

**Amherst Town Council
Committee of the Whole
Minutes**

Date: November 18, 2024
Time: 4:00 pm
Location: Council Chambers, Town Hall

Members Present
Mayor Rob Small
Councillor Charlie Chambers
Councillor Hal Davidson
Councillor Nic Furlong
Councillor Terry McManaman
Councillor Dwayne Ripley
Councillor Kathy Wells

Staff Present
Jason MacDonald, Chief Administrative Officer
Aaron Bourgeois, Director, Operations
Andrew Fisher, Director, Planning & Strategic Initiatives
Dwayne Pike, Chief, Police Services
Greg Jones, Director, Fire Services
Kim Jones, Director, Corporate Communications
Krista Crossman, Director, Human Resources
Sarah Wilson, Director, Finance
Sharon Bristol, Director, Community Living
Sean Payne, Corporate Communications Officer
Torben Laux, Planner
Jeff Bacon, Business Development Officer
Natalie LeBlanc, Municipal Clerk
Cindy Brown, Administrative Assistant

1. Call to Order

Mayor Small called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

1.1 Territorial Acknowledgement

Mayor Small gave the Territorial Acknowledgement.

1.2 Approval of Agenda

Moved By Councillor Furlong

Seconded By Councillor Wells

That the agenda be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

1.3 Approval of the Consent Agenda

Moved By Councillor Davidson

Seconded By Councillor Chambers

To approve the consent agenda as included in the agenda package.

MOTION CARRIED

1.4 Acceptance of Minutes

1.4.1 September 16, 2024

Mayor Small called for any errors or omissions in the minutes. There being none, the minutes of the September 16, 2024 meeting of the Committee of the Whole were accepted as included in the agenda package.

2. Council Direction Requests

2.1 Code of Conduct for Elected Municipal Officials

Moved By Councillor Chambers

Seconded By Councillor Ripley

That Council forward to the November 25, 2024 regular meeting, approval of Code of Conduct for Elected Municipal Officials Policy and further repeal the former policy #10350-20 Code of Conduct.

MOTION CARRIED

2.2 Vision, Mission and Guiding Principles

Moved By Councillor Chambers

Seconded By Councillor McManaman

That the Committee of the Whole confirm the Vision, Mission and Guiding Principles in advance of the upcoming strategic priority setting sessions.

MOTION CARRIED

2.3 Signing Authority

Moved By Councillor Chambers

Seconded By Councillor Furlong

That Council forward to the November 28, 2024 regular meeting, the appointment of a Councillor to be the Designated Councillor for signing cheques, bank documents, etc.

MOTION CARRIED

2.4 Christie Foundation Donation

Moved By Councillor Davidson

Seconded By Councillor Wells

That Council forward to the November 25, 2024 regular meeting, approval of the request to receive a donation of \$60,000 from the Dr. & Mrs. H.E. Christie Community Foundation to fund a corresponding grant of \$60,000 to the Amherst Little League.

MOTION CARRIED

2.5 Proclamation Request

Moved By Councillor McManaman

Seconded By Councillor Chambers

That the application to declare December as Christian Heritage Month not be approved as it promotes a specific religious ideology.

MOTION CARRIED

2.6 Request for Dedicated Space

Information item only; no direction given or action required.

2.7 Fireworks

Moved By Councillor Davidson

Seconded By Councillor Furlong

That staff be directed to investigate a lower decibel firework as an alternative to traditional fireworks, as well as an appropriate location, and further to support an active event for the community for New Year's Eve.

Against (2): Councillor Chambers, and Councillor Ripley

MOTION CARRIED

2.8 Havelock/Victoria/LaPlanche Street Intersection

Information item only; no further direction given at this time.

3. Information Items

Moved By Councillor Davidson

Seconded By Councillor Chambers

That the following information items be approved as part of the consent agenda:

3.1 Strategic Priorities Update

3.2 Dangerous and Unsightly Premises Semi-Annual Report

3.3 Policy and Bylaw Review

3.4 CAO Task Report

MOTION CARRIED

4. Monthly Reports

Moved By Councillor Davidson

Seconded By Councillor Chambers

That the following monthly departmental reports be approved as part of the consent agenda:

4.1 Business Development Monthly Report

4.2 Community Living Monthly Report

4.3 Corporate Communications and IT Monthly Report

4.4 Cumberland Business Connector Monthly Report

4.5 Financial Services Monthly Report

4.6 Fire Services Monthly Report

4.7 Human Resources Monthly Report

4.8 Operations Monthly Report

4.9 Planning and Strategic Initiatives Monthly Report

4.10 Police Services Monthly Report

4.11 Solid Waste Education and Enforcement Monthly Report

MOTION CARRIED

5. Closed Session

Moved By Councillor Davidson

Seconded By Councillor Wells

That the Committee move to a Closed Session.

MOTION CARRIED

6. Adjournment

There being no further business, Mayor Small adjourned the meeting.