

**Minutes of a Regular Meeting of Amherst Town Council  
Held in Council Chambers  
Monday, December 21, 2009 at 3:00 PM**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Rob Small  
Deputy Mayor Terry Rhindress  
Councillor Robert Angel  
Councillor George Baker  
Councillor Robert Bird  
Councillor Dale Fawthrop  
Councillor David March  
Greg Herrett, CAO

**ATTENDING:** Vince Arbing, Treasurer  
Jason MacDonald, Director of Planning and Engineering  
Roger MacIsaac, Director of Community and Economic Development  
Ben Pitman, Director of Transportation and Public Works  
Bill Crossman, Fire Chief  
Kim Jones, Executive Assistant  
Rebecca Purdy, Executive Assistant

**1. O CANADA**

**2. HEARINGS / PETITIONS / PRESENTATIONS**

**3. CALL TO ORDER**

**3.1 Additions to Agenda**

**3.2 Approval of Agenda**

**M-0912-01**

**Moved by Councillor Baker, seconded by Councillor March to approve the agenda as circulated.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**3.3 Approval of Minutes**

**M-0912-02**

**Moved by Deputy Mayor Rhindress, seconded by Councillor March to approve the minutes of the November 30, 2009 regular meeting as circulated.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**4. REQUESTS FOR DECISION**

**4.1 By-Law at 2nd<sup>t</sup> Reading: Deed Transfer Tax, RFD#2009106**

**M-0912-03**

**Moved by Councillor March, seconded by Councillor Fawthrop that Council approve 2nd<sup>t</sup> Reading and enactment of a revised Deed Transfer Tax By-Law, B-2, which repeals and replaces the existing by-law as enacted in 1989 and amended in 2009.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Town of Amherst - Deed Transfer Tax By-law**

1. This By-law shall be known as the Deed Transfer Tax By-law.
2. A deed transfer tax shall apply to the Town of Amherst.
3. The amount of the deed transfer tax shall be the sum of one and one-quarter percent (1.25%) of the sale price or value of the property effective August 1, 2009.
4. Part V, "Deed Transfers" and Section 3 (Interpretations) of **Municipal Government Act**, Stats. N.S. 1998, chapter 18, shall apply to deed transfers.
5. For the purposes of this By-law, "persons married to one another" shall include those persons who have entered into a domestic partnership declaration and have registered such declaration in accordance with Part II of the Vital Statistics Act R.S.N.S., Chapter 494.
6. The Registrar of Deeds shall be the agent and collector of the deed transfer tax for the Town of Amherst.
7. Attached is **Schedule A Deed Transfer – Affidavit of Value** which will form a part of this by-law.
8. The Municipal Deed Transfer Tax By-law as amended passed by the Town Council of the Town of Amherst on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of March 1989: Amended May 28, 2009, is hereby repealed in its entirety.

- 4.2 **By-Law at 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Amend Land Use By-Law - Sign Area RFD#2009107 M-0912-04**  
 Moved by Councillor March, seconded by Councillor Bird that Council not give first reading to an amendment to the Land Use Bylaw in order to remove the maximum square footage for advertising signage on a commercial building within the Town, as recommended by the Town's Planning Advisory Committee.

MOTION CARRIED

- 4.3 **Tender: Fuel, RFD#2009109 M-0912-05**  
 Moved by Deputy Mayor Rhindress, seconded by Councillor Fawthrop that Council award the tender for fuel oil products for a two year period commencing December 21, 2009 to Superline Fuels at their low tender bid of \$0.04 supplier margin per litre.

MOTION CARRIED

- 4.4 **Tender: Backhoe, RFD#2009110 M-0912-06**  
 Moved by Deputy Mayor Rhindress, seconded by Councillor March that Council accept the tender from Wallace Equipment in the amount of \$102,500 for a 2009 John Deere Backhoe to be financed over a five-year lease in the amount of \$1,292 plus taxes per month.

MOTION CARRIED

- 4.5 **Quote: DED Tree Removal, RFD#2009115 M-0912-07**  
 Moved by Councillor Fawthrop, seconded by Deputy Mayor Rhindress that Council accept a quote from GPF in New Glasgow in the amount of \$52,915 plus HST for the removal of 56 DED trees in the Town of Amherst.

