

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

Date: February 18, 2025
Time: 4:00 pm
Location: Council Chambers, Town Hall

Members Present Deputy Mayor Hal Davidson
Councillor Charlie Chambers
Councillor Nic Furlong
Councillor Terry McManaman
Councillor Dwayne Ripley
Councillor Kathy Wells

Members Absent Mayor Rob Small

Staff Present Jason MacDonald, Chief Administrative Officer
Aaron Bourgeois, Director, Operations
Andrew Fisher, Director, Planning & Economic Development
Dwayne Pike, Chief, Police Services
Greg Jones, Director, Fire Services
Kim Jones, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Krista Crossman, Director, Human Resources
Sarah Wilson, Director, Finance
Sharon Bristol, Director, Community Living
Sean Payne, Corporate Communications Officer
Jeff Bacon, Business Development Officer
Denise Smith, Finance Manager
Natalie LeBlanc, Municipal Clerk
Cindy Brown, Administrative Assistant

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

1.1 Territorial Acknowledgement

The Chair gave the Territorial Acknowledgement.

1.2 Approval of Agenda

Moved By Councillor Wells

Seconded By Councillor Furlong

That the agenda be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

1.3 Approval of the Consent Agenda

Moved By Councillor Chambers

Seconded By Councillor McManaman

To approve the consent agenda as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

1.4 Acceptance of Minutes

1.4.1 January 20, 2025

Moved By Councillor Chambers

Seconded By Councillor McManaman

That the minutes of the January 20, 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting be accepted as part of the consent agenda, as included in the agenda package.

MOTION CARRIED

2. Presentations

2.1 Property Valuation Services - 2025 Assessment Roll - Paul Beazley and Laura MacLean

Paul Beazley and Laura MacLean gave a presentation on the 2025 Assessment Role, included in the agenda package. Information only.

3. Council Direction Requests

3.1 Sidewalk Curb Construction Policy

Moved By Councillor Wells

Seconded By Councillor McManaman

That Council forward to the February 24, 2025 regular meeting, approval of the amendments to the Sidewalk and Curb Construction Policy.

MOTION CARRIED

3.2 Appointment of Members of Council to External Boards, Committees and Commissions Policy

Moved By Councillor Ripley

Seconded By Councillor Chambers

That Council forward to the February 24, 2025 regular meeting, approval of the proposed amendments to the Appointment of Members of Council to External Boards, Committee & Commissions Policy.

MOTION CARRIED

3.3 Themed Crosswalks

Moved By Councillor Furlong

Seconded By Councillor Wells

That staff prepare a policy to address themed crosswalks in the downtown core for Council consideration.

MOTION CARRIED

3.4 Living Museum

Moved By Councillor Chambers

Seconded By Councillor Ripley

To remove 'Living Museum' from the Strategic Priorities Points to Capture list.

MOTION CARRIED

3.5 Military Museum

Council will consider this item at a future Committee of the Whole meeting following the presentation scheduled for February 24, 2025.

3.6 Anson Avenue CN Crossing Train Whistle

Moved By Councillor Chambers

Seconded By Councillor Wells

That staff be directed to hire a professional engineer or other qualified person familiar with railway safety to complete the required assessments on behalf of the Town; and further that staff include \$10,000 in the proposed 2025/26 operating budget to pay for the required assessments.

Against (3): Councillor Furlong, Councillor McManaman, and Councillor Ripley

MOTION DEFEATED

4. Information Items

Moved By Councillor Chambers

Seconded By Councillor McManaman

The following information items were approved as part of the consent agenda:

4.1 Stadium PA System

4.2 Free Exercise

4.3 Bylaw Officer Capacity

4.4 Police and Mental Health

4.5 Reward for Development

4.6 Tourism Strategy

4.9 Wind Turbine

4.10 Chamberlain / South Albion Street Intersection

4.11 Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)

4.12 CAO Task Report

MOTION CARRIED

4.7 'A' Special Day

Staff to begin to think about plans for 'A' Special Day recognition and/or event(s) and further include funds in the 2026/27 budget for 'A' Special Day.

4.8 Egress from Council Chambers Procedure

The Clerk reviewed the Egress from Council Chambers Procedure with Council. Information item only.

6. Closed Session

Moved By Councillor Wells

Seconded By Councillor Furlong

That the Committee move to a Closed Session.

MOTION CARRIED

7. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting.