

**Minutes of a Regular Meeting of Amherst Town Council  
Held in Council Chambers  
Tuesday, June 29, 2010 at 4:00 PM**

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

**ATTENDING:** Jason MacDonald, Director of Planning and Engineering  
Vince Arbing, Treasurer  
Roger MacIsaac, Director of Community & Economic Development  
Ben Pitman, Director of Transportation and Public Works  
Kim Jones, Policy, Research and Human Resources  
Rebecca Purdy, Executive Assistant

**1. O CANADA**

**2. HEARINGS / PETITIONS / PRESENTATIONS**

**2.1 Presentation – Nova Scotia Power’s Low Income Homeowner Program**

Katherine Reed made a presentation to Council on Nova Scotia Power’s Low Income Homeowner Program. Under this program, eligible homeowners who heat their homes mainly with electricity receive free upgrades from Nova Scotia Power such as insulation, water heater wraps, programmable thermostats and more efficient lighting to bring their power bills down and make their homes more comfortable. Likely applicants are people with disabilities, people who live on low incomes due to being unemployed, under-employed, social assistance, minimum wage or low paid jobs, seniors or single parents. Ms. Reed explained that some other municipal units have helped Nova Scotia Power spread the word by such things as putting a link to the program website on their websites; delivering pamphlets to constituents who they knew may qualify; displaying the posters and brochures in municipal offices; including an announcement in municipal newsletters, etc. The basic income thresholds to qualify are:

Number of people living in the home	HRM and CBRM	The rest of NS
1 person	\$19,144	\$17,410
2 people	\$23,831	\$21,672
3 people	\$29,299	\$26,463
4 people	\$36,576	\$32,349
5 people	\$40,345	\$36,690
6 people	\$45,504	\$41,381
7 or more people	\$50,662	\$46,071

**2.2 Presentation to Brad Blenkhorn**

Mayor Small and Council presented a plaque to Brad Blenkhorn in recognition of his outstanding athletic achievements. Brad is a two-time world hockey champion having played in the World Amputee Hockey Championships in 2008 in Massachusetts and 2010 in Quebec.

- Brad was born to Bob and Sandra Blenkhorn on December 16, 1980;
- He is the very proud father of two girls – Sydney, 6, and Vivienne, 3;
- Brad lost his right foot at the age of 18-months as the result of a lawnmower accident;
- He began playing hockey at age 3;
- He now plays with the Canadian Standing Amputee Hockey Team and is one of only two team members from east of Quebec;
- The team was formed in 2001 by James Reilly, an amputee himself;
- The team is made up of leg and arm amputees from coast to coast – either one arm, one leg or both arms – with ages ranging from as young as 16 to over 40;
- The team is funded by the players themselves – they don’t receive federal funding as of yet because they aren’t recognized by Hockey Canada, however that is one of the goals of the Canadian Amputee Hockey Committee;
- In March, 2010, the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) granted the CAHC’s governing body – the International Standing Ice Hockey Federation – the status of ‘IPC recognized International Federation’, which is one more step toward having standing amputee hockey a sport in the Paralympics (it currently isn’t);
- Brad first made the 2008 team, and again this year the 2010 team;  
During the 2010 World’s, Canada defeated Finland 6-4, Latvia 8-1, the World team 10-1, the US 5-0 in round robin play;

- During the 8-1 win over Latvia, **Brad scored his first goal as a national hockey player and also had one assist;**
- Canada defeated Finland, 11-2, in the gold medal game in 2010 to win Canada's fifth world championship and Brad's second;
- The Canadian team has been honored with a 2008 ARETE (ah-ree-tee) Courage in Sport award through the US Marines and CBS Sports;
- World's will be in Finland in 2012

### 3. CALL TO ORDER

#### 3.1 Amendments to the Agenda

#### 3.2 Approval of Agenda M-1006-01

Moved by Councillor Baker seconded by Councillor March to approve the agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

#### 3.3 Approval of Minutes M-1006-02

Moved by Deputy Mayor Rhindress seconded by Councillor March to approve the minutes of the May 25, 2010 regular meeting as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

### 4. REQUESTS FOR DECISION

#### 4.1 Amherst Water Utility Operating and Capital Budgets, RFD#2010061 M-1006-03

Moved by Councillor March, seconded by Councillor Fawthrop that Council approve the 2010-2011 Amherst Water Utility Operating Budget of \$1,573,008 and Capital Budget of \$243,434, as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

The capital budget for the Utility totals \$243,434 representing the following

- |                                   |    |         |
|-----------------------------------|----|---------|
| • Metre replacement               | \$ | 20,000  |
| • Purchase land in wellfield area |    | 22,000  |
| • Hydraulic V plow                |    | 8,000   |
| • Compressor (replacement)        |    | 22,000  |
| • One-ton truck (replacement)     |    | 35,000  |
| • Replace water main (Townshend)  |    | 136,434 |

Capital program to be financed by:

- |                        |    |         |
|------------------------|----|---------|
| • Capital from revenue | \$ | 25,000  |
| • Long term debt       |    | 22,516  |
| • Depreciation fund    |    | 195,918 |

#### 4.2 Temporary Borrowing Resolution, Water Capital, RFD#2010062 M-1006-04

Moved by Councillor March, seconded by Councillor Baker that Council approve a Temporary Borrowing Resolution, 10/11-02, in the amount of \$22,516 to fund a portion of the 2010-2011 Amherst Water Utility's capital program.