MOTION CARRIED

- 4.6 **Cost Sharing Agreement for Pedestrian Beacons, RFD#2009111 M-0912-08**  
 Moved by Councillor Bird, seconded by Councillor March that the Town of Amherst enter into a cost sharing agreement with the Province of Nova Scotia to replace pedestrian activated flashing amber beacons and that Mayor and the CAO be authorized to sign the Pedestrian Activated Flashing Amber Cost Sharing Agreement (Three Year program April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2012) on behalf of the Town.

MOTION CARRIED

**Pedestrian Activated Flashing Amber Beacon Cost Sharing  
 (Three Year Program April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2012)  
 Form of Agreement**

**THIS AGREEMENT** made this 22nd day of December, 2009.

**BETWEEN:**

**HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN** in Right of the Province of Nova Scotia (the "Province"), represented by the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal for the Province of Nova Scotia, hereinafter called "**TIR**"

-and-

**TOWN OF AMHERST** hereinafter called the "**the Municipality**"

**WHEREAS** a Crosswalk Safety Task Force, which was established by the Province and the Halifax Regional Municipality, recommended that the Province and municipalities consider upgrading pedestrian-activated flashing amber beacons to increase the visibility of the beacons.

**AND WHEREAS TIR** has established a three-year funding program to assist municipalities with the costs associated with upgrading pedestrian-activated flashing amber beacons.

**AND WHEREAS** the Municipality proposes to perform upgrades to the pedestrian-activated flashing amber beacons located at the crosswalks, as more particularly set out in Schedule "A" (collectively, the "Crosswalks" and individually, the "Crosswalk"), attached hereto and forming part of this Agreement.

**NOW THIS AGREEMENT WITNESSETH** that in consideration of the covenants, promises and agreements hereinafter contained to be by them observed, performed and paid the parties mutually agree as follows:

1. TIR agrees to share up to fifty percent (50%) of Eligible Costs, as hereinafter defined, incurred by the Municipality between April 1, 2009 and March 31, 2012 for upgrading eligible crosswalk installations which use pedestrian activated amber beacons (the "Funding").
2. Upgrades on the Crosswalks will only be considered to be eligible for Funding if all of the following criteria are met to TIR's satisfaction:

- a. the crosswalk is located on a highway within the meaning of the Public Highways Act or a former cost-shared road;
  - b. the crosswalk is located so as to ensure a safe stopping sight distance is available to motorists approaching the crosswalk;
  - c. the crosswalk has pavement markings of the twin parallel line type or zebra style in good condition;
  - d. the crosswalk has two "white on black pedestrian crosswalk signs" (RA-5) mounted for each approach with one sign over the centre of the right half of the roadway and the other sign over the centre of the left half of the roadway. Each sign must be oriented to face the centre of the roadway and equipped with:
    - (i) internal illumination that down lights the crosswalk area; and
    - (ii) one flashing amber beacon in each direction such that two beacons facing in the same direction (one on each RA-5) flash alternately when activated by the pedestrian;
  - e. the crosswalk has side mounted "black on white" TIR standard pedestrian crosswalk signs (RA-4) on the left and right sides of the highway on both approaches in pedestrian crosswalks or has side mounted "black on white" TIR standard school crosswalk signs (RA-3) on the left and right sides of the roadway on both approaches in school crosswalks;
  - f. all signs and devices adjacent to the crosswalk are visible to approaching motorists and are not obscured by vegetation or other structures; and
  - g. the crosswalk flashing light beacon system shall be in good working order and all signs shall be in accordance with the Nova Scotia Regulations Respecting Traffic Signs (the "Sign Regulations").
3. The following costs incurred by the Municipality in performing the upgrades may be eligible for Funding ("Eligible Costs"):
- a. replacing existing overhead amber beacons (typically with 200mm diameter lenses) with beacons that have 300mm diameter amber LED lenses;
  - b. replacing any side mounted pedestrian or school crossing signage that does not meet the Sign Regulations with signage that meets the Sign Regulations (RA-3 or RA-4) for pedestrian and school crosswalks; and
  - c. replacing or reconfiguring flashing beacon controllers to enable push button reactivation extension.
4. The following costs are not eligible pursuant to this Agreement:
- a. replacing existing poles or mast arms;
  - b. adding new poles or mast arms;
  - c. replacing or adding missing signs and devices to bring the installation up to TIR's standards, other than those expressly provided for in this Agreement; or
  - d. adjustments made to the existing installation including repositioning RA-5 signs, clearing vegetation and removing or relocating other visual obstructions.
5. The total Funding by TIR to the Municipality for cost sharing pursuant to this Agreement shall not exceed \$5,000. Funding by TIR to the Municipality in each fiscal year shall not exceed the following amounts: 2009-2010 (\$5,000), 2010-2011 (\$0), 2011-2012 (\$0).
6. If a portion of the total Funding for a particular fiscal year remains unused at the end of that fiscal year, the unused portion may, at the sole and absolute discretion of TIR, be carried forward for use in any subsequent fiscal year as set out pursuant to this Agreement.
7. Notwithstanding paragraph 2, before being eligible for receipt of any Funding from TIR, , the Municipality shall provide TIR with the following:
- a. a description of the upgrades proposed for each Crosswalk including a plan showing the proposed upgrades; and
  - b. a cost estimate for the proposed upgrades, which shall identify and detail items that are proposed to be part of the Funding.
8. Upon receipt of the information in paragraph 7, TIR shall advise the Municipality of:
- a. the Crosswalks and the amount of Funding that has been approved; and

