

1. CALL TO ORDER/ATTENDENCE**1.1 Roll Call/Regrets**

Warden Jimmy MacAlpine called the July 27, 2020 Council session of the Municipality of the District of Digby to order at 5:04 pm. The meeting was held via zoom.

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

Staff present: Jeff Sunderland, Chief Administrative Officer, Tyler Pulley, Manager of Municipal Services, Cora Lee Ross, Manager of Corporate 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 they pause to seek guidance for the meeting.

1.3 Reading of Mission Statement

Warden MacAlpine read the Municipality's mission statement.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROCEDURAL ISSUES**2.1 Approval of Agenda-Additions/Deletions**

MOVED and seconded that the agenda for July 27, 2020 be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

2.2 Delegations/Presentations

None

2.3 Approval of Minutes of June 22, 2020

MOVED and seconded that the minutes from June 22, 2020 be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

2.4 Unfinished Business from Minutes of June 22, 2020

Warden MacAlpine advised that he will be speaking with MLA Gordon Wilson to have a meeting set up with Justice Minister Mark Furey regarding the RCMP.

2.5 CAO Report**a) Meeting Reminders**

Warden MacAlpine went over the meeting dates/reminders.

Councillor Ross will be unavailable for the August 10th By-Law & Policy meeting.

b) Action Items from Previous Meetings

All action items have been addressed.

c) Update on Capital Projects 2020-2021**d) Financial Report****i) Payables**

MOVED and seconded that the list of payables for June 2020 in the amount of \$1,104,278.55 be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

ii) Income and Expense Report

MOVED and seconded that the Income and Expense Report from April 1 to June 20, 2020 be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

3. STANDING COMMITTEE ITEMS**3.1 Audit Committee****a) 2019/20 Consolidated Financial Statements**

MOVED and seconded that the 2019/20 Consolidated Financial Statements be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ITEMS

4.1 Jordantown-Acaciaville-Conway Betterment Association tax exemption

MOVED and seconded the approval of the tax exemption request for AAN 03560864, property owned by the Jordantown-Acaciaville-Conway Betterment Association, for the fiscal years 2018-2019-2020 and taxes going forward, under the Tax Exemption By-Law #2000-02.

MOTION RESCINDED

Discussion ensued regarding the tax exemption request for AAN 03560864 from the Jordantown-Acaciaville-Conway Betterment Association.

MOVED and seconded the approval of the tax exemption request for AAN 03560864, property owned by the Jordantown-Acaciaville-Conway Betterment Association, for the fiscal years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 and taxes going forward, under the Tax Exemption By-Law #2000-02.

MOTION CARRIED

A grant to cover the taxes due on AAN 03560864 for the fiscal year 2018-19 will be discussed at the August 10th By-Law & Policy meeting.

4.2 Electric City funding request

MOVED and seconded to approve a grant for \$2,500 to the Electric City Society.

MOTION RESCINDED

Council discussed the funding request from the Electric City Society.

MOVED and seconded to approve a grant for \$1,250 to the Electric City Society.

MOTION CARRIED

4.3 Weneli's Yard and Garden letter of support for funding application

Council questioned to whom is the letter of support to be addressed to.

MOVED and seconded to send a letter of support for funding for the Weneli's Yard and Garden upon finding out to whom to address the letter to.

MOTION CARRIED

4.4 WREN Inter Municipal Agreement

MOVED and seconded to sign the Inter Municipal Agreement with the Towns of Digby and Yarmouth, Municipalities of Argyle, Barrington, Clare and Yarmouth, for a five-year term, effective from September 1, 2020 until August 31, 2025, which sets forth a framework for the continuation of a Regional Enterprise Network.

MOTION CARRIED

4.5 Islands Food Bank funding request

Councillor Tudor left the meeting due to a conflict of interest.

MOVED and seconded to approve a grant for \$4,000 to the Islands Food Bank.

MOTION RESCINDED

Council discussed the funding request from Islands Food Bank.

MOVED and seconded to approve a grant for \$1,000 to the Islands Food Bank.

MOTION CARRIED

Councillor Tudor returned to the meeting.

4.6 Office of Fire Marshall NS Building Code Regulations

CAO Sunderland advised that the Fire Marshall was asking for Council's input on the changes to the NS Building Code Regulations. Council asked whether building inspectors Alfred Doucet or Cathy Barr had any comments and were advised that they do not. It was determined that there are no comments that need to be forwarded to the Fire Marshal.

4.7 Wharf Rat Rally funding request

MOVED and seconded to approve a grant for \$5,000 to the Wharf Rat Rally.

MOTION RESCINDED

Discussion ensued regarding the Wharf Rat Rally funding request.

