

**TOWN OF DIGBY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 2, 2020**

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

A. CALL TO ORDER

The CAO called the meeting to order at 6:18 p.m.

B. OATH OF OFFICE/CODE OF CONDUCT

Judge Haliburton administered the Oath of Office to Ben Cleveland, Mike Bartlett, Peter Turnbull, Paul Saulnier, and William McCormick.

The Councillors Code of Conduct was read and signed by each member of Council.

C. AGENDA

C.1 Additions/Deletions

None.

C.2 Approval

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Turnbull and seconded by Councillor Saulnier that the Agenda of November 2, 2020 be approved as presented.

Motion Carried.

D. PRESENTATIONS

None.

E. ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

Councillor Turnbull nominated Councillor Bartlett for the Deputy Mayor position. Councillor Bartlett accepted the nomination for Deputy Mayor. Mayor Cleveland called 3 times for any additional nominations hearing none Mayor Cleveland declared Mike Bartlett as Deputy Mayor.

F. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

Mayor Cleveland distributed a list prior to tonight of committees and advisory boards that will need Council representation on. After

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Everyone submitted their choice for those committees and boards the Mayor and the CAO compiled the list for those based on the choice and distributed tonight have a read through them after reviewing all the choices submitted there was some vacancies that we needed to fill. If you have any difficulty making the commitment to these positions let us know we may have to shift some around.

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bartlett and seconded by Councillor Saulnier that the Appointment to Committees be approved as presented.

Motion Carried.

There is one item to note listed under Executive Committee was Mayor Cleveland, Deputy Mayor was left vacant until this evenings appointment of Deputy Mayor Bartlett which leaves one spot which will be filled by Councillor McCormick

G. BUSINESS ARISING/OLD BUSINESS

G.1 Handicap Parking

The CAO added this back on the Agenda for further discussion at the time when this concern was made to the office of the CAO there was construction being done in front of the Harbour Rose flower store on Water Street and that made it more of a challenge to access the handicap parking spot in front of the bank and the question was brought forward by the resident to see if more handicap parking spots could be installed. Since this original concern was brought forward the construction in front of Harbour Rose is now completed and the barriers are now gone but Council would like to have the By Law Enforcement Office have a look and see if we can add some more. Councillor Saulnier was asked about having a handicap parking spot on the water side to allow for handicap folks wanting to access restaurants again something to consider.

H. REPORTS

H.1 Chief Administrative Officer Report

The CAO reviewed his report with Council. The Wastewater upgrade project is still being worked on the baffle curtain in the third lagoon is now installed and Lift Station 1 work is set to begin the week of October 26 and Lift Station 2 on Birch street now has the new wet well in place along with the valve chamber. The Force main on Admiral's

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Walk that requires a permeant fix will be done in house by the Public Works Department. Nova Scotia Environment has issued an approved permit for the work and materials have been ordered this work is required as that temporary fix will freeze in the winter months. All the Required Financial Reporting required had been submitted to Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing. The upcoming virtual training for elected officials is due to being on November 30 if you have not already registered let Leslie know and she will register you before the deadline and the early bird price expires. NSP is holding a virtual training session on Smart Meters on Thursday November 5, 2020 no pre-registration required. The Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing will be offering a training and orientation session for new and returning elected officials if you wish to register let Leslie know she can register you once we received the link. On Monday October 26th the Mayor/Wardens and Chief Administrative Officers from the southwest region met to discuss the lobster fishery dispute the outcome of the meeting that a Public Relations firm should be hired to create and deliver a message with a focus on public safety and economic impact. The group will be meeting again on November 3 so there will be more information to come forward. The CAO conducted an in house orientation session with the two new Council member on October 28th to provide them with tools to perform their duties as Councillors. A meeting was held with the General Manager of the Digby Pines regarding the Old Provincial VIC on Shore Road they may have interest in using the property if the Digby Pines is interested in that property a proposal would be required to come forward for Council consideration. The abandoned rail trail in the Town of Digby on the Western loop has been approved by Trans Canada Trail to become a registered section of the Great Trail of Canada. The registration agreement required information from the Town before proceeding with the required information the CAO is asking for direction from Council is they wish to proceed in becoming part of the Great Trail of Canada this may open up funding opportunities.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Turnbull and seconded by Councillor McCormick that Council approved the registration required for the old abandoned rail corridor in the Town of Digby on the Western loop to become a register section of the Great Trail of Canada.

Motion Carried.

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H.2 Digby Area Recreation Commission Report

The report was included in the package. Councillor Turnbull will answer any questions that you might have.

I. CORRESPONDENCE

I.1 Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities-President and VP

The election for the offices of NSFM are normally held at the fall Conference this year due to Covid-19 the conference didn't happen so they are reaching out for submissions for various seats if you are interested the deadline is November 4.

I.2 Municipality of Pictou County

The letter from the Municipality of Pictou included in the package was distributed to all of NS Municipalities concerning community rinks and the roll that they play in the community. The Municipality of Pictou council recently passed a resolution urging Government to look favorable on a program that will support rink operations during this tenuous time.

I.3 Town of Oxford

The letter from the Town of Oxford is in response to the letter copied to all Municipal Units from the Municipality of Pictou County concerning the loss of revenue from Covid-19 and their support in asking the Government to develop a support program that will assist community arenas in their operations for the current year and subsequent years.

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bartlett and seconded by Councillor Turnbull that the Town of Digby support the resolution for the support for arenas as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Motion Carried.

J. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

None.

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K. NEW BUSINESS

K.1 New Year's Levee and Christmas Social

With the current Covid-19 pandemic we will be unable to hold a New Year's Levee and Christmas Recognition Dinner/Social will also be a challenge for this year the Council has decided to cancel the New Year's Levee and also the annual Christmas Recognition dinner/social.

K.2 Department of Municipal Affairs-Council orientation sessions

This was previously discussed under the CAO report however if you are interested in attending we will ensure that you are registered before the deadline in you notify Leslie.

K.3 Association of Municipal Administrators NS-Financial Management Workshop

The early bird registration is coming up on Friday we can ensure that you are registered if you let Leslie know.

K.4 Digby Area Skating Club

This request came however the Grant to Organizations deadline has closed and if we fund one organization that is requiring funding for the season this may open the doors for others to come and request funding. At this time Council did not want to make a donation to the Digby Area Skating Club.

L. IN CAMERA

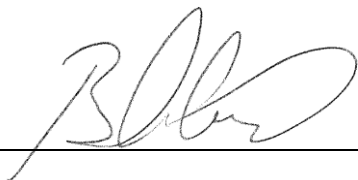
None.

M. ADJOURNMENT

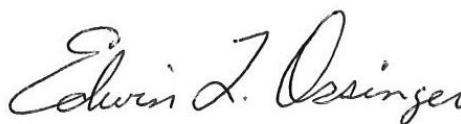
Motion:

Moved by Councillor Turnbull and seconded by Deputy Mayor Bartlett that there being no further business that the meeting adjourn at 7:17 PM.

Motion Carried.



Mayor Ben Cleveland



Clerk E. Tom Ossinger