

Call to Order The Council meeting was called to order with Warden Thurber in the chair at 6:02 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 welcomed everyone to the meeting, read the Municipality's mission statement and then asked everyone to pause to seek guidance for the meeting.

Agenda

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Gregory that the agenda be approved as distributed.

MOTION CARRIED

Special Presentations

Bill Theriault

Warden Thurber asked Mr. Bill Theriault to come forward. Warden Thurber stated that Mr. Theriault has been helping with EMO for twenty-three years. Warden Thurber expressed his thanks to Mr. Theriault on behalf of the Municipality for all he has done in representing the residents in the Municipality over the years. Mr. Theriault should take great pride with how EMO has grown over the years and a large part of this is due to Mr. Theriault's hard work. Warden Thurber presented Mr. Theriault with a card, gift and certificate of recognition for his twenty-three years of service to EMO on behalf of the Municipality. Mr. Theriault thanked him for the presentation.

Presentations

Andrew Pace –
Immigration
Information Navigator,
South West Shore
Development
Authority

MOVED by Councillor Gregory, seconded by Councillor Amero that Mr. Andrew Pace, Immigration Information Navigator for South West Shore Development Authority come before Council to make a presentation.

MOTION CARRIED

Warden Thurber welcomed Mr. Pace and turned the floor over to him. Mr. Pace stated that he wanted to introduce himself as the Immigration Information Navigator for the Tri-County Area and wanted to outline his project and provide an update on the same. Mr. Pace outlined that we need immigration because Nova Scotia is facing demographic challenges such as slow population growth, aging population, low birthrate and out-migration of young people. Nova Scotia is facing economic challenges such as demographic challenges that may lead to labour shortages. There is a slowing demand for goods and

services and also fiscal pressure e.g. taxes. Nova Scotia also needs immigrants because they enrich the social, cultural and economic life of Nova Scotia. They bring a different perspective, international connections and cultural diversity. Mr. Pace outlined how many immigrants Nova Scotia has had during 2002-2008. The project started about 3 years ago. The partnership for the project is between the Western Counties Regional Library and South West Shore Development Authority with funding from the Immigration Settlement Program of the Nova Scotia Office of Immigration. Mr. Pace noted that he settles immigrants into the community, helps them get work, a driver's license, bank accounts etc. His aim in the next few months is to increase the awareness of the navigator role in the communities. He outlined a number of ways Council could aid with this process including; hosting a welcoming event, attending the Multicultural Festival on July 3 & 4, 2010, diversifying news sources, hosting a diversity lunch and invite a newcomer to speak at your workplace, volunteering to be a new friend host, supporting a local small business run by an immigrant, learning a new language, or inviting a newcomer family over for supper. There was a question and answer session following the presentation.

It was suggested that the Multicultural Festival be scheduled in Shelburne and Digby instead of always having it in Yarmouth. This will be brought back to the committee as a suggestion.

Warden Thurber thanked him for the presentation.

Joy O'Neill –
ADEDA, Cruise Ship
Visit Update

MOVED by Deputy Warden MacAlpine, seconded by Councillor Adams that Ms. Joy O'Neill from ADEDA come before Council to provide an update on the Cruise Ship Visit.

MOTION CARRIED

Ms. O'Neill came before Council to make a presentation about the success of the Balmoral Cruise Ship coming to Digby. Digby was very lucky to have the ship come to Digby and she believes that it was a great success. Ms. O'Neill thanked the Municipality for their contribution in making this possible. A lot more people came into Digby from the ship than had been anticipated. The visitors enjoyed themselves as they were walking around the town. She mentioned that one of the excursions didn't go off as planned and will be changed for the future. The visitors were surprised at the hospitality of the people of Digby. The cruise line will consider Digby when doing another cruise. There is another cruise ship currently being built which will come to Digby in both 2010 and 2011. They have been unable to determine how much revenue this has brought to the businesses, however, most businesses reported increased sales. They will plan different excursions for future visits and hope to include whale watching and the balancing rock. Overall, this was great publicity for Digby. The RDA is working to reach out to additional cruise lines to encourage them to come here and having this experience will make this process easier. Council's support has been very much appreciated. There was a question and answer period following

the presentation.

Warden Thurber thanked Ms. O'Neill for her report and congratulated them on a great success.

Rob Hersey – Digital
Digby Courier Project
1877-1978

MOVED by Councillor Gregory, seconded by Councillor Amero that Mr. Rob Hersey come before Council to make a presentation on the Digital Digby Courier Project 1877-1978.

