

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

Date: June 8, 2020
Time: 3:30 pm
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
Sarah Wilson, Financial Services Manager
Dwayne Pike, Police Chief
Greg Jones, Fire Chief
Kim Jones, Municipal Clerk
Natalie LeBlanc, Deputy Clerk

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 called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

1.1 Approval of Agenda

Moved By Councillor Byrne

Seconded By Councillor Rhindress

To approve the agenda as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

2. Council Direction Request

2.1 Fluoridation

Moved By Deputy Mayor Christie

Seconded By Councillor MacKenzie

That Council forward to the June 22, 2020 regular meeting of Council for approval the plebiscite question: 'Should the Amherst Water Utility fluoridate the municipal drinking water supply? Yes or No', and further direct staff to survey water customers outside of the Town of Amherst with the above question.

MOTION CARRIED

2.2 User Fee Policy

Moved By Councillor Byrne

Seconded By Councillor Jones

That Council forward the correction to the User Fee policy for fiscal 2020-21 in regard to the HST application for ice times and to insert a header that was removed stating the rates were for ice time to the next Council meeting for approval.

MOTION CARRIED

2.3 Grants to Organization

It was agreed unanimously by Council to provide funding in the amounts as suggested by staff included as part of the agenda package, with the exception of the \$10,000 request from Maggie's Place, which Council directed staff to provide further information at the June 16, 2020 Committee of the Whole. Council further unanimously agreed to provide funding in the amount of \$5,000 to the Cumberland County Transportation Services and \$500 to the Fundy Winds Marsh project.

2.4 Burning Bylaw

Moved By Councillor Byrne

Seconded By Deputy Mayor Christie

To direct staff to review the Burning Bylaw C-07 and consider amendments to permit outdoor propane heaters/propane fireplace and/or other methods of outside burning appliances that have appeared on the marketplace since the Bylaw was approved in 2002, and bring back to Committee of the Whole.

MOTION CARRIED

3. Information Items

3.1 Tax Reduction Policy Update

Moved By Councillor Byrne

Seconded By Deputy Mayor Christie

That Council forward to the June meeting of Council approval of the Tax Reduction Policy as amended to increase the income threshold to \$28,000, and that the income amount be revisited each year when the budget is approved.

MOTION CARRIED

3.2 Election 2020 Update

Further to the staff memo included as part of the agenda package with regard to an all electronic election, Council were asked to send any questions they may have to the Returning Officer so she can prepare a report and recommendation for June Committee of the Whole.

- 4. Adjournment**
Moved By Councillor Jones
Seconded By Councillor Rhindress
To adjourn the meeting at 5:25 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

Kimberlee Jones
Municipal Clerk

David Kogon, MD
Mayor