- b. the fiscal year of the Province in which the upgrades must be completed in order to be eligible for the Funding.
9. Upon completion of the upgrades, but no later than January 31st of the fiscal year for which the upgrades have been approved, the Municipality shall submit an invoice to TIR, including the following information:
- a description of the upgrades completed;
  - copies of receipts for all expenses for which Funding is being claimed; and
  - dated photos of each upgraded installation.
10. Within ninety (90) days of receipt of the information in paragraph 9, TIR shall:
- satisfy itself that the upgrades meet all eligible criteria and conditions set out in this Agreement and forward payment of the Funding to the Municipality; or
  - request that the Municipality provide additional details or complete additional upgrades to ensure that the upgrades meet the obligations of the Municipality set out in this Agreement.
11. This Agreement shall be governed by, interpreted and construed in accordance with the laws of the Province of Nova Scotia.
12. The Municipality shall maintain accurate financial records and books of account, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, of all expenses incurred in the execution of any upgrades contemplated under this Agreement. Such accounts and records shall, at all reasonable times, be available for inspection and audit by TIR or its authorized representatives.
13. The obligations of TIR pursuant to this Agreement are subject to and conditional upon TIR obtaining on or before March 15, 2010, approval from the Governor in Council for the Province of Nova Scotia to enter into this Agreement. In the event that the Governor in Council does not approve this Agreement, TIR shall notify the Municipality, on or before March 31, 2010 and this Agreement shall be deemed null and void and TIR shall have no obligation or liability to the Municipality in respect of the subject matter of this Agreement.
14. All notice, demand or other communication to be given in connection with this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be given by personal delivery, registered mail or by electronic means of communication addressed to the recipient as follows:

to the Municipality at:

Ben Pitman, P.Eng., Director of Transportation and Public Works  
PO Box 516  
Amherst, NS B4H 4A1

to the Minister at:

Janice Harland, P.Eng., Manager Traffic Engineering Services  
Johnston Building  
1672 Granville St.  
P.O. Box 186  
Halifax, NS B3J 2N2

or to such other address, individual or electronic communication number as may be designated by notice given by either party to the other in accordance herewith. Any demand, notice or other communication given by personal delivery shall be conclusively deemed to be given on the day of actual delivery thereof and, if given by registered mail, on the fifth business day following the deposit thereof in the mail and if given by electronic communication, on the day of transmittal thereof if given during normal business hours of the recipient and on the business day during which such normal business hours next occur if not given during such hours on any day. If the party giving any demand, notice or other communication knows or ought reasonably to know of any difficulties with the postal system which might affect the delivery of mail, any such demand, notice or other communication shall not be mailed but shall be given by personal delivery or by electronic communication.

#### SCHEDULE A

Crosswalks at the following locations are the subject of this agreement.

1. Albion Street @ Chamberlain Street/Edgewood Avenue
2. Albion Street @ Costin Drive

- 4.7 **Tender: Entrance Signage, RFD#2009112** **M-0912-09**  
**Moved by Deputy Mayor Rhindress, seconded by Councillor Fawthrop that Council award the tender for the supply and installation of the two Welcome to Amherst Signs to be placed at Exits 3 and 4 to Hansen Enterprises Limited at their low tender bid of \$45,246.66.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

- 4.8 **Repeal Policy: Snow Removal, RFD#2009108** **M-0912-10**  
**Moved by Deputy Mayor Rhindress, seconded by Councillor March that Council repeal the Town of Amherst Snow Removal Policy, #31600-05.**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

- 4.9 **Amend Policy: Plowing During Major Storms, RFD#2009113** **M-0912-11**  
**Moved by Councillor Angel, seconded by Councillor Baker that Council approve an amended Snow Plowing – Major Storms Policy, #31600-04, which has been updated with housekeeping amendments.**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**POLICY STATEMENT:**

A major storm will be declared by the Town Engineer when Operational Services crews are no longer able to keep all Town streets cleared of snow and the storm continues.

During a major snowstorm, crews will attempt to keep at least one lane of the following arterial and collector streets open:

- Abbey Road	- Lawrence Street
- Albion & South Albion Street	- McCully Street
- Anson Avenue	- Pleasant (East & West)
- Chamberlain Street	- Poplar Street
- Chandler Road	- Robert Angus Drive
- Church Street	- Rupert Street
- Donald Avenue	- Spring Street
- Electric (Church St to Police Station)	- Tantramar Crescent
- Havelock Street	- Townshend Avenue
- Hickman Street	- Tupper Blvd
- Industrial Park Drive	- Victoria Street
- LaPlanche Street	- Willow Street

During a major snowstorm, the Blanche Parking Lot on Prince Arthur Street, Fire Station and Stadium parking lots will be kept open to allow emergency off-street parking.

To provide quick response in an emergency, a “storm line” will be activated during major storms (664-6000). This line will be monitored 24 hours a day until all of the streets have been opened.

As snowfall intensity decreases, Town equipment will commence snow plowing operations on other streets.

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this policy is to provide direction to staff involved in the snow plowing operation during a major storm and to ensure that most residents of the Town are within one block of a plowed street to facilitate emergency response by Police, Fire and Ambulance.

- 4.10 **Amend Policy: Bare Pavement, RFD#2009114** **M-0912-12**  
**Moved by Councillor Angel, seconded by Councillor March, that Council approve amendments to the Town’s Bare Pavement Policy, #31600-06, by removing the word “Subway” and replacing it with “West Pleasant Intersection” and by removing “Operational Services” and replacing it with “Transportation and Public Works.”**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**POLICY STATEMENT:**

A “bare pavement” policy will be in effect for the following streets:

- Victoria Street
- Church Street
- Willow Street
- Albion / West Pleasant intersection
- South Albion Street
- Lawrence Street
- LaPlanche Street
- Robert Angus Drive

This policy will include removing snow and ice down to bare pavement as soon after the snowfall as is possible.

**PURPOSE:**

Provide direction to staff involved in snow and ice control and to ensure that major traffic arteries are kept clear of snow and ice to allow for efficient movement of vehicular traffic.

- 4.11. **Funding Request – Tantramar Seniors College, RFD#2009116** **M-0912-13**  
**Moved by Councillor Fawthrop, seconded by Councillor Angel that Council decline the request for \$1700 in funding to the Tantramar Seniors' College as it falls outside of any policy that the Town has to provide financial assistance, and offer instead to work with the Amherst location in promotional and advertising activities that will support growth in the future.**

MOTION CARRIED

- 4.12 **Funding Request – CANSA for African Heritage Month, RFD#2009117** **M-0912-14**  
**Moved by Councillor Baker, seconded by Councillor March that Council approve funding in the amount of \$500 in support of the African Heritage Month Celebrations.**

MOTION CARRIED

## 5. INFORMATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

## 6. STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

### 6.1 **Dickey Park Redevelopment – Status Report**

Councillor Baker presented the following Project Status Report on Dickey Park Redevelopment:

Work on the building housing the washrooms and change rooms is about 65% complete with the exterior basically finished and rough electrical, plumbing and carpentry completed inside. The lights around the track have been completed and are ready for operation.

