

**Amherst Town Council  
Committee of the Whole  
Minutes**

**Date:** April 17, 2020  
**Time:** 9:00 am  
**Location:** Virtual Zoom Meeting

**Members Present** Mayor David Kogon  
Deputy Mayor Sheila Christie  
Councillor Vince Byrne  
Councillor Darrell Jones  
Councillor Wayne MacKenzie  
Councillor Terry Rhindress

**Staff Present** Greg Herrett, CAO  
Jason MacDonald, Deputy CAO Operations  
Shelley Rector, Chief Financial Officer  
Dwayne Pike, Police Chief  
Greg Jones, Fire Chief  
Andrew Fisher, Manager of Planning & Strategic Initiatives  
Tom McCoag, Corporate Communications Officer  
Kim Jones, Municipal Clerk  
Natalie LeBlanc, Deputy Clerk

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Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the requirement for physical distancing, this was a virtual meeting held via Zoom.

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor Kogon welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

**1.1 Approval of Agenda**

**Moved By Deputy Mayor Christie**

**Seconded By Councillor Byrne**

**To approve the agenda with addition of 1.2 Mayor's Comments, and a new 2.2 Due Dates.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**1.2 Mayor's Comments**

Mayor Kogon indicated that further to the request from NSFM the Province is expected to make an announcement within the next 7-10 days regarding COVID-19 related assistance. He also reported that there has been no decision yet to change the date of the Fall election and as of now it is still scheduled for October 2020.

The Mayor also noted that he received a call from Lieutenant Governor Arthur LeBlanc congratulating the Town of Amherst on their efforts during the pandemic and results indicating there are no cases in of COVID-19 in Cumberland County. They discussed some of the challenges the Town has been facing, such as being a bordertown, and the financial challenges the Town will face. The Lieutenant Governor further commented that he would like to visit Amherst when this pandemic is over.

## **2. REQUESTS FOR DECISIONS**

### **2.1 'A' Fresh Start**

**Moved By Councillor Byrne**

**Seconded By Councillor MacKenzie**

**That a decision to cancel the spring 'A' Fresh Start event be forwarded to the next Council meeting for approval.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **2.2 Due Dates**

**Moved By Deputy Mayor Christie**

**Seconded By Councillor MacKenzie**

**That Council approve of keeping the due dates as they are for water, sewer and property taxes.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **2.3 Waiver of Interest - General**

**Moved By Councillor Byrne**

**Seconded By Deputy Mayor Christie**

**That approval to waive interest for the months of April, May, and June of 2020 for current outstanding tax and miscellaneous accounts and for June for April Interim tax billings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic be forwarded to the next meeting of Council.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **2.4 Waiver of Interest - Water**

**Moved By Councillor MacKenzie**

**Seconded By Councillor Jones**

**That approval to waive interest for the months of April, May, June and July of 2020 for current outstanding water/sewer and for July for April billings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic be forwarded to the next meeting of Council.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**3. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**3.1 Payments by Credit Card**

Consensus of Council was to not re-introduce the acceptance of credit cards for tax and water/sewer payments.

**4. Adjournment**

**Moved By Councillor Jones**

**Seconded By Councillor MacKenzie**

**To adjourn the meeting.**

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Kimberlee Jones  
Municipal Clerk

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David Kogon, MD  
Mayor