

01133

## Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting: Monday, April 30, 2012  
Location: Council Chambers, Town Hall

Members Present: Mayor Robert Small  
Councillor George Baker  
Councillor Robert Bird  
Deputy Mayor Dale Fawthrop  
Councillor David March  
Councillor Terry Rhindress  
Councillor Robert Angel

Staff Present: Greg Herrett, CAO  
Vince Arbing, Treasurer  
Roger MacIsaac, Director CED  
Ben Pitman, Director TPW  
Bill Crossman, Fire Chief  
Rebecca Purdy, Executive Assistant  
Kim Jones, Policy and HR  
Jason MacDonald, Director of Planning

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1. O'CANADA

2. HEARINGS / PRESENTATIONS / PETITIONS

2.1. AFD Ramblers presentation to Chief Crossman

Coaches, players and parents of the Amherst Fire Department Ramblers Atom AA hockey team were present for the presentation of a certificate to Chief Bill Crossman of the Amherst Fire Department. A copy of a resolution tabled in the Nova Scotia Legislature by MLA Brian Skabar on December 14, 2011 congratulated the team in winning their division in the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual bluenose Minor Hockey Tournament.

3. CALL TO ORDER

3.1. Amendments to the Agenda

3.2. Approval of the Agenda

Moved By: Councillor George Baker  
Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Dale Fawthrop  
That the agenda be approved as circulated.

Motion Carried

3.3. Approval of Minutes

Moved By: Councillor Terry Rhindress  
Seconded By: Councillor David March  
That the minutes of the March 26, 2012 regular meeting of Council be approved as circulated.

Motion Carried

4. REQUESTS FOR DECISION

4.1. 1 Park Street

Original Motion  
Moved By: Councillor David March  
Seconded By: Councillor Terry Rhindress

That Council approve first reading of a development agreement for a six unit apartment building on property located at 1 Park Street and that a public hearing be scheduled for May 28 at 7 PM

**Motion to Refer**

**Moved By: Councillor George Baker**

**Seconded By: Councillor David March**

**That Council refer this matter to staff for a report so that:**

- 1) The Traffic Authority may review the existing on-street parking situation in the area;
- 2) The Traffic Authority may review the existing traffic control device placement at the intersection of Park and West Peasant;
- 3) The Town Engineer may review the existing intersection alignment of Park and West Pleasant;
- 4) The Town Engineer and Director of Planning may review the need for curb and sidewalks in the area;
- 5) The Director of Planning may obtain a detailed design of the in-building parking area.

**Such input to be reported at the May Committee of the Whole meeting so that Council will have all information required in order to make an informed decision on this matter.**

**Motion Carried  
Original Motion Referred**

**4.2. 24 Crescent Avenue**

**Moved By: Councillor Robert Bird**

**Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Dale Fawthrop**

**That Council approve first reading of a development agreement for a 13 unit apartment complex on property located at 24 Crescent Avenue, and that a public hearing be scheduled for May 28 at 7 PM.**

**Motion Carried**

Case No. DA-2012-03

This Agreement made this \_\_\_\_\_ Day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2012.

Between: James Barkley, 3229320 Nova Scotia Ltd., Owner of property located at 24 Crescent Avenue (PID 25016809), hereinafter called the Owners, of the one part

- and-

The Town of Amherst, a body corporate hereinafter called the Town, Of the other part

WHEREAS the Owner wishes to obtain permission pursuant to Policy CP-15 and RP-9 of the Municipal Planning Strategy of the Town of Amherst, to construct a 13 unit residential development on property located at 24 Crescent Ave.

AND WHEREAS a condition of the granting of approval of Council is that the Owner enter into an agreement with the Town;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Town, at its meeting on the \_\_\_\_\_ Day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2012, approved the said development agreement subject to the registered owner of the land described herein entering into this agreement;

NOW THEREFORE THIS AGREEMENT WITNESSETH THAT in consideration of the granting by the Town of the development agreement requested by the Owner, the Owner agrees as follows:

- 1) That the Owner is the registered owner of the aforesaid lands in the Town of Amherst, hereinafter called the lands. The aforesaid lots are the only lands in the Town of Amherst to which this agreement applies, and the lands are illustrated in the plan shown on Schedule B attached hereto and forming part of this agreement.
- 2) That the owner may construct a multi-family residential development up to a maximum of 13 units on the said lands, subject to the following Schedules A and B attached.

