



COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

CDR# 2023057

Date: April 17, 2023

TO: Mayor Kogon and Members of Council

SUBMITTED BY: Sarah Wilson, Director of Finance

DATE: April 17, 2023

SUBJECT: 2023/24 Capital Budget Amendments

ORIGIN: 2023/24 Capital Budget.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY: Section 65 of the Municipal Government Act requires that council shall adopt an operating budget and a capital budget for each fiscal year.

RECOMMENDATION: That Council forward to the April 24, 2023 regular meeting approval of an amendment to the 2023/24 Town of Amherst Water Utility Capital Budget for the addition of \$338,470 for potential Land Purchases to be funded by the Challenge Fund Grant and the General Capital Budget for the addition of the Police Station Boiler Replacement of \$65,000 to be funded from Capital Reserve.

BACKGROUND: The Challenge Fund Grant (Nova Scotia Environment and Climate Change) has funded previous land purchases in the Water Utility. The purpose of these land purchases is to secure more land in and around the North Tyndall Wellfield.

The boilers at the Police Station have not been performing as they should and one has failed completely. The status of these boilers leaves the building in danger of not having heat.

DISCUSSION: The Town of Amherst's Agreement with the Challenge Fund sets the grant contribution for 2023/24 at \$338,470. Although this grant is available and covers all the costs of acquiring land, it can be difficult to locate and acquire parcels of land.

The CAO authorized an emergency alternate procurement for new boilers at the Police Station. The old boilers were aluminum and have completely corroded, the new boilers will be stainless steel and have a lifetime warranty.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: The potential land purchases are completely funded by the Challenge Fund Grant so there is no financial impact to the Water Utility.

The replacement of the Police Station Boilers is \$65,000 and will be funded from the Capital Reserve – Unrestricted Funds.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: Information on the capital budget has been shared via social media. A budget report (operating and capital) will be added to the website once the operating budget has been approved.



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS: None anticipated.

SOCIAL JUSTICE IMPLICATIONS: None anticipated.

ALTERNATIVES: Delay the decision to a future meeting.

ATTACHMENTS: None

Report prepared by: Sarah Wilson, Director of Finance
Report and Financial approved by: Sarah Wilson, Director of Finance