A representative for the Fundy Regional Office of NS Health Promotion and Protection recently visited the Dickey Park site and viewed the redevelopment plans, and was extremely please with the level of work being completed and how the park promotes physical activity.

Staff are currently working though the estimates and work required for the second phase of the Dickey Park development as part of the Capital Budget projections for 2010/11.

The project continues to be on schedule and within the budget approved.

### 6.2 **Arts Culture & Heritage – Project Status Report**

Councillor Fawthrop presented the following status report on the Arts Culture and Heritage strategic priority:

The Arts, Culture, & Heritage Strategy is now in its final phase, with the consultant currently completing a final draft to be submitted to the committee in January. A presentation to Council and the public will take place in February.

With the Technical Background Report completed, Council and selected staff attended a December 3<sup>rd</sup> workshop to develop a vision, goals, policies and actions that will promote this sector. A public meeting was held December 8<sup>th</sup> that provided an overview of the background report, discussed the strategic directions developed with Council and staff, and provided an opportunity for feedback from the public. The public meeting was generally positive and well attended, with Council chambers at or near capacity.

### 6.3 **Downtown Revitalization – Project Status Report**

Councillor March presented the following project status report on the Downtown Action Strategy:

During the last month our consultants have been busy writing the draft report. Town staff have been providing required information for this process during this time.

The project remains on time with the draft report to be presented to the steering committee the first week of January, and the final report to be presented to Council at their Committee of the Whole meeting in January. A public presentation is scheduled for the night of Council's regular January meeting.

### 6.4 **Youth Initiatives – Project Status Report**

Mayor Small asked the Deputy Mayor to chair the meeting while he gave his project status report on Youth Initiatives.

The Youth Advisory Council (YAC) held their second meeting Tuesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 PM in Council Chambers. All members were available for this meeting. The meeting began with a tour of Town Hall, YAC members were able to meet each employee and learn details of their position and the services offered by each department.

An outline was drafted for items of discussion for the special meeting with Town Council on Wednesday January 6<sup>th</sup> 2010. This public meeting will begin at 6:00 PM and focus on the interaction of YAC with Town Council. The objective of this meeting is for youth to gain perspective on dynamics of a formal meeting that YAC members can use during their meetings. This meeting will also enable youth to highlight their desired initiatives for the upcoming year and finally to formally welcome members to the Town of Amherst.

During the December 15<sup>th</sup> meeting Zac Black was elected chairperson. Alex Stathakis will act as vice-chair and assume Zac's duties in his absence.

Other items of business included; logo creation, clothing, and events for the upcoming year. Daniel Ripley, a grade 9 student on YAC submitted numerous designs for a logo, thanks to Daniel's creative abilities; members were able to agree on a logo to be used for YAC.

The formation of specific committees with members assigned to these was discussed, but tabled for now, with consideration to this being the first YAC and an annual schedule has not been determined. Once a schedule is finalized, or on an as needed basis, YAC will appoint members to specific committees.

The next meeting date of YAC will be selected when YAC meets with Mayor and Council on January 6, 2010 at 6:00PM, target is first week in February 2010.

This completes "Youth Initiative" as a strategic priority of the Town; from this point forward, with the installation of YAC, this now becomes an ongoing program of the Town of Amherst.

## 6.5 **Town Beautification – Project Status Report**

Deputy Mayor Rhindress presented the following Town Beautification Project Status Report:

Tenders for the new Welcome to Amherst signs were recently closed. A recommendation to award the contract for the supply and installation of the signs has been considered by Council this evening. The contractor states that they can have the signs installed within six weeks of receiving the contract.

## 7. INTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

### 7.1 **Planning Advisory Committee**

Councillor Bird presented the following Planning Advisory Committee Report:

The Planning Advisory Committee met on December 9, 2009 to discuss an application to amend the Land Use Bylaw to remove the maximum size for advertising signage permitted on the wall of a building. A public participation session was held on the issue with the applicant, Warren Chapmen and Bill Briand in attendance. The Committee unanimously recommended to NOT approved the application.

The committee also received a report from staff regarding alternative residential development standards. This issue was tabled due to time constraints and will be brought forward again at the January meeting, currently scheduled for January 6<sup>th</sup>.