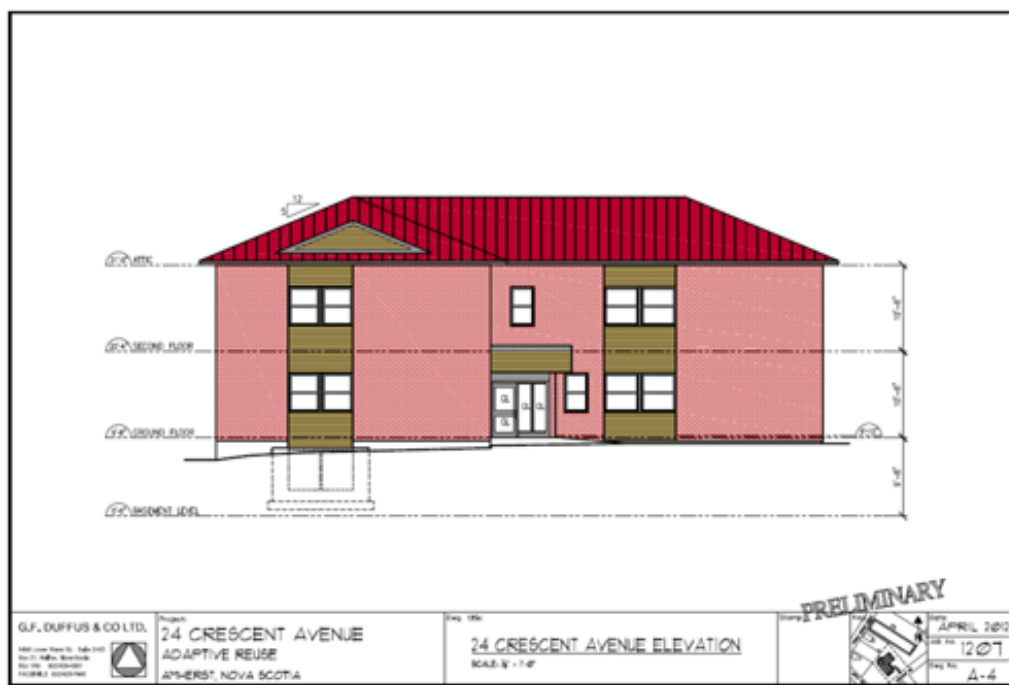
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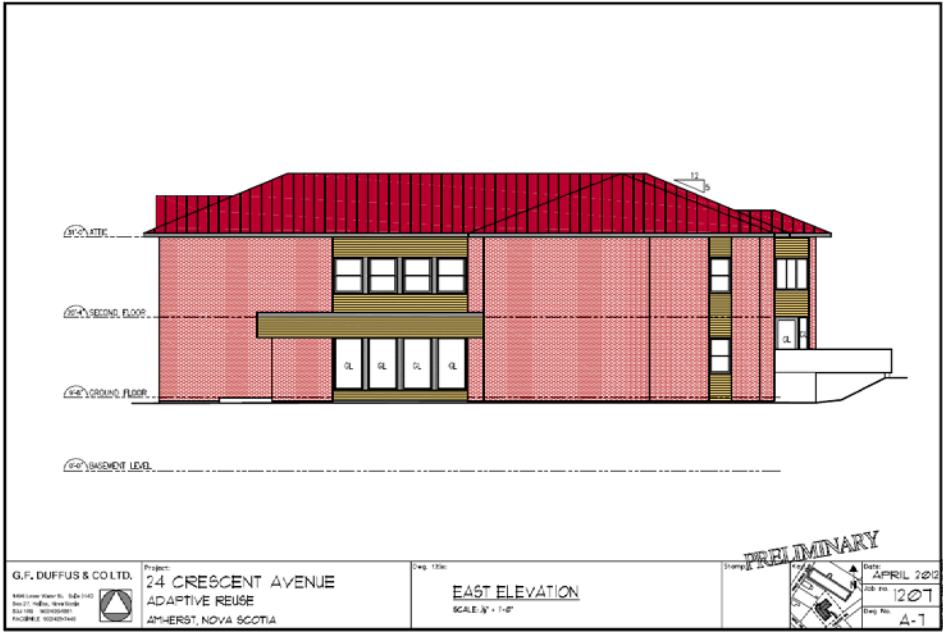
- 3) Any failure of the Town to insist upon strict enforcement of any requirements or conditions contained in this agreement shall not be deemed a waiver of any rights or remedies that the Town may have and shall not be deemed a waiver of any subsequent breach or default in the conditions or requirements contained in this agreement.
- 4) Should the owner fail to act in accordance with any aspect of this agreement, the Town shall retain the right to discharge the agreement upon 30 days notification and / or enter the property and conduct the required work. The cost of the said work will become a lien on the property tax bill.
- 5) The Town shall issue the necessary permit for the development upon the expiration of the appeal period specified for development agreements in the Municipal Government Act, Section 249, as the same may be amended from time to time, or upon the withdrawal or dismissal of any appeal which may be taken.
- 6) The applicant shall apply for the necessary building and development permits within 5 years of Council's approval of this Agreement.

