

Municipality of the District of Digby
Municipal Committee of the Whole Minutes
August 10, 2009
Seabrook, Nova Scotia

1

Call to Order The meeting was called to order with Deputy Warden MacAlpine in the chair at 6:01 pm.

Attendance

Councillors present:

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

Staff present:

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

Regrets:

- Jim Thurber, Warden
- Linda Fraser, Chief Administrative Officer

Prayer

Deputy Warden MacAlpine asked everyone to pause to seek guidance for the meeting.

Agenda

Linda Gregory added Trip to Scotland as New Business #7.

MOVED by Councillor Amero, seconded by Councillor Adams that the agenda be approved as amended.

MOTION CARRIED

Hearings & Presentations

NIL

Minutes

July 13, 2009

MOVED by Councillor Gregory, seconded by Councillor Amero that the minutes of July 13, 2009 be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

Business Arising/Old Business

It was mentioned that ADEDA will be hosting a meeting on September 15, 2009 with Dominic Mallette of Canadian Border Services Agency. Deputy Warden MacAlpine and Becky Doucet have been invited. Different organizations have been writing letters in an attempt to obtain Custom Services.

Other Old Business

Warden Thurber	No Business Arising/Old Business
Deputy Warden MacAlpine	No Business Arising/Old Business
Councillor Gregory	No Business Arising/Old Business
Councillor Amero	No Business Arising/Old Business
Councillor Adams	No Business Arising/Old Business

New Business

#1 Airport Working Group Request A letter has been received from the Airport Working Group requesting Council to write a letter to Starlink to see if there is an interest to provide service at the Municipal Airport. This initiative was discussed at the last Airport meeting and it was felt that it would be good to obtain some additional usage of the Airport.

MOVED by Councillor Amero, seconded by Councillor Adams that a letter be sent to Starlink Aviation as per Airport Working Group request.

MOTION CARRIED

#2 NS Mink Breeders Association – Request for Tax Deduction Councillor Amero declared a conflict of interest and left the meeting.

Nova Scotia Mink Breeders Association has submitted a second request that Council give the Association a reduction in their taxes. Councillor Gregory stated that the Nova Scotia Mink Breeders Association is not a non-profit organization. Councillor Adams agreed.

MOVED by Councillor Gregory, seconded by Councillor Adams that a letter be sent to Nova Scotia Mink Breeders Association stating the Council are unable to approve their request.

MOTION CARRIED

Councillor Amero returned to the meeting.

#3 Request from Bay of Fundy Discovery Centre – In Kind Support

The Bay of Fundy Discovery Centre would like to put an insert in the Coastline newsletter two to three times a year to provide an update to the community. Councillor Gregory noted that there is a policy in place that dictates what can be included in the Coastline. Council agreed that if this request fits within the policy that they would be in support of the request. The Deputy CAO stated that he would review the policy with the CAO when she gets back from vacation.

#4 Illegal Dump Sites – Priority Clean Up List

There has been an Illegal Dumpsite list compiled by Ritchie Nickerson for the Municipality of Digby. He noted that he has done some cleanup; however, this list has identified the larger sites. There was a discussion regarding whether there are funds allocated for cleanups. Councillor Gregory noted that the Municipality has to start charging people for illegal dumping. Mr. Nickerson has been able to find out who did some of the dumping.

MOVED by Councillor Gregory, seconded by Councillor Amero that Mr. Nickerson be asked to prioritize the list of illegal dump sites and provide a projected cost for each.

MOTION CARRIED

Councillor Adams noted that Mr. Nickerson is very good at responding to complaints, as she had to call him regarding an area on Bloomfield Cross Road.

#5 Funding Request – Yarmouth Boys & Girls Club

There has been a funding request received from Yarmouth Boys and Girls Club. Councillor Gregory noted that she thinks that the Boys and Girls Club is a wonderful organization; however, it is located in another municipality. She also noted that funds are tight for our own organizations that would qualify for a

youth grant.

MOVED by Councillor Gregory, seconded by Councillor Adams that a letter be sent to Yarmouth Boys and Girls Club stating that at the present time, the Municipality does not have the finances to grant this request; however, Council does wish them well.

MOTION CARRIED

#6 Councillor
Gregory – Wharf Rat
Rally Update

Councillor Gregory gave an overview of the last two Wharf Rat Rally meetings that she has attended. Councillor Gregory mentioned that tickets are being sold for the Orange County Choppers. They want to sell a minimum of 4000 tickets. Council noted that they have not seen any advertisements for the show. Councillor Gregory advised that she is very confident that the show will be well secured. The rally expects approximately 30,000 – 40,000 in attendance this year. Deputy Warden MacAlpine mentioned his concern with some local hotels price gouging. Some hotels were writing people who had previous reservations stating that they would have to take all the nights instead of the two they had booked. It was mentioned that this concern should be brought forward to the Tourism Association.

#7 Councillor
Gregory – Trip to
Scotland

Councillor Gregory reported that she had a meeting with Ian Russell last week to discuss what meetings she would like to be involved in during her trip to Scotland. Councillor Gregory requested a meeting regarding wind and tidal power, recreation, seniors, tourism and she requested to meet with all three Councils there. She mentioned that she will also be requesting a meeting regarding solid waste. Councillor Gregory asked Council if there were any subjects they would like to see addressed. Council suggested renewal energy and aquaculture. The trip is scheduled for September 6 to September 13, 2009.

**Chief Administrative
Report**

The CAO report for July 2009 was included in the COTW Package.

Casual Receptionist
Position –
Administration Dept.