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Hersey came before Council to outline the plans for the project to digitize the Courier from 1877-1978. He outlined the new technology that would be used for this project. Mr. Hersey noted that this project would be sent to Microtech in Charlottetown who has the technology to do newspaper scans this large. When this project is complete, a person can do specific searches for stories. This project is scheduled to be completed by March 31, 2010. This program will go to the schools and museums in the District and will be launched in the fall. Mr. Hersey has emailed a link to Council of a similar project that Microtech worked on which would introduce methods of researching. The project has received the funding requested which was 75% of the total cost of the project which will equate to \$12,648 funding. The Municipalities 25% will be \$3,100. There was a question and answer session following the presentation.

It was discussed whether the project could be put in libraries. Mr. Hersey said this was discussed and it was decided that since libraries cannot charge to use this, the Museum may lose revenue that they could have received from people using the system at their facility. The three museums in the Municipality are excited about the project.

Warden Thurber thanked Mr. Hersey for the presentation and looks forward to seeing the end result.

Joy O'Neill

MOVED by Deputy Warden MacAlpine, seconded by Councillor Adams that Ms. Joy O'Neill come before Council to make a presentation regarding Mr. Roger Brooks' community readiness assessment.

MOTION CARRIED

Ms. O'Neill advised Council that the final report for the Community Readiness Assessment performed by Roger Brooks is now available. Ms. O'Neill wanted to outline a few key points to Council that are in the final report. She also noted that it is her intention to have the power point presentation and final report available on their website. Mr. Brooks identified a few icons in this region. One of these icons is the Town of Annapolis Royal with it's history. The second icon is the whale watching experience. The third is the balancing rock. Mr. Brooks was totally blown away from the experience there. He noted that the balancing rock is a special place that everyone visiting Nova Scotia should experience. He recommended that

a boardwalk be built over the wet areas of the trail to make it more comfortable during the wet seasons. Mr. Brooks feels that the Digby Pines is a destination in itself and is worthy of Provincial funding. This is very positive for the area. Mr. Brooks felt that Digby Neck and Islands are beautiful, but work needs to be done in regards to signage and public restrooms. Some of the report dealt with the beautification for storefronts. It looks like there is going to be a joint business effort going forward for beautification with the thoughts of buying in bulk. Ms. O'Neill will email Council when the reports are on the ADEDA website. Diane Theriault added that ADEDA are in full support of this report and also added that Mr. Brooks suggested that 24 hour tourism information was needed for this area.

Warden Thurber thanked Ms. O'Neill for her presentation and noted that he looks forward to reading the report. Warden Thurber hopes that the industry will take the information from the report.

Minutes

October 26, 2009

It was noted that in New Business #1 the whole Council met with the Executive Director in the Yarmouth branch Art Gallery, not just Deputy Warden MacAlpine.

Councillor Gregory mentioned that there is a grammatical error in the report of DARC. It should read: Councillor Amero advised Council that the Recreation Manager's mother isn't doing well and he has been called to Ontario.

MOVED by Deputy Warden MacAlpine, seconded by Councillor Amero that the minutes from the Council of October 26, 2009 be approved as amended.

MOTION CARRIED

November 16, 2009 –
Special Council
Meeting

MOVED by Deputy Warden MacAlpine, seconded by Councillor Amero that the minutes from the Special Council of November 16, 2009 be approved as distributed.

MOTION CARRIED

Old Business

1 Weymouth Fire
Area Rate Resolution

MOVED by Councillor Amero, seconded by Deputy Warden MacAlpine that the following resolution be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 75 (2) of the *Municipal Government Act* that an area rate of 10.0 cents per \$100 of assessment be established for the provision of fire protection in the Weymouth Fire District.

MOTION CARRIED

Warden Thurber

No Old Business.

Deputy Warden

No Old Business.

MacAlpine

Councillor Gregory

High Speed Internet – District 3 Councillor Gregory would like the CAO or the Deputy CAO to look into the status of availability of high speed internet in the District, particularly Lighthouse Road. The residents have heard that there should be a second tower installed in order to get high speed internet on Lighthouse Road. This will be checked into.

Councillor Amero No Old Business.

Councillor Adams No Old Business.

New Business

#1 Bank of Nova Scotia – Annual Borrowing Resolution **MOVED by Councillor Gregory, seconded by Deputy Warden MacAlpine that the Annual Borrowing Resolution be accepted and passed.**

MOTION CARRIED

#2 Councillor Amero – Weymouth Board of Trade Request concerning condition of highway running through the Village of Weymouth Councillor Amero reported that he received a letter from the Weymouth Board of Trade concerning the condition of the highway running through the Village of Weymouth. He agrees that this section of highway is in desperate need of repair.

