

Municipality of the District of Digby  
Municipal Committee of the Whole Minutes  
December 13, 2016  
Seabrook, Nova Scotia

1

**Call to Order** The meeting was called to order with Warden MacAlpine in the chair at 5:30 PM.

**Attendance**  
Councillors present:

- Jimmy MacAlpine, Warden
- Linda Gregory, Deputy Warden
- David Tudor, Councillor
- George Manzer, Councillor
- Matthew Ross, Councillor

Staff present:

- Linda Fraser, Chief Administrative Officer
- Jeff Sunderland, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
- Pat Stevens, Executive Assistant

Regrets:

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

**Agenda** **MOVED and seconded the adoption of the agenda as circulated.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Presentation/Delegation** **MOVED and seconded that Dr. Nicholas Hill, Fern Hill Institute comes before Council to present.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Dr. Nicholas Hill,  
Fern Hill Institute  
for Plant  
Conservation

Dr. Hill spoke on the Big Meadow Bog project on Brier Island. Dr. Hill would like to be able to move forward with the project but there have been obstacles with purchasing the 89 acres of land where the Bog is located.  
Dr. Hill has requested that the Municipality of Digby check into acquiring the land at Big Meadow Bog, Brier Island.

**Dangerous & Unsightly**

**Minutes**  
November 14, 2016

**MOVED and seconded that the minutes of November 14, 2016 be approved as circulated.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Business Arising/Old  
Business**

Gateway to the Bay of Fundy

While the Warden and Deputy Warden were at the UNSM conference they each spoke to Colchester County Mayor Christine Blair and the Chair of the Fundy Gateway Committee, Geoff Stewart. Deputy Warden Gregory indicated her conversation with the Mayor was very positive and that the Mayor was going to arrange a meeting. Warden MacAlpine indicated that the Chair of the Fundy Gateway Committee was also open to discussing our concerns with the use of the phrase "Fundy Gateway". Deputy Warden Gregory will update Linda Graham on the meeting.

Rural Internet

**MOVED and seconded that the Municipality recommend to Council to rescind the motion to sign the Intermunicipal Agreement with the 10 municipal units from South West Nova Scotia.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOVED and seconded that the Municipality recommend to Council to engage the Western Regional Enterprise Network to coordinate an application for federal funding to improve rural broadband coverage in our region, and that the Municipality allocate up to \$20,000 of Federal Gas Tax funds to support this endeavor.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Other Business Arising**

Warden MacAlpine

- No Business Arising

- Councillor Manzer • No Business Arising
- Councillor Ross • No Business Arising
- Councillor Tudor • No Business Arising
- Deputy Warden Gregory • No Business Arising

### **New Business**

#### **#1 Dept of Fisheries & Oceans – Weather**

Councillor Tudor advised of his and some retired fishermen's concerns regarding the safety of lobster fishing in severe weather. Councillor Tudor would like a letter sent to DFO regarding the safety concerns.

There was a general discussion by Council regarding other options, including asking that DFO consider moving opening day up a few days to earlier in November when the weather is less windy.

**MOVED and seconded to write a letter to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans regarding Council's concerns for the safety of lobster fishermen during the first week of lobster season and asking DFO to restrict fishing when there are predicted high winds.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Council suggested that a representative from DFO come to Council to discuss these concerns.

The letter is to be cc'd to the Fisheries Association.

#2

#### **Correspondence**

- There were no correspondence items to be discussed.

#### **Chief Administrative Report**

- The CAO report dated December 12, 2016 was included in the meeting package.

**Meetings**

- The Warden went over the meeting schedule.

Councillors were reminded that there is computer training scheduled for December 19<sup>th</sup> beginning at 8:45 AM.

**Request for  
Decisions/Direction  
#1**

**Department Reports**

Building Inspection  
Report

- The Building Inspection reports were included in the meeting package.

Deputy Chief  
Administrative Officer  
Report

- The Deputy Chief Administrative Officer report was included in the meeting package.

Airport/Dispatch

- The Airport/Dispatch reports were included in the meeting package.

Dog Control Activity and  
Financial Report

- The Dog Control Activity and Financial reports were included in the meeting package.

Coordinator Program  
Development & Heritage

- The Coordinator Program Development & Heritage report was included in the meeting package.

Fire Inspection Report

- The Fire Inspection report was unavailable for the meeting package.

Manager of Corporate  
Services Report

- The Manager of Corporate Services report was included in the meeting package.

Renewable Energy &  
Climate Change  
Coordinator

- The Renewable Energy & Climate Change Coordinator report was included in the meeting package.

**Other Business**

**Updates from Previous Action Items** • The updates from previous action items were included in the meeting package.

**Capital Projects Updates** • The capital projects updates were included in the meeting package.

**Notice of Motion**

**Comments from the Gallery** • No Comments

**In Camera** **MOVED and seconded to go In Camera at 6:17 PM.**

1. Municipal Property After regular session resumed.

**MOVED and seconded to have TMC Law send a letter to the property owner offering to purchase land on Brier Island, PID # 30254619, at fair market value, giving him 30 days to respond, and advising him that we are prepared to expropriate the land if he is unwilling to sell.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Adjournment** **MOVED and seconded that the meeting adjourn at 6:35 PM.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

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**WARDEN**

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**CLERK**