## Schedule A 24 Crescent Avenue - Development Agreement - Terms and Conditions:

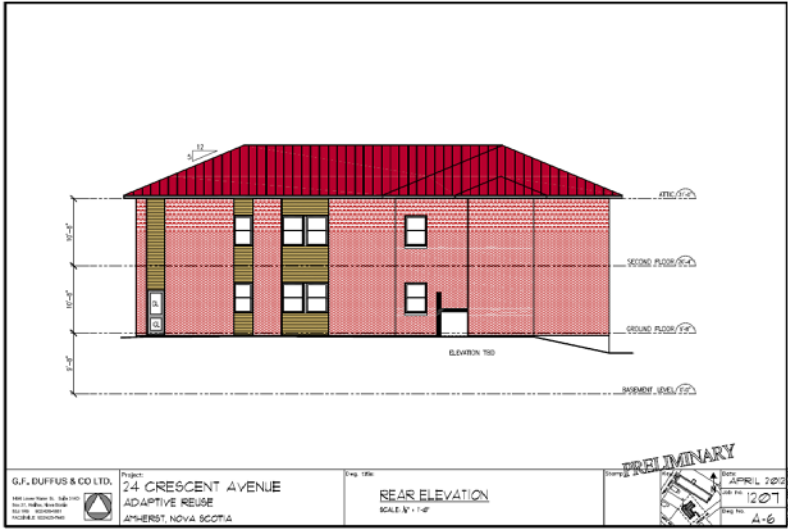
- 1. The use of the property be limited to a multi-family residential development with a maximum of 13 units;
- 2. The building be limited to a maximum of 3 floors;
- 3. Street access to be substantially in accordance with the attached Schedule D, and to the satisfaction of the Development Officer;
- 4. A minimum of 8 parking spaces be provided for residents generally in accordance with schedule D;
- 5. The exterior design of the buildings shall be generally in accordance with Schedule B;
- 6. All driveway and parking areas be maintained with asphalt and kept clear of snow and otherwise be unobstructed at all times so as to be passable by emergency vehicles;
- 7. Signage on the property be limited to one free standing sign a maximum of 1.6 square metres in size and one facial wall sign with a maximum height of 0.6 metres. Such signage is not to be internally illuminated;
- 8. Outdoor lighting be situated so as not to impact adjacent properties.
- 9. The metal roof finish shall be the design demonstrated in Schedule C or an alternative quality design to the satisfaction of the development officer. The color of the roof shall be a low impact color selected to the satisfaction of the development officer.
- 10. Solid waste pickup will be private, and the responsibility of the owner. Storage bins for solid waste shall be at the rear of the lot and enclosed from public view.
- 11. Landscaping will be provided in accordance with the following:
  - a) Grass be incorporated and maintained in all areas of the property not utilized for buildings, parking or walkways.
  - b) A minimum and combination of 8 native trees and shrubs be incorporated with other low maintenance landscaping features, as demonstrated in schedule C, in the front yard and to the satisfaction of the development officer.
  - c) Such planting is to take place within one growing season of the construction of the said unit.

