mayor Cleveland has considered attending if he is unable to attend he will notify Council in case anyone else would like to attend in his place.

G.2 Committee of the Whole Report

The Committee of the Whole report for May was distributed for review.

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Brittain and seconded by Councillor Turnbull that Council approve the Taxi Fare Policy as presented.

Motion Carried.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Bartlett and seconded Councillor Turnbull that Council approve the 53 Mount Street roof repaid at a cost not to exceed \$15,000.00.

Motion Carried.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Harvieux and seconded by Councillor Bartlett that Council approve the Wharf Rat Rally 2018 Traffic plan as presented.

Motion Carried.

G.3 Digby and Area Recreation Commission Report

The DARC reports were included in the package for review.

G.4 Budget Committee Report

Estimates of Revenues and Expenditures

Moved By Councillor Harvieux and Seconded By Councillor Bartlett

THAT Council accepts the following estimates of the sums required by the Town of Digby for the fiscal period ending March 31, 2019, prepared in accordance with Section 72 of the Municipal Government Act:

Revenues	
Taxes	\$3,073,676
Grants in Lieu of Taxes	\$449,013
Services Provided to Other Local Gov't	\$179,637
Sale of Services	\$127,435
Other Revenue from Own Sources	\$117,635
Unconditional Transfers	\$393,168
Conditional Transfers	\$8,500
Other Transfers	\$3,000
Total Revenues	\$4,352,064

Expenditures	
General Government Services	\$697,423
Protective Services	\$1,412,593
Transportation Services	\$662,950
Environmental Health Services	\$636,958
Public Health Services	\$92,000
Environmental Developmental Services	\$131,304
Recreation and Cultural Services	\$370,774
Finance and transfers	\$348,062
Total Expenditures	\$4,352,064

Motion Carried.

General Tax Rates

Moved By Deputy Mayor Brittain and Seconded By Councillor Turnbull

WHEREAS total estimated expenditures for the fiscal period are \$4,352,064 and

WHEREAS total estimated revenues, other than taxes to be levied are \$1,278,388 and

WHEREAS the balance of revenues required, \$3,073,676 must be rated;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT for the Town of Digby for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2019:

The general tax rates are as follows:

Residential / Resource \$1.99 per \$100 of assessment

Commercial \$4.24 per \$100 of assessment

Taxes to be billed by way of interim tax bill (issued in April, due May 31, 2018) and

Final tax bill (issued in September, due the October 31, 2018); and

Interest on overdue amounts to be charged at a rate of 19% per annum.

Motion Carried.

Solid Waste Management Uniform Charge

Moved By Councillor Harvieux and Seconded By Deputy Mayor Brittain

WHEREAS Council has included in its estimates for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2019, the amount of \$309,593 to be expended for the purpose of solid waste management, a purpose for which the Town may expend funds; and

WHEREAS there are approximately 1157 dwelling units within the boundaries of the Town of Digby; and

WHEREAS the Council may, under paragraph 75(4)(b) of the Municipal Government Act, in lieu of levying an area rate, levy a uniform charge on each property assessment in the area;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a uniform charge of \$268 be levied for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2019 on each dwelling unit within the boundaries of the Town of Digby and that these uniform charges will be applied on the final Tax bill issued in September are due and payable by October 31, 2018 with interest on overdue amounts to be charged at the rate of 19 % per annum.

Motion Carried.

Sanitary Sewer Rates

Moved By Councillor Bartlett and Seconded By Councillor Turnbull

WHEREAS Council is authorized by the Town of Digby Sewer Charges By-law to set rates for sewer services;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the sewer service charge shall be \$6.66 per 1,000 gallons of water consumption; and

Residential and Commercial users shall pay:

Less than 1 million gallons annually 100% of the Sewer Service Charge, or more than 1 million gallons annually 50% of the Sewer Service Charge based on their annual water consumption of the previous year, and

Industrial Premises users shall pay:

Less than 1 million gallons annually 100% of the Sewer Service Charge, or more than 1 million gallons shall pay 10% of the Sewer Service Charge, or more than 10 million gallons shall pay 5% of the Sewer Service Charge based on their annual water consumption of the previous year; and

That the Sewer Service Charge shall be applied to the Water Utility's bi-monthly bill. All bills are due and payable under the same regulations as the Water Utility Bill.