MOVED by Councillor Amero, seconded by Deputy Warden MacAlpine that the letter received from the Weymouth Board of Trade be sent along with a supporting letter to the Department of Transportation asking if they have any plans for repairs to the roads in the Village of Weymouth.

MOTION CARRIED

#3 Community Computer/Internet Education Initiative Digby County – Letter of Support Councillor Gregory reported that the Community Computer/Internet Education Initiative is intended to expand and broaden the Association of Western Valley Cap Sites' existing educational services provided to the community in terms of computer, internet, and technology related teachings. There was a short discussion of Council regarding their support for the initiative.

MOVED by Councillor Gregory, seconded by Deputy Warden MacAlpine that a letter of support be sent for this Community Computer/Internet Education Initiative.

MOTION CARRIED

#4 Acadian Lines – Cutting of Service Kentville-Digby, Joint Press Release with Annapolis County The CAO stated that she hasn't had much success in getting a comment from the manager of Acadian Lines in regards to the cutting of service from Kentville to Digby. There is a petition in the Needs store in Digby, where the bus currently stops, to try to keep the bus service. The CAO noted that there may be opportunities for a joint press release with Annapolis County. It was noted that this would be another blow for Digby. There

was a discussion as to whether this company is a private company or whether it receives public funding. It was noted that if there were Government monies involved then there should be some obligations. It was also mentioned that services like Kings Transit and the shuttle services might have cut into their service. Council would like to know the level of their ridership and let them justify to Council the reasons why they are pulling this service.

MOVED by Deputy Warden MacAlpine, seconded by Councillor Gregory that a letter be sent to Acadian Lines requesting their rational for pulling their service from Kentville to Digby.

MOTION CARRIED

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Gregory that a letter be sent to Minister Percy Paris, Minister of Economic and Rural Development concerning the possible discontinuation of service of Acadian Lines between Kentville and Digby .

MOTION CARRIED

#5 Deputy Warden
MacAlpine – Bear
River Lighthouse

Deputy Warden MacAlpine was unable to circulate information in regards to the Bear River Lighthouse prior to this meeting. He would like to update Council on this item and give them a chance to think about it before making a decision. He advised Council that in 2002, a community group was formed called the Bear River Lighthouse Preservation Society. He would like Council to consider acquiring the lighthouse and turn the management of it over to the society. It is an important asset to the Municipality as it is adjacent to the trail in Smith's Cove. It would make a good rest area. There wouldn't be a lot of expenses involved. The lighthouse has been painted in recent years. It was mentioned the group should be asked what they will look after. There was a discussion regarding having the society run the lighthouse similar to the lighthouse in Gilbert's Cove, but it was pointed out that the Gilbert's Cove Lighthouse is able to receive revenue from a tea room and museum. The Bear River lighthouse is too small to do this. Deputy Warden MacAlpine will circulate more information prior to the next meeting and this item will be added to the agenda for the December COTW meeting.

#6 Deputy Warden
MacAlpine – Rural
Post Offices

Deputy Warden MacAlpine advised Council that the acting postmaster for Bear River brought him a resolution they would like brought forward to Council. It is different than the one that was considered previously.

MOVED by Deputy Warden MacAlpine, seconded by Councillor Gregory that Council adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Federal Government commissioned a committee to do a "Strategic Review" of Canada Post Corporation.

AND WHEREAS the Federal Government must maintain the moratorium or similar protection against Rural Post Office closures.

AND WHEREAS the recommendations of the Strategic Review Committee will only lead to further privatization of rural post office.

AND WHEREAS all rural Canadians, no matter where they live, are entitled to the right to a full service federally operated Post Office in rural communities.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

The Council of the Municipality of the District of Digby demand that the Federal Government continue to enforce the moratorium on closures of rural post offices and abandon all proposals put forth by the Strategic Review Committee of further privatization of all rural postal services.

MOTION CARRIED

Administration

Request for
decision/direction

CAO Report

The CAO report for November 23, 2009 was included in the meeting package.

Councillor Gregory mentioned that a letter was sent to MP Greg Kerr in September concerning rural post offices and a reply was not received.

MOVED by Councillor Gregory, seconded by Deputy Warden MacAlpine that a second letter be sent to MP Greg Kerr advising him of the resolution that has been accepted by Council.

MOTION CARRIED

Payables

MOVED by Councillor Gregory, seconded by Councillor Amero that the payables in the amount of \$355,654.77 for the month of October 2009 be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

Financial Report

The financial report for October 31, 2009 was included in the Council package.

