

Call to Order The meeting was called to order with Warden Thurber in the chair at 6:06 pm.

Attendance

Councillors present:

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

Staff present:

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

Regrets:

- Jimmy MacAlpine, Deputy Warden
- Gordon Wilson, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

Prayer

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

Agenda

The CAO added a contractual issue to In Camera.

MOVED and seconded that the agenda be approved as amended.

MOTION CARRIED

**Hearings &
Presentations**

Debi Karrel, Property
Valuation Services
Corporation

MOVED and seconded that Ms. Debi Karrel from PVSC come before the Committee to make a presentation.

MOTION CARRIED

- Ms. Karrel has been going around the Province making presentations to Municipal Councils. Ms. Karrel provided background information on PVSC which was launched in 2008, outlined PVSC's mission, vision and goals, provided Council with an explanation on how property is valued in the Municipality of Digby and the Province as a whole, and gave an outline of the Assessment base with and without cap for the Municipality of Digby and the Province. There was a question and answer period following the

presentation. Warden Thurber thanked Ms. Karrel for her informative presentation.

Ron Mullins, Kings
Transit – Budget
Presentation

MOVED and seconded that Mr. Ron Mullins from Kings Transit come before the Committee to present the budget.

MOTION CARRIED

- Mr. Mullins came before Council to present the Kings Transit budget and also to give Council an update on the desire to build a garage facility.
- Mr. Mullins reported that he has engaged consultants to cost construction of a garage facility which would be located in Kentville and would be used to do all repairs on the Kings Transit buses. Consultants have been hired to prepare a business case analysis on the need for a new garage facility and it has been identified that it would save \$200,000 per year by doing this. Also, the strategic plan has been finalized.
- Mr. Mullins outlined the challenges that they have been facing which include ongoing road construction, ridership as well as repairs and maintenance costs associated with the buses.
- Mr. Mullins went on to outline the budget. It is his feeling that the bottom line is understated.
- A question and answer session followed the presentation. One concern that was brought up was the fact that overhead costs for the garage haven't been taken into consideration. It was also pointed out that reviewing actual figures would be more beneficial than comparing budgets for the past five years. Warden Thurber thanked Mr. Mullins for the presentation.

Minutes

February 8, 2010

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

MOTION CARRIED

Business Arising/Old Business NIL

**Other Business
Arising**

NIL

- Warden Thurber
- No Business Arising
- Deputy Warden
MacAlpine
- No Business Arising
- Councillor Gregory
- No Business Arising
- Councillor Amero
- No Business Arising
- Councillor Adams
- No Business Arising

New Business

- #1 Eric Locke, 2010
NSGA Junior Boys
Training Camp in
Vancouver, BC –
Funding Request
- Eric Locke has been given the opportunity to attend the 2010 NSGA Junior Boys Training Camp in Vancouver, BC in April. There has been a funding request received to help finance this trip. He has indicated that he would be willing to report to Council his experiences. There is money available in the Youth Grants Budget. The maximum allowed per student is \$250.

MOVED and seconded that Council approve funding in the amount of \$250 for Eric Locke so that he can attend the 2010 NSGA Junior Boys Training Camp in Vancouver, BC.

- It was mentioned that Council would like him to give a report on his experiences.

MOTION CARRIED

- #2 Digby Area
Tourism Association –
Request for Funding
- There was a discussion whether the request for funding from the Digby Area Tourism Association was a request of Council to allocate \$25,000 in the 2010/2011 budget towards tourism initiatives or whether it was a direct request for funding from the Association.

MOVED and seconded that the funding request from the Digby Area Tourism Association be referred to the budgeting process.

MOTION CARRIED

- #3 NS Bird Sanctuary Trust AAN: 03733645 – Tax Exemption Request
 - The NS Bird Sanctuary Trust has requested a tax exemption for AAN 03733645. The taxes on this property are \$288.60 per year. A concern was raised that it is hard to control tax exemptions for not for profit groups. It was agreed to send a letter to see what has been done to this property to date and see what the future plans are. It was agreed to revisit this request at the next COTW.

