

**DIGBY TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday September 6, 2022
Council Chambers**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Ben Cleveland, Chair
Deputy Mayor Mike Bartlett, Vice Chair
Councillor Peter Turnbull
Councillor Paul Saulnier
Councillor William McCormick

STAFF PRESENT : Tom Ossinger, Chief Administrative Officer
Leslie Brinton, Executive Assistant

REGRETS:

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Cleveland called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

B. PUBLIC HEARING

B.1 None.

C. AGENDA

C.1 Additions/Deletions

None.

C.2 Approval

Motion

Moved by Councillor Turnbull and seconded by Councillor Saulnier that the Agenda for September 6, 2022 be as approved as presented.

Motion Carried.

D. DELEGATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

D.1 Grant Thornton-Aaron Kelly

Aaron Kelly from Grant Thornton is here to present the Financial Statements this presentation has been made prior to tonight to the Audit Committee the recommendation to approve the statements will follow the presentation. Aaron reviewed the Independent Auditors Report the option of the audit is that the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Town of Digby as of March 31, 2022. Aaron did a review of the Consolidated Statement of Operations the revenue for the year end is \$5,697,890 which is higher than budget and expenses for the year end are \$5,183,801 which is slightly higher than budget this results in a surplus of \$514,089 and brings the accumulated surplus to \$16,956,243. The town is currently in a good financial position.

E. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

E.1 August 2, 2022

Motion:

Moved by Councillor McCormick and seconded by Councillor Saulnier that the Minutes of August 2, 2022 be approved as presented.

Motion Carried.

F. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

F.1 Second and final reading for the Feeding of Wild Birds and Animals By-Law

a) Davina Halbich

b) Virginia Olafesen

The Feeding and Wild Birds and Animal by law is coming forward tonight for the Second and Final reading. There are a few folks here tonight who would like to speak on the By law. Davina Halbich Spoke about the issues she has with her neighbour feeding the pigeons and the mess they are making around her property she has asked her neighbour to stop feeding them however she is still feeding the pigeons and at this time Davina is unable to enjoy her outdoor space due to the neighbour feeding the pigeons.

Gary Theriault is also here to speak to the By Law Gary owns the building on Montague Row between Fairway Insurance and the Town of Digby Visitor Information Centre and the man across the street walks over daily to feed the pigeons and birds which results in the pigeons and birds defecating all over his roof, heat pumps. Gary has spoken to the man about the feeding and it's still happening.

Phil Robertson drafted a letter in support of the By law which was read tonight by Gary Theriault the feeding of pigeons and birds on Montague Row at the Visitor Centre is also affecting his residence at 18 Mount Street.

Virginia Olafesen is here tonight to speak against the by law she is very much in favor of continuing to feed the birds and raccoons. Virginia has lots of enjoyment in feeding the animals and she says that the complaint that originated with the neighbour on the feeding of the animals has since been resolved. Virginia spoke about continuing to feed the raccoon if this by law is adopted until hibernation takes place.

Councillor Turnbull spoke about the feeding of raccoons and the disease that they carry according to the Department of Lands of Forrest website. Mayor Cleveland has also done some research into the feeding on racoons and other birds.

Mayor and Council thanked all these folks for their interest in the by law.

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bartlett and seconded by Councillor Turnbull that Council give second and final reading to the Feeding or Wild Birds and Animals by Law # 2022-02.

Motion Carried.

G. REPORTS

G.1 Chief Administrative Officer Report

The CAO reviewed his report with Council. The CAO is reporting that there has been two fire inspections at two commercial properties at 125 First Avenue and 9 Water Street these were a result of complaints received at the Town Hall and also the Deputy Fire Marshall. The Municipality is currently compiling a list of multi-unit residential buildings that require fire inspections. The CAO had a Zoom meeting regarding the Digby District Heating prefeasibility study they will be looking to the Town to provide some data that will be useful to the study. The Emancipation Day

