

Call to Order The Council meeting was called to order with Warden MacAlpine in the chair at 6:00 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:

Adoption of Agenda **MOVED and Seconded that the agenda for March 28, 2017 be approved as circulated.**

Motion Carried

Prayer Warden MacAlpine welcomed everyone and asked that we pause to seek guidance for the meeting. Warden MacAlpine thanked everyone for coming and read the Municipality's mission statement.

Presentation/Delegation

Gus Green, General
Manager
Amy Hillyard, Assistant
Manager
– Waste Check

MOVED and Seconded that Gus Green and Amy Hillyard, Waste Check come before Council to present.

Motion Carried

Gus Green gave an in-depth overview on Waste Check. Points highlighted were:

- Spending money on facilities and infrastructure in the Municipality
- 6 Municipal units with 2 voting members from each Municipality; Municipal contributions 100,000 total
- Community outreach
- Rounded bottom green cart which is supposed to keep rodents out of cart; covers and vents on old carts are kept for repairing broken carts
- Looking into extended producer responsibility which would shift the cost of removing recyclables and garbage back to the producer of product

Mr. Green also gave an overview on SWANA.

Jamie Lewis – General
Manager, Lewis Moulding
Marcus Zwicker – General
Manager, Westfor

MOVED and Seconded that Jamie Lewis, Lewis Moulding and Marcus Zwicker, Westfor come before Council to present.

Motion Carried

Marcus Zwicker gave an in-depth overview of Westfor. The company is owned by 13 Nova Scotia mills. It was formed in early 2016 and currently has 250 employees. Westfor has to have the entire operation 3rd party certified. Currently they are working on a 100 year management plan.

Clear cutting is when over 50% of trees are removed. Before any tree removal is done soil samples are taken, pre-tree assessments are made and all DNR guidelines are followed. Inspections are done after a 3 year period to follow the level of re-generation. New monitoring processes were implemented in 2016. Westfor does not operate on private land. They have a new machine that minimizes road tear up. They purchase wood from private owners all of western Nova Scotia. Road construction is annually maintained.

24% of Shelburne, Yarmouth & Digby counties is managed by Westfor. 60% of Digby county is parks and protected area

Further information can be found at <http://nsgi.novascotia.ca/hpmv/>.

Approval of Minutes

Council – February 27, 2017

MOVED and Seconded that the minutes from Council of February 27, 2017 be approved as circulated.

Motion Carried

Business Arising from Minutes/Old Business

Animals taken in and adopted report – Deputy Warden Gregory

Deputy Warden Gregory gave a report on animals taken in and adopted from Foster for Cats and Friends of Ferals.

- Foster for Cats – from March 2016 to January 2017 – 70 cats and kittens spayed/neutered, vaccinated and adopted as well as 10 dogs and 30 to 40 feral cats.
- Friends of Ferals - 118 spay and neuter cats at \$20,000 for 2016. They are working with the SPCA to spay/neuter 60 to 80 cats from the Bear River area and 30 to 40 for a spay day in Meteghan.
- TLC – report unavailable due to illness. Will provide report at next meeting.

There were concerns with not being able to use the Evangeline Mall to fund raise.

New Business

Funding requests: **MOVED and Seconded that the funding requests for Town of Digby, TLC Animal Shelter, Annapolis Royal Historic Gardens, Freeport Community Development Association, Weymouth Board of Trade, Southwest Nova Biosphere Reserve Association and Upper Clements Park Society be forwarded to the budget process.**

- Town of Digby
- TLC Animal Shelter
- Annapolis Royal Historic Gardens
- Freeport Community Development Association
- Weymouth Board of Trade
- Southwest Nova Biosphere Reserve Association
- Upper Clements Park Society

Motion Carried

Tri-County Early Years Partnership Councillor Tudor will attend the Tri-County Early Years workshop and will provide a report at the COTW.

CAO Report: The CAO report for March 28, 2017 was circulated.

Meeting Dates/Reminders The Warden went over the meeting dates/reminders. The time of the COTW meeting on May 8th should read 5:00 PM.

Request for Decisions of Direction - expropriation **MOVED and Seconded to approve the following resolution:**

WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of the District of Digby pursuant to the *Municipal Government Act*, SNS 1998, c 18, as amended; and, the *Expropriation Act*, RSNS 1989, c 156, as amended has authority to expropriate real property for a statutory purpose;

AND WHEREAS the Municipality of the District of Digby caused to be prepared a plan and description of certain land in Westport, on Brier Island, which land is required for the purpose of wetland restoration, conservation and to promote tourism, create valuable recreation, tourism and education opportunities; **AND WHEREAS** the expropriation of lands owned by Krzysztof Cieply and Barbara Cieply, situated in Westport, Digby County, Province of Nova Scotia, bearing Property Identification Number 30254619, is required for the statutory purpose of public use as defined above;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Municipality of the District of Digby that, pursuant to the provisions of the Expropriation Act, being Chapter 156 of the Revised Statutes of Nova Scotia, 1989, and the Municipal Government Act, the land bearing Property Identification Number 30254619 will hereby be expropriated.