### 7.2 **Amherst Board of Police Commissioners** - Nil Report

### 7.3 **Dangerous or Unsightly Premises Committee**

Councillor Bird presented the following Dangerous and Unsightly Premises Committee Report:

The Dangerous and Unsightly Premises Committee met on December 9. To date this year we have had 42 complaints, 36 of which have been brought into compliance. We are happy to report that most property owners continue to work with the Committee to bring their properties into compliance.

At the November meeting the Committee reviewed the outstanding files and received a report on one new property complaint.

The Committee is scheduled to meet again on January 13, 2009.

### 7.4 **Tyndal Well Field Advisory Committee** – Nil Report

### 7.5 **Tree Advisory Committee**

Councillor Fawthrop presented the following Tree Advisory Committee Report:

A meeting of the Tree Advisory Committee was held on December 17th. Members attending included: Wayne MacLeod, Councilor Dale Fawthrop, Red Faulkner, Lorne Etter, Dwight Jones, Ray Gouchie, Mike Shay and Roger MacIsaac. Regrets: Mayor Rob Small, Trevor Brown [NSP]

The meeting focused on reviewing the quotes received for this year's DED cutting program. The list of DED trees was circulated to members showing 96 trees identified as being infected within the Town of Amherst. From this, a list of 56 trees was prioritized by staff and accepted by the Committee for this year's program.

The Committee discussed various aspects of the cutting program including the debarking of stumps and the disposal of the trees once they are cut. There were questions on whether debarking is still required and if there are other ways that the wood can be disposed of once it is cut.

Over the next months, staff will research the options regarding both of these activities and present these options for discussion in May.

In addition, the Committee discussed doing a count or inventory of Elm trees in the Town to attempt to better define the future of the DED cutting program. While it would be virtually impossible to identify all trees as some are hidden from view on private property, staff along with summer staff will undertake this task during the summer months.

Committee volunteers were thanked for their service to the Town and the community over the year. The meeting adjourned at 1:20pm.

7.6 **Heritage Advisory Committee** - Nil Report

7.7 **Audit Committee** - Nil Report

7.8 **Committee of the Whole** - Nil Report

## 8. EXTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

### 8.1 **Cumberland Regional Library Board**

Councillor Angel presented the following Cumberland Regional Library Board Report:

#### **Food for Fines**

During the month of December, the Cumberland Regional Library is once again holding its annual Food for Fines campaign. Patrons with fines can bring in non-perishable food items as payment. These food items are donated to the food banks in the community in which they are donated. Last year we collected almost 900 non-perishable food items for food banks in our communities. Thus far the Amherst branch has collected approximately 150 items with half the month still to go.

#### **Library Programs**

##### Touring puppet shows

Youth Services Librarian, Chantelle Taylor is on the go, providing a holiday themed puppet show to all of the CRL branches. On Monday, December 21<sup>st</sup> this show will be the centrepiece of the Amherst library's children's Holiday Party.

##### C.A.R.T.

Children and Adults Reading Together continues to be a very popular program. In the Fall session C.A.R.T. programs were held weekly at the Amherst, River Hebert, Parrsboro, and Advocate branches. In the new year two separate sessions will be held in Amherst, in addition to those planned for Pugwash, Springhill, and Oxford.

#### **Fundraiser**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Winter Book Sale at the Amherst Library raised over \$900. The Library must raise at least 3% of its operating budget each year and sales like this can be very helpful. Also, volunteers staffed all of the three day sale so all profits could be contributed directly to library projects.

#### **Statistics**

In November, the Amherst library held 19 children's programs with 243 participants. That includes everything from school and day care visits to weekly story time to C.A.R.T. Four programs for adults were held with 20 people in attendance.

The Amherst branch signed out over 4,700 items (books, DVDs, magazines, etc.) bringing the total for the fiscal year to over 40,000 items. This number represents approximately half of all the items borrowed in Cumberland County.

### 8.2 **CREDA**

Councillor Fawthrop presented the following Cumberland Regional Economic Development Association Report:

CREDA has worked very closely with Council on both the Centre First and the Arts Culture and Heritage study. Without CREDA's assistance we would have been hard pressed to do both studies in the same year.

Best wishes for a jolly season and a prosperous, industrious new year from CREDA.

