

Call to Order The meeting was called to order with Warden Thurber in the chair at 6:00 p.m.

Attendance

Councillors present:

- Jim Thurber, Warden
- Jimmy MacAlpine, Deputy Warden
- Linda Gregory, Councillor
- Randall Amero, Councillor
- Maritza Adams, Councillor

Staff present:

- Linda Fraser, Chief Administrative Officer
- Gordon Wilson, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
- Cora Lee Bremner, Executive Secretary

Prayer

Warden Thurber asked everyone to pause to seek guidance for the meeting.

Agenda

Deputy Warden MacAlpine removed New Business item # 4. Warden Thurber added Southwest African Heritage Month - Dinner and Dance as New Business #4.

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Deputy Warden MacAlpine that the agenda be approved as amended.

MOTION CARRIED

Presentations

Michael Szemerda,
Cooke's Aquaculture

MOVED by Councillor Gregory, seconded by Councillor Amero that Mr. Michael Szemerda, from Cooke's Aquaculture come before Council to make a presentation.

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Szemerda gave a presentation on aquaculture. He explained the history of the company and outlined what they are currently doing, and hope to do in the near future. The company is looking to expand their farms to other areas on Long Island. There will be a meeting in March on Long Island. The plans and maps will be available at that time. They are hoping to get community feedback before applying to the government. A question and answer period followed the presentation. It was estimated that this project would bring forth between twenty-five and thirty jobs. Warden Thurber thanked Mr. Szemerda for the presentation and asked that he keep Council updated.

Hubert Vroom,
Building Inspector –
Order to Demolish

MOVED by Councillor Amero, seconded by Deputy Warden MacAlpine that Mr. Hubert Vroom, Building Inspector come before Council to make a presentation.

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Vroom advised Council of a Dangerous and Unightly property located at 247 Jordantown Cross Road, owned by

Lewis, Lyman and Sandra Francis. The property is coming to Council due to the urgent nature of this situation. Normally these properties are handled in house. Notification has been given to the property owners, inviting them to come before Council and speak regarding this property. Mr. Vroom advised Council that the property owners were unable to make it to the meeting, however, advised Mr. Vroom that they had intentions of removing the building from the property. Mr. Vroom recommended that Council declare the property dangerous and unsightly and also declare that the building be demolished and the debris disposed of in a place approved by the DEO and have the site cleaned up.

MOVED by Councillor Gregory, seconded by Councillor Adams that the property located at 247 Jordantown Cross Road be declared Dangerous and Unsightly.

MOTION CARRIED

MOVED by Councillor Gregory, seconded by Deputy Warden MacAlpine that the building located at 247 Jordantown Crossroad be ordered demolished and the debris be disposed of in a place approved by the DEO and the site be cleaned and filled. Notification is to be given to the owner to have this done within ninety days; however, the building is to come down within the first two weeks.

The mover and seconder both agreed to add: “the building is to come down within the first two weeks,” to the above motion as Council were concerned that someone might wander into the house and it may fall.

MOTION CARRIED

Minutes

November 24, 2008 **MOVED by Deputy Warden MacAlpine, seconded by Councillor Adams that the minutes of November 24, 2008 be approved as distributed.**

MOTION CARRIED

December 15, 2008 **MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Amero that the minutes of December 15, 2008 be approved as distributed.**

MOTION CARRIED

Public Hearing –
December 15, 2008 **MOVED by Councillor Amero, seconded by Deputy Warden MacAlpine that the Public Hearing minutes of December 15, 2008 be approved as distributed.**

MOTION CARRIED

Old Business

Warden Thurber No Old Business.

Deputy Warden
MacAlpine No Old Business.

Councillor Gregory No Old Business.

Councillor Amero No Old Business.

Councillor Adams No Old Business.

New Business

#1 The Tenacious Bunch – Funding Request
MOVED by Councillor Gregory, seconded by Deputy Warden MacAlpine that \$500 be given to the Tenacious Bunch according to the Youth Grant Policy.

MOTION CARRIED

#2 Order to Demolish – 247 Jordantown Cross Road
This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.

#3 Task Force (fishery crisis) – Invitation to participate
Warden Thurber advised that he was planning to attend the meeting on January 29, 2009 at the Wesleyan Church in Yarmouth.

