



**Council Minutes
Council Chambers
January 27, 2026**

- 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, Director of Finance, and Taylor Robinson, Executive Assistant, who took the minutes of the meeting.

REGRETS: None

CALL TO ORDER: Warden Gregory called the January 27, 2026 Council meeting of the Municipality of the District of Digby to order at 5:00pm.

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

2. ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROCEDURAL ISSUES

2.1 Approval of Agenda-Additions/Deletions

- Deletion under 2.3 Delegations/Presentations a) Basic Income Guarantee, Roger Tatlock

MOTION #C2026-01-27-01

It was regularly moved and seconded that the agenda for January 27, 2026 be approved as amended.

MOTION CARRIED

2.2 Disclosure of Conflict-of-Interest Issues

Deputy Warden Ross and Cora Lee Ross, Director of Finance, declared a conflict of interest for business item 4.3 Digby East Fish & Game Letter of Support Request.

2.3 Delegations/Presentations: None

2.4 Approval of Minutes: Council November 25, 2025

MOTION #C2026-01-27-02

It was regularly moved and seconded that the minutes from November 25, 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 November & December 2025 Income & Expense reports were reviewed.

MOTION #C2026-01-27-03

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

MOTION CARRIED

3. STANDING COMMITTEE ITEMS

By-Law & Policy Recommendations

- 1) Emergency Management By-Law #2026-01

MOTION #C2026-01-27-04

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council approve first reading of the Emergency Management By-Law #2026-01 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

- 2) Tax Exemption By-Law #2002-02 (4 motions)

MOTION #C2026-01-27-05

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council approve the addition of property #03392384 (16 Back Street, Weymouth) under the Property Tax Exemption By-Law #2002-02.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION #C2026-01-27-06

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council approve the name change of property #10592781 from Weymouth Falls Community Centre to Langford Heritage Community Council under the Property Tax Exemption By-Law #2002-02.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION #C2026-01-27-07

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council approve the name change of property #10592798 from Weymouth Falls Community Centre to Langford Heritage Community Council under the Property Tax Exemption By-Law #2002-02.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION #C2026-01-27-08

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council approve the first reading of the Property Tax Exemption By-Law #2002-02 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

- 3) Coastline Policy #COM-1500-06

MOTION #C2026-01-27-09

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council approve the amended Coastline Policy #COM-1500-06.

MOTION CARRIED

- 4) Free Ridership for Special Events Policy #AD-1000-13

MOTION #C2026-01-27-10

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council approve the amended Free Ridership for Special Events Policy #AD-1000-13.

MOTION CARRIED

- 5) Computer Purchase Program Policy #AD-1000-03

MOTION #C2026-01-27-11

It was regularly moved and seconded to that Council repeal the Computer Purchase Program Policy #AD-1000-03.

MOTION CARRIED

- 6) Health and Wellness Policy #HW-3000-01

MOTION #C2026-01-27-12

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council approve the amended Health and Wellness Policy #HW-3000-01.

MOTION CARRIED

- 7) Meeting Room Bookings Policy #MP-4500-04

MOTION #C2026-01-27-13

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council approve the amended Meeting Room Bookings Policy #MP-4500-04.

MOTION CARRIED

- 8) Bear River Board of Trade Funding Request

MOTION #C2026-01-27-14

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council write a letter to the Bear River Board of Trade to let them know that there are insufficient funds in the budget to fund the water stabilization study project this fiscal year and request additional information regarding the project permissions for future consideration.

MOTION CARRIED

- 9) Airport Fuel

MOTION #C2026-01-27-15

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council agree to decommission the airport fuel services at the Digby Municipal Airport.

MOTION CARRIED

- 10) PVSC - New Builds from Natural Disasters

MOTION #C2026-01-27-16

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council send the topic of New Builds from Natural Disasters to the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM) for consideration on their agenda at the upcoming NSFM Spring Conference.

MOTION CARRIED

Committee of the Whole Recommendations

- 11) African History Month Proclamation Event

MOTION #C2026-01-27-17

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council agree to host and coordinate the African Heritage Month Proclamation event at the Jordantown-Acaciaville-Conway Centre of Excellence.

MOTION CARRIED

- 12) African Heritage Month Gala

MOTION #C2026-01-27-18

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council participate in the African Heritage Month Gala by purchasing a table, as discussed, and that Council members and staff attend as available.

MOTION CARRIED

- 13) Congratulatory Letter to Jessica Pulley

MOTION #C2026-01-27-19

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council agree to send a congratulatory letter to Jessica Pulley as the new CEO at Tideview Terrace.

MOTION CARRIED

14) Fire Services & REMO Coordinator

MOTION #C2026-01-27-20

It was regularly moved and seconded make the Fire Services & REMO Coordinator a permanent position.