8.3 **DARS** – Nil Report

8.4 **CJSMA** – Nil Report

8.5 **Northern Region Waste Resource Committee** – Nil Report



8.6 Cooperation Committee - Nil Report

8.7 Airport Committee - Nil Report

8.8 Amherst and Area Chamber of Commerce – Nil Report

8.9 VON

No meeting has been held since the last report. Councillor Baker extended holiday wishes to the community on behalf of VON.

## 9. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Members of Council extended personal Christmas greetings to one another, staff and citizens of Amherst. Sentiments expressed included thinking of those less fortunate throughout the holiday season, congratulations on another successful Victorian Christmas celebration, and anticipation of an exciting year ahead for the community.

Mayor Small acknowledged the plaque which was presented to Council by Canada World Youth, and talked about the wonderful job and also how appreciative they were of their time here. He extended a special 'thank you' to the host families and the organizations that got involved with the program. He wished a very Merry Christmas to all the volunteers in Amherst for all the work they do to make Amherst a special place, and extended an invitation to everyone to join Council and the Nova Scotia Highlanders' Association at the Armory for the New Year's Day Levee from noon to 4 PM.

## 10. ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Deputy Mayor Rhindress the meeting adjourned at 4:05 PM.

### APPROVED BY:

Gregory D. Herrett, CA  
Town Clerk and Chief Administrative Officer

Robert Small  
Mayor

**Regular Council Meeting  
December 21, 2009 at 3:00 PM  
AGENDA**

<b>1.</b>	<b>O'CANADA</b>		
<b>2.</b>	<b>HEARINGS/PETITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/PETITIONS</b>		
<b>3.</b>	<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>	<b>Presenter</b>	<b>Page</b>
3.1	Additions to Agenda		
3.2	Approval of Agenda	Baker	
3.3	Approval of Minutes: November 30, 2009 Regular Meeting	Rhindress	2
<b>4.</b>	<b>REQUESTS FOR DECISION</b>	<b>RFD</b>	<b>Presenter</b>
4.1	By-Law at 2nd <sup>d</sup> Reading: Deed Transfer Tax	2009106	March
4.2	By-Law at 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading: Amend LUB re Sign Area	2009107	March
4.3	Tender: Fuel	2009109	Rhindress
4.4	Tender: Backhoe	2009110	Rhindress
4.5	Quote: DED Tree Removal	2009115	Fawthrop
4.6	Pedestrian Beacon Cost Sharing Agreement	2009111	Bird
4.7	Entrance Signage	2009112	Rhindress
4.8	Repeal Policy: Snow Removal	2009108	Rhindress
4.9	Amend Policy: Plowing During Major Storms	2009113	Angel
4.10	Amend Policy: Bare Pavement	2009114	Angel
4.11	Tantramar Seniors' College Funding Request	2009116	Fawthrop
4.12	CANSA Funding Request – African Heritage Month	2009117	Baker
<b>5.</b>	<b>INFORMATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS</b>		
<b>6.</b>	<b>STRATEGIC PRIORITIES</b>		
6.1	Dickey Park Redevelopment - Project Status Report		Baker
6.2	Arts Culture & Heritage – Project Status Report		Fawthrop
6.3	Downtown Revitalization – Project Status Report		March
6.4	Youth Initiatives – Project Status Report		Small
6.5	Town Beautification – Project Status		Rhindress
<b>7.</b>	<b>INTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS</b>		
7.1	Planning Advisory Committee		Bird
7.2	Amherst Board of Police Commissioners		Nil Report
7.3	Dangerous or Unsightly Premises Committee		Bird
7.4	Tyndal Wellfield Advisory Committee		Nil report
7.5	Tree Advisory Committee		Fawthrop
7.6	Heritage Advisory Committee		Nil report
7.7	Audit Committee		Nil report
7.8	Committee of the Whole		Nil report
<b>8.</b>	<b>EXTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS</b>		
8.1	Cumberland Regional Library Board		Angel
8.2	CREDA		Fathrop
8.3	DARS		Nil report
8.4	CJSMA		Nil report
8.5	Northern Region Solid Waste		Nil report
8.6	Cooperation Committee		Nil report
8.7	Airport Committee		Nil report
8.8	Amherst and Area Chamber of Commerce		Nil report
8.9	VON (verbal)		Baker
<b>9.</b>	<b>MAYOR'S COMMENTS</b>		
<b>10.</b>	<b>ADJOURNMENT</b>		