#4 Southwest African Heritage Month - Dinner and Dance
There was a short discussion regarding Council supporting the dinner and dance for Southwest African Heritage month, and it was agreed to post-pone the decision to the February COTW meeting.

The CAO advised that the funds would come from the Grants to Communities budget.

#5 Councillor Gregory – Dog Control Officer – Job Description & Job Title Change
Councillor Gregory advised that she would like to see the Dog Control Officer become the Animal Control Officer, and have that person deal with other animals as well as dogs. It was agreed that Administration would obtain information on the current by-law, contract, and the costs associated with this change and bring the information to a By-law and Policy meeting to discuss.

#6 Councillor Gregory – Petition regarding NS Power increases
Councillor Gregory sent a petition out to Council to make everyone aware of the concerns in our Province regarding NS Power increases.

MOVED by Councillor Gregory, seconded by Deputy Warden MacAlpine that a letter be written to the Premier and carbon-copied to Minister Barnet, Minister of Energy asking the government to take action against the increase in power rates.

MOTION CARRIED

Administration

Request for
decision/direction

NIL

CAO Report

The CAO mentioned that she sent out revised Financial Statements due to a formula error.

Payables

MOVED by Councillor Gregory, seconded by Councillor Amero that the payables in the amount of \$339,144.82 for the month of December 2008 be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

Financial Report

The Financial Report for the period ending December 31, 2008 was attached to the meeting package.

Council Committees

Committee of the
Whole

NIL

Bylaw & Policy
Review

Art Gallery of NS –
Funding

MOVED by Councillor Amero, seconded by Councillor Adams that \$2,500 be granted to the Art Gallery of NS for signage at the Maud Lewis site.

**MOTION CARRIED
1 OPPOSED**

First Reading –
Development Control
and Planning
Applications Fees By-
law

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Deputy Warden MacAlpine that Council have first reading of the Development Control and Planning Applications Fees By-law.

MOTION CARRIED

Coastline Policy

MOVED by Councillor Amero, seconded Deputy Warden MacAlpine by that Council approve the Coastline Policy.

MOTION CARRIED

Code of Conduct
Policy for Elected and
Appointed Municipal
Officials

MOVED by Councillor Amero, seconded by Councillor Adams that Council approve the Code of Conduct Policy for Elected and Appointed Municipal Officials.

MOTION CARRIED

There was a question whether citizen members should be considered public servants. The CAO thought they would be considered a public servant.

Citizen Appointments
- DARC & Heritage
Advisory Committee

MOVED by Councillor Amero, seconded by Councillor Adams that Council appoint Vance Hazelton to the Digby Area Recreation Commission.

MOTION CARRIED

MOVED by Councillor Gregory, seconded Councillor Amero by that Council appoint Andrena Teed and Laurence Outhouse to the Heritage Advisory Committee.

MOTION CARRIED

Advisory Committees

#1 EMO
Management Planning
Committee

There hasn't been a meeting since the last Council meeting. There is a meeting scheduled for this week.

#2 Heritage Advisory
Committee

St. Paul's Church -
Deregistration

MOVED by Councillor Amero, seconded by Councillor Adams that Council deregister St. Paul's Anglican Church as a Municipal Heritage Property.

MOTION CARRIED

#3 Planning Advisory
Committee

There are Public Consultations for MPS and LUB for the regulation of Wind Turbines scheduled for:

- Weymouth Legion – February 10, 2009 at 7:00 pm.
- Municipal Building – February 11, 2009 at 1:00 pm.
- Digby Neck Consolidated School – February 11, 2009 at 7:00 pm.

The CAO advised that draft documents are available on the Municipal Website and at the office.

#4 Police Advisory
Committee

There has been no meeting since the last report.

#5 Tri County
Housing Authority

There is no report.

Regional / Joint Committees

#1 Airport working
group

The minutes from the September and November 2008 meetings were distributed in the meeting package. The Airport working group met two weeks ago. The group is ready to hold a public meeting on February 18, 2009 for land use zoning for Airport lands. The public meeting will be held from 6:00 – 8:00 pm. The draft is on the website.

#2 Annapolis Digby
Economic
Development Agency

The Minutes for December 2008 as well as the Managing Director Report for January 2009 was included in the meeting package. There was a meeting on January 22, 2009. Neil

Conrad from the Department of Economic Development gave a presentation regarding the RDA. There was also a presentation by Dan Harvey regarding the recent efforts in bio-energy.

