

**Minutes of a Special Meeting of Amherst Town Council  
Held at the Amherst Fire Hall  
Monday, November 3, 2008 at 7:00 PM**

**PRESENT:** Mayor-Elect Rob Small  
Councillor-Elect Robert Angel  
Councillor-Elect George Baker  
Councillor-Elect Dale Fawthrop  
Councillor-Elect David March  
Councillor-Elect Terry Rhindress  
Greg Herrett, CAO  
Rebecca Purdy, Executive Assistant

**REGRETS:** Councillor-Elect Robert Bird

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

A procession of the newly elected council filed into the room, led by bagpiper Jim Lowerison, Town Crier Gerald Randall, an honour guard of two police officers and two fire fighters. The CAO Greg Herrett welcomed everyone called the meeting to order.

**2. O CANADA** performed by ARHS student Aleena Dwyer

**3. TOWN CRIER, GERALD RANDALL**

*It is my pleasure to welcome you this evening to the official swearing in ceremonies of the newly elected mayor and members of the Amherst town Council.*

*As councilors facing four years in office you have a challenging task, that being the need to keep the momentum that was created in preceding years going strongly, while at the same time remaining sensitive to the emerging needs of this dynamic community. The citizens of Amherst thank you for your commitment to making Amherst a better place in which to live, and wish you well in your endeavour.*

*God bless each of you and the work you do! God bless Amherst and those who love, work and play here! God bless a free and united Canada! God save the Queen!*

**4. OPENING PRAYER** by Police Chaplain, Rev. David Myles

**5. REPORT OF THE RETURNING OFFICER**

The CAO advised that the Returning Officer, Kimberlee Jones, had filed her official report on the individual candidates for the civic elections held on October 18, 2008, as follows:

Please find attached the Final Recapitulation Sheet for the Municipal Election held on Saturday, October 18, 2008.

In accordance with Section 129 (1) of the Municipal Elections Act, for a four (4) year term of office, I declare the following elected having received the largest number of votes cast:

For the Office of Mayor: Rob Small

For the Council (6 positions): Robert Angel,  
George Baker  
Robert Bird  
Dale Fawthrop  
Dave March  
Terry Rhindress

## 6. OATHS OF OFFICE

As Justice of the Peace in and for the Province of Nova Scotia, Greg Herrett administered the Oaths of Office to the new Mayor and Council. Each of the duly elected councilors was called forth in alphabetical order to swear their Oath of Office and take a seat on the stage. Mayor-Elect Rob Small was then called forth, took his Oath of Office and was presented with the Mayor's Chain of Office by outgoing Mayor Jerry Hallee.

From this point on, Mayor Small chaired the meeting.

## 7. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR

Mayor Small called for nominations to the Office of Deputy Mayor.

Councillor Robert Angel was nominated by Councillor David March.  
Councillor George Baker was nominated by Councillor Terry Rhindress.

Town of Amherst Policy 10350-16 Office of Deputy Mayor dictates that when there are more than one nominee, Council shall vote by secret ballot. The CAO distributed ballots to members of Council and upon tabulating the votes, declared a tie between the two nominees at three votes each.

**Moved by Councillor Fawthrop, seconded by Councillor Rhindress that the appointment of Deputy Mayor be tabled to the meeting of November 24, 2008 due to a tie vote and the absence of one of the members of Council (Robert Bird).**

**MOTION CARRIED**

## 8. COMMENTS BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Councillor Angel said he was pleased to be given the opportunity to serve a third term, that it had been an interesting experience and he enjoyed working with Council and staff. He felt it was a wonderful team that had vision. He said he would continue to do what was in the best interest of Amherst.

Councilor Baker asked for a moment of silence to honour Kim Wry who has passed away. He recognized Ed Chitty for his 17 years on Council. He thanked all the candidates who had run in the election, and thanked Amherst for this opportunity to serve his fourth term. He said Council and staff had always worked as a team, and that he would continue to work hard for Amherst. He thanked Jerry Hallee for his service to the Town as mayor, and encouraged others to continue to put their names forward in future elections.

Councillor Fawthrop acknowledged the electorate and thanked them for casting their ballots. Having served 11 years on Council, he said that Mayor and Council had worked hard to bring about improvements, and that the employees carried out the work directed by Council. Specifically, he recognized Ron Patterson who recently retired as Town Engineer, and acknowledged his work on the Tyndal Wellfield which supplies excellent quality water to the Town, stating that there is a town of our size in Ontario that is facing \$38 million to supply their citizens with clean drinking water. He raised a glass of water as a toast to Ron.

Councillor March extended a special thank you to his family, who were unable to be here this evening. He thanked the Mayor, staff and citizens for their support, and acknowledged the presence of a number of candidates in the audience.

Councillor Rhindress expressed his appreciation to the electorate for re-electing him to a third term, and acknowledged the support of his wife, Linda. He thanked Mayor Hallee for his work as Mayor and said that Council had worked well together in the past, and he sees that continuing for the next four years.

**9. COMMENTS BY MAYOR SMALL**

Mayor Small thanked all the Councillors and said it was good to hear that there is such a strong sense of teamwork. He thanked all those present who participated in this evening ceremony. He commented on the 'momentum' referred to in the Town Crier's speech, and said that he is going to work very hard to keep that momentum going. He said his approach is positive, and that he believes in building up, not tearing down. He commented on the issues that people spoke to him about during his campaign, such things as the need for a skateboard park, appropriate housing, etc. He will be meeting with Council to determine the priorities for the Town and get moving on them. His focus is development, improvement, increasing the tax base and encouraging youth to stay. He encouraged citizens to stay involved .

**On motion by Councillor Angel , the meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM**

**APPROVED:**

Gregory D. Herrett, CA  
Chief Administrative Officer

Rob Small  
Mayor