



**Council Minutes
Council Chambers
January 28, 2025**

- 1. IN ATTENDANCE:** Warden Linda Gregory, Deputy Warden Matthew Ross, Councillor Joan Ross, Councillor George Manzer, and Councillor Peter Scherer

STAFF PRESENT: Tyler Pulley, CAO, Jeff Sunderland, Cora Lee Ross, Manager of Corporate Services, and Karley Titus, Tax Clerk who took the minutes of the meeting.

ALSO PRESENT: Angelique LeBlanc, from the WREN to provide a presentation to Council

REGRETS: None

CALL TO ORDER: Warden Gregory called the January 28, 2025 Council meeting of the Municipality of the District of Digby to order at 5:03pm.

PAUSE TO SEEK GUIDANCE: Warden Gregory welcomed everyone and asked to pause to seek guidance.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROCEDURAL ISSUES

2.1 Approval of Agenda-Additions/Deletions

- Addition under 4. BUSINESS ITEMS 4.6 Letter of Support for the Digby Curling Club
- Addition under 4. BUSINESS ITEMS 4.7 Letter of Support for the Digby Area Recreation Commission (DARC)

MOTION #C2025-01-28-01

It was regularly moved and seconded that the agenda for January 28, 2025 be approved as amended.

MOTION CARRIED

2.2 Delegations/Presentations

MOTION #C2025-01-28-02

It was regularly moved and seconded that Angelique LeBlanc, Chief Executive Officer of the WREN, come before Council to present.

MOTION CARRIED

Angelique provided a slideshow to explain WHO WREN is and WHAT they do. WREN provides economic and business development in Digby, Yarmouth and Barrington. They are funded by both municipal and federal government.

Their values are - people, diversity, partnership, rural and small towns, natural resources and creativity.

They continue strategies through barriers and challenges – communications, energy grid, demographic profile (older population) and to retain and attract. Working to increase investment in private and public sector while adding talents.

Themes – business retention and expansion program, business transition program, and continuous improvement program.

They are looking to increase investment –

Public sector- baseline energy usage study, internet and cell service, why Western NS, get side-tracked project (trails for connection).

Talent Needs- connect business and talent, networking, immigration and population growth, skilled international talent.

Coming Up- tourism and side tracked.

Questions from Council to Angelique -

- New Brunswick attraction to Nova Scotia trails (a loop?) – trails washrooms, signage.
- Local retention and hires – local talent (trades) and demand (health care- CCA's, early childhood and trades).
- Locals leaving for out west – old school payment of cheques, looking at business waste, aging businesses, etc.
- What do you need from the municipality? Push businesses and talent to us, open to region collaboration between municipalities.

2.3 Approval of Minutes

MOTION #C2025-01-28-03

It was regularly moved and seconded that the minutes from November 19, 2024 be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION #C2025-01-28-04

It was regularly moved and seconded that the minutes from December 3, 2024 be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION #C2025-01-28-05

It was regularly moved and seconded that the minutes from January 14, 2025 be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

2.4 CAO Report

a) Meeting Reminders

Warden Gregory went over the meeting dates/reminders.

b) Action Items from Previous Meetings

All action items have been addressed to date.

c) Update on Capital Projects 2024-2025

Council reviewed the update on the capital projects.

Requirements needed to move forward- concrete pad, filter system, hiring a engineering firm – looking at next year to do the pad. Needing quotes as well to have a better idea of cost.

d) Financial Report

i) Income & Expense Reports

The November & December 2024 Income & Expense reports were circulated.

MOTION #C2025-01-28-06

It was regularly moved and seconded that the November & December Income & Expense report be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

3. **STANDING COMMITTEE ITEMS**

Committee of the Whole Recommendations

1) DATA Information

MOTION #C2025-01-28-07

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council agree to provide Digby Area Tourism Association assistance when erecting the new directional signage to the cemetery for Maude Lewis once the signs are completed.

MOTION CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ITEMS

4.1 Development Agreement - 18 Porter's Lane, Seabrook

MOTION #C2025-01-28-08

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council approve the second reading for the Development Agreement for 18 Porters Lane, Seabrook, PID 30194245.

MOTION CARRIED

A public hearing took place with Chris Millier via ZOOM- passing. Second reading- public (appeal) – then in effect.

4.2 Resolution to Borrow

MOTION #C2025-01-28-09

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Chief Administrative Officer is hereby authorized on behalf of Municipality of the District of Digby to execute under its corporate seal a Scotia Visa Business Card Agreement in the amount of Fifty Thousand dollars (\$50,000) on the Bank's regular form (See attached).

