



**Council Minutes
Council Chambers
September 23, 2025**

1. IN ATTENDANCE: Warden Linda Gregory, Councillor Joan Ross, and Councillor Peter Scherer

STAFF PRESENT: Tyler Pulley, CAO, and Taylor Robinson, Executive Assistant, who took the minutes of the meeting.

REGRETS: Deputy Warden Matthew Ross, Councillor George Manzer, and Cora Lee Ross, Director of Finance

CALL TO ORDER: Warden Gregory called the September 23, 2025 Council meeting of the Municipality of the District of Digby to order at 5:08pm.

PAUSE TO SEEK GUIDANCE: Warden Gregory welcomed everyone and asked to pause to seek guidance. Councillor Ross read the Municipality of Digby's Mission Statement.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROCEDURAL ISSUES

2.1 Approval of Agenda-Additions/Deletions

MOTION #C2025-09-23-01

It was regularly moved and seconded that the agenda for September 23, 2025 be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

2.2 Disclosure of Conflict of Interest Issues: None

2.3 Delegations/Presentations: None

2.4 Approval of Minutes:

MOTION #C2025-09-23-02

It was regularly moved and seconded that the minutes from July 22, 2025 be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

2.5 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 2025-2026

Council reviewed the update on the capital projects.

d) Financial Report

i) Income & Expense Reports

The July and August 2025 Income & Expense reports were reviewed.

MOTION #C2025-09-23-03

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council approve the July & August 2025 Income & Expense reports.

MOTION CARRIED

3. STANDING COMMITTEE ITEMS

By-Law & Policy Recommendations

- 1) Digby & Area Foodbank – Community Grant Application

MOTION #C2025-09-23-04

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council approve the Digby & Area Foodbank’s community grant application in the amount of \$2,000.

MOTION CARRIED

- 2) Sewer Rates

MOTION #C2025-09-23-05

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council start the process of increasing sewer rates including a raise in the frontage fee to \$150 and unit rate to \$300, and the implementation of a new connection fee of \$150.

MOTION CARRIED

- 3) Foster for Cats Funding

MOTION #C2025-09-23-06

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council approve the Foster for Cats request for additional operational funding in the amount of \$2,000.

MOTION CARRIED

Committee of the Whole Recommendations

- 4) FCM - Community Risk Assessment

MOTION #C2025-09-23-07

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council submit an application for the FCM - Community Risk Assessment.

MOTION CARRIED

- 5) Highway 101

MOTION #C2025-09-23-08

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council write a letter to MLAs and municipal units from Annapolis through to Argyle, inviting them to participate in the reestablishment of the Highway 101 Taskforce and copy MLA Jill Balsler, Minister Fred Tilley, and MP Chris d’Entremont.

MOTION CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ITEMS

- 4.1 Property Tax Exemption Request (AAN #00061247)

CAO Pulley noted that the Plympton Fire Department obtained the adjacent piece of property to their station and are requesting that it also be tax exempted. Councillor Scherer requested that there could be a process to routinely check the properties on this by-law to make sure they are meeting the requirements.

MOTION #C2025-09-23-09

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council approve adding property #00061247 (7206 Hwy 101, Plympton) under the Property Tax Exemption By-Law.

MOTION CARRIED

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

- 5.1 Correspondence

- a) Response from Min Tilley Re: Deteriorating Signage
Reviewed and noted.

- 5.2 Councillor District Activity Report

Councillor Ross gave an update to Council on various district activities such as attending the regular council and committee meetings, the Smith’s Cove Coffeetime each

Thursday (this is now on hold for the month of September and will be starting again back at the fire hall in November), the Fisherman's Memorial Park Ceremony, the Night Markets and Seniors Day at the Bear River Health Centre each month and was present for the First Anniversary on August 13th, continue to participate in the Bear River and Smith Cove Fire Department Breakfasts, Community Soup Kitchen, attended the Electric City Open House in Weymouth, where Jill Balser announced \$60,000 in funding from the NS Provincial Government for the new Interpretive Centre, went to the JACBA Emancipation Tea in Digby, volunteered at the Digby Scallop Days, attended the Church service at Saint Matthews Anglican church in Weymouth Falls and took part in the Heritage Plaque presentation, attended the DASA Awards Banquet, attended the fund raiser event for Firefighter Nigel Gunn, participated in the Wharf Rat Rally, and met with a couple of residents from Ridge Road with concerns about speed and safety.

Councillor Ross is also helping Smiths Cove Historical Society with the planning of a Potluck Dinner at the Firehall following the Tree Lighting in December and also working with both the Fire Dept. and the Historical Society as they plan to make GOOD TIMES Day an all day event again. They are going to reschedule to the second Saturday in July as Lobster Bash is now the first weekend.

Councillor Scherer gave an update to Council on various district activities such as attending an informal gathering to see Freeport Fire Department's new truck, the monthly healthcare on the Islands phone call, the Westport visit with Minister Fred Tilley, met with a group to discuss municipal budget/allocation of tax dollars (they have scheduled a follow-up meeting on October 17th), and had discussions for a municipal well program with residents and shared grant opportunities with local groups to find extra funding. It was also noted that the "Discount Food Enterprise" has secured funding to use a property in Little River as a distribution center and community space, and Councillor Scherer would like Council to write a letter of support in the future for the organization.

Warden Gregory gave an update to Council on various district activities such as attending the regular council and committee meetings, virtual meetings and training sessions, the JACBA Emancipation and Ceremony Tea, the Bear River Fire Dept. breakfasts, the Weymouth fundraising teas, the Fisherman's Memorial Park Ceremony, volunteered at Scallops Days and Wharf Rat Rally, the Atlantic Chapter Kick-Off meeting. Warden Gregory asked Council to write a thank you letter to the fire departments acknowledging all the selfless work they do year-round and especially for the Long Lake Wildfire.

MOTION #C2025-09-23-10

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council send a letter to all 11 fire departments acknowledging their hard work and thanking them for their services during the Long Lake Wildfire.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION #C2025-09-23-11

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council move into in-camera at 5:37pm to discuss a legal and contractual matter.

MOTION CARRIED

6. IN CAMERA ITEMS:

- 6.1 Legal
- 6.2 Contractual

Council resumed regular session at 5:52pm.

MOTION #C2025-09-23-12

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council submit the J-Class Road list to the province as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

7. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #C2025-09-23-13

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

MOTION CARRIED

Linda Gregory, Warden

Tyler Pulley, Chief Administrative Officer