MOVED and seconded to approve a grant for \$2,000 to the Wharf Rat Rally.

MOTION CARRIED

4.8 Westport Fire Department loan

MOVED and seconded to approve a loan of \$15,000 to the Westport Fire Department provided that they are the successful bidder of the tanker truck.

MOTION CARRIED

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

5.1 Correspondence

There was discussion on the correspondence received this month.

5.2 General Information Items

There was discussion on the general information received this month.

5.3 Advisory Committees Minutes/Reports

a) Joint RCMP Advisory

January 2020 minutes were circulated. At the last meeting Staff Sgt George Cameron advised that if someone is not self-isolating, or if someone from the USA is spotted, or there are any other Covid-19 issues, to notify the RCMP.

5.4 Other Council Committees

5.5 Joint Intermunicipal Committees Minutes/Reports

a) DARC

DARC June minutes, Recreation Director, Facility Manager and Active Living July reports were circulated. DARC has had difficulty getting supplies such as paint and wood.

b) Senior Safety

The Senior Safety Coordinator Annual report was circulated.

c) Tideview Terrace

May minutes were circulated. The directors and staff of Tideview Terrace have been advised that they are no longer covered by insurance regarding Covid-19 issues. Councillor Manzer and the two citizen reps are to resign from the position this week, until further notice. CAO Sunderland will be talking with the Town of Digby CAO regarding insurance.

It was decided that it would be beneficial to send a letter to the Premiere with a carbon copy sent to the MLA as well as Municipal Affairs outlining Council's concerns with having members of Council or citizen representatives serving on boards and not having directors and liability insurance with regards to the exclusion clause which

eliminates coverage for Covid-19 related cases. This letter should also point out that there are other Provinces in Canada that are providing liability for members serving without liability insurance.

Council agreed that a letter should be sent to Tideview Terrace advising that as of July 29th the Council and appointed representatives will be removed from the board until further notice, due to lack of liability insurance coverage.

d) Waste Check

The Divert NS Annual report was circulated. Deputy Warden Gregory advised that Leland Anthony is no longer on the Waste Check board and that she is acting chair.

e) Western Counties Regional Library

May minutes and the June newsletter were circulated. The AGM will be in September.

f) WREN

A news release, June 2019 AGM minutes, an Annual report and May minutes were circulated.

5.6 Outside Boards/Committees Minutes/Reports

1) DATA

2020 AGM minutes were circulated.

2) Southwest Biosphere Society

Financials, 2019 AGM minutes and February 2020 minutes were circulated.

5.7 Councillor District Activity Report

Councillor Tudor gave an update to Council on various district activities such as assisting a business with insurance issues, dealing with mental health issues, TIR issues, working with the Cancer group, food bank, harbor problems, Westport Village issues, police issues, working on getting a mental health therapist for the Islands and vacationed in PEI for four days.

Councillor Manzer gave an update to Council on various district activities such as Senior Safety meeting in person, the DATA AGM and helped someone with tax relief.

Councillor Ross gave an update to Council on various district activities such as Police and DARC meetings and road, internet and wildlife issues.

Deputy Warden Gregory gave an update to Council on the various district activities such as supplying mask for Kings Transit, Police board meeting and will be touring, on Tuesday, the aquaculture site in Digby. She also advised that Glen Bannon, Kings Transit, gave his two-week notice.

Warden MacAlpine gave an update to Council on the various district activities such as the Senior Safety meeting, and a meeting at the hospital re: health care for a receptor program with a resident doctor. Warden MacAlpine also announced that he will not be re-offering for the election in the fall. He advised that he has been on Council for almost 20 years and that it has been a pleasure and an honor to serve on Council.

Discussion ensued on the current information circulated in the media regarding Covid-19.

MOVED and seconded to send a letter to the Premiere and Dr. Strang, with the MLA copied, advising that Council is very pleased with the actions taken for the safety restrictions in place to keep caseloads down for Covid-19 and advise that the residents are happy with the Atlantic Bubble but are concerned with the Bubble being expanded beyond the Atlantic provinces.

MOTION CARRIED

MOVED and seconded to send a letter to the MP to advise of residents' concerns about opening the border to the United States.

MOTION CARRIED

6. IN CAMERA ITEMS

MOVED and seconded to go In Camera for a Personnel Issue at 6:49 PM.

MOTION CARRIED

Council discussed all of the In-Camera items.

Council resumed the regular meeting at 6:52 PM.

6.1 Personnel Issue

MOVED and seconded that Nigel Rollo be appointed, for a two-year term, on the Planning Advisory Committee.

MOTION CARRIED

7. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED and seconded that the meeting adjourned at 6:53 PM.

MOTION CARRIED

Warden MacAlpine

Jeff Sunderland, CAO