

TOWN OF AMHERST
Regular Council Meeting
Minutes

Date: June 25, 2018
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: Council Chambers, Town Hall

Members Present	Mayor David Kogon Deputy Mayor Sheila Christie Councillor Vince Byrne Councillor Darrell Jones Councillor Wayne MacKenzie Councillor Terry Rhindress
Members Absent	Councillor Jason Blanch
Staff Present	Greg Herrett, CAO Jason MacDonald, Deputy CAO Operations Ian Naylor, Police Chief Bill Schurman, Director Recreation Greg Jones, Fire Chief Shelley Rector, Chief Financial Officer Tom McCoag, Corporate Communications Officer Andrew Fisher, Manager of Planning & Strategic Initiatives Kimberlee Jones, Municipal Clerk Natalie LeBlanc, Deputy Clerk

1. CALL TO ORDER
Mayor Kogon called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. O CANADA
Grace Thompson sang O Canada.

3. HEARINGS/PRESENTATIONS/PETITIONS
3.1 Electric Car Charging Station

An official opening of the Electric Car Charging Station was held.

David Stevenson of Tatamagouche was on hand for this. A strong supporter of renewable energy it has been a long-time dream of his to have charging stations around the province so “you could drive an electric car anywhere in Nova Scotia.” A retired educator, Stevenson is currently the president of Colchester-Cumberland Wind Field, a windfarm located between Tatamagouche and Earltown.

As a result of his work with the windfarm, he met David Swan, who is a director in the wind field and has 30 years of experience with electric cars. They in turn met up with a person in Saskatchewan who was working to put charging stations across the country. “We all had a personal appreciation of renewable energy and wanted to work towards the ability to fuel electric vehicles anywhere in the province.”

In 2012, Stevenson and Swan began their volunteer work to bring charging stations to various communities in the province. Their work has resulted in charging stations in Parrsboro, Masstown, Truro, New Glasgow, Antigonish and in the Valley. The charger Amherst is getting is one of the new chargers. It can charge any electric car out there. It’s a slow charger.

He praised Amherst for being innovative and supportive of renewable energy, which is the wave of the future and helps to cut down on the use of fossil fuels. He says the charger will attract visitors because electric car owners plan their trips around where charging stations are located.

3.2 Long Service Awards

The Mayor presented Long Service Awards to the following:

40 Years of Service – Scott White
30 Years of Service – Ben Pitman
 Ian Naylor
20 Years of Service – Ken Pettigrew
 Kathy Lake
 Greg Herrett
 Dwayne Pike
 Kim Jones
10 Years of Service – Kevin Devine
 Shane Mitchell
 Rick MacKay
 John Haggerty
 Jean Jacklin
 Jason Galloway

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

4.1 Approval of the Agenda

Moved By Deputy Mayor Christie
Seconded By Councillor Byrne
To approve the agenda as circulated.

Motion Carried

4.2 Approval of Minutes - 20180528

Moved By Councillor Rhindress
Seconded By Councillor Jones
To approve the minutes of the May 28, 2018 regular meeting of Council.

Motion Carried

5. REQUESTS FOR DECISION

5.1 Tax Exemption Bylaw to Repeal 2nd Reading

Moved By Councillor Rhindress
Seconded By Councillor MacKenzie
That Council approve second reading of a bylaw to Repeal the Tax Exemption Bylaw B-1.

Motion Carried

5.2 Tax Exemption Policy

Moved By Councillor Rhindress
Seconded By Councillor Byrne
That Council approve the Tax Exemption Policy which replaces the previous Tax Exemption Bylaw.

Motion Carried

5.3 Pension Plan Amendment

Moved By Councillor Byrne
Seconded By Deputy Mayor Christie
That Council approve the proposed changes to the pension plan to ensure compliance with the Nova Scotia Pension and Benefit Act.

