

TO:	Mayor Kogon and Members of Amherst Town Council
SUBMITTED BY:	Natalie LeBlanc, Municipal Clerk
DATE:	April 24, 2023
SUBJECT:	Purchase and Use of Bottled Water Policy

**ORIGIN**: Policy / Bylaw Review

**LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**: MGA sections 47 and 48 authorize council to make, amend and repeal bylaws and policies.

**<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>**: That Council approve of the amendments to the Purchase and Use of Bottled Water Policy #01130-02.

**BACKGROUND**: At the June 19, 2017 meeting of Committee of the Whole, Council directed staff to develop a policy with regards to bottled water that would address the use of Town provided bottled water within Town Hall and explore the best environmentally positive way in providing liquid refreshments to citizens at events. Staff drafted a policy based on a similar policy in place at the provincial government level. Council approved the Purchase and Use of Bottled Water Policy on September 25, 2017.

**<u>DISCUSSION</u>**: As part of the ongoing Policy and Bylaw review, staff have reviewed this Policy and are recommending some minor changes to the wording that would no longer prohibit the use of bottled water but rather strongly discourage it unless deemed necessary.

**<u>FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS</u>**: While not significant, the amount of money spent on bottled water for meetings and events is normally about \$750 per year.

**<u>COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT</u>**: No community engagement has taken place.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**: The use of tap water over bottled water conserves energy and reduces utilization of fossil fuels.

**SOCIAL JUSTICE IMPLICATIONS:** There are no social justice implications relating to this Policy.

ALTERNATIVES: 1) Make no / or other amendments to the Policy; or 2) Repeal the Policy

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**ATTACHMENTS:** 01130-02 Purchase and Use of Bottled Water Policy Existing, -1130-02 Purchase and Use of Bottled Water Policy with Amendments.

Report prepared by: Natalie LeBlanc

Report and Financial approved by: