

Amherst Town Council

Special Meeting

Minutes

Date of Meeting: Wednesday, August 13, 2014
 Location: Council Chambers, Town Hall

Members Present: Mayor Robert Small
 Councillor George Baker
 Councillor Robert Bird
 Deputy Mayor Lisa Emery
 Councillor David March
 Councillor Terry Rhindress

Members Absent: Councillor Frank Balcom

Staff Present: Greg Herrett, CAO
 Vince Arbing, Treasurer
 Rebecca Purdy, Executive Assistant

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Small called the meeting to order at 12:40 PM

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved By: Councillor Terry Rhindress
Seconded By: Councillor George Baker
To approve the agenda.

Motion Carried

3. REQUEST FOR DECISION

3.1. UNSM Resolutions for Fall Conference

3.1.1. Hydraulic Fracturing in Nova Scotia

Moved By: Councillor George Baker
Seconded By: Councillor Terry Rhindress
That Council submit the following resolution to the UNSM for consideration at the upcoming fall conference:

Whereas the panel reviewing hydraulic fracturing in Nova Scotia has completed its community information sessions across the province and much is still unknown about the risks and benefits to Nova Scotians; and

Whereas, a 2013 Corporate Research Associates poll indicates that the majority of Nova Scotians oppose the development of hydraulic fracturing in the province; and

Whereas the uncertainties around long term environmental effects of hydraulic fracturing, particularly those related to climate change and its impact on the health of both current and future generations, are considerable; and

Whereas the roles for all levels of government, including municipalities, in regulating hydraulic fracturing are unclear

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Therefore be it resolved that the UNSM adopt the position that the existing moratorium on hydraulic fracturing should stay in place and call on the Province of Nova Scotia to enact legislation to give effect to the moratorium, and

Be it further resolved that, should the current moratorium be lifted, the UNSM lobby the Province of Nova Scotia to ensure that municipalities be given the legislative and regulatory authority to decide whether hydraulic fracturing may take place within their boundaries, and that the decision making process includes public consultation.

Motion Carried

4. ADJOURNMENT

Moved By: Councillor Terry Rhindress

Seconded By: Councillor David March

To adjourn at 12:50 PM.

Motion Carried

Gregory D. Herrett, CA
Town Clerk and CAO

Robert Small
Mayor