MOTION CARRIED

#### TOWN OF AMHERST

#### Temporary Borrowing Resolution

File No. 10 / 11-02

**WHEREAS** Section 66 of the *Municipal Government Act* provides that the Town of Amherst, subject to the approval of the Minister of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations, may borrow to expend funds for capital purposes authorized by statute;

**AND WHEREAS** clause 65 of the *Municipal Government Act* authorizes the Town of Amherst to expend funds for the capital purposes of:

- Water Main Replacement

**AND WHEREAS** the specific amounts and descriptions of the projects are contained in Schedule "A" (attached);

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT** under the authority of Section 66 of the *Municipal Government Act*, the Town borrow a sum or sums not exceeding twenty-two thousand, five hundred and sixteen dollars (\$22,516) for the purpose set out above, subject to the approval of the Minister of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations;

**THAT** the sum be borrowed by the issue and sale of debentures of the Town to such an amount as the Council deems necessary;

**THAT** the issue of debentures be postponed pursuant to Section 92 of the *Municipal Government Act* and that the Town borrow from time to time a sum or sums not exceeding twenty-two thousand, five hundred and sixteen dollars (\$22,516) in total from any chartered bank or trust company doing business in Nova Scotia;

**THAT** the sum be borrowed for a period not exceeding Twelve Months (12) from the date of the approval of the Minister of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations of this resolution;

**THAT** the interest payable on the borrowing be paid at a rate to be agreed upon; and

**THAT** the amount borrowed be repaid from the proceeds of the debentures when sold.

- 4.3 **Dog By-Law at 1<sup>st</sup> Reading, RFD#2010063** **M-1006-05**  
**Moved by Councillor Fawthrop, seconded by Deputy Mayor Rhindress that Council approve 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of the Town of Amherst Dog By-Law, C-4, which repeals and replaces the existing Dogs By-law approved by Council on 21 November 1983 with amendments approved on 21 May 1991, 17 February 1992, 19 June 1995 and 15 April 1996.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**TOWN OF AMHERST DOG BY-LAW, C-4**

1. This By-law shall be known and may be cited as the "Dog By-Law" of the Town of Amherst.

**INTERPRETATION**

2. In this By-law unless the context otherwise requires:

**"Animal Control Officer"** or **"ACO"** means the person designated by the Chief of Police to be the by-law enforcement officer for this by-law. An officer of the Amherst Police Department may destroy a vicious dog where the circumstances call for that action in the normal course of carrying out the Officer's duties.

**"At Large"** means being elsewhere than on the lands or premises owned or occupied by the dog owner and not on a leash.

**"Attack"** means an assault resulting in bleeding, bone breakage, sprains, or serious bruising.

**"Bite"** means a wound to the skin causing it to puncture or break.

**"Council"** means the Municipal Council of the Town of Amherst

**"Dog"** means a male or female animal of the species canine over the age of twelve (12) weeks.

**"Dog License"** means a license for a dog for the current licensing year that has been paid for and that has been issued by the Town or an assignee of the Town.

**"Dog Owner"** means any person:

- a) whose name appears on a dog license
- b) who is in possession of a dog
- c) who has the care, custody or control of a dog; or
- d) who possesses, harbours or allows a dog to remain about a house, land or premises owned or occupied by that person.

**"Impounded"** means seized and delivered into the pound or in the custody of the poundkeeper.

**"Kennel"** means a licensed enterprise dealing with the breeding, buying, selling or boarding of dogs.

**"Licensed Dog"** means a dog that is wearing, either on its collar or harness, a metal tag on which is stamped figures corresponding to a dog license for that specific dog.

**"Licensing Year"** shall mean a period from April 1<sup>st</sup> in any year to March 31<sup>st</sup> in the following year.

**"Pound"** means premises used by the poundkeeper to harbour and maintain dogs pursuant to this bylaw or any vehicle used by the poundkeeper.

**"Poundkeeper"** means the person or organization appointed by resolution of Council to operate and maintain the facilities for the impounding of dogs.

**"Premises"** means a building or part of a building, structure or a place.

**"Premises of the owner"** includes premises where a dog is habitually harboured or fed.

**"Service Animal"** means an animal trained by a recognized school for service as a guide dog for the blind or visually impaired, a guide dog for the deaf or hearing impaired, or a special skills dog for other challenged persons and includes an animal used in therapy, registered with a recognized organization for that purpose.