Councillor Gregory asked whether the Casual Receptionist position had been filled. The Deputy CAO advised that he would be interviewing the following day. The position will be

Municipality of the District of Digby
Municipal Committee of the Whole Minutes
August 10, 2009
Seabrook, Nova Scotia

5

offered outside if this position doesn't get filled internally.

Meeting at ADEDA
Office – Hag Fishery

Deputy Warden MacAlpine noted that he attended a meeting with the CAO and Greg Kerr as well as a representative from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans regarding Hag Fishery.

Maud Lewis Site

Councillor Adams noted that the gardens at the Maud Lewis Site have been cleaned up and the property has been mowed. Council discussed the fact that there has yet to be signage placed for the site.

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Amero that a letter be sent to the Art Gallery asking what happened to the signage that was suppose to go up.

Councillor Gregory asked to see what the particulars are prior to sending the letter.

MOTION CARRIED

Five Year Investment
Strategy

Councillor Amero noted that the five year investment strategy has to be submitted by September 30, 2009. The Deputy CAO advised that the CAO has been working on it and it should be completed by early September.

Weymouth Library

It was noted that tenders have gone out for the site work for the Weymouth Library; however, it hasn't been awarded.

Digby Municipal
Airport Runway

Deputy Warden MacAlpine noted that the work for the grass runway is happening and they were able to salvage some top soil.

Hazardous Waste
Depot

The Hazardous Waste Depot should be up and running soon. It will be good to have a place that Hazardous Waste can be taken regularly.

Grounds at Point Prim
Lighthouse

The cleanup of grounds at Point Prim Lighthouse is tentatively scheduled for August 28, 2009 to begin at 9 am. The meeting went well in regards to this; however, there were no Federal representatives at the meeting. The request has been sent to the Department of Fisheries. The approval of the cutting of trees has been received. They will fix the fence themselves. It was

mentioned that Dean Kenley is still pursuing high-speed internet for that area so that he can install a web-camera at Point Prim Lighthouse.

Request for
Decisions/Direction

Temporary
Appointment of
Councillor Adams to
PAC to Replace
Warden Thurber

MOVED by Councillor Amero, seconded by Councillor Gregory that Councillor Adams be appointed to the Planning Advisory Committee to temporarily replace Warden Thurber.

MOTION CARRIED

Department Reports

Taxation

The Taxation report for July 2009 was included in the package.

Building Inspection
Report/Fire Inspection
Report

The Building Inspection/Fire Inspection report for July 2009 was included in the package. It was noted that building permit activity is down compared to last year.

Airport/Dispatch

The Airport/Dispatch report for July 2009 was included in the package.

Dog Control Activity
and Financial Report

The Dog Control Activity and Financial report for July 2009 was included in the package.

Coordinator Program
Development

N/A

Kings Transit

The monthly Kings Transit report was not available for this meeting. Deputy Warden MacAlpine noted that he was happy to see that Kings Transit put Council's issue on the agenda for the next meeting. Councillor Amero noted that he will be there to state Council's case.

Other Business

**Updates from
Previous meetings**

N/A

Municipality of the District of Digby
Municipal Committee of the Whole Minutes
August 10, 2009
Seabrook, Nova Scotia

7

**Special Projects
Updates** N/A

**Strategic Priorities
Update** The Strategic Priorities Update for July 31, 2009 was distributed to the Council members prior to the COTW meeting.

Notice of Motion N/A

**Comments from the
Gallery** The meeting was opened to the gallery for questions. Mrs. Peach inquired whether there would be any vacant positions on boards or committees while the Warden was on his leave of absence. Mrs. Peach also inquired about the rationale as to how these positions were being filled.

In Camera **MOVED by Councillor Amero, seconded by Councillor Gregory that Council go in camera to discuss contractual and personnel issues after taking a five minute recess.**

MOTION CARRIED

Regular session resumed.

Construction of Steel Building at Digby Municipal Airport **MOVED by Councillor Gregory, seconded by Councillor Amero that the contract for the construction of a steel building at the Digby Municipal Airport be awarded to Merritt's Carpentry for the amount of \$16,000 plus HST.**

MOTION CARRIED

Charles Ross – Request for Leave of Absence **MOVED by Councillor Gregory, seconded by Councillor Adams that the request from Charles Ross, Dispatcher/Airport Operator for the Digby Municipal Airport to job share his position at the Airport be granted with the term beginning on November 1, 2009 to extend for six months.**

MOTION CARRIED

Municipality of the District of Digby
Municipal Committee of the Whole Minutes
August 10, 2009
Seabrook, Nova Scotia

8

Digby Municipal
Airport – Term
Position

MOVED by Councillor Gregory, seconded by Councillor Amero that Council approve a term position for Dispatcher/Airport Operator for the Digby Municipal Airport with the term beginning on November 1, 2009 to extend for six months.

MOTION CARRIED

Pleasant Street Lift
Station Tender

MOVED by Councillor Gregory, seconded by Councillor Adams that the tender for Pleasant Street Lift Station be awarded to Steve's Excavating for the amount of \$139,357.25.

MOTION CARRIED

Digby Municipal
Airport Pavement
Repairs

MOVED by Councillor Gregory, seconded by Councillor Amero that Council proceed with the Airport Pavement Repairs providing that it doesn't interfere with the Build Canada Fund Application.

MOTION CARRIED

Adjournment

MOVED by Councillor Gregory, seconded by Councillor Amero that the meeting adjourn at 7:35 PM.

MOTION CARRIED

WARDEN

CLERK