MOTION CARRIED

Planning Advisory Committee Recommendations

15) Riparian Setback

MOTION #C2026-01-27-21

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council approve the first reading of the five (5) meter riparian setback in the Land Use By-law as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

16) Wind Turbine Amendments

MOTION #C2026-01-27-22

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council approve the first reading of the Wind Turbine amendments as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

17) Land-Use Bylaws Amendments – Recreational Vehicles

CAO Pulley & Director of Municipal Services Christopher Kingston spoke on the proposed Land-Use By-law Amendments. It was shared that staff is not ready to implement and enforce these plans, they will need time to find out more details.

MOTION #C2026-01-27-23

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council respond to the Planning Advisory Committee regarding the concerns with the proposed land-use by-law amendments for recreational vehicles.

MOTION CARRIED

18) Mount Pleasant Map

MOTION #C2026-01-27-24

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council approve the first reading to update the Mount Pleasant Map as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

Council quickly discussed setting a date for a public meeting for the Wind Turbine Amendments and Mount Pleasant Map. It was settled that the meeting date will be February 24, 2026.

4. BUSINESS ITEMS

4.1 Fire Inspector

CAO Pulley advised that Cory Rice is currently completing training for his Level 1 Building Inspector certification. In the meantime, Chris Thibodeau is confident in Cory's ability to independently carry out fire inspections. Council agreed to appoint Cory Rice as a Fire Inspector for the Municipality of Digby.

MOTION #C2026-01-27-25

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council appoint Cory Rice as a Fire Inspector for the Municipality of Digby.

MOTION CARRIED

4.2 Request to Council - Fire Reduction AAN 01122797

Council reviewed the request for a property tax reduction at 8822 Highway 101, Brighton due to fire damage.

MOTION #C2026-01-27-26

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council provide a property tax reduction for 8822 Highway 101, Brighton (AAN 01122797) due to fire damage.

MOTION CARRIED

Deputy Warden Ross & Cora Lee Ross, Director of Finance, left Council Chambers at 5:31pm due to a conflict of interest.

4.3 Digby East Fish & Game Letter of Support Request

Council reviewed the request from the Digby East Fish & Game for a letter of support for their barrier free washroom grant. Council quickly discussed and agreed to provide a letter.

MOTION #C2026-01-27-27

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council write a letter of support for the Digby East Fish & Game for their application to create a barrier free washroom.

MOTION CARRIED

Deputy Warden Ross & Cora Lee Ross, Director of Finance, returned at 5:33pm.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

5.1 Correspondence

a) Response from the MLAs Re: Highway 101 Taskforce

Reviewed and noted. CAO Pulley noted that there are only a couple units that have not responded. Staff will be following up and will start to organize the first meeting.

5.2 Councillor District Activity Report

Deputy Warden Ross gave an update to Council on various district activities such as attending the Digby Elementary School Breakfast with Santa, a meeting with MP Chris d'Entremont, the Gates Lane Bridge Reopening, assistant the Digby East Fish & Game with an accessibility grant, and helping residents with road, property assessment, and garbage issues.

Councillor Ross gave an update to Council on various district activities such as attending the regular council and committee meetings, several local craft shows, plays and tree lightings leading up to Christmas, the Smith's Cove Coffeetime at the firehall each Thursday morning, the Bear River Fire Dept. breakfasts, took part in the IPAC new professional webinar offered through NSF, volunteers for the Community Soup Kitchen, met with the Smith's Cove Fire Department Chief to discuss concerns, the New Year's Eve Levy, the Bear River Seniors Safety session with Dawn Thomas, and continues to work on the DATA bylaws. Councillor Ross also noted that she has been working with residents regarding culvert and road concerns.

Councillor Manzer gave an update to Council on various district activities such as attending the Tideview candlelight dinner, a Christmas play organized by Hal Theriault, the Municipal Christmas Party at the Digby Pines, a meeting with the Westport Library, the Electric City grant announcement, a meeting with MP Chris d'Entremont, the Gates Lane Bridge Reopening, the Southville Fire Department Dinner, and the opening of the Jordantown-Acaciaville-Conway Centre of Excellence.

Councillor Scherer gave an update to Council on various district activities such as working with the Live Well Community Church to establish a discount food market, continues to work with residents regarding the budget and village commission rates, has spoken with Roger Tatlock about the Guaranteed Basic Income, visited the Westport Library with Councillor Manzer, and attended a meeting with MP Chris d'Entremont.

Warden Gregory gave an update to Council on various district activities such as attending the Municipal Christmas Party at the Digby Pines, the Digby Ground Search & Rescue Awards Dinner, the opening of the Jordantown-Acaciaville-Conway Centre of Excellence, the Gates Lane Bridge Reopening, the Bear River Fire Department breakfasts, a Christmas Tea, DARC Senior Day, the NS Power Customer Billing Support session in Digby, the New Years Eve Levy, and assisting residents with road concerns.

MOTION #C2026-01-27-25

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council move into in-camera at 5:52pm to discuss a personnel and contractual matter.

MOTION CARRIED

6. IN CAMERA ITEMS:

- 6.1 Contractual
- 6.2 Personnel

Council resumed regular session at 6:06pm.

7. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #C2026-01-27-26

It was regularly moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 6:06pm.

MOTION CARRIED

Linda Gregory, Warden

Tyler Pulley, Chief Administrative Officer