**“Vicious Dog”** means a dog which:

- a) has bitten a human without provocation
- b) has bitten an animal without provocation; or
- c) has a known propensity, tendency or disposition to attack or aggressively pursue, without provocation, a human or animal.

## **IMPOUNDMENT**

3. The Council may hereby authorize:
  - a) the establishment, maintenance and operation of facilities for the impounding of dogs at such place or places and upon such premises, as the Council may determine, by resolution.
  - b) The appointment, by resolution, of a poundkeeper to maintain and operate the pound or pounds established under this by-law.
  - c) The making of an agreement with such persons, firms, societies or corporations as may be fit for the purpose of maintaining and operating a pound, for regulating the conduct of the pound, and providing for the collection, distribution and payment of revenue and expenditures derived from the operation of the Pound.

## **CONTROL, LICENSING AND IMPOUNDING OF DOGS**

### **Control of Dogs**

4. Except as otherwise permitted by this By-law:
  - a) A dog owner shall not permit, suffer or allow a dog to be at large.
- 4.1 Every owner of a dog shall ensure that the dog is kept on a leash and under the control of some person when the dog is on any land in the Town unless:
  - a) the land is the premises of the owner of the dog,
  - b) the land is owned by a person who has given prior consent to the dog being off the leash.
- 4.2 Police Officers with the Amherst Police Department and any By-Law enforcement officers appointed by the Chief of Police shall, along with the ACO, be responsible for enforcing and have the authority to enforce section 4 and 4.1.

### **Vicious Dogs**

5. The ACO has the power and authority hereunder, upon reasonable grounds, to make the determination that any dog is a vicious dog.
- 5.1 When the ACO determines that a dog is a vicious dog, the ACO, if he/she determines in their discretion, that the vicious dog poses an immediate and significant threat to the public safety, may destroy the vicious dog.
- 5.2 If the ACO destroys the dog, the ACO will arrange for the disposal of the remains and will make reasonable efforts to inform the dog owner that the dog has been destroyed.
- 5.3 If a dog attacks a person and causes injury, the Amherst Police Department shall, along with the ACO, have the authority to investigate the circumstances of the attack if it is decided that it is appropriate to do so, and the Town of Amherst Police Department may make such recommendations to the ACO as it sees fit.

### **Feces and Scooping**

6. Every owner of a dog shall immediately remove any feces left by the dog in the Town:
  - a) on any roadway, sidewalk or parking lot
  - b) in a public park
  - c) on any public property other than a public park, or
  - d) on any private property other than the property of:
    - i) the owner of the dog, or
    - ii) the person having care, custody or control of the dog.
- 6.1 Every owner of a dog shall dispose of any feces removed pursuant to this Section on his or her premises.
- 6.2 Every owner of a dog shall remove from his or her property, in a reasonable timely manner, feces left by such dog, so as not to disturb the enjoyment, comfort, convenience of any person in the vicinity of the property.
- 6.3 This section does not apply to a handler of a service dog, where the handler is not reasonably able to remove the feces left by such dog due to a physical disability or impediment.

### **Noise**

7. No dog shall be permitted to consistently disturb the quiet of a neighborhood by barking, howling, or otherwise making noise to a degree beyond what the Animal Control Officer determines to be normal.

- 7.1 In determining what is "normal" in the context of this section, the ACO shall consider one or more, but not limited to, the following factors:
- a) the time of day that the dog is reported as disruptive;
  - b) the frequency and duration of the reported disruptive behavior;
  - c) the proximity of neighbors and population density of the neighborhood.
- 7.2 If the ACO determines, upon reasonable grounds, that a dog is being disruptive, as defined in this section, the ACO shall give a written warning to the dog owner before taking any other action under this by-law.

#### **Interference with ACO or Poundkeeper**

8. Anyone who obstructs or interferes with the Animal Control Officer, or his/her duly authorized delegate, or the poundkeeper, engaged in the execution of his/her duties, commits an offense under this by-law.

#### **Licensing of Dogs**

9. No person shall own, possess or harbour an unlicensed dog within the boundaries of the Town.
- 9.1 A person who owns, possesses or harbours any dog before the first day of April in each year, shall obtain a dog license in accordance with the provisions of this by-law.
- 9.2 Applications for and the issuance of a dog license shall be the responsibility of the Town Hall staff, or person so designated by the Town of Amherst.
- 9.3 The Town of Amherst and/or its recognized agent for this purpose will maintain a record of all dogs registered, showing the date and number of the registration, and the name and address of the owner of the dog.
- 9.4 Every person who obtains a dog license shall be given a metal tag which shall be, at all times, fastened to a collar or harness worn by the dog for which the license was obtained.
- 9.5 Where a metal tag issued pursuant to this by-law has been lost, destroyed or mutilated, the dog owner shall acquire, for the remainder of the current licensing year, a replacement tag, upon producing proof of purchase of a valid dog license and upon payment of a prescribed fee.
- 9.6 Fees pursuant to this by-law are set out in Schedule "A" attached hereto.
- 9.7 Notwithstanding this section, the following dogs need not have a dog license:
- a) a trained guide dog owned or utilized by a blind person, or any dog determined by the ACO to be a service or assistance dog
  - b) a dog owned and utilized as a law enforcement service dog

