

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

**Date:** September 26, 2022  
**Time:** 4:00 pm  
**Location:** Council Chambers, Town Hall

**Members Present** Mayor David Kogon  
Deputy Mayor Sheila Christie  
Councillor George Baker  
Councillor Hal Davidson  
Councillor Lisa Emery  
Councillor Dale Fawthrop (via Zoom)  
Councillor Leon Landry

**Staff Present** Jason MacDonald, Chief Administrative Officer  
Dwayne Pike, Police Chief  
Greg Jones, Director of Fire Services  
Aaron Bourgeois, Director of Operations  
Andrew Fisher, Director of Planning & Strategic Initiatives  
Kimberlee Jones, Director of Corporate Communications and  
Community Well Being  
Sarah Wilson, Senior Accountant / Acting Treasurer  
Krista Crossman, Acting Manager of Financial Services  
Tom McCoag, Corporate Communications Officer  
Natalie LeBlanc, Deputy Clerk

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**1. Call to Order**

Mayor Kogon called the meeting to order.

**1.1 Approval of Agenda**

Moved By Councillor Emery  
Seconded By Councillor Baker  
To approve the agenda as circulated.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**1.2 Approval of the Consent Agenda**

Moved By Councillor Davidson  
Seconded By Councillor Landry  
To approve of the consent agenda as circulated.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**2. Council Direction Requests**

**2.1 Municipal Fire Inspector**

Moved By Councillor Emery  
Seconded By Councillor Baker  
That Council forward the appointment of Marty Furlong as a Municipal Fire  
Inspector for the Town of Amherst to the September 28, 2022 meeting of  
Council.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Councillor Davidson took this time to recognize Chief Jones on his recent appointment of Director at Large for the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs.

**2.2 Year End Capital Financial Adjustments**

**Moved By Councillor Landry**

**Seconded By Deputy Mayor Christie**

**That Council forward approval of the following changes to the funding for the 2021/22 Water and General Capital Budget to the September 28, 2022 Council meeting for approval:**

- 1. Approval of the increase of Water Operating capital from revenue from \$40,000 to \$122,000;**
- 2. Approval of the increase of General Operating capital from revenue from \$476,000 to \$493,340.64.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**2.3 Year End Reserve Transfers**

**Moved By Deputy Mayor Christie**

**Seconded By Councillor Baker**

**That Council forward approval of the following transfers from the Operating Reserve to General Operating to the September 28, 2022 Council meeting for approval:**

- 1. Withdraw from the Operating Reserve – Reserve for Solid Waste of \$9,434.10 to fund the deficit in the Solid Waste department for the 2021/22 fiscal year.**
- 2. Withdraw from the Operating Reserve – Reserve for Mandatory Provincial Contribution Area Rate of \$20,761.80 to fund the deficit in the Mandatory Provincial Contribution Area Rate for the 2021/22 fiscal year.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**2.4 2022/23 Water Utility Capital Budget Amendment**

**Moved By Councillor Davidson**

**Seconded By Councillor Emery**

**That Council amend the 2022/23 Amherst Water Utility Capital Budget to increase the approved budget amount in the Water Capital budget for the purchase of Inline Turbidimeters for the PRV Chambers from \$20,000 to \$40,000 and forward to the September 28, 2022 regular meeting of Council for approval.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**2.5 Town of Amherst Website**

**Moved By Councillor Landry**

**Seconded By Councillor Emery**

**That staff be directed to provide a report at the October Committee of the Whole on a project to re-vamp the Town of Amherst website, including web site content and structure, any IT issues, external resources required, staff training required, impact on any current web hosting agreements and cost and source of financing, with the idea of making the website more streamlined and content more accessible to the public.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

- 2.6 **Letter of Support**  
**Moved By Councillor Emery**  
**Seconded By Councillor Davidson**  
That Council direct staff to prepare a letter of support for the nomination of Gerard Veldhoven to the Order of Nova Scotia, posthumously.

**MOTION CARRIED**

- 2.7 **Request to Present - Cumberland County Museum**  
Due to her involvement with the Cumberland County Museum, Councillor Emery declared a conflict of interest.  
**Moved By Councillor Baker**  
**Seconded By Deputy Mayor Christie**  
That staff contact Darryl MacKenzie of the Cumberland County Museum and Archives about making a brief presentation to council at their regular meeting in September or Committee of the Whole in October.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**3. Information Items**

- 3.1 **Planning Advisory Committee Recommendation**  
Information item only, approved as part of the consent agenda.

- 3.2 **Strategic Priority Update**  
Information item only, approved as part of the consent agenda.

- 3.3 **Centennial Walking Trail**  
**Moved By Councillor Baker**  
**Seconded By Deputy Mayor Christie**  
That staff be directed to install signs, barriers and cameras along the centennial walking trail, and further that Council approves funding for such.

**MOTION CARRIED**

- 3.4 **Homelessness**  
**Moved By Councillor Davidson**  
**Seconded By Deputy Mayor Christie**  
That staff be directed to prepare an inventory of all incentives and activities that the Town is involved with related to homelessness and poverty with the view of communicating this to the public through the most reasonable means necessary, and further that Chief Pike's report on homelessness included as part of the agenda package be made available to the public.

**MOTION CARRIED**

5. **In Camera**  
**Moved By Councillor Landry**  
**Seconded By Councillor Emery**  
That the Committee move to an In Camera session.

**MOTION CARRIED**

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Kimberlee Jones  
Municipal Clerk

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David Kogon, MD  
Mayor