



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MR# 2020002**

**DATE: 22 January 2021**

**RE: Staff directed to have water rate study conducted**

**AMHERST, Nova Scotia** – Amherst town council's committee of the whole directed town staff on Monday, Jan. 18, 2021, to begin the process of having a water rate study prepared that may eventually be used in applying to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board for new water rates.

The town's current water rates were last reviewed in 2017, and were in effect until April, 1, 2020. The Amherst Water Utility has been using the 2019 rates since last April.

It was noted it was good practice to review the water rates on a regular basis to ensure the utility does not operate with a deficit. It was also noted the town currently has the fourth lowest water rates in the province.

### **Walking Track**

The committee directed staff to examine the possibility of expanding the operating hours of the walking track at the Amherst Stadium and to report back to the committee in the near future.

### **Youth Centre**

The committee directed staff to advise Cumberland Kids that it agrees in principle to support a youth centre in the town and to ask the organization to provide the committee with a special proposal by Feb. 26, 2021.





### **Recognizing individuals/Renaming Street**

The committee directed staff to prepare updates on the recognition of individuals and the renaming of Lord Amherst Drive. The updates are to be presented to the committee at its February meeting.

### **Crosswalk lights, sidewalks and crosswalks**

As a result of concerns raised by citizens, the committee directed staff to determine if a set of crosswalk lights should be installed above the crosswalk on Victoria Street that is located in front of Fort Cumberland Manor.

In addition, the committee directed staff to look into concerns from Spring Street residents who requested a sidewalk be installed on the north side of the street. The residents also asked for crosswalks that traverse the street at Allison and Westminster avenues to be installed.

The committee also directed staff to have a traffic/pedestrian flow study done during school hours for the Spring Street area. The study is to include Rupert, Academy, Charles and Havelock streets as well as Spring Street.

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