#### **Impounding of Dogs**

10. The Town of Amherst and/or its designates by resolution may, without notice to or complaint against the owner, impound any dog that:
- a) runs at large contrary to this by-law
  - b) is not wearing a tag as required by this by-law
  - c) is not registered pursuant to this by-law
  - d) is fierce and dangerous
  - e) is rabid or appears to be rabid or exhibits symptoms thereof; or persistently disturbs the quiet of the neighborhood by barking, howling or otherwise, after a written warning has been delivered to dog owner
- 10.1 The poundkeeper, upon seizure or impoundment of a dog at large, shall make every effort to inform the dog owner, if known, that the dog has been seized and impounded, including review of available information from tags, tattoos or microchips.
- 10.2 If after the expiration of not less than 72 hours, the impounded dog is not claimed, the poundkeeper may, on the expiration of this period, destroy, or place for adoption, the impounded dog.
- 10.3 The poundkeeper, upon receiving a certificate from a qualified veterinarian that an impounded dog is suffering from infectious or contagious disease, may immediately destroy that impounded dog.
- 10.4 The poundkeeper shall maintain a recorded log, in which he/she shall record the description of every dog impounded, the name of the person who impounded the dog, the time and location of the impoundment, the fees owing and the manner of disposal of the impounded dog.
- 10.5 The owner of record of an impounded dog shall be responsible for all uncollected fees or costs in respect of an impounded dog whether or not he/she effects the release of the dog.

#### **Enforcement**

11. No dog owner shall do anything, or fail to do anything, where that action or omission, as the case may be, results in a violation of this by-law.
12. This by-law may be enforced, at the discretion of the Town:

- a) in accordance with the procedures set out in the Municipal Government Act; or
  - b) by means of a summary offence ticket under the Municipal Government Act.
13. The Summary Proceedings Act, where applicable, shall apply to proceedings under this by-law.
  14. The Animal Control Officer may enter, at all reasonable times, upon any property subject to this by-law in order to ascertain whether this By-law is being obeyed.
  15. Every person who contravenes any part of this by-law is guilty of an offense and is subject to the provisions of the *Summary Proceedings Act*.
  16. Each day an offense continues shall be a separate offense.
  17. The penalties prescribed are as follows:
    - a) with respect to the first contravention in any consecutive 12 month period, payment of \$60.00;
    - b) with respect to a second contravention within any consecutive 12 month period, payment of \$200.00;
    - c) with respect to a third contravention within any consecutive 12 month period, payment of a sum of \$500.00;
    - d) with respect to any subsequent contravention within any consecutive 12 month period, payment of a sum not less than \$500.00 and not more than \$2000.00.
  18. Any contravention of any provision of this By-law, in the preceding twelve months by any person charged, shall be counted as a previous contravention for the purpose of the preceding paragraphs.
  19. If payment is not made in accordance with these procedures, the fine is recoverable under the *Summary Proceedings Act*.

#### **Costs**

20. In all cases the Town shall have the right to recover from the owner of the dog the cost incurred by the Town in applying this by-law to the owner's dog.
- 20.1 In all cases the costs of the Town shall include the actual payments made by the Town, together with its reasonable administrative charges.
- 20.2 The provisions of this by-law shall be enforceable pursuant to the *Municipal Government Act*.

#### **Interpretation**

21. This by-law shall be read with all changes in gender and number, as may be appropriate.
22. Any part of this by-law found to be illegal shall be severed from the balance of the by-law.
23. Any and all fees referred to in the by-law shall be as set out in the Town of Amherst User Fee Policy #3470-03 and will be reviewed annually.

#### **Repeal**

24. The Town of Amherst Dogs By-Law approved by Council on November 21, 1983 with amendments approved on: May 21, 1991; February 17, 1992; June 19, 1995 and April 15, 1996 is hereby repealed in its entirety.

#### **SCHEDULE "A"**

##### **Dog License Fees**

1. Dog License fees shall be:
  - a) \$15 for each spayed/neutered dog;
  - b) \$30 for each un-sprayed/un-neutered dog.

Each license shall be payable to the Town of Amherst annually.

##### **Dog Impound Fees**

2. A dog owner may reclaim their impounded dog upon proving ownership and upon paying to the poundkeeper the following impound fees, maintenance fees and any overdue dog license fees pursuant to Schedule "A"
  - a) An impoundment fee in respect of a Licensed Dog:
    - a. First Impoundment - \$30.00
    - b. Second Impoundment - \$70.00
    - c. Third and subsequent Impoundments - \$100.00
  - b) An impoundment fee in respect to an Unlicensed Dog - \$100.00
  - c) A maintenance fee in respect of each day or part of a day on the impoundment period - \$15.00

*A special meeting of Council will be held at 12:00 noon on July 16, 2010 to consider 2<sup>nd</sup> reading.*

- 4.4 **Policy: Sidewalk / Curb Construction (Amended) RFD#2010064** **M-1006-06**  
 Moved by Deputy Mayor Rhindress, seconded by Councillor March that Council approve the amended Sidewalk / Curb Construction Policy, #31600-18 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

**TOWN OF AMHERST POLICY NUMBER 31600-18  
 SIDEWALK / CURB CONSTRUCTION**

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this policy is to define materials to be used for sidewalk and curb construction or maintenance.

**POLICY STATEMENT:**

Sidewalk construction is an important part of the Town of Amherst infrastructure. Materials used in the construction of all new sidewalks in the Town of Amherst will be recommended by staff, and reviewed and approved by Amherst Town Council during the capital budget process.

1. **New Sidewalk Construction**  
 Materials used in the construction of all new sidewalks in the Town of Amherst will be recommended by staff and reviewed and approved by Amherst Town Council during the capital budget process.
2. **Repair of Existing Sidewalks**  
 Existing concrete, asphalt or interlocking brick paver sidewalks will be repaired using the same materials used in the original construction.  
  
 Construction material for replacement of entire sections of sidewalks (i.e. between two parallel streets) shall be at the discretion of Council.
3. **New Curbs**  
 All new curbs will be concrete with barrier curbs required on arterial streets to provide safety relative to higher speed traffic. Roll over curbs will be installed on local and collector streets except at tee intersections and sharp corners where barrier curbs will be used to reduce the possibility of vehicles sliding into the sidewalk.

- 4.5 **Tender: Tow-Behind Asphalt Patcher, RFD#2010065** **M-1006-07**  
 Moved by Deputy Mayor Rhindress, seconded by Councillor Baker that Council award the tender for the supply of a new tow-behind asphalt patcher to the lowest compliant bid of \$33,651.40 (HST included) submitted by Norquip Supply Ltd.

MOTION CARRIED

- 4.6 **Funding Request: Tantramar Theatre, RFD#2010066** **M-1006-08**  
 Moved by Councillor Bird, seconded by Councillor March that Council approve funding in the amount of \$1,000 in support of Tantramar Theatre from the Town's Grants to Organizations Policy.

Moved by Councillor Angel that the amount of funding for Tantramar Theatre be increased to \$2,000 as a one-time grant. Having no seconder, the motion was lost.

ORIGINAL MOTION CARRIED 6-1  
 NAY: COUNCILLOR ANGEL

- 4.7 **Funding Request: Atlantic Dance Academy, RFD#2010067** **M-1006-09**  
 Moved by Councillor Angel, seconded by Councillor March that Council authorize funding in the amount of \$500 in support of Jenna and Jaya Szeto from the Atlantic Dance Academy to participate in the Nationals and Dance World Cup being held in Vancouver, BC this year.

MOTION CARRIED

- 4.8 **Funding Request: Amherst Red Sox, RFD#2010068** **M-1006-10**  
 Moved by Councillor Baker, seconded by Deputy Mayor Rhindress that Council authorize funding in the amount of \$500 in support of the Amherst Red Sox men's slow pitch team attending the 2010 Slo-Pitch Nationals.

MOTION CARRIED

- 4.9 **Appointment to Planning Advisory Committee, RFD#2010069** **M-1006-11**  
 Moved by Councillor Bird, seconded by Councillor Baker that Council appoint Gwen Kerr to a three-year term as a citizen representative on the Planning Advisory Committee effective immediately and expiring on March 31, 2013.

MOTION CARRIED

- 4.10 **Summer Council Meetings, RFD#2010070** **M-1006-12**  
 Moved by Councillor Fawthrop, seconded by Councillor Bird that the regular meetings of Council and Committee of the Whole be cancelled for July and August 2010, and that special meetings be convened to address any issues which may arise prior to the next

regular Committee of the Whole meeting, scheduled for Monday, September 20, 2010 and the next regular Council meeting, scheduled for Monday, September 27, 2010.

MOTION CARRIED

- 4.11 **CJSMA – Leachate Facility Debt Financing, RFD#2010071** **M-1006-13**  
**Moved by Councillor Baker, seconded by Deputy Mayor Rhindress that the Town of Amherst supports the request from the Cumberland Joint Services Management Authority to allow the Leachate Treatment Facility debt in the amount of \$493,150 to be financed by borrowing from the Closure Reserve, in accordance with the terms presented by the CJSMA.**

MOTION CARRIED

## 5. INFORMATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

### 5.1 **Four Fathers Festival Update**

Councillor Angel presented the following update on the Four Fathers Festival:

A meeting for the Four Fathers Festival was held on Tuesday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010 in the boardroom at Town Hall. This meeting basically served as a final meet-up before the Festival which will be taking place starting July 1<sup>st</sup>. Last minute questions and details were taken care of.