MOTION CARRIED

4.3 Village of Weymouth Sidewalks

More information needed from the village. CAO, Warden and Councillor George to meet with the village for direction and to bring information back to council.

4.4 Rural Transit Solution Fund

Planning and design first. Bi-law and policy to start then add as a Strategic Planning Committee item. Adding as a capital project (population).

4.5 J-Class Road – Annapolis County Letter

MOTION #C2025-01-28-10

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council agree to submit Pleasant Street in Bear River for the J-Class Road Program with the province.

MOTION CARRIED

Side notes to add into questions- mention the width of the road in relation to pedestrian usage.

4.6 Letter of Support for the Digby Curling Club

MOTION #C2025-01-28-11

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council agree to write a letter of support for the Digby Curling Club.

MOTION CARRIED

4.7 Letter of Support for the Digby Area Recreation Commission (DARC)

MOTION #C2025-01-28-12

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council agree to write a letter of support for the Digby Area Recreation Commission (DARC).

MOTION CARRIED

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

5.1 Correspondence

a) Letter from Kim Masland, Minister of Emergency Management
Reviewed and noted.

b) Code of Conduct Policy - Correspondence to Minister Lohr
Reviewed and noted.

5.2 Councillor District Activity Report

Councillor Manzer gave an update to Council on various district activities such as attending the Weymouth Parade of Trees (added a municipal tree), Weymouth Gala, Municipal New Years Levy, Municipal Christmas party, a play by local Hal Theriault and committee meetings.

Councillor Scherer gave an update to Council on various district activities such as attending the NSFAM Conference, health care meeting on the Islands, WREN web meeting, meeting with the village residents on road maintenance issues and committee meetings.

Councillor Ross gave an update to Council on various district activities such as attending the Smiths Cove tree lighting, speaking with Doug and asking questions, PA committee meeting- tourism, Municipal Christmas party, talking with residents about the dry hydrant and plowing in Smiths Cove, volunteering at Bear River Community Kitchen and at the senior center and the Bear River and Area Community Health Clinic and attended the African Heritage Proclamation and attending committee meetings.

Deputy Warden Ross gave an update to Council on various district activities such as attending Tim Horons smile cookie days, reading pledges at the Digby and Annapolis Christmas Daddies, Municipal Christmas party, DARC recreation Christmas dinner, making pancakes at Digby Elementary, Digby Port Authority dinner, Code of Conduct meeting- NSFAM, resident calls about road conditions, PVSC, garbage and attending executive and committee meetings.

Warden Gregory gave an update to Council on various district activities such as attending NSFAM Fall Conference, Ground Search and Rescue awards, Cooks Agriculture dinner, Big Tim Hortons cookie days, Sissiboo Christmas Gala, DARC Christmas dinner, tea at the Family Resource Centre, DALA Christmas party, Christmas Santa, Curling Club day, Municipal Christmas party and New Years Levy, Digby and Annapolis Christmas Daddies, speaking with residents about roads, housing and food (frugal moms), coming into the office, African Heritage Proclamation and attending executive and committee meetings.

IN CAMERA ITEMS: None

7. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #C2025-01-28-13

It was regularly moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 6:13pm.

MOTION CARRIED

Warden Gregory


Tyler Pulley, Chief Administrative Officer

Resolution to Borrow

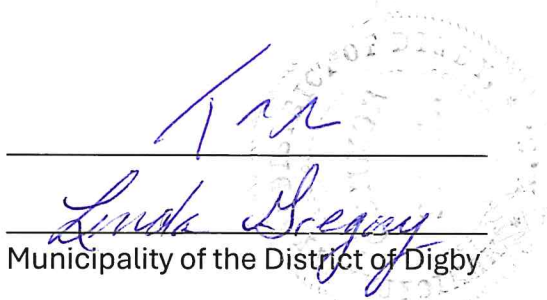
Resolved that the Chief Administrative Officer is hereby authorized on behalf of Municipality of the District of Digby to execute under its corporate seal a Scotia Visa Business Card Agreement in the amount of Fifty Thousand dollars (\$50,000) on the Bank's regular form.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a Resolution duly passed at a meeting of the Council of the Municipality of the District of Digby, duly held on January 28, 2025 and that said resolution is in full force and effect.

Dated at Digby this 28th day of January, 2025.



Witness



Linda Duguay
Municipality of the District of Digby