Motion Carried

5.4 MPS & LUB Amendments

Moved By Deputy Mayor Christie

Seconded By Councillor MacKenzie

That Council give first reading to the amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy Schedule 'A' Future Land Use Designations Map by changing 283 & 295 Church Street from Industrial to Highway Commercial, and an amendment the Land Use Bylaw Schedule 'A' Zoning Map by changing the same properties from the Industrial Zone to the Highway Commercial Zone, and further schedule a public hearing and second reading for the next regular meeting of Council.

Motion Carried

5.5 Strategic Priorities

Moved By Deputy Mayor Christie

Seconded By Councillor Jones

That Council adopt the Strategic Priorities Chart for the July to September 2018 period.

Motion Carried

5.6 Ice Helmet Policy

Moved By Councillor MacKenzie

Seconded By Councillor Byrne

That Council approve Ice Helmet Policy 72300-10 for the Amherst Stadium effective August 15, 2018.

Motion Carried

5.7 AYTC Policy Recommendation

Moved By Councillor Rhindress

Seconded By Councillor MacKenzie

That Council approve the revised Amherst Youth Town Council (AYTC) Policy.

Motion Carried

5.8 Dog Park

Moved By Councillor Jones

Seconded By Councillor Rhindress

That Council approve the scope of work required to develop a permanent off-leash dog park within Dickey Park, with the work to begin as soon as possible.

Against (2): Deputy Mayor Christie, and Councillor Jones

Motion Carried

5.9 REMO Plan

Moved By Councillor Byrne

Seconded By Deputy Mayor Christie

That Council accept this newly created Regional Emergency Management Plan (REMO).

Motion Carried

5.10 East Pleasant Street Tender

Moved By Councillor Byrne

Seconded By Deputy Mayor Christie

That Council award the tender for the East Pleasant Street reconstruction project to Cumberland Paving and Contracting at their total unit price bid amount of \$825,315 plus HST. And further that staff be directed to negotiate a reduction in the amount of work to be completed, based on the unit prices submitted, in order to bring the actual costs of the project closer to the actual budgeted amount of \$805,000 including HST.

Motion Carried

5.11 Community Support Grants Policy

Moved By Deputy Mayor Christie

Seconded By Councillor Byrne

That Council approve the amendments to the Community Support Grant Policy 72000-08.

Against (1): Councillor Rhindress

Motion Carried

5.12 Cumberland County Physician Recruitment Committee Funding Proposal

Moved By Deputy Mayor Christie

Seconded By Councillor Rhindress

That Council approve the request for funding to support the Cumberland County Physician Recruitment Committee in an amount up to \$10,915, and give staff authority to draw these funds from the Operating Reserve.

Motion Carried

5.13 Multi Ethnic Sport Hall of Fame Funding Request

Moved By Councillor Jones

Seconded By Councillor MacKenzie

That Council make \$150 donations directly to the Heather Arseneau Scholarship and the Amherst Food Network in honor of the list of honorees for this event.

Motion Carried

5.14 Appointment of Acting Police Chief

Moved By Councillor Jones

Seconded By Councillor Rhindress

That Council appoint the current Deputy Chief of Police Dwayne Pike as Acting Chief of Police effective August 1, 2018 until such time as Council appoints a permanent replacement for Chief Naylor.

Motion Carried

6. INFORMATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

No information or discussion items.

7. INTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

7.1 Planning Advisory Committee

Information item; no direction given or action required.

7.2 Amherst Board of Police Commissioners

Information item; no direction given or action required.

8. EXTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

8.1 Cumberland Public Libraries

Information item; no direction given or action required.

8.2 Cumberland YMCA

Information item; no direction given or action required.

8.3 Cumberland Joint Services Management Authority - Verbal Report

Information item; no direction given or action required.

8.4 Northern Region Solid Waste Committee

No report.

8.5 L. A. Animal Shelter

Information item; no direction given or action required.

9. ADJOURNMENT

**Moved By Councillor Jones
Seconded By Councillor MacKenzie
To adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m.**

Motion Carried

Kimberlee Jones
Municipal Clerk

David Kogon, MD
Mayor