As we are on the “home stretch” for the Festival, here is what has been taking place for the past few weeks:

- Brochures and posters are done and have been distributed throughout the Town of Amherst and beyond. Locations that have been reached beyond the Town of Amherst include Springhill, Sackville, Pugwash, Oxford and “the beach” as locals refer to it.
- We have also created a “Four Fathers placemat” that is being distributed to various restaurants in the area that have agreed to use these over the next week and a half. The placemats look similar to the Four Fathers poster and highlight some of the week’s activities while directing readers to our website or brochure for further information. Many restaurants have agreed to use these placemats. Still others have agreed to place our brochures on their tables.
- Advertisements are currently running on radio and in the newspaper detailing Festival events and times for the public. An interview promoting the Festival was taped around the first of June with Eastlink Television, and it ran on June 15. There was also a short call-in-promo to CBC radio on June 14, and Live at 5 has featured us on their June 23 edition, providing information on the activities during the Festival.

The Four Fathers website is now up and running with a few minor details still being worked on. Jordon Moss with CANSA has been creating our website and doing a fantastic job. This young man has a real talent for web design/creation. The address for the website is: [www.fourfathersfestival.com](http://www.fourfathersfestival.com). This website serves as a full schedule of events, information on the Four Fathers, links to participating partners, as well as photos from last year and bio information on each of our musical performers.

### 5.2 **YMCA Update**

Councillor Fawthrop presented the following update on the Cumberland YMCA:

The Cumberland YMCA is the most important recreational facility in Cumberland County. With membership approaching 1,000, it provides recreational and fitness activities to members from two years old to 90. An inspiration in our morning yoga class is 88 year old Eileen Henwood. Eileen says she doesn't know what she'd do without the Y. It keeps her mind, body and spirit going. Stephanie Allan, the yoga instructor is a 15 year volunteer.

The YMCA held its AGM on the night of June 22, 2010. There were a number of members in attendance. Highlights of the meeting included:

- Balanced budget for 2009-2010: The financial position has gone from a deficit of \$52,000 last year to a positive position of \$71,000 this year - a \$125,000 dollar turn around. The \$25,000 from Kraft Canada was a definite boost.
- The \$1.3 million dollars provided by the provincial budget will be used for the childcare expansion which begins construction in July.
- Activity courses are provided in Parrsboro, Springhill, Oxford, Pugwash and River Hebert.
- Membership has increased from 606 - with 50 sponsored members in March 2009 - to 926 members with 75 sponsored by March 2010.
- The new board and executive were elected. Kathy MacLean remains as Chair.

As the Town of Amherst on the board and on the executive. Councillor Fawthrop said he was pleased to be part of such a dedicated board. At present the Y executive meets weekly. He congratulated CEO Trina Clarke and her staff for a successful year.

## 6. STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

### 6.1 Dickey Park Redevelopment – Status Report

Councillor Baker presented the following project status report on Dickey Park Redevelopment:

Landscaping around the building that houses the washrooms and change rooms is almost complete. An opening event of the refurbished Park is being planned for July 6<sup>th</sup> with details forthcoming in the next week.

The Park usage continues to be strong with walkers using the track from 6:00 AM until after dark. The lights at the park are scheduled to remain on until 11:00 PM each night.

## 7. INTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

### 7.1 Planning Advisory Committee

Councillor Bird presented the following Planning Advisory Committee report:

The Planning Advisory Committee met on June 9, 2010 to discuss a suite of amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw which would implement the recommendations of the Centre First – Downtown Amherst Action Strategy.

The Committee had a very good discussion on each of the proposed amendments. In some cases the Committee has requested additional information or changes to the amendments. Given the complexity of some of the changes and their wide ranging impact on the Town, the Committee passed a motion to have staff develop a comprehensive public participation program to be implemented in early fall, with the goal of having a recommendation to Council on the issue for Council's October meeting.

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

### 7.3 Dangerous or Unightly Premises Committee - Nil Report

### 7.4 Youth Advisory Committee

Mayor Small presented the following Youth Advisory Council report:

YAC members met most recently on June 22. They have been involved with planning the final stages for youth activities for the Four Fathers Festival. For the Saturday July 3<sup>rd</sup> events on Ratchford Street, registration for the tournaments is at a good level, with more interest everyday. For the Battle of the Bands event that same evening, two bands have signed up and will perform from 9:30 to 10:30 PM. Numerous prizes have been donated, and YAC members decided to do a prize draw every hour; recipients must be in attendance. This way, it will keep participants there through the duration of the event.