Motion Carried

Update on Action Items The Warden reviewed the action items and asked if there were any questions from Council.
The CAO heard from Don Spicer and a presentation for Council, by the RCMP, will be arranged.
SEEL had issues that are being dealt with.

Update on Capital Projects In early April a RFP for sewer work in Smiths Cove will be sent out.

Update on Corporate NOW Priorities

Payables **MOVED and Seconded that the list of payables for February 2017 in the amount of \$307,608.13 be approved.**

Motion Carried

Income & Expense Report The Income & Expense report for February 2017 was circulated.

MOVED and Seconded that the Income & Expense report for February 2017 be approved.

Motion Carried

CoraLee McBride will present a detailed income & expense report at the By-Law & Policy meeting on April 3rd.

Correspondence There was no correspondence received this month.

Council Committees

By-law & Policy Recommendations

Low Income Exemption for 2017-18 **MOVED and Seconded that the Low Income Tax Exemption for 2017-18 be set at \$250 for those whose total household income for 2016 is less than \$25,000.**

Motion Carried

Revision of Conventions Policy **MOVED and Seconded to revise the Conventions Policy stating that attendees should present to Council after attending any conference.**

Motion Carried

Revision of Municipal Room Booking Policy **MOVED and Seconded that during the period between December 1st and March 31st to not allow Municipal Chambers to be booked for meetings during evenings and weekends.**

Motion Carried

Fences & Arbitration
Terms of Reference **MOVED and Seconded to approve the Fences and Arbitration Committee Terms of Reference.**

Motion Carried

Revision of Committees
& Boards Discussion ensued on retaining Councillor Manzer as the Council representative on the DALA board.

MOVED and Seconded to have Councillor Manzer remain on the DALA board and re-assess the list of Committees & Boards in one year.

Motion Carried

MOVED and Seconded to approve the recommended changes to the list of Committees & Boards with the amendment to the DALA board.

Motion Carried

Committee of the Whole Recommendations

Use of Airport – Wharf
Rat Rally – Deputy CAO
Sunderland Deputy CAO Sunderland stated there are issues with the airport operator’s liability & municipal liability covering the usage of the airport by the Wharf Rat Rally. Staff is to check into the option of leasing the airport to the Wharf Rat Rally for the weekend and bring back to the next COTW meeting for further discussion.

Advisory Committees

Digby Source Water
Protection Advisory
Committee Councillor Ross advised that January minutes were circulated. The Committee had went over last four or five years of recommendations to see any could be updated.

Heritage Advisory
Committee Deputy Warden Gregory advised that there has been no meeting since Council last met.

Planning Advisory
Committee Deputy Warden Gregory advised that there is a meeting scheduled for April 5th.

Joint RCMP Advisory
Board Deputy Warden Gregory advised that December 2016 minutes were circulated. A new deputy minister Karen Hudson has been appointed. Advisory board training will be provided. Meetings for 2017 will be at the town hall. Telephone and internet scams are in the area.

REMO Advisory
Committee Warden MacAlpine advised that there has been no meeting since Council last met.

Western Region Housing
Authority CAO Fraser advised that there was no report available. Council will keep searching for a Citizen representative to fill the opening.

**Regional / Joint
Committees**

Age Friendly Community	Warden MacAlpine advised that there has been a meeting. The committee is trying to put a package together to promote the Town and Municipality as age friendly communities.
Atlantic Mayors Congress	Warden MacAlpine advised that there has been no meeting since Council last met.
Canada Legacy Society	Deputy Warden Gregory advised that there has been no meeting since Council last met.
Digby and Area Affordable and Supportive Housing Group	Councillor Tudor advised that February meeting notes were circulated.
Digby Area Board of Trade	Councillor Tudor advised that there has been a meeting at the House of Wong. There was a very good presentation. The business awards banquet is scheduled for June 8 th . All Council would like tickets for the banquet when available.
Digby Annapolis Development Committee	Warden MacAlpine advised that there has been no meeting since Council last met.
Digby Area Learning Association	Councillor Manzer advised that DALA January & February Board minutes, February & March Executive Director and Immigration Committee March reports were circulated. Bridge funding and money for ESL for immigrants has been secured.
Digby Area Recreation Committee	Deputy Warden Gregory advised that the Regional Manager announcement was circulated. There was no meeting in March. The DARC Provincial rep is Shirley Dugas and Town rep is Oliver Janson.
Digby Area Tourism Association	Councillor Manzer advised that February minutes were circulated. The new Digby guide will soon be out.
Digby Community/NS Health Authority Stakeholder Group	Warden MacAlpine advised that there has been no meeting since Council last met. He advised that there was an announcement that three doctors are coming to Digby.
Digby Development Agency	Warden MacAlpine advised that the hiring of Dan Harvey to do work for the DDA was passed.
Digby Harbour Port Association	Councillor Tudor advised that there was a meeting last week.
Digby Library Committee	Warden MacAlpine advised that there has been no meeting since Council last met. The committee only meets once a year.
Digby Municipal Fire Association	Deputy Warden Gregory advised that there was a meeting but she did not attend due to Elaine Turner's retirement party. There will be an election held in two months.

