



**Committee of the Whole Minutes
Council Chambers
May 9, 2023**

- 1. IN ATTENDANCE:** Warden Linda Gregory, Deputy Warden Matthew Ross (Chair), Councillor David Tudor, Councillor George Manzer, and Councillor Angela Thurber

STAFF PRESENT: Jeff Sunderland, Chief Administrative Officer, Tyler Pulley, Manager of Municipal Services, Cora Lee Ross, Manager of Corporate Services, and Taylor Robinson, Executive Assistant who took the minutes of the meeting.

REGRETS: N/A

CALL TO ORDER: Deputy Warden Ross called the May 9, 2023 Committee of the Whole meeting of the Municipality of the District of Digby to order at 4:59pm.

PAUSE TO SEEK GUIDANCE: Deputy Warden Ross welcomed everyone and asked that we pause to seek guidance.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROCEDURAL ITEMS

2.1 Approval of Agenda-Additions/Deletions

Addition under 4. BUSINESS ITEMS 4.4 NSFM Request
Addition under 6. IN-CAMERA ITEMS 6.1 Contractual

MOTION #COTW2023-05-09-01

It was regularly moved and seconded that the agenda for May 9, 2023 be approved as amended.

MOTION CARRIED

2.2 Approval of Minutes of April 11, 2023

MOTION #COTW2023-05-09-02

It was regularly moved and seconded that the minutes of April 11, 2023 be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

2.3 Presentation/Delegation

Erika Rolston, Turning the Tide

The presenter was unavailable to present due to illness.

2.4 Unfinished Business from Minutes of April 11, 2023: None

2.5 CAO Report

- i. Meeting Dates/Reminders
Deputy Warden Ross highlighted the meeting dates/reminders.
- ii. CAO Report
CAO Sunderland reviewed and shared details of the CAO Report. Both the RCMP Complement Review and the Rural Internet project were highlighted.
- iii. Department Reports
The following department reports were included with the CAO report.
 - i) Manager of Corporate Services
 - ii) Manager of Municipal Services
 - iii) Trail Coordinator
 - iv) Airport/Dispatch
 - v) Building Inspection
 - vi) Heritage Coordinator
 - vii) Renewable Energy & Climate Change Coordinator

MOTION #COTW2023-05-09-03

It was regularly moved and seconded to accept the department reports as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

3. DANGEROUS AND UNSIGHTLY PREMISES: None

4. BUSINESS ITEMS

4.1 Energy Monitoring Project Notification

CAO Sunderland explained that the Municipality of Digby has partnered with the Town of Digby on the energy monitoring project and have been approved for a grant in the amount of up to \$25,000 from the Green Municipal Fund to implement a building and monitoring analysis system at 5 municipal owned locations. The purpose of the project is to monitor electrical levels and gather detailed information which will develop a path forward to become more energy efficient. Council agreed that it is a great opportunity.

Councillor Thurber joined the meeting at 5:10pm.

Warden Gregory joined the meeting at 5:12pm.

4.2 Ferry Condition Email

Council reviewed the email correspondence from a concerned resident regarding the ferry condition. Councillor Tudor noted that the Manager of Marine Safety for the Department of Public Works responded to the resident and addressed their concerns.

4.3 Carbon Tax

Deputy Ross provided an overview on the Carbon Tax that the federal government is imposing and asked for Council's support to write a letter to voice the concerns of rural Nova Scotia. Council discussed that NS Power needs to install an improved grid so that Nova Scotians have the capacity to change to electric/green energy. It was agreed to send a letter to Premier Tim Houston and copy MLA Jill Balser to request their support to lobby NS Power to install better infrastructure specifically in Southwest Nova Scotia.

MOTION #COTW2023-05-09-04

It was regularly moved and seconded to recommend to Council to direct staff to write a letter to Premier Tim Houston and include MLA Jill Balser to lobby NS Power for better infrastructure in Southwest Nova Scotia.

MOTION CARRIED

4.4 NSFMR Request

Deputy Warden Ross proposed the idea of asking NSFMR to put a story in the media regarding building permits to help those that are thinking about moving to the area as there has been an influx of new residents who are running into development and building permit issues because of the property they have purchased. Council discussed that it should be mandatory that realtors disclose development information to potential purchasers when selling a property. It was agreed to revisit this matter at the next Committee of the Whole meeting in June.

5. CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION ITEMS

5.1 MLA Jill Balser Response

Received and noted.

5.2 FCDA Thank You Letter

Received and noted.

MOTION #COTW2023-05-09-05

It was regularly moved and seconded to move to in-camera for a Contractual Issue at 5:37pm.

MOTION CARRIED

6. IN CAMERA ITEMS

6.1 Contractual

MOTION #COTW2023-05-09-06

It was regularly moved and seconded to move out of in-camera at 5:52pm.

MOTION CARRIED

7. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #COTW2023-05-09-07

It was regularly moved and seconded that the meeting adjourn at 5:53pm.

MOTION CARRIED

Deputy Warden Matthew Ross

Jeff Sunderland, CAO