

**TOWN OF DIGBY
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
February 22, 2022
Council Chambers**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Ben Cleveland
Deputy Mayor Mike Bartlett
Councillor Peter Turnbull
Councillor William McCormick (Via Zoom)

STAFF PRESENT: Tom Ossinger, Chief Administrative Officer
Leslie Brinton, Executive Assistant
Matthew Raymond, Director of Finance
Bruce Baxter, By Law Enforcement Officer

REGRETS: Councillor Paul Saulnier

A. CALL TO ORDER

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

B. AGENDA

B.1 Additions/Deletions

One addition under New Business H.3 Art Work Promenade

B.2 Approval of the Agenda

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bartlett and seconded by Councillor Turnbull that the Agenda be approved with one addition under New Business H.3 Art Work Promenade.

Motion Carried.

C. DELEGATION AND PRESENTATION

C.1 Digby Splash Pad Committee-Allison Vassallo

Allison Vassallo and Jillian McNutt are presenting on behalf of the Digby Splash Pad Committee. They are happy to announce that they have officially received their not for profit status. The splash park will have many components such as fountains, jets, water cannons there will be no standing water the system will be designed to operate on a timer and will have to be turned on in the morning and off at the end of the day. There are many benefits to the park from physical activity, social learning, accessibility to all, free to use and will enhance the community. The proposed location will be at the Vaughan Vantassel memorial park. The build will cost \$293,091 they are asking each of the two Municipal units for a grant for \$30,000 this will include and the cost of the splash pad and an accessible washroom. Mayor Cleveland spoke about funding opportunities out there they will just need to be researched. The Committee thanked Council for the opportunity to come and present.

C.2 Tidal Energy Pilot Project-Town of Annapolis Royal and Bill Crossman
Mayor of the Town of Annapolis Royal Amery Boyer and Bill Crossman from Soluna are here to discuss the Tidal Energy Pilot Project. The concept is for shallow water tidal which would be a cost saving from the deep water tidal currently being tested. The shallow water site will allow for access two time per day because of the shallow water location. A prototype has been develop and tested at various locations in Nova Scotia. The Town of Annapolis Royal is looking for funding partners for the project. Mayor Cleveland spoke about the importance of having the fishing industry onside it will be a key piece of the project. The pilot phase of the project is anticipated to start in April of this year. Mayor Cleveland asked that presenters to draft a formal request and send it to us to have the discussion at a future meeting.

D. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

D.1 January 17, 2022

Motion:

Moved by Councillor McCormick and seconded by Councillor Turnbull that the Minutes of January 17, 2022 be approved as presented.

Motion Carried.

E. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

E.1 Draft Accessibility Plan

Councillor Turnbull distributed the Draft Accessibility Plan to Council for review. Lots of work went into the draft plan and it will require Council approval before March 31.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Turnbull and seconded by Deputy Mayor Bartlett that the Committee recommend to Council the Draft Accessibility Plan as presented.

Motion Carried.

F. STAFF REPORTS

F.1 Chief Administrative Officer

a) Report

The Chief Administrative Officer report was presented and reviewed. The planning department and the building department only issued one permit each for the month of January. There was no fire report received. The CAO received correspondence from the resident at 85 Church Street concerning alleged surface water being directed onto his property the correspondence will be tabled to an In Camera item for further discussion. The tax sale by tender will be held on March 1, 2022 tenders close at noon there are currently two properties listed for sale. The survey work have commenced on the Digby Campground land the expected timeline is March 31, 2022 to have the final subdivision plan submitted.

F.2 Director of Public Works

a) Report

The Director of Public report was presented. The Director was unable to attend the meeting tonight however the CAO answer any questions that you might have.

F.3 Director of Finance

a) Report

The Director of Finance Report was presented and reviewed. The Director is reporting for the month ending January 31, 2022 the overall indication at this point in time is for a moderate to

significant operating budget surplus by the end of the fiscal year. The acceptance of e-transfers for customers for those circumstances where the Town offers this service. This will not be used for the payment of water or tax bills. Mayor Cleveland asked about the e-transfer service this service should be available of tax and water bills perhaps the Director can review this ability Council seemed to think this was important to offer this as part of a customer service. The salt costs to date are higher than the budget however wages are slightly less than budget. The Director talked about the Federal Active Transportation Fund and applications will be accepted until March 31, 2022 the fund would cover 100 percent of the costs up to \$50,000 for a planning project or 60% up to \$50,000,000 for capital projects. We should be submitting the application and see what happens. The Flood Risk Infrastructure Investment Program grant for the Racquette Road project is ready for submission we expect to receive \$99,750 provincial funding.

F.4 Special Constable Report

a) Dangerous and Unsightly Premises Report

There are two active files one at 10 Carleton Street and the other at 267 Shore Road. The 20 Carleton Street property is coming up for tax sale on Tuesday. The 267 Shore Road Property we are waiting an opportunity for a window to go in and clean this up.

b) Protective Services Report

The Special Constable is reporting that all cameras for the C.C.T.V cameras are in full operations. The Special Constable worked on a dog control issue with a property owner at 37 Queen Street the dog was surrendered to the Town at this point in time the dog has been spayed and re-homed in the Halifax Area.

G. CORRESPONDENCE

G.1 Order of Nova Scotia

Mayor Cleveland received correspondence about the nominations for the Order of Nova Scotia will be received up to Friday March 18, 2022 if you know of anyone deserving of the honor the application forms are on line or from the Administration office here at Town Hall.

G.2 Autism Nova Scotia

Correspondence was received request an official Flag Raising for Autism Acceptance Month on April 19th at 1:00 PM this will not be a formal Flag Raising the ceremony will take about 10 minutes. With The new flag poles we have the ability to do this. The Committee agreed to proceed with this ceremony.

H. NEW BUSINESS

H.1 Draft banner templates

The Draft banner templates are coming forward for review. Councillor Turnbull noted a small error one of the dates are incorrect. The EA will have this corrected.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Turnbull and seconded by Deputy Mayor Bartlett that the Committee recommend to Council the draft banner templates amended with the correct date and have they installed at a high traffic area.

Motion Carried.

H.2 Taxi Fares

The taxi operators that service the Town of Digby are asking for a small rate increase by \$1.00 the last rate increase was done in 2018 with rising fuel costs this is a small increase. The Town of Digby only sets rate in the Town not the County.

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bartlett and seconded by Councillor Turnbull that the Committee recommend to Council the amended Town of Digby Policy Schedule D and E for Taxi by Law Fares as presented.

Motion Carried.

H.3 Art Work Promenade

Councillor Turnbull inquired about the Art Work Project for the Promenade we should be pushing for this to be done for the spring we have been working on this project for years it is time to have it completed. Mayor Cleveland will reach out to the artist.

I. IN-CAMERA

I.1 Legal

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bartlett and seconded by Councillor McCormick that the Committee move to In Camera for Legal.

Motion Carried.

The Committee moved out of In Camera session.

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bartlett and seconded by Councillor Turnbull that the Committee recommend to Council the Purchase and Sale Agreement for PID 30223887 Digby Campground for \$79,625.00 plus HST.

Motion Carried.

J. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

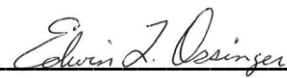
Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bartlett and seconded by Councillor McCormick that the meeting be adjourned at 8:31 P.M.

Motion Carried.



Mayor



Clerk