



**Council Minutes  
Council Chambers  
February 24, 2026**

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

**STAFF PRESENT:** Cora Lee Ross, Director of Finance, Christopher Kingston, Director of Municipal Services, and Taylor Robinson, Executive Assistant, who took the minutes of the meeting

**REGRETS:** Tyler Pulley, CAO

**CALL TO ORDER:** Warden Gregory called the February 24, 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 Councillor Manzer read the Municipality of Digby's Mission Statement.

**2. ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROCEDURAL ISSUES**

**2.1 Approval of Agenda-Additions/Deletions**

**MOTION #C2026-02-24-01**

**It was regularly moved and seconded that the agenda for February 24, 2026 be approved as presented.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**2.2 Disclosure of Conflict-of-Interest Issues: None**

**2.3 Delegations/Presentations: None**

**2.4 Approval of Minutes: Council January 27, 2026**

**MOTION #C2026-02-24-02**

**It was regularly moved and seconded that the minutes from January 27, 2026 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 January 2026 Income & Expense reports were reviewed.

**MOTION #C2026-02-24-03**

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council approve the January 2026 Income & Expense reports.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**3. STANDING COMMITTEE ITEMS**

**By-Law & Policy Recommendations**

- 1) Digby Harbour Port Association Funding Request

**MOTION #C2026-02-24-04**

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council provide financial support in the amount of \$50,000 over two years (\$25,000 per year) to the Digby Harbour Port Association.

**MOTION CARRIED**

- 2) Digby & Area Health Services Charitable Foundation Funding Request

**MOTION #C2026-02-24-05**

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council approve the Digby & Area Health Services Charitable Foundation funding request for a 3-year commitment.

**MOTION CARRIED**

- 3) Salary Scales 2026-27

**MOTION #C2026-02-24-06**

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council approve the salary scales for 2026-27 as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Committee of the Whole Recommendations**

- 4) Harvest of Hope Food Pantry – Community Grant Request

**MOTION #C2026-02-24-07**

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council approve the Harvest of Hope Food Pantry community grant request in the amount of \$2,500.

**MOTION CARRIED**

- 5) Digby Home & Lifestyle Expo

**MOTION #C2026-02-24-08**

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council purchase a booth in the amount of \$295 for the 2026 Digby Home & Lifestyle Expo.

**MOTION CARRIED**

- 6) Brinleytown Cemetery

**MOTION #C2026-02-24-09**

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council send a response to Maureen Turner regarding her request for a monument at Brinleytown Cemetery, advising her to contact the cemetery owner.

**MOTION CARRIED**

- 7) DARC Letter of Support

**MOTION #C2026-02-24-10**

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council write a letter of support for the Digby Area Recreation Commission's grant application for an accessible playground space.

**MOTION CARRIED**

- 8) Congratulatory Letter to Aaron Kelly

**MOTION #C2026-02-24-11**

**It was regularly moved and seconded that Council write a congratulatory letter to Aaron Kelly for his promotion as Manager at Doane Grant Thornton Digby.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

- 9) Congratulatory Letter to Commanding Officer Dennis Daley

**MOTION #C2026-02-24-12**

**It was regularly moved and seconded that Council write a letter to thank Commanding Officer Dennis Daley for his 38 years of service to the RCMP and congratulate him on his upcoming retirement.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**4. BUSINESS ITEMS**

4.1 Sewer By-Law

Christopher Kingston, Director of Municipal Services, explained that the amended by-law reflects the agreed upon changes to the sewer rates that were discussed in September. These changes include a raise in the frontage fee to \$150 and unit rate to \$300, and implementing a new connection fee of \$150.

**MOTION #C2026-02-24-13**

**It was regularly moved and seconded that Council approve the first reading of the amended Sewer By-Law #2007-01.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

4.2 Fees Policy

Christopher Kingston, Director of Municipal Services, noted that the Fees Policy has to be amended as well to reflect the sewer fees.

**MOTION #C2026-02-24-14**

**It was regularly moved and seconded that Council approve the amended Fees Policy #FIN-2500-14 as presented.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

4.3 Grant for Feasibility Study for Recreation Center

Council agreed to support the grant application to apply for a feasibility study for the Digby Area Recreation Centre.

**MOTION #C2026-02-24-15**

**It was regularly moved and seconded that Council support DARC's application to apply for a feasibility study for the Digby Area Recreation Centre.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

4.4 Emergency Management By-Law #2026-01

**MOTION #C2026-02-24-16**

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

4.5 Tax Exemption By-Law #2002-02

**MOTION #C2026-02-24-17**

**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 #C2026-02-24-18**

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 #C2026-02-24-19**

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 #C2026-02-24-20**

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

4.6 Riparian Setback

**MOTION #C2026-02-24-21**

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

4.7 Wind Turbine Amendments

**MOTION #C2026-02-24-22**

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

4.8 Mount Pleasant Map

**MOTION #C2026-02-24-23**

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

**5. INFORMATION ITEMS**

5.1 Correspondence

a) Completion of Contract - Dr. Prince Dan-Jumbo

Warden Gregory suggested that Council write a thank you letter to Dr. Dan-Jumbo for his 3 years of service in the community. Council agreed.

**MOTION #C2026-02-24-24**

It was regularly moved and seconded that Council write a thank you letter to Dr. Dan-Jumbo for his dedicated service to the residents of the Digby area over the past three years.

**MOTION CARRIED**

5.2 Councillor District Activity Report

**Councillor Scherer** gave an update to Council on various district activities such as assisting with the food enterprise project and partaking in a workshop for business modelling, listening to residents' concerns for Acacia Valley and the open salmon farm pens application, attending the Freeport Commission meeting to decide their future which concluded with lowering the village rate slightly to help costs to residents, supporting a constituent with a dangerous and unsightly premises, attended the Fire Services Modernization virtual meeting, spoke with a woman from Switzerland who is interested in doing a tidal study in the area, and spoke with the individual who has been putting "slow down" signs in Sandy Cove which will be removed as soon as possible, if not already.

**Councillor Manzer** gave an update to Council on various district activities such as attending the Joint Council meeting, the African Heritage Month Gala, and has been dealing with a homelessness issue in Weymouth.

**Councillor Ross** gave an update to Council on various district activities such as attending the regular council and committee meetings, the African Heritage Month Proclamation, the African Heritage Month Gala, the Fire Services Modernization virtual meeting, the Digby Harbour Port Association funding announcement for \$600,000 from the Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund, and the firehall coffeetime each Thursday. She will be attending a public meeting in Cornwallis tomorrow regarding the Annapolis County Land-Use Bylaw in Cornwallis Park with the intent of setting up a Bear River Fire Dept. sub-station.

Councillor Ross also noted that she has received calls from a few residents that were concerned by the tone of the NS Health Care postcard sent this month, as well as lack of pet owner responsibility and the considerable amount of dog feces along the railbed trail.

**Deputy Warden Ross** gave an update to Council on various district activities such as attending the African Heritage Month Proclamation, the African Heritage Month Gala, the Digby Harbour Port Association funding announcement for \$600,000 from the Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund, the Wharf Rat Rally AGM, the Joint Council Meeting, the Fire Services Modernization virtual meeting, and has been helping residents with NS power bills and concerns with the emergency room closures.

**Warden Gregory** gave an update to Council on various district activities such as attending the African Heritage Month Proclamation, the African Heritage Month Gala, the Digby Harbour Port Association funding announcement for \$600,000 from the Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund, the Town of Digby public transit consultation, the Bear River Fire Department breakfast, the Joint Council meeting, the Fire Services Modernization virtual meeting, and has been continuing to hear concerns about the emergency department closures.

6. **IN CAMERA ITEMS:** None

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION #C2026-02-24-25**

**It was regularly moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 5:37pm.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

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Linda Gregory, Warden

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Christopher Kingston, Director of Municipal Services