

**TOWN OF AMHERST**  
**Regular Council Meeting**  
**Minutes**

**Date of Meeting:** Monday, October 03, 2016  
**Location:** Council Chambers, Town Hall

**Members Present:** Mayor Robert Small  
Deputy Mayor Terry Rhindress  
Councillor George Baker  
Councillor Frank Balcom  
Councillor Robert Bird  
Councillor Lisa Emery

**Staff Present:** Greg Herrett, CAO  
Roger MacIsaac, Director CED  
Jason MacDonald, Deputy CAO Operations  
Vince Arbing, Treasurer  
Bill Schurman, Director Recreation  
Greg Jones, Fire Chief  
Rebecca Purdy, Executive Assistant

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Small called the meeting to order at 7:00 and welcomed those in attendance

**2. O'CANADA**

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES**

**3.1. Approval of the Agenda (3655)**

**Moved By: Councillor George Baker**

**Seconded By: Councillor Frank Balcom**

To approve the agenda with the addition of Snowmobile Friendly Community as item 4.7

**Motion Carried**

**3.2. Approval of Minutes (3656)**

**Moved By: Deputy Mayor Terry Rhindress**

**Seconded By: Councillor George Baker**

To approve the minutes of the June 27, 2016 Regular Meeting, the July 13, 2016 Special Meeting, August 8, 2016 Special Meeting, August 8, 2016 Special meeting, August 9, 2016 Special meeting, September 2, 2016 Special meeting, and September 27, 2016 Special meeting.

**Motion Carried**

**4. REQUESTS FOR DECISION**

**4.1. The Great Amherst Mystery (2163)**

*Deputy Mayor Rhindress declared a conflict and excused himself from the Council table for the discussion and decision on this agenda item.*

**Moved By: Councillor Frank Balcom**

**Seconded By: Councillor George Baker**

That Council accept the proposal from Charlie Rhindress to brand Amherst as the home of The Great Amherst Mystery, and engage his services over a six month period ending not later than March 31, 2017 at a cost of \$10,000 to be funded from the approved 2016-17 Operating Budget

**Motion Carried**

**4.2. Agreement with Marigold Centre (3599)**

**Moved By: Councillor Lisa Emery**

**Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Terry Rhindress**

**That Council approve entering into a Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Amherst and the Cobequid Arts Council/Marigold Cultural Centre to work collaboratively on booking artists for shows**

**Motion Carried**

**4.3. Proposed Amendments to User Fee Policy 3470-03 (3587)**

**Moved By: Councillor Robert Bird**

**Seconded By: Councillor Frank Balcom**

**That Council approve the revised User Fees Policy, number 3470-03**

**Motion Carried**

**4.4. Christie Foundation Grant to CCMHA (3612)**

**Moved By: Councillor George Baker**

**Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Terry Rhindress**

**That Council approve funding in the amount of \$10,000 to the Cumberland County Minor Hockey Association to be funded by a donation of \$10,000 from the Christie Foundation**

**Motion Carried**

**4.5. Christie Foundation Grant to Gymnastics Club (3613)**

**Moved By: Councillor George Baker**

**Seconded By: Councillor Lisa Emery**

**That Council approve funding in the amount of \$10,000 to the Aerial Gymnastics Club to be funded by a donation of \$10,000 from the Christie Foundation**

**Motion Carried**

**4.6. CAO Performance Review Policy (3632)**

**Moved By: Councillor Frank Balcom**

**Seconded By: Councillor George Baker**

**That Council approve the CAO Performance Review Policy, number 10350-25, to formalize the current evaluation process, as recommended by the CAO Review Committee**

**Motion Carried**

**4.7. Snowmobile Friendly Community (added) (3138)**

Councillor Bird explained that, during the September 26, 2016 Committee of the Whole meeting, Council approved a motion to make Amherst an ATV Friendly Community. There was an oversight at that time, in not making it Snowmobile Friendly as well. The purpose of the following motion is to correct that oversight, to make Amherst both ATV and Snowmobile friendly.

**Moved By: Councillor Robert Bird**

**Seconded By: Councillor Lisa Emery**

**That staff be directed to prepare all policies and/or by-laws required to make Amherst Snowmobile and ATV Friendly Community for the November 2016 Committee of the Whole meeting for first reading, and further, that the Mayor write a letter of support requesting the Province of Nova Scotia amend the required statutes to facilitate the legal access to trails, and that the Town of Amherst make a commitment to work with the Cumberland Snowmobile Club to connect Amherst with the existing trails in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick**

**Motion Carried**

## 5. INFORMATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

### 5.1. Correspondence from NS Health Authority (1785)

Councillor Emery read the letter regarding Council's decision to waive ice rental fees for youth programs at the Stadium. No action required.

## 6. INTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

### 6.1. Amherst Youth Town Council (3657)

Councillor Balcom presented the Amherst Youth Town Council report included in the agenda. No action required.

## 7. EXTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

### 7.1. Cumberland Public Libraries (3659)

Councillor Balcom presented the Cumberland Public Libraries report included in the agenda. No action required.

### 7.2. Cumberland Joint Services Management Authority (3658)

Deputy Mayor Rhindress presented the Cumberland Joint Services Management Authority report included in the agenda. No action required.

### 7.3. Northern Region Solid Waste (3665)

Councillor Baker presented the Northern Region report included in the agenda.

CAO added that the Minister's letter to the Regional Chairs has language that indicates the Province would like to do a study on centralizing, collaborating, or rationalizing solid waste. It seems to lead to the possibility that in the future there may be fewer solid waste facilities in the province. CJSMA is currently in the design/examination phase for a new cell; this issue really needs to be resolved before the CJSMA decides on whether to build it. Potential is there to be stuck with a stranded asset. We need to make sure that the decisions that CJSMA and the municipalities make are evidence based. However we also need to continue to provide a service.

## 8. ADJOURNMENT

Prior to the adjournment, the CAO recognized Roger Maclsaac on his retirement, this being Roger's last meeting of Council. He acknowledged Roger's contributions over his career with the Town.

Mayor Small presented plaques to Councillor Emery, Councillor Baker and Deputy Mayor Rhindress in appreciation of their services as Deputy Mayor over the past four years.

Mayor Small expressed his appreciation to Council and staff for the support and work during his terms as Mayor

**Moved By: Deputy Mayor Terry Rhindress**

**Seconded By: Councillor Robert Bird**

**To adjourn at 7:55 PM**

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Gregory D. Herrett, CPA, CA  
Town Clerk and CAO

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David Kogon, MD  
Mayor