

1. CALL TO ORDER/ATTENDENCE

1.1 Roll Call/Regrets

Warden MacAlpine called the December 9, 2019 Committee of the Whole session of the Municipality of the District of Digby to Order at 5:00 pm. The meeting was held in the Municipal Council Chambers.

The following Councillors were present: Warden Jimmy MacAlpine, Deputy Warden Linda Gregory, Councillor David Tudor, Councillor Matthew Ross and Councillor George Manzer

Staff present: Linda Fraser, Chief Administrative Officer, Jeff Sunderland, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Tyler Pulley, Manager of Municipal Services and Pat Stevens, Executive Assistant, who took the minutes of the meeting.

1.2 Pause to Seek Guidance

Warden MacAlpine welcomed everyone and asked that we pause to seek guidance for the meeting.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROCEDURAL ISSUES

2.1 Approval of Agenda-Additions/Deletions

MOVED and seconded that the agenda for December 9, 2019 be approved as amended with the addition of Business Item 4.2 Kings Transit.

MOTION CARRIED

2.2 Delegations/Presentations

1) Brennan Goreham, Atlantic Fisheries Fund

MOVED and seconded that Brennan Goreham come before Council to present.

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Goreham gave an in-depth overview of the purpose and funding model for the Atlantic Fisheries Fund in the Atlantic Region. He is trying to create awareness and interest in the area and listed eligible groups that can apply and eligible projects that the funds can be applied to. Mr. Goreham is willing to meet with economic development staff. Warden MacAlpine thanked Mr. Goreham for his presentation.

2) Gwen Wilson, St. Mary's Bay Protectors

MOVED and seconded that Gwen Wilson come before Council to present.

MOTION CARRIED

Gwen Wilson, Rick Wallace and Casie (Tidd) Melanson came forward to present on behalf of the St. Mary's Bay Protectors against the installation of salmon cages by CERMAQ. They are asking Council for action, disclosure and transparency.

Rick Wallace explained why the St. Mary's Bay Protectors were formed and their three areas of concerns: environment, economics and community.

He then explained who CERMAQ is and their application to install salmon cages in the St. Mary's Bay. Gwen Wilson explained the environmental impact on the installation of salmon cages such as pesticides, chemicals, disease and pollution.

Casie Melanson spoke of the commercial fisheries and impact on tourism. She stated that the salmon cages are a threat to wild fish stocks and other marine species as well as the existing fishery jobs/industries. She stated that land-based fish farming is practiced around the world.

Mr. Wallace advised that they would like Council to hold a recorded public vote by Council members on a resolution opposing the application, approval and operation of any Cermaq proposal for marine-based open net fish farming in St. Mary's Bay at the next Council meeting, endorse the SMBP petition, and hold well publicized debates beginning in January 2020 so that the citizens of this county can be fully informed as to the implications of the Cermaq Canada application. They would also like Council members and Municipal administrative staff immediately disclose past dealings/communications/meeting with Cermaq, and that future communications be a matter of public record.

Warden MacAlpine advised that Council has included in Council's strategic priorities the support of the aquaculture industry providing it is done in an environmentally sustainable manner and brings social and economic benefit to the people and communities of rural Nova Scotia.

All Council thanked Gwen Wilson, Rick Wallace and Casie Melanson for their presentation.

2.3 Approval of Minutes of November 12, 2019

MOVED and seconded that the minutes of November 12, 2019 be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

2.4 Unfinished Business from Minutes of November 12, 2019

None

2.5 CAO Report

a) Meeting Reminders

The Warden highlighted the meeting dates/reminders.

b) Update on Capital Projects 2019-2020

In response to a question regarding the rural internet initiative, the CAO indicated that negotiations between Develop NS and the Internet Provider are nearing completion. An announcement is expected before the end of the year.

c) Department Reports

The following department reports were included in the CAO report.

i) Building Inspection

ii) Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

- iii) Airport/Dispatch
- iv) Dog Control Activity and Financial
- v) Coordinator Program Development & Heritage
- vi) Manager of Corporate Service
- vii) Renewable Energy & Climate Change Coordinator
- viii) Trails and Open Spaces Coordinator
- ix) Economic Development

3. DANGEROUS AND UNSIGHTLY PREMISES - none

4. BUSINESS ITEMS

4.1 Request for Decision – Kings Transit

MOVED and seconded that the COTW recommend to Council the approval of the award of the Request for Proposal KTA #19-05 Supply and Deliver Three 9.75 Metre Transit Buses to the highest scoring proponent, City View Bus Sales and Service, for one 10.67 metre version of the vehicle proposed, for a cost of \$627,119.38 (net HST included) with funding from the Federal Gas Tax Fund provided by Infrastructure Canada.

MOTION CARRIED

4.2 Kings Transit

There will be free ridership from December 11th to 24th Weymouth to Cornwallis run. Kings Transit has taken possession of four buses from Halifax Transit that have been driven approximately 1/3 less of the km that the Municipal bus has. Kings Transit will do a condition assessment of the buses, and may be put into service. If not in good enough condition, the buses will be used for parts.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

5.1 Correspondence

Council discussed the correspondence received this month.

5.2 General Information Items

There was no general information received this month.

6. IN CAMERA ITEMS

7. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED and seconded that the meeting adjourn at 6:10 pm.

MOTION CARRIED

Warden Jimmy MacAlpine

Linda Fraser, CAO