- Highway 101 Task Force Deputy Warden Gregory advised that there has been no meeting since Council last met. People have been inquiring about phase 2. Deputy Warden Gregory wants to meet with the CAO to arrange a meeting for May.
- Kings Transit Authority Deputy Warden Gregory advised that February minutes, General Manager March report, February Ridership report, Education Coordinator Final report and March newsletter were circulated. Numbers of passengers are dropping all over the bus route. The committee is working to try to get ridership up. Arrangements will be made to have the Manager come to a By-Law & policy meeting to present.
- Open Spaces Councillor Tudor advised that there has been a meeting and the Vantassell Lake trail was approved.
- Senior Safety Committee Warden MacAlpine advised that there was a meeting on March 8th. The by-laws and liability insurance will be reviewed. Warden MacAlpine read Dawn Thomas' coordinator report. The Senior Safety committee will be asking for \$16,000 from this year's budget.
- Shared Services Committee Warden MacAlpine advised that there has been no meeting since Council last met.
- Southwest Biosphere Society Deputy Warden Gregory advised that the 2016 Municipal report and June & November 2016 minutes were circulated. The Southwest Biosphere Society is mandated to engage in programs to enhance the quality of life. They are currently working with teachers to do a school program on the Biosphere. The Biosphere covers Queens, Annapolis, Yarmouth and Digby Counties.
- MOVED and Seconded that Deputy Warden Gregory be appointed as the Municipal rep on the Southwest Biosphere Society committee.**
- Motion Carried**
- Transport de Clare Councillor Manzer advised that things going well. A new bus and 22 – 24 passenger van has been ordered.
- Tideview Terrace Councillor Manzer advised that there was a meeting on March 27.
- Upper Clements Park Councillor Ross advised that February minutes were circulated. He was unable to attend the meeting but attended the announcement of \$300,000 to Upper Clements Park on Monday.
- Waste Check Deputy Warden Gregory advised that Waste Check Connections report February 2017 was circulated. The carts are being changed to rounded bottoms. She met new board members. She want payables to be looked at monthly by the committee.
- Western Counties Warden MacAlpine advised that December 2016 minutes

Regional Library and March 2017 Library Report were circulated. They will be fundraising to buy books. CUPE has multi fashioned pension plan that they will be looking at. Dining among the Staff is scheduled for October 21st this year. There is a LBANS meeting coming up to meet with the Deputy Minister. A onetime grant of \$484, 000 to be divided by the libraries was awarded.

Western Regional Enterprise Network Liaison and Oversight Committee Warden MacAlpine advised that there has been no meeting since Council last met. The addition of Barrington to join WREN has been ratified.

Weymouth Doctor Recruiting Committee Deputy Warden Gregory advised that there has been no meeting since Council last met. A couple of members have contacted her looking to meet in May.

Council District Reports

Councillor Tudor Councillor Tudor gave an update to Council that he was busy with citizens on a variety of subjects.

Councillor Manzer Councillor Manzer gave an update to Council on various district functions he attended such as a conference in Yarmouth, Elaine Turner's retirement party, the health authority announcement last week and watched the series on CBC on Sunday night about Canada 150.

Councillor Ross Councillor Ross gave an update to Council on various district functions he attended such as the Upper Clements Park funding announcement, helped citizens in the community and assisted with the shamrock fun spiel.

Deputy Warden Gregory Deputy Warden Gregory gave an update to Council on information she received from the Department of Justice on the changes to costs charged to Municipalities in the 2017/18 fiscal year. She attended fundraisers for Patsy Blinn and Marcus Hayley, a Telehealth meeting at the UNSM, a health benefits meeting, a Kings Transit Conference and Elaine Turner's retirement party.

Warden MacAlpine Warden MacAlpine gave an update to Council on various functions he attended such as meeting with Jay Stone and 3 other people, along with the CAO, and requested in writing letters of complaint re: clear cutting that he will forward to the UNSM. He spoke with Warden Ronnie LeBlanc on his trip to China and the benefits of going. Information is still being gathered regarding developing a relationship with China. Warden MacAlpine went to the NSCC with Mayor Cleveland to discuss fundraising for bursaries and scholarships. He attended an event at the NSCC with entrepreneurs – Digby Neck Collective and Brian Manzer Apiary were in attendance. He met Bob Benson on concerns he had for the Bear River area and attended the doctor announcement.

Comments from the
Gallery

In Camera

MOVED and Seconded that Council takes a five minute recess before going In Camera for a Personnel Issue at 9:13 PM.

Motion Carried

After regular session resumed.

Personnel Issue

MOVED and Seconded that Eleanor Gaudett be appointed, for a two year term, on the Planning Advisory Committee.

Motion Carried

Adjournment

MOVED and Seconded that the meeting adjourn at 9:23 PM.

Motion Carried

WARDEN

CLERK