Other items of business at the June 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting included a request from the Cumberland Kids Committee for a YAC member to serve on their committee. YAC members decided that their first commitment was to YAC but would be available to answer questions related to youth via email. Information requested from YAC members can be sent to Jenn Borne and will be presented at YAC meetings to formulate a response to Cumberland Kids.

Recruitment of new YAC members was discussed. According to the YAC terms of reference, there are 12 available positions. YAC is currently comprised of eight members. It was decided that the best option would be to advertise in the schools in September, requesting applications for a position be made through CED by the end of September.

YAC will meet Tuesday, June 29<sup>th</sup> for final business related to the Four Fathers Festival. YAC will meet as needed throughout the rest of the summer and resume a regular schedule of monthly meetings in September.

### 7.5 Tree Advisory Committee– Nil Report

### 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 report on behalf of the Cumberland Regional Library Board:

#### **Statistics**

May was a busy month for the Four Fathers Library; we checked out over 5,000 items, almost half of the 10,342 items that were checked out throughout the County. We ran 16 programs for adults and children in May with 250 people participating. Also, our computers, available to the public for free, saw over 900 hours of use.

**Summer Reading Club**

The Summer Reading Club has just started. The kick-off party in Amherst had 65 children in attendance; they received logbooks to track their reading, heard stories, made crafts and enjoyed face painting. Check the library's calendar of events on [www.crl.library.ns.ca](http://www.crl.library.ns.ca) for upcoming programs.

Brand new this year, Summer Reading Club isn't just for kids. The Just for Adults Summer Reading Club is open to those 18 and older who have a library card. Great prizes donated by local merchants are available to be won. Ballots are available at the library.

**Festivals**

Look for the Cumberland Regional Library during the Four Fathers Festival. We have a full day of activities planned for Friday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> in conjunction with the Amherst Lion's Club.

**Downloadable Audiobooks and E-books**

Launching on July 7<sup>th</sup> is our new Overdrive service that will allow patrons downloadable audiobooks and ebooks, either in the library or in the comfort of their homes. Check out our website ([www.crl.library.ns.ca](http://www.crl.library.ns.ca)) for more information.

**8.2 CREDA**

Councillor Fawthrop presented the following report on behalf of the Cumberland Regional Economic Development Association.

On June 16, 2010 CREDA held its Annual General Meeting in Advocate. A number of provincial government representatives and municipal partners were in attendance. Each spoke very highly on the accomplishments and dedication of the CREDA staff and board.

This year's accomplishments include:

- Cape Chignecto Phase Two: the Eatonville day-use park and interpretive centre opened in July. The Eatonville experience is breath-taking. The views and the history are well worth the trip.
- In Amherst, CREDA worked closely along with the Town and DARS and two consulting firms to develop two strategies: Centre First-the Downtown Development Plan and Authentically Amherst- an Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy.
- CREDA was able to leverage the \$500,000 the Province provided to the Pugwash Park Commission to obtain additional funding from ACOA, Parks Canada and the County to do extensive repairs and restoration to Thinker's Lodge National Historic Site in Pugwash.

To obtain information on these and many other CREDA projects, please obtain a copy of the Annual Overview Summary 2009-2010.

At the AGM the new CREDA board was elected made up of the following members: Chair Dale Fawthrop; Vice Chair Larry Latta; Secretary Irene Albertson and Treasurer Howard Spence.

I can not say enough about the hard work and dedication of past Chair Gerald Read. Councillor Read has been Chair for the past three years and has retired with a host of accomplishments, perhaps, the most significant of which is his work as Chair of the Joggins Fossil Institute, of which I have the pleasure of being a board member. Joggins World Heritage Site was recently reviewed in the Globe and Mail as the Hidden Jewel in Nova Scotia.

**8.3 DARS**

Councillor Baker gave a verbal update on the DARS meeting last week; DARS is looking to have input into the "Centre First" development strategy for downtown, and has asked what the Town is planning to do this year and in subsequent years.

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

Councillor Baker presented the following report on behalf of the Northern Region Waste Resource Committee:

There has not been a meeting of the Northern Region Solid Waste Committee since the last meeting of Amherst Town Council. However some good news has been received in the last month. First, the Town has received funding to assist in the hiring of summer staff to pick up litter around the Town. This person has now been hired and is working along with the Public Works crews picking up litter around Town.

Second, on June 23 the Resource Recovery Fund Board announced a special, one time, payment of \$100,000 to each of the solid waste management regions. The disbursement of this special funding will be discussed shortly.

Having just attended a meeting of the Northern Region Waste Resource Committee this afternoon, Councillor Baker added a few comments to his report:

- The NRWRC will be receiving \$100,000 from the RRFB to be distributed within the region by population. It is a one-time special payment for solid waste purposes.
- The inter-municipal agreement (as approved by Amherst) has not been signed yet because Colchester County is requesting additional changes.
- The MAP funding 2<sup>nd</sup> round deadline is September 15
- The private C&D sector has a negative impact on our diversion credits.

