

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

Date: September 21, 2020
Time: 4:00 pm
Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting

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

Members Absent Councillor Wayne MacKenzie

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

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 4:00 p.m.

1.1 Approval of Agenda

Moved By Councillor Rhindress

Seconded By Councillor Byrne

To approve the agenda with addition of 3.4 Halloween and Christmas Parade Update.

MOTION CARRIED

1.2 Approval of Minutes

Moved By Councillor Byrne

Seconded By Deputy Mayor Christie

That the minutes of the June 15, June 29, August 6, August 10 and August 26, 2020 Committee of the Whole meetings be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

2. Council Direction Requests

2.1 Year End Transfers

Moved By Councillor Byrne

Seconded By Councillor Rhindress

That Council forward the following transfer from the Operating Reserve to General Operating to the September 28, 2020 regular meeting of Council for approval:

- 1. Withdraw from the Operating Reserve – Reserve for Mandatory Provincial Contribution Area Rate of \$13,137.92 to fund the deficit in the Mandatory Provincial Contribution Area Rate for the 2019/20 fiscal year.**

MOTION CARRIED

2.2 Year End Capital

Moved By Councillor Rhindress

Seconded By Councillor Byrne

That Council forward approval of the following changes to the funding for the Water and General Capital Budget to the September 28, 2020 regular Council meeting:

- 1. Approval of the increase of Water Operating capital from revenue from \$40,000 to \$114,673.80;**
- 2. Approval of the increase of General Operating capital from revenue from \$491,535 to \$496,030.80;**
- 3. Withdraw of \$4,000 from the Capital Reserve which represents the Trade-In-Allowance for two thermal imaging cameras against the purchase of three new thermal imaging cameras in the General Capital Fund; and**
- 4. Withdraw from the Capital Reserve of \$33,857 to fund a portion of the new roof on the Community Credit Union Business Innovation Centre.**

MOTION CARRIED

2.3 Fall Debenture Approval

Moved By Councillor Jones

Seconded By Councillor Byrne

That the Resolution for Pre-Approval of Debenture Issuance in the amount of \$1,044,090 for long term financing be referred to the September 28, 2020 meeting for Council's approval.

The long term financing funds the following projects; \$446,033 for the water main replacement on Willow Street from Spring Street to East Pleasant Street, \$134,361 for a backhoe in the water department and in general capital \$463,696 for Willow Street paving and curb (from Spring to East Pleasant), culvert and sanitary sewer (from Walter Purdy to Oceanview).

MOTION CARRIED

2.4 Tax Financing Program Extension

Moved By Deputy Mayor Christie

Seconded By Councillor Rhindress

That Council forward the proposed change to the due date of applications for the COVID 19 Property Tax Financing Program Policy from July 31, 2020 to October 31, 2020 to the September 28, 2020 regular meeting of Council for approval.

MOTION CARRIED

2.5 LaPlanche Street Sidewalk

Information item at this time; will be part of the 2021/22 budget discussions.

2.6 Drover Street

Moved By Councillor Byrne

Seconded By Councillor Jones

That a decision on this request be forwarded to the September 28, 2020 regular meeting of Council.

MOTION CARRIED

2.7 Park Street Sidewalk Repair and Crosswalk Request

Moved By Councillor Jones

Seconded By Deputy Mayor Christie

That the sidewalk be deemed an emergency and a concrete sidewalk be installed immediately with funding to come from gas tax, and an amendment be made to the capital budget to reflect this.

MOTION CARRIED

2.8 Modified Mufflers

Moved By Councillor Jones

Seconded By Councillor Byrne

That Council direct staff to investigate this concern and see how these regulations may be enforced and by whom, and report back to Council at the October meeting.

Moved By Councillor Jones

Seconded By Councillor Rhindress

To amend the motion to direct staff to investigate this concern and other municipal bylaws and see how these regulations may be enforced and report back to Committee of the Whole at the next regular meeting.

AMENDED MOTION CARRIED

2.9 Request for Presentation

Moved By Councillor Rhindress

Seconded By Deputy Mayor Christie

That staff be directed to arrange a presentation for the November regular meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

2.10 Renaming Lord Amherst Drive

Moved By Councillor Jones

Seconded By Councillor Byrne

That Committee of the Whole refer the issue of renaming Lord Amherst Drive to Rocky Johnson Drive to the September 28, 2020 regular meeting of Council.

MOTION DEFEATED

Against (3): Mayor Kogon, Deputy Mayor Christie, and Councillor Rhindress

Moved By Deputy Mayor Christie

Seconded By Councillor Rhindress

That staff be directed to look at other options to recognize Rocky Johnson and report back to a future Committee of the Whole meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

3. Information Items

3.1 Dust at Robb's

Moved By Councillor Jones

Seconded By Councillor Rhindress

That Committee of the Whole forward to the September 28, 2020 regular meeting of council approval of \$30,000 of gas tax funding to install grass infields, complete with heavy clay baseline at Robbs Complex to reduce dust.

MOTION CARRIED

3.2 Cenotaph Renovations

Information item; no direction given.

3.3 Korean War Plaque Unveiling

Information item; no direction given.

4. Monthly Reports

4.1 Corporate Services

Information item; no direction given or action required.

4.2 Operations

Information item; no direction given or action required.

4.3 Police Services

Information item; no direction given or action required.

4.4 Fire Services

Moved By Deputy Mayor Christie

Seconded By Councillor Byrne

That a letter on behalf of Mayor and Council be sent to neighboring fire departments for their assistance with the fire this past weekend.

MOTION CARRIED

4.5 Community Well-Being

Information item; no direction given or action required.

4.6 Planning & Strategic Initiatives

Information item; no direction given or action required.

4.7 Economic Development

Information item; no direction given or action required.

5. Adjournment

Moved By Councillor Jones

Seconded By Councillor Rhindress

To adjourn the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

Kimberlee Jones
Municipal Clerk

David Kogon, MD
Mayor