- #3 Digby Annapolis Development Corp The minutes for August 2008 were included in the meeting package.
- #4 Digby Area Tourism Association The minutes for November 2008 were included in the meeting package. The last meeting was cancelled due to a storm; the next meeting is scheduled on February 4, 2009. The 4th Annual Tourism Showcase is scheduled for February 14, 2009 at 10:00 – 4:00 pm at Champlain Hall in Cornwallis.
- #5 Digby Area Recreation Committee The minutes from November 2008, as well as the Recreation Manager Report for December 2008, were included in the meeting package. The last meeting was held last week. Jean Brittain is the new chair, Linda Gregory is the new Vice chair, and Randall Amero is the new Treasurer. The ice time is up despite losing a day due to a storm. There were ten free public skates over Christmas. Repairs have been done to the refrigeration system.
- #6 Fundyweb Broadband The minutes from July 2008 were included in the meeting package. The last meeting was in November. The current Chair would like to step down and they need to find a new Chair. Overall, it is running well.
- #7 Industrial Commission There has been no meeting since the last report.
- #8 Kings Transit Authority The minutes from November 2008 as well as the Coordinator Report for January 2009 were included in the meeting package. The last meeting was on January 20, 2009. The Cornwallis to Weymouth, Weymouth to Cornwallis route is the fastest growing route in Kings Transit. Ron Mullins will be here on February 2, 2009 to go over the draft budget.
- #9 Senior Safety Committee The minutes from November 2008, as well as the Coordinator Report from January 2009 were included in the meeting package. The last meeting was held on January 20, 2009. The committee is currently working on developing bylaws.
- #10 Tideview Terrace The minutes from September 2008 were included in the meeting package. The next meeting is scheduled for January 27, 2009. The budget was approved at the meeting in December and the day program was discussed. It was noted that the fire alarms went off due to a fire in a resident's refrigerator.
- #11 Waste Check The minutes from November and December 2008 as well as the General Manager's Report from December 2008 and January 2009 were included in the meeting package. The last meeting was held on January 12, 2009. The application made to RFB has been approved. The By-law Enforcement Officer has been quite busy. He has been looking in the garbage bags in illegal dumpsites to determine who has been dumping.
- #12 Western Counties Regional Library There is a meeting coming up in February.

Council Reports

Warden Thurber Warden Thurber noted that the annual Flag Day Ceremony is scheduled for February 16, 2009 at the Digby Regional High School Theatre at 2:00 pm.

Warden Thurber noted that on February 17, 2009 there will be a Reverse Trade Show at Champlain Hall from 1:00 – 4:00 pm. Staff from the Provincial, Federal and Municipal governments will be available to introduce small businesses to a very powerful buyer: government. From construction companies to craft producers, every small business in Nova Scotia has the potential to sell their products or service to government.

Deputy Warden MacAlpine Ken Simpson is quite ill and is in the hospital. Council agreed to send a get well card.

Councillor Gregory The Digby Harbour Port Association Minutes from September, October and November 2008 were included in the package. The last meeting was on January 22, 2009. They are currently working on a long term strategic plan. The consultant is doing a great job.

The Regional Chairs Committee October 2008 minutes as well as the Regional Chairs Committee update for December 2008 were included in the package.

Councillor Gregory wanted to remind everyone that she will be holding her next community meeting on February 17, 2009 at 6:00 pm. The remaining meetings will be advertised in the Coastline.

Councillor Amero No Report.

Councillor Adams No Report.

Comments from the gallery The meeting was opened up for a question and answer session.

Recess There was a five minute recess before going in camera.

In Camera **MOVED by Deputy Warden MacAlpine, seconded by Councillor Amero that Council go in camera to discuss a personnel issue.**

MOTION CARRIED

Regular session resumed.

Senior Safety Committee – Citizen Representative **MOVED by Deputy Warden MacAlpine, seconded by Councillor Gregory that Muriel Goguen be appointed as the Municipality of the District of Digby's citizen representative on the Senior Safety Committee.**

MOTION CARRIED

Adjournment

**MOVED by Deputy Warden MacAlpine seconded by
Councillor Amero that the meeting adjourn at 8:10 PM.**

MOTION CARRIED

WARDEN

CLERK