Motion Carried.

Tax Certificate Fee

Moved By Councillor Turnbull and Seconded By Councillor Harvieux

WHEREAS Council is authorized to set a fee for a tax certificate pursuant to section 132 (2) of the Municipal Government Act;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the tax certificate fee shall be \$40.00 per tax certificate.

Motion Carried.

H. CORRESPONDENCE

H.1 Municipality of the District of Digby Highway 101

The Municipality of Digby is asking that the Town draft a letter of support for the Completion of the Highway 101 Phase 2 from Digby to Weymouth with Phase 1 currently under construction now is the time to begin to push for Phase 2 funding commitment from the Provincial and Federal Governments.

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Brittain and seconded by Councillor Harvieux that Council draft and send a letter of support to Premier McNeil for Phase 2 of the Highway 101 Digby to Weymouth.

Motion Carried.

H.2 Municipality of the District of Digby letter to Premier McNeil

The Municipality of the District of Digby has sent the Town of Digby a copy of the letter that was forwarded to Premier McNeil regarding the Highway 101 Phase 2.

H.3 Society for the Friends of Feral

Council received a thank you letter from the Society for the Friends of Feral thanking them for the grant awarded to them through the Grants to Organizations.

H.4 Digby Area Tourism Association

Council received a thank you letter from Digby Area Tourism Association thanking them for the grant awarded to them through the Grant to Organizations.

I. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

I.1 None.

J. NEW BUSINESS

J.1 Tate Engineering Appraisal

The CAO contacted Tate Engineering regarding an appraisal on the Digby Fire Hall options. Tate Engineering has replied to the request with a proposed scope of work and a fee to provide this work. With the Fire Department conducting an independent appraisal for a new building it would be good to conduct an appraisal on the hall. The cost to conduct the appraisal will be an operating expense. Council felt that it was important to conduct the appraisal.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Harvieux and seconded by Councillor Turnbull that Council accept the proposal by Tate Engineering to conduct the Digby Fire Hall Options Appraisal.

Motion Carried.

J.2 Jordantown Conway Betterment Association

The CAO and the Mayor met with representatives from the Jordantown Conway Betterment Association to discuss financial contributions. Council has already committed to In Kind with land clearing however they are now asking for the Town of Digby to contribute to the project over a three year period \$120,000 either in cash to In kind services this is the same amount contributed by the Municipality of Digby. Based on population the total three year commitment would be \$35,458.00 annually it would equate to \$11,819.00.

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Brittain and seconded by Councillor Bartlett that Council approve the in kind of \$10,000 and a cash contribution of \$10,000 for a one year term and review the remaining two year request as the project progresses.

Motion Defeated.

Council discussed providing just a commitment to the project based on population for capital expenditures and no in kind and no future operating costs just the commitment to the capital costs.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Harvieux and seconded by Councillor Bartlett that Council approve \$11,600 for capital expenditures for 2018/19 and the next two fiscal years and with draw the in kind offer to assist with land clearing, and that Council would not be responsible for any operating costs now or in the future.

Motion Carried.

J.3 HMCS Acadia Community Event

Mayor Cleveland received a request from HMCS Acadia to hold an evening band performance in Digby on July 21, 2018. Council would be pleased to host this event and that would not require a special event permit if the town was to host it.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Turnbull and seconded by Councillor Bartlett that Council sponsor the July 21, 2018 HMCS Acadia Band performance.

Motion Carried.

K. IN CAMERA

K.1 None.

L. ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

Motion for adjournment was moved by Councillor Harvieux and seconded by Mayor Turnbull at 8:08 PM.

Motion Carried.