- Discussion on clear bags – not all units have gone to clear bags. The survey shows that organics and recyclables increase with clear bags. The problem in Cumberland and in the Northern Region is in the commercial sector. Each municipality is responsible for their own by-laws.
- Cumberland received funding to hire enforcement officers. Site supervisor has gone on to Natural Resources.
- RRFB membership – should have more municipal councilors on the RRFB. (George said there was something sent out to units that he didn't see.)
- Looking at different stewardships similar to milk cartons – could be coffee cups, etc.

**8.6 Cooperation Committee - Nil Report**

**8.7 Airport Committee - Nil Report**

**8.8 Amherst and Area Chamber of Commerce**

Councillor Bird provided a verbal report on behalf of the Amherst and Area Chamber of Commerce.

- The Chamber continues to work on the "Buy Local" project and has requested funding from the Province.
- Great Amherst Song contest will be judged this Sunday afternoon as a part of Four Fathers Festival. 12 songs to be showcased, the Chamber is thrilled with content and encourages everyone to come to the tent this Sunday at 4:30.

**8.9 VON**

Councillor Baker provided a verbal report on behalf of VON, which included statistics on the various VON programs such as:

- visiting nurse program,
- home support program,
- foot care clinic,
- meals on wheels (shows a decrease),
- safety senior check-in program,
- vial for life.

**9. MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

Mayor Small reported that there is a lot going on in the community this summer and that the "Amherst Celebrates" theme is very appropriate.

- The Masonic Alexander Lodge celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary,
- Lions celebrated their 56<sup>th</sup> charter night,
- National Aboriginal Day,
- New businesses in downtown
- Weston celebrated its on 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Amherst; Amherst is their #1 facility in North America – best in 37 facilities, performing at levels that are superior to the others such as most cost competitive product, excellent customer service.
- Re-dedication of flag poles in front of Town Hall – Lions Club put money forward and partnered with the Town.
- Another successful Relay for Life
- ARHS graduation last night
- Encourage everyone to join the Four Fathers Festival and have some fun.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

On motion by Deputy Mayor Rhindress the meeting adjourned at 5:40 PM.

**APPROVED BY:**

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

Robert Small  
Mayor

# AGENDA

<b>1.</b>	<b>O'CANADA</b>		
<b>2.</b>	<b>HEARINGS/PETITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/PETITIONS</b>		
2.1	Presentation by Katherine Reed re Nova Scotia Power's Low Income Homeowner Program		2
2.2	Presentation to Brad Blenkhorn (at 4:15)		3
<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, May 25, 2010 Regular Meeting of Council	Rhindress	5
<b>4.</b>	<b>REQUESTS FOR DECISION</b>	<b>RFD</b>	<b>Presenter</b>
4.1	Amherst Water Utility Operating and Capital Budgets 2010-2011	2010061	March
4.2	Temporary Borrowing Resolution, 2010-2011 Amherst Water Utility Capital Budget	2010062	March
4.3	By-Law at 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading: Dogs By-Law, as amended	2010063	Fawthrop
4.4	Amend Policy #31600-18 Sidewalk/Curb Construction	2010064	Rhindress
4.5	Tender: Asphalt Patcher	2010065	Rhindress
4.6	Funding Request: Tantramar Theatre Society	2010066	Bird
4.7	Funding Request: Atlantic Dance Academy	2010067	Angel
4.8	Funding Request: Baseball	2010068	Baker
4.9	Appointment to Planning Advisory Committee	2010069	Bird
4.10	Summer Council Meetings	2010070	Fawthrop
4.11	CJSMA – Leachate Facility Debt Financing	2010071	Baker
<b>5.</b>	<b>INFORMATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS</b>		
5.1	Four Fathers Festival Update	Angel	61
5.2	YMCA Update	Fawthrop	62
<b>6.</b>	<b>STRATEGIC PRIORITIES</b>		
6.1	Dickey Park Redevelopment – Project Status Report	Baker	63
<b>7.</b>	<b>INTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS</b>		
7.1	Planning Advisory Committee	Bird	64
7.2	Amherst Board of Police Commissioners	Nil report	--
7.3	Dangerous or Unsightly Premises Committee	Nil report	--
7.4	Youth Advisory Council	Small	65
7.5	Tree Advisory Committee	Nil report	--
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	66
8.2	CREDA	Fawthrop	67
8.3	DARS (VERBAL REPORT)	Baker	*
8.4	CJSMA	Nil report	--
8.5	Northern Region Solid Waste	Baker	--
8.6	Cooperation Committee	Nil report	--
8.7	Airport Committee	Nil report	--
8.8	Amherst and Area Chamber of Commerce (VERBAL REPORT)	Bird	*
8.9	VON (VERBAL REPORT)	Baker	*
<b>9.</b>	<b>ADJOURNMENT</b>		