- #4 Paving Request- Upper Cross Road
 - There has been a request received to pave the Upper Cross Road as there is more traffic with the Recycling Depot located on that road and it makes more dust for the residents. The CAO has called Brian Foote from the Department of Transportation to get further information. It was agreed to postpone making a decision on this item until that information has been received.

- #5 Wharf Rat Rally – Letter of Support
 - The Wharf Rat Rally would like Council to write a letter of support for the rally to have on file which may be forwarded to the Provincial and Federal Governments.

MOVED and seconded that a letter of support be written for the Wharf Rat Rally.

There were concerns of Council regarding the lack of communication as to when the meetings are to be held.

MOTION CARRIED

- #6 Digby Area Learning Association – Funding Request
 - MOVED and seconded that the funding request from Digby Area Learning Association be referred to the budget process.**

MOTION CARRIED

#7 Tri-County
Multicultural Festival
– Funding Request

MOVED and seconded that the funding request from Tri-County Multicultural Festival be referred to the budget process.

MOTION CARRIED

#8 Yarmouth Ferry
Funding – Councillor
Gregory

- Councillor Gregory inquired about the proposed funding for the Yarmouth Ferry and asked which municipalities were involved.

**Chief Administrative
Report**

- The CAO report dated March 8, 2010 was included in the COTW Package.

Joint Council Meeting
– Municipality of
Clare

- There is a meeting scheduled with Clare Council on March 10, 2010. Transit and recycling are both on the agenda. Council also wanted to add Digby RCMP services in Clare and also provide them with an update on the Municipality's involvement in Le Transport de Clare. Also mentioned was the Civic Addressing Bylaw which will be sent electronically by the CAO.

Request for
Decisions/Direction

Minimum Bid Tax
Sale Property

Mrs. Bremner gave a report to Council outlining the history of property account number 06286062 assessed to the Estate of Henry Thomas. Due to the increased costs necessary to prepare this property for tax sale and the small size of the property it is recommended that Council approve a minimum bid of \$1,200 for this property only if it doesn't sell at the original listed price of \$2,444.27.

MOVED and seconded that the committee recommend to Council that the minimum bid on the Estate of Henry Thomas be set at \$1200 if it doesn't sell at the amount stated.

MOTION CARRIED

May Council Meeting

It was decided to change the May Council meeting from May 24 to May 25, 2010 due to the holiday. Also, the April COTW which was scheduled for April 13, 2010 will be held at 5:00

instead of 6:00.

Department Reports

Taxation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Taxation report for March 2010 was included in the meeting package.
Building Inspection Report/Fire Inspection Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Building Inspection report for March 2010 was included in the meeting package.
Airport/Dispatch	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Airport/Dispatch report for March, 2010 was included in the meeting package.
Dog Control Activity and Financial Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Dog Control Activity and Financial report for March 2010 was included in the meeting package.
Coordinator Program Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Coordinator Program Development report for March 2010 was included in the meeting package.
Kings Transit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Kings Transit report for March 2010 was included in the meeting package.
Other Business	N/A
Updates from Previous meetings	N/A
Special Projects Updates	N/A
Strategic Priorities Update	The Strategic Priorities Update for February 28, 2010 was circulated prior to the meeting.
Notice of Motion	N/A
Comments from the Gallery	N/A

Municipality of the District of Digby
Municipal Committee of the Whole Minutes
March 8, 2010
Seabrook, Nova Scotia

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

MOTION CARRIED

Regular session resumed.

Dangerous &
Unsightly Properties –
Long Island **MOVED and seconded that the Municipality of the District of Digby proceed with the demolition of the three properties deemed dangerous and unsightly on Long Island and that the costs associated with the demolitions be paid for by the Municipality and charged to the property owners as a lien on the property.**

MOTION CARRIED

Adjournment **MOVED and seconded that the meeting adjourn at 8:45 PM.**

MOTION CARRIED

WARDEN

CLERK