Correspondence

Council Committees

Committee of the
Whole

Councillor Amero declared a conflict of interest and left the meeting.

First Reading -
Municipal Planning
Strategy and Land Use
By-law for the
Regulation of Wind
Turbine Development
in the Municipality of
the District of Digby

MOVED by Deputy Warden MacAlpine, seconded by Councillor Adams to have first reading of the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-law for the Regulation of Wind Turbine Development in the Municipality of the District of Digby.

There was a discussion regarding the set back distances that were changed in the Wind Turbine Development Bylaw and whether Council members agreed with them.

**MOTION CARRIED
1 OPPOSED – Councillor Gregory**

First Reading of
Amendments to
address Wind Turbine
Development –
Amendments to:

- Digby Municipal Airport Planning Strategy
- Digby Municipal Airport Land Use By-law
- Digby Wellfield Protection Area Secondary Planning Strategy
- Digby Wellfield Protection Area Land Use By-law
- Conway and Area Secondary Planning Strategy
- Conway and Area Land Use By-law

MOVED by Deputy Warden MacAlpine, seconded by Councillor Adams to have first reading of the amendments to address Wind Turbine Development which include amendments to the Digby Municipal Airport Secondary Planning Strategy, the Digby Municipal Airport Land Use By-law, the Digby Wellfield Protection Area Secondary Planning Strategy, the Digby Wellfield Protection Area Land Use By-law, the Conway and Area Secondary Planning Strategy, and the Conway and Area Land Use By-law.

**MOTION CARRIED
1 OPPOSED – Councillor Gregory**

MOVED by Deputy Warden MacAlpine, seconded by Councillor Gregory that a Public Hearing be scheduled for January 25th at 6:00 pm.

Councillor Gregory stated that she hopes that lots of people come out and exercise their right to express their opinion regardless if it is for or against.

MOTION CARRIED

Airport Working
Group – Citizen
Appointment

MOVED by Deputy Warden MacAlpine, seconded by Councillor Amero that Council appoint Mr. Peter Burnie to the Airport Working Group.

MOTION CARRIED

Heritage Advisory
Committee – Citizen
Appointment

MOVED by Deputy Warden MacAlpine, seconded by Councillor Amero that Council appoint Ms. Elsa Young to the Heritage Advisory Committee.

MOTION CARRIED

Bylaw & Policy
Review

MOVED by Councillor Gregory, seconded by Councillor Amero that the Capital Budget for 2009-2013 be accepted.

MOTION CARRIED

Advisory Committees

- #1 EMO Management Planning Committee Deputy Warden MacAlpine reported that there is a meeting scheduled for November 25, 2009. Updates are continuously being received regarding H1N1. The REMO coordinator has been hired and will start on December 1. Warden Thurber noted that Mr. Bill Theriault and Mr. Bentley Rice have both completed their positions and wanted to extend a thank you to both for their service to the Town and Municipality of Digby.
- #2 Heritage Advisory Committee The last Heritage meeting was postponed. The next meeting is scheduled for January. Cenotaphs throughout the Municipality have been cleaned up and flag poles have been put up.
- #3 Planning Advisory Committee There has been no PAC meeting since the last Council meeting.
- #4 Police Advisory Committee The Police Advisory Committee has a meeting scheduled for January 12, 2010. There has been no meeting since the last Council meeting.
- #5 Tri County Housing Authority The Tri County Housing Authority was last reported on in October 2009.

Regional / Joint Committees

- #1 Airport Working Group There has been no Airport Working Group meeting. This past week members from the working group when to Halifax Regional Airport for a meeting to inquire about getting a charter service to help our area. The group was impressed with the interest that Halifax had to work with the committee. It was mentioned that it could be an opportunity for the RDA to link up rural airports in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. It is the feeling that this should be taken to the RDA for discussion. It is hoped that there will be an RDA representative at the next Airport Working Group meeting.
- #2 Annapolis Digby Economic Development Agency There was no ADEDA meeting held in November. The next meeting is scheduled for December 3, 2009. Warden Thurber reported that he did attend a mid-year review in Halifax on Friday. There were representatives present from ACOA, the Department of Economic Development as well as another Provincial department. There was a good representation from this Municipality. It was a positive presentation.
- #3 Digby Annapolis Development Corp There was a DADC meeting held on October 8, 2009. The next meeting is scheduled for January 2010.
- #4 Digby Area Learning Association The DALA had a general meeting on November 8, 2009 but Councillor Adams was unable to attend.
- #5 Digby Area Tourism Association Councillor Gregory reported that the last DATA meeting was held while she was away for UNSM. The minutes have not yet been received.