Ceremony was held at the Promenade on August 11, 2022 The CAO expressed his thank you to the Community Development Coordinator and the staff for making the event a success. The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 20 met with the CAO to discuss various topics and one being to have better communication with the Town as well as creating a Veteran Banner Program which will be coming up under New Business. A meeting was held with the CAO and the new VP of resort operations at the Digby Pines in an effort to have more open lines of communication between the Town and the resort in hopes for future collaborations with the Town to create a successful destination. The CAO spoke about the crucial role that the town video surveillance played in the Successful recovery of a backpack/purse left on the promenade. The purse was located on Monday behind the Remax building after a review of the camera footage. The CAO expressed his sincere thank you to the staff for the work involved in locating this purse. The owner of the purse said all items were located in the page including the cash that was inside. The owner was very grateful to the Town, CAO and staff involved in the locating the purse. The slip and fall from July 11, 2022 is now in the hands of the lawyer and insurance company they have taken over the file.

G.2 Digby Area Recreation Commission Report

The report was distributed to all of Council.

G.3 Digby Area Tourism Association Report

The report was distributed to all of Council. The ACOA grant referred to in the report was a grant between the Town of Digby and ACOA for web development. In order for DATA to receive this money it needs to be spent. At this time the grant has not been paid out to DATA.

G.4 Audit Committee Report

The Audit Committee is recommending the Town of Digby Financial Statements for approval.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Turnbull and seconded by Deputy Mayor Bartlett that Council accept the Town of Digby Financial Statements for the year ending March 31, 2022 as presented.

Motion Carried.

H. CORRESPONDENCE

H.1 Churchill Ashford

Correspondence was received from Churchill Ashford in response to various matters. Churchill refers to a fence that he would like the Town to extend or construct on the east side of the drainage ditch. This matter has been previous discussed. The second matter is the correspondence that we sent to Churchill regarding the presentation to Council for the land interest at the ballfield. Churchill then discussed selling the property at 85 Church Street to the Town for \$235,000 and the trailer from the lot at 74 Sydney Street that the town is in the process of purchasing. The last item referred to is the property at 74 Sydney Street that the town is in the process of purchasing. Council was still not interested in selling the lot of land to Churchill and at this point in time we haven't purchase the lot on Sydney Street.

I. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

I.1 None.

J. NEW BUSINESS

J.1 Active Transportation-Resolution

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bartlett and seconded by Councillor McCormick that it be therefore resolved that the Town of Digby can confirm that it meets all the requirements of Canada Active Transportation Fund Agreement, and that the Town of Digby Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to execute the agreement on behalf of the Town of Digby.

Motion Carried.

J.2 Remembrance Banners

The CAO received correspondence from the Legion asking for the opportunity to acknowledge a veterans with a banner program. The Town would support the program with the hanging and removing of banners yearly. This type of banner program is being done in other areas of the Province. Councillor Saulnier also expressed interest in working with the Legion on the Remembrance Day ceremony. Although most people view this as a town ceremony the Legion to date have been the organizers and they are in need of help.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Turnbull and seconded by Councillor Saulnier that the Town support the Legion Banner program as presented.

Motion Carried.

J.3 Draft Digby Marketing and Promotions Levy by Law

The draft Marketing and Promotion Levy is coming forward once again. The only change from the first by law is the change in dates and the repeal of the old by law.

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bartlett and seconded by Councillor McCormick that Council gives first reading to the Digby Marketing and Promotions Levy By law # 2022-03.

Motion Carried.

J.4 Boundary Review

The CAO drafted the report on the boundary review that is a requirement of every municipality in Nova Scotia. The full report will be distributed along with the survey. The other piece to this will be a public meeting that can be done at an upcoming Council Meeting and you can also submit written comments by mail to the Town Hall. Once all the public engagement is completed the feedback from the public is taken into consideration when Council makes their recommendation to The UARB. Councillor Saulnier asked about a kiosk that would allow folks to input there survey at the public meeting. November 7th will be the date for the public meeting all are welcome to attend this public meeting and provide verbal or written submissions.

K. IN CAMERA

K.1 None.

L. ADJOURNMENT

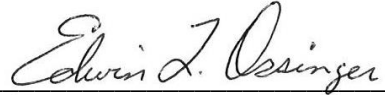
Motion:

Motion for adjournment was moved by Deputy Mayor Bartlett and seconded by Councillor Saulnier at 7:51 P.M.

Motion Carried.



Mayor



Clerk