



## AMHERST TOWN COUNCIL

RFD# 2024046

Date: April 22, 2024

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**TO:** Mayor Kogon and Members of Council

**SUBMITTED BY:** Aaron Bourgeois, Director of Operations

**DATE:** April 22, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Stadium Netting

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**ORIGIN:** At the March 18, 2024 Committee of the Whole meeting the following motion was passed: ***That Council forward to the March 25, 2024 regular meeting, direction to staff to remove the stadium netting from the sides before the next hockey season.***

**LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY:** MGA 47 (2) The council may exercise any of its powers and duties by resolution unless a policy or a by-law is required by an enactment.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That Council direct staff to remove the stadium netting from the sides before the next hockey season.

**BACKGROUND:** At the March 18, 2024 Committee of the Whole meeting the following motion was passed: ***That Council forward to the March 25, 2024 regular meeting, direction to staff to remove the stadium netting from the sides before the next hockey season.*** Following the meeting a memo was discovered where the Maritime Junior Hockey League requested the side netting be installed in addition to the plexiglass. Staff felt this warranted further discussion and at the March 25 regular meeting of Council the CAO shared the memo with Council.

**DISCUSSION:** Staff have been in contact with league president Connor Cameron and the side netting is not a requirement of the league, their only concern with removing the side netting is fan safety but the removal of the netting is up to the Town.

While the netting does provide additional protection from deflected pucks entering the stands it also interferes with the quality of the video for televised games and prevents the stadium from hosting promotional activities such as teddy bear / mitten toss.

Staff are recommending the side netting at the Amherst Stadium be removed prior to the start of the 2024/25 Amherst Junior "A" Ramblers season.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:** There are no financial implications to removing the stadium netting.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:** No community engagement has taken place.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS:** There are no environmental implications



**SOCIAL JUSTICE IMPLICATIONS:** There are no social justice implications.

**ALTERNATIVES:** 1. Do not remove the side netting, or 2. Propose an alternative plan

**ATTACHMENTS:** None

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Report prepared by:

Report and Financial approved by: