

**DIGBY TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Monday June 3, 2024
Council Chambers**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Ben Cleveland, Chair
Deputy Mayor Mike Bartlett, Vice Chair **Via Zoom**
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 PM

B. PUBLIC HEARING

B.1 None.

C. AGENDA

C.1 Additions/Deletions

One addition to the Agenda under New Business I.3 Trailer on Victoria Street

C.2 Approval

Motion

Moved by Councillor Turnbull and seconded by Councillor Saulnier that the Agenda for June 2, 2024, be approved as amended.

Motion Carried.

D. DELEGATIONS

D.1 Community Navigator Nancy Whalley

Nancy thanked Mayor and Council for the opportunity to come and talk about the work that is being done. Since taking on the position there has been a lot of connections with various partner, monthly meeting with the MLA, hosted many conferences and attended many events. A new website was created and a social medial presence. Moving forward there is planning for more events and festivals such as the Multicultural Festival. Nancy was able to show the new website to the Council members and a video that was created. There is lots of work to be done keep the physician that we currently have as well as recruiting new Doctors and Nurses to come to area. Council thanked Nancy for her presentation.

E. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

E.1 May 6, 2024

Motion:

Moved by Councillor McCormick and seconded by Councillor Saulnier that the Minutes of May 6, 2024, be approved as presented.

Motion Carried.

F. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

F.1 None.

G. REPORTS

G.1 Chief Administrative Officer Report

The CAO has another busy month with many meetings. The CAO attended a meeting in Liverpool with the Department of Justice most of the folks that were in attendance were members of a Police Advisory Board. The CAO did have the opportunity to speak regarding the current issues we are experiencing with vacancies we are not alone they are aware there is a new staff sergeant that has been appointed and is eager to come to the area. The 5-week work placement of the NSCC Office Assistant has been completed and was deemed to be successful. A meeting was held with Nova Scotia Housing representatives and opened the lines of communication and cooperation. The Provincial EMO exercise was held on May 29th this was a province wide exercise our Digby REMO has two teams one attended the training in the morning and the second team attended in the afternoon we were able to file out forms, take calls, communicate with various provincial departments. A pre-construction meeting was held on May 30th with Dexter Construction, Digby Project Manager, Designing Engineers DeWolfe and Morse, Town CAO and Public Works Director the project is due to commence the third week of June with a target completion date of the end of November.

G.2 Waste Check Annual General Report

There are two reports coming forward from Waste Check one is the AGM and the seconded is the regular meeting. At the AGM the election of Officers took place.

G.3 Waste Check Authority Meeting Report

The regular meeting of Waste Check meeting notes was distributed in the package.

G.4 Committee of the Whole Report

There are four recommendations coming forward from the May 21, 2024 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Saulnier and seconded by Councillor McCormick that Council approve the changes recommended by the Western Regional Enterprise Network to change the structure of the Recruitment and Nominations Committee as follows:

- ***Two members of the Western REN Board of Directors***
- ***One member of the Liaison and Oversight Committee who is appointed by the province and***
- ***One member of the Liaison and Oversight Committee who is an elected official of the Municipality (or a designate)***

Motion Carried.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Turnbull and seconded by Councillor Saulnier that Council award the contract for the Shore Road culvert replacement project to G & R Kelly Enterprises Limited in the amount of \$438,292.25 plus HST.

Motion Carried.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor McCormick and seconded by Deputy Mayor Bartlett that Council approve the Priority Resolution-Provincial Capital Assistance Program as follows:

Whereas new housing development and the provision of drinking water, waste, and storm water collection systems to foster such development are high on Councils list of priorities.

And whereas the Council supports new residential unit development on unserviced vacant land by offering to service vacant land.

And whereas Council has identified the opening of West Street South of Saint George Street as a project to accomplish this priority.

And whereas an Engineered predesign and design would be required.

And whereas funding for providing these services cannot be accomplished without funding from the other levels of government.

Be it therefore resolved that the Town Council of the Town of Digby make the above-mentioned project a priority for the 2024 PCAP application for funding.

