

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

Date: May 7, 2019
Time: 3:30 pm
Location: Council Chambers, Town Hall

Members Present
Mayor David Kogon
Deputy Mayor Sheila Christie
Councillor Jason Blanch
Councillor Vince Byrne
Councillor Darrell Jones
Councillor Wayne MacKenzie
Councillor Terry Rhindress

Staff Present
Greg Herrett, CAO
Jason MacDonald, Deputy CAO Operations
Bill Schurman, Director Recreation
Rebecca Taylor, Business Development Officer
Dwayne Pike, Police Chief
Tom McCoag, Corporate Communications Officer
Andrew Fisher, Manager of Planning & Strategic Initiatives
Shelley Rector, Chief Financial Officer
Sarah Wilson, Financial Services Manager
Kim Jones, Municipal Clerk
Natalie LeBlanc, Deputy Clerk

1. Call to Order - 3:30 p.m.

Mayor Kogon called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

- 1.1 Approval of Agenda**
Moved By Councillor MacKenzie
Seconded By Councillor Byrne
To approve the agenda as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

2. Police Presentation

Chief Pike presented the proposed budget for the Amherst Police Department.

3. Water and General Capital Budgets

3.1 Memo - Capital Budget Discussion

The CFO reviewed the memo included as part of the agenda package.

3.2 Carry Over Projects from 2018/19

The CFO indicated that capital budget carry over projects from 2018-19 have been updated to include the new service truck in the water department, a new truck for the fire department (which was procured and came in over budget) and the cell block acoustic panels at the police department.

3.3 2019/20 New Capital Projects

The CFO reviewed the list of new projects.

3.4 2019/20 Capital Discussion Items

Moved By Councillor Blanch

Seconded By Councillor MacKenzie

To have public works crews complete the installation of a new sidewalk complete with new storm, water and sewer laterals along North Adelaide Street from Harding Avenue to Tantramar Place with funds to come from the 2019-20 capital budget.

MOTION CARRIED

Moved By Councillor Blanch

Seconded By Councillor Jones

That staff approve the Solar for Community Buildings as presented and allocate \$259,491 in the 2019-20 capital budget to be financed through the MFC Financial Serial Rate.

MOTION CARRIED

Moved By Councillor Byrne

Seconded By Deputy Mayor Christie

To defer the Batting Cage to the 2020-21 capital budget.

Against (1): Councillor MacKenzie

MOTION CARRIED

3.5 2019/20 Gas Tax Additional Projects

Moved By Councillor Rhindress

Seconded By Councillor Jones

To add \$205,000 worth of capital projects to the 2019-20 budget to be funded from a new allotment of gas tax monies, and transfer the remaining balance of the gas tax monies to capital reserves.

MOTION CARRIED

3.6 2019/20 Overall Capital Budget

The CFO reviewed the spreadsheet as included in the agenda package.

3.7 Capital Budget Years 2 – 10

The spreadsheets for Years 2-10 included in the agenda package were reviewed by the CFO.

4. General Rate

Moved By Councillor MacKenzie

Seconded By Councillor Blanch

To forward to Council for approval the General Rate as presented with an increase of .004 bringing the Base Residential Rate to 1.184 and the Base Commercial Rate to 3.984.

Upon discussion, it was agreed to remove the funds allocated in the operating budget for the proposed Tourist Information Center. The CAO advised that funds could be withdrawn from other resources should Council approve this project following approval of the budgets. As this would result in savings of approximately \$25,000 the following motion was made:

Moved By Deputy Mayor Christie

Seconded By Councillor MacKenzie

To amend the motion and forward the General Rate as presented less .005 bringing the Base Residential Rate to 1.179 and the Base Commercial Rate to 3.979 to Council for approval.

MOTION CARRIED

Moved By Councillor Blanch

Seconded By Councillor Byrne

To accept the amended motion.

AMENDED MOTION CARRIED

Moved By Councillor Byrne

Seconded By Councillor Blanch

To forward the revised User Fee Policy as presented to Council for approval.

MOTION CARRIED

5. Community Support Grant Policy

This item deferred to the May 15, 2019 Committee of the Whole meeting.

6. **Adjournment**
Moved By Councillor Blanch
Seconded By Deputy Mayor Christie
To adjourn the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

Kimberley Jones
Municipal Clerk

David Kogon, MD
Mayor