

Municipality of the District of Digby  
Municipal Committee of the Whole Minutes  
April 13, 2010  
Seabrook, Nova Scotia

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**Call to Order**                    The meeting was called to order with Warden Thurber in the chair at 5:05 pm.

**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**

Councillor Gregory added Scotland Trip to New Business #10. Councillor Amero added drainage in Weymouth as New Business #11. There were three In Camera items added to the agenda as well.

**MOVED and seconded that the agenda be approved as amended.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Hearings & Presentations**

- NIL

**Minutes**

March 8, 2010

**MOVED and seconded that the minutes of March 8, 2010 be approved as circulated.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Business Arising/Old  
Business**

#1 Digby & Area  
Health Services  
Charitable Foundation  
- Health Services  
Centre

- Council has received a letter from the Digby and Area Health Services Charitable Foundation which is a response to a letter that had been written to them requesting a meeting with them and the local doctors. This letter did not address Council's request for a meeting.
- Council discussed the options of building a new centre for doctors or building a piece on to the hospital to accommodate their needs there.
- Council expressed their concern with the Foundation making plans to move forward without including the doctors in this process. Another concern raised is whether there are funds in place to operate this building upon completion.
- The Town of Digby has committed funding with the condition that they would not be involved in the operations of the building. The Municipal Council discussed the same possibility.
- It was decided to request a meeting with Digby and Area Health Services Charitable Foundation and the doctors so that Council can obtain the necessary information to make a decision for the proposed Health Services Centre. The meeting will be requested for either April 19 or 20 at 4:30 pm.

#2 NS Bird Sanctuary  
Trust AAN# 03733645  
– Tax Exemption  
Request

**MOVED and seconded that Council amend the Tax Exemption Bylaw to add NS Bird Sanctuary Trust, AAN# 03733645 to Schedule "A"**

**MOTION CARRIED**

#3 Transportation &  
Infrastructure Renewal  
– Paving of Upper  
Cross Road Response

A response has been received from Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal concerning the paving of the Upper Cross Road. Council does not wish to pursue this option at this time.

**Other Business  
Arising**

NIL

Warden Thurber

- No Business Arising

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Deputy Warden  
MacAlpine • No Business Arising

Councillor Gregory • Councillor Gregory advised Council that she has sent off two requests to Brian Foote to find out when the paving was done on Highway 217 as water is building up.

Councillor Amero • No Business Arising

Councillor Adams • No Business Arising

**New Business**

#1 Bear River Board of Trade – Funding Request **MOVED and seconded that New Business items one through six be referred to the budget process.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

#2 VON – Funding Request • See above motion.

#3 Destination Southwest Nova Association – Funding Request • See above motion.

#4 South West Nova Transition House Association – Funding Request • See above motion.

#5 Digby Scallop Days – Funding Request • See above motion.

#6 Nature Conservancy of Canada – Funding Request • See above motion.

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#7 Western Counties  
Regional Library –  
Personal Emergency  
Systems

- It was brought up at the Western Counties Regional Library board meeting that the staff that work by themselves at the Weymouth and Westport Libraries be provided with a Personal Emergency System.

**MOVED and seconded that Council provide Western Counties Regional Library the funds to purchase Personal Safety Devices for their employees that work alone.**

It was noted that the RCMP respond very quickly to these systems. It was also noted that due to the lack of cell phone coverage in Weymouth, it should be checked into what type of technology is used for the devices to make sure they will work in that area before purchasing.

**MOTION CARRIED  
1 OPPOSED – Warden Thurber**

#8 Digby Harbour  
Port Association –  
Board Member  
Appointment

- It was noted that Councillor Gregory is the present member on the Digby Harbour Port Association Board.

**MOVED and seconded that Councillor Gregory be reappointed to the Digby Harbour Port Association Board.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

#9 Deputy Warden  
MacAlpine – Grass  
Burning

- Deputy Warden MacAlpine is concerned with grass burning that is spreading to homes and vehicles. Volunteer fire fighters continually have to go out and put out deliberately set fires. Deputy Warden MacAlpine would like Council to look at creating a bylaw that would put the costs associated with fighting deliberately set fires to the property owner. Deputy Warden MacAlpine would like it to be researched whether Council would have a way to enforce such a bylaw. It was also suggested that grass burning would be a good subject for the Coastline newsletter. Deputy Warden MacAlpine will be also putting this forward to the Rural Caucus agenda.

#10 Scotland Trip

- Councillor Gregory is planning to go to Scotland again in September. She will be looking at the Recreation and Senior's programs while she is there and would like

Council to give her some suggestions of other areas she could look into while she visits. The cost for this trip is \$3,000. She asked whether the Municipality would cover 25% of this cost along with mileage costs to the city as well as parking fees. Council will review this request at a later date.

- Warden Thurber noted that he has had a request from Ian to make a presentation on the Scotland trip. It was suggested to invite him to make his presentation at the COTW meeting on May 10, 2010.
- Councillor Amero has been asked by the Village of Weymouth to bring forward a drainage issue to Council. There were proposals done a few years ago on two different drainage issues in which only one was completed. One of the reasons the second one wasn't completed was because they were unable to get an easement across the Weymouth Motors property. Since that property has changed hands, the Village would like to revisit this issue again. The Village of Weymouth is requesting that the Municipality cost share in this project. They are also hoping that the Department of Transportation will provide some in kind work as had been done in the past.

#11 Weymouth  
Drainage

**MOVED and seconded that a letter be written to the Village of Weymouth letting them know that the Municipality of Digby would consider their proposal if they could obtain costing from the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Chief Administrative  
Report**

- The CAO report dated April 13, 2010 was included in the COTW Package.

Weymouth Library

- The CAO had a meeting this afternoon with the building steering committee for the Weymouth Library. The CAO gave an update of the status of the project. There are a couple of things that weren't previously considered. The Municipality will be responsible for snow removal; whereas the parking for the existing library was on the street. Also, it will be the responsibility of the Municipality to replace

equipment in the training room as necessary. The CAO noted that there is going to be a big empty space on one of the walls. The committee was considering putting a mural on it. It was suggested that pictures of ships be put on the empty wall keeping in mind the history of Weymouth. The CAO also noted that the proposed new name for the Weymouth Library is “Weymouth Waterfront Library”.

Request for  
Decisions/Direction

**Department Reports**

Taxation • The Taxation report for April 2010 was included in the meeting package.

Building Inspection Report/Fire Inspection Report • The Building Inspection report for April 2010 was included in the meeting package. Warden Thurber noted that if the permit fees from Tideview weren't included in the yearend figures, the building permits would be down from last year.

Airport/Dispatch • The Airport/Dispatch report for April, 2010 was included in the meeting package.

Dog Control Activity and Financial Report • The Dog Control Activity and Financial report for April 2010 was included in the meeting package.

Coordinator Program Development • The Coordinator Program Development report for April 2010 was included in the meeting package.

Kings Transit • The Kings Transit report for April 2010 was included in the meeting package. The ridership is down, but not as much as in recent months.

**Other Business** N/A

**Updates from Previous meetings** N/A

**Special Projects Updates** N/A

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**Strategic Priorities Update**      There was no Strategic Priorities update available this month.

**Notice of Motion**      N/A

**Comments from the Gallery**      N/A

**In Camera**      **MOVED and seconded that the meeting move in camera.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Regular session resumed.

**Adjournment**      **MOVED and seconded that the meeting adjourn at 7:30 PM.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

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**WARDEN**

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**CLERK**