And further be it resolved that the Town of Digby Council commits funding for its share of the project.

Motion Carried.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Saulnier and seconded by Councillor Turnbull that Council approve the Priority Resolution - Flood Risk Infrastructure Investment Program as follows:

Whereas coastal erosion and rising sea levels are significant concerns for coastal towns like Digby, presenting substantial flood risks to the Town's essential water, wastewater, and road infrastructure. These natural processes threaten both public and private properties, disrupting community safety and well-being. As the impacts of climate change intensify, the vulnerability of Digby's coastal infrastructure continues to grow, necessitating urgent and proactive measures.

And whereas flooding along Shore Road has already occurred during periods of heavy rain, extremely high tides, and storm surges, causing considerable damage and placing critical infrastructure at risk. These events have demonstrated the immediate need for infrastructure improvements to protect against future occurrences. The damage from these flooding events not only disrupts daily life but also incurs significant repair costs and threatens the economic stability of the region.

And whereas funding these essential projects is beyond the financial capacity of the Town and requires substantial assistance from other levels of government. The Town of Digby recognizes that collaboration and financial support from provincial and federal entities are crucial for the successful implementation of these infrastructure projects. Securing such funding is essential to enhance the resilience of the town's infrastructure, ensuring long-term protection and sustainability for its residents and businesses.

Be it therefore resolved that the Town Council of Digby identifies the replacement of the culvert on Shore Road as priority projects, and fully supports the application for funding under the Flood Risk Infrastructure Investment Program to safeguard the community against future flood risks.

And further be it resolved that the Town of Digby Council commits funding for its share of the project.

Motion Carried.

G.5 Digby Area Recreation Commission Report

The DARC reports were in the meeting package. Last week a small meeting was held with about 10 folks in attendance to discuss Kraft Hockeyville funding opportunities. Splash park is due to open June 15 all are invited to attend.

H. CORRESPONDENCE

H.1 Digby Splash Park

Mayor Cleveland received an invitation to attend the upcoming splash park opening June 15 at 10:00 AM all are welcome to attend.

H.2 Society for the Friends of Ferals

CAO Ossinger received correspondence from the Friends of Ferals thanking the Town for the recent Grant of \$2,000 along with all the support for the rescue operation.

I. NEW BUSINESS

I.1 Sydney Street Planters

There have been some concerns about the location of the planters on Sydney Street some folks feel that the ones on Water Street make it too narrow we maybe able to move them back slightly so that they are not so close to the corner. The CAO will have a look and discuss with Public Works.

I.2 Social Services Housing update

Deputy Mayor Bartlett arranged a meeting with representatives from the Department of Housing and the Town of Digby to discuss some issues with garbage and public housing it was a very open meeting and will hopefully provide a better opportunity for communication going forward.

I.3 Take out Trailer on Victoria Street

There have been lots of question about the trailer on Victoria Street it doesn't seem to appear as the images show originally to Council on what the trailer would look like. Council has some concerns on what the structure will look like. The CAO will reach out to the owner and report back to Council.

J. IN CAMERA

J.1 Land Purchase Request

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Turnbull and seconded by Councillor McCormick that Council move IN Camera for Land Purchase Request.

Motion Carried.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor McCormick and seconded by Councillor Turnbull that Council moves out of In Camera for legal.

Motion Carried.

Councillor Saulnier declared a conflict of interest on the request to purchase land.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor McCormick and seconded by Councillor Turnbull that Council approves the request to purchase a lot of land by Betty Thomas in the amount of \$10,000.00 the Town of Digby will be responsible to cover the cost for subdividing.

Motion Carried.

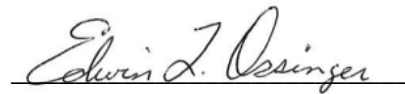
K. ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

Motion for adjournment moved by Councillor McCormick and seconded by Deputy Mayor Bartlett that the meeting be adjourned at 8:23 PM

Motion Carried.



Mayor

Clerk