



**Council Minutes  
Council Chambers  
February 25, 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, Cora Lee Ross, Manager of Corporate Services, and Taylor Robinson, Executive Assistant, who took the minutes of the meeting.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Two members of the public

**REGRETS:** None

**CALL TO ORDER:** Warden Gregory called the February 25, 2025 Council meeting of the Municipality of the District of Digby to order at 5:02pm.

**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**

- Remove under 2. ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROCEDURAL ISSUES 2.2 Hugh MacKay, Rural Communities Foundation

**MOTION #C2025-02-25-01**

**It was regularly moved and seconded that the agenda for February 25, 2025 be approved as amended.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**2.2 Delegations/Presentations: None**

**2.3 Approval of Minutes: Council January 28, 2025**

**MOTION #C2025-02-25-02**

**It was regularly moved and seconded that the minutes from January 28, 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.

**d) Financial Report**

**i) Income & Expense Reports**

The January 2025 Income & Expense reports were circulated.

**MOTION #C2025-02-25-03**

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

**3. STANDING COMMITTEE ITEMS**

**Committee of the Whole Recommendations**

- 1) Kings Transit - Letter of Support

**MOTION #C2025-02-25-04**

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council send a letter of support for Kings Transit in support of their application to the Rural Transit Solutions fund.

**MOTION CARRIED**

- 2) Letter to Minister of Public Works

**MOTION #C2025-02-25-05**

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council send a letter to the Hon. Fred Tilley, Minister of the Department of Public Works and copy Hon. Jill Balser, MLA Digby-Annapolis regarding their budget and lack of funding for the roads in the community.

**MOTION CARRIED**

- 3) Interprovincial Trade Barriers – Letter to Minister of Municipal Affairs

**MOTION #C2025-02-25-06**

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council send a letter to the Hon. John Lohr, Minister of Municipal Affairs, to indicate general support of the removal of interprovincial trade barriers, while also sharing concerns with resource development.

**MOTION CARRIED**

- 4) Building Inspector Hiring Plan

**MOTION #C2025-02-25-07**

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council approve the Building Inspector hiring plan as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**4. BUSINESS ITEMS**

**4.1 DATA Funding Request**

Council discussed the funding request to run an ad in the Boston Globe and the Portland Press Herald papers. Deputy Warden Ross stated that DATA has put a lot of work into the ad and suggested that Council approve the request at this time and will keep the amount in mind when it comes to deciding next year's community grant amount.

Council ultimately agreed to the request as long as the Town of Digby provides the other 33.3% (their portion) of the funding request.

**MOTION #C2025-02-25-08**

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council approve Digby Area Tourism Association's funding request in the amount of \$2,833.33 conditional upon the Town of Digby providing their portion of the funding.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**(1 NAY)**

**4.2 Housing Coalition – Working Group Request**

Council agreed that it would be beneficial for CAO Pulley and Councillor Ross to be appointed on a working group with the Digby & Area Housing Coalition members and the Town of Digby.

**MOTION #C2025-02-25-09**

**It was regularly moved and seconded that Council appoint CAO Tyler Pulley and Councillor Joan Ross to the Digby & Area Housing Coalition Working Group.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**5. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**5.1 Correspondence**

- a) Letter to Mayor & Wardens from SWPA  
Reviewed and noted.
  
- b) Pending Legislation  
Reviewed and noted.

**5.2 Councillor District Activity Report**

**Deputy Warden Ross** gave an update to Council on various district activities such as attending the farewell BBQ for Jeff Sunderland, a webinar for Deep Seek AI, the Municipality of Digby Strategic Planning sessions with Gordon McIntosh, the King Charles III Coronation Medal Ceremony, met with MLA Jill Balsler to discuss a local blood clinic and progress on the Highway 101 safety study, met with Chris Larson (Sports Entertainment Atlantic) to get an update on the 2025 Wharf Rat Rally, and has had many calls from residents regarding roads and housing.

**Councillor Ross** gave an update to Council on various district activities such as attending the farewell BBQ for Jeff Sunderland, the Bear River Fire Department community breakfast, the food bank drive for Smith's Cove Fire Department, a virtual information session for the new Code of Conduct, the Southwest African Heritage Month Gala, the Municipality of Digby Strategic Planning sessions with Gordon McIntosh, the Smith's Cove community coffee, and the Bear River community kitchen meeting.

**Councillor Manzer** gave an update to Council on various district activities such as attending the Public Hearing for the Development Agreement for Porter's Lane, a virtual information session for the new Code of Conduct, regular monthly committee meetings, the Southwest African Heritage Month Gala, the Municipality of Digby Strategic Planning sessions with Gordon McIntosh, met with MLA Jill Balsler to discuss roads, Highway 101 and other issues, and has been in contact with Todd Amero with the Department of Public Works in regards to back road conditions.

**Councillor Scherer** gave an update to Council on various district activities such as attending a webinar on the road transportation fund, a Digby Fire Association meeting, a Healthcare on the Islands stakeholder phone call, met with residents in Centreville in regards to concerns with rats, and launched a survey about roads which he received great feedback and forwarded the information to Tony Harvey. Councillor Scherer is also working with the Villages and MLA Jill Balsler to get a sports facility on the Islands.

**Warden Gregory** gave an update to Council on various district activities such as attending the farewell BBQ for Jeff Sunderland, an orientation workshop for regional chairs, a virtual information session for the new Code of Conduct, a presentation for Net-Zero Atlantic, FCM's Sustainable Communities Conference in Fredericton, a meeting with the "Ocean's 11" group, the Southwest African Heritage Month Gala, a zoom meeting regarding local climate change governance, the Municipality of Digby Strategic Planning sessions with Gordon McIntosh, the King Charles III Coronation Medal Ceremony, and has been helping residents with road concerns and food security.

Warden Gregory provided a brief summary of the day-by-day activities at the FCM's Sustainable Communities Conference in Fredericton. She was able to meet with the FCM Green Fund staff with Terry Thibodeau and with TRANE Technologies to discuss converting the Digby rink to greener initiatives and will share with DARC.

**IN CAMERA ITEMS:** None

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION #C2025-02-25-10**

**It was regularly moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 5:44pm.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

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**Warden Gregory**

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**Tyler Pulley, Chief Administrative Officer**