- #6 Digby Area Recreation Committee The minutes for September 16, 2009 and October 21, 2009 as well as the manager's report for November 2009 were included in the meeting package. The ice time is down about half an hour to an hour per week, however, it is better than before and also better than other arenas. DARC has applied for the hiring of a coordinator. Also, they have come to an agreement with the soccer association.
- #7 Digby Harbour Port Association There is a Digby Harbour Port Association meeting scheduled for November 26, 2009.
- #8 Fundyweb Broadband There has been no Fundyweb Broadband meeting since the last Council meeting. It is hoped to have a meeting by the first of the year.
- #9 Industrial Commission The Industrial Commission last met in July 2009. The CAO was able to set up a meeting for December 8, 2009.
- #10 Kings Transit Authority There is a Kings Transit Authority meeting scheduled for next week.
- #11 Senior Safety Committee The Senior Safety Committee last met on November 10, 2009. They discussed requesting Council to approve a resolution which would allow Digby and Area Seniors' Safety Society to obtain a credit card account with a credit limit not to exceed \$1,000.

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Gregory that Council approve the Digby and Area Seniors' Safety Society request for permission to obtain a credit card account with a credit limit not to exceed \$1,000.

It was noted that policies were looked at in other areas concerning obtaining a credit card. The coordinator has been using a personal credit card and getting reimbursed. Mr. Matthew Raymond from the Town of Digby will still oversee this.

MOTION CARRIED

There will be a senior's dance on December 4, 2009 at the Digby Legion at 6 pm.

MOVED by Deputy Warden MacAlpine, seconded by Councillor Gregory that a letter be sent to Ms. Dawn Thomas thanking her for her presentation to the UNSM in Halifax.

Ms. Thomas did a great job expressing the needs of a senior safety program to the UNSM members. People were interested in what she had to say. She has since been asked by several Municipalities to speak and tell them how to set up a program.

MOTION CARRIED

- #12 Tideview Terrace Councillor Gregory reported that things are going well at Tideview. The new Tideview is being built and everyone is

looking forward to its completion. The board is looking forward to serving a Christmas dinner to the seniors. There is also a luncheon planned for the patients in the alzheimers unit.

#13 Waste Check Waste Check does not have a board meeting scheduled for November. They are going to meet eight times a year now. The next meeting is scheduled for December. In the new year there will be a strategic planning session with the facility to comply with regulations.

The Household Hazardous Waste Depot should be open by December 1, 2009. They are currently waiting on signage. There will be information on the depot in the next issue of the coastline.

#14 Western Counties Regional Library The Western Counties Regional Library met last week. Deputy Warden MacAlpine was away and therefore unable to attend. The Western Counties Regional Library hosted a conference in Yarmouth which was well attended. The Chair for the committee received a long service award for his excess of fifteen years with the Library. They are starting to get new books for the new Weymouth library. There was a flood in the Yarmouth Library in the basement and some of the older books got damaged. They are trying to salvage and restore as many books as possible. There have been books stored in the basement for a lot of years and this is the first time there has been an issue.

Council Reports

Warden Thurber Warden Thurber gave an oral presentation to Council outlining the various meetings he has attended during the past month.

Deputy Warden MacAlpine Deputy Warden MacAlpine gave an oral presentation to Council outlining the various meetings he has attended during the past month.

Councillor Gregory Councillor Gregory gave an oral presentation to Council outlining the various meetings she has attended during the past month.

Councillor Amero Councillor Amero gave an oral presentation to Council outlining the various meetings he has attended during the past month.

Councillor Adams Councillor Adams gave an oral presentation to Council outlining the various meetings she has attended during the past month.

Comments from the gallery The meeting was opened up to the gallery for questions. Mrs. Wanda Vantassel requested a draft copy of the new Wind Turbine Bylaw. The Courier representative will call tomorrow with her questions.

In Camera **MOVED by Councillor Gregory, seconded by Councillor Amero to go In Camera to discuss a personnel issue.**

MOTION CARRIED

Regular session resumed.

Town of Digby Water
Commission Source
Protection Advisory
Committee –
Municipal
Appointment

MOVED by Councillor Amero, seconded by Councillor Adams to approve the appointment of Shannon Campbell as the Municipality of the District of Digby's representative on the Town of Digby Water Commission Source Protection Advisory Committee.

MOTION CARRIED

Adjournment

MOVED by Councillor Gregory, seconded by Councillor Amero that the meeting adjourn at 8:35 PM.

MOTION CARRIED

WARDEN

CLERK