## Schedule B 24 Crescent Avenue - Development Agreement



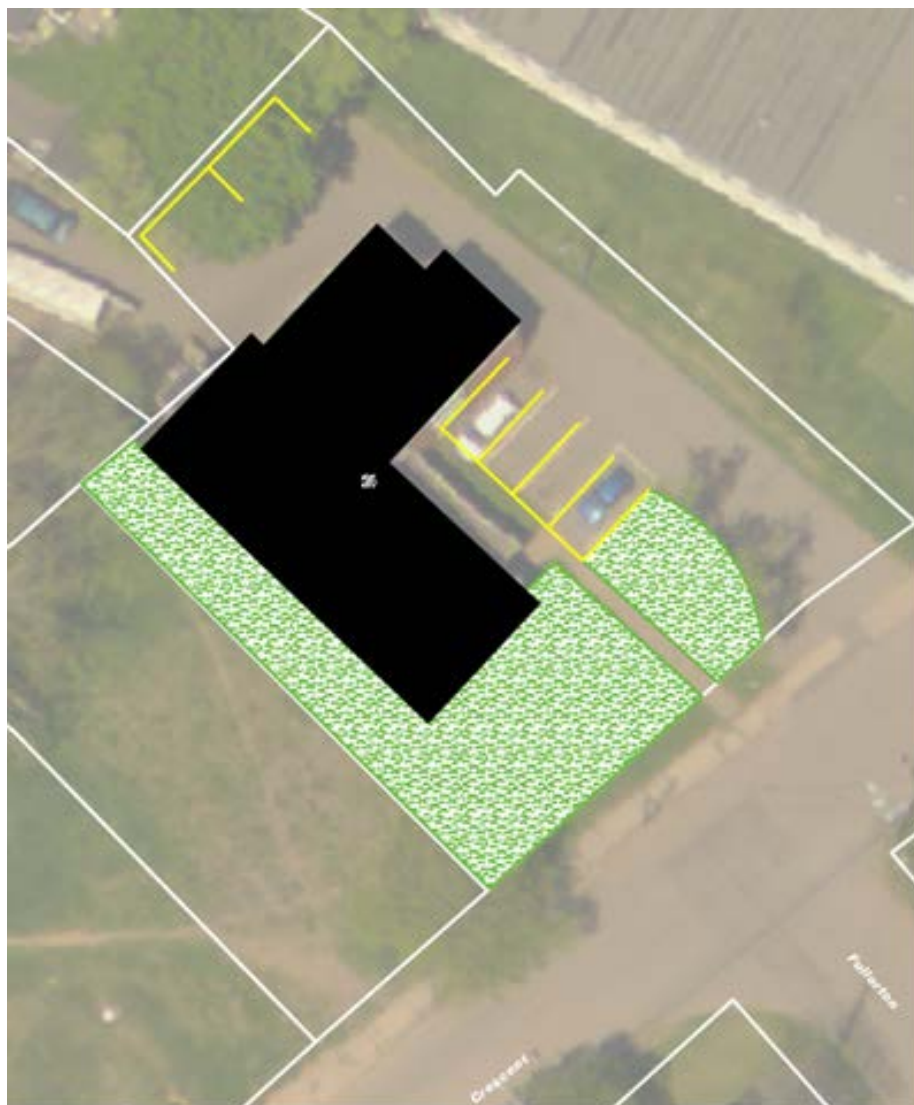


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Schedule C 24 Crescent Avenue - Development Agreement





#### 4.3. 26 Crescent Avenue

**Moved By: Mayor Robert Small**

**Seconded By: Councillor Robert Angel**

**That Council approve first reading of a development agreement for either a 30 or 46 unit apartment building on property located at 26 Crescent Avenue and that a public hearing be scheduled for May 28 at 7 PM.**

**Motion Carried**

Case No. DA-2012-04

This Agreement made this \_\_\_\_\_ Day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2012.

Between: James Barkley, 3229320 Nova Scotia Ltd., Owner of property located at 26 Crescent Avenue (PID 25023524), hereinafter called the Owners, of the one part

- and-

The Town of Amherst, a body corporate hereinafter called the Town, of the other part

WHEREAS the Owner wishes to obtain permission pursuant to Policy CP-15 and RP-9 of the Municipal Planning Strategy of the Town of Amherst, to construct a 30 to 46 unit residential development on property located at 26 Crescent Ave.

AND WHEREAS a condition of the granting of approval of Council is that the Owner enter into an agreement with the Town;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Town, at its meeting on the \_\_\_\_\_ Day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2012, approved the said development agreement subject to the registered owner of the land described herein entering into this agreement;

NOW THEREFORE THIS AGREEMENT WITNESSETH THAT in consideration of the granting by the Town of the development agreement requested by the Owner, the Owner agrees as follows:

1. That the Owner is the registered owner of the aforesaid lands in the Town of Amherst, hereinafter called the lands. The aforesaid lots are the only lands in the Town of Amherst to which this agreement applies, and the lands are illustrated in the plan shown on Schedule B attached hereto and forming part of this agreement.

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2. That the owner may construct a multi-family residential development up to a maximum of 46 units on the said lands, subject to the following Schedules A, B and C attached.
3. Any failure of the Town to insist upon strict enforcement of any requirements or conditions contained in this agreement shall not be deemed a waiver of any rights or remedies that the Town may have and shall not be deemed a waiver of any subsequent breach or default in the conditions or requirements contained in this agreement.
4. Should the owner fail to act in accordance with any aspect of this agreement, the Town shall retain the right to discharge the agreement upon 30 days notification and / or enter the property and conduct the required work. The cost of the said work will become a lien on the property tax bill.
5. The Town shall issue the necessary permit for the development upon the expiration of the appeal period specified for development agreements in the Municipal Government Act, Section 249, as the same may be amended from time to time, or upon the withdrawal or dismissal of any appeal which may be taken.
6. The applicant shall apply for the necessary building and development permits within 5 years of Council's approval of this Agreement.

## Schedule A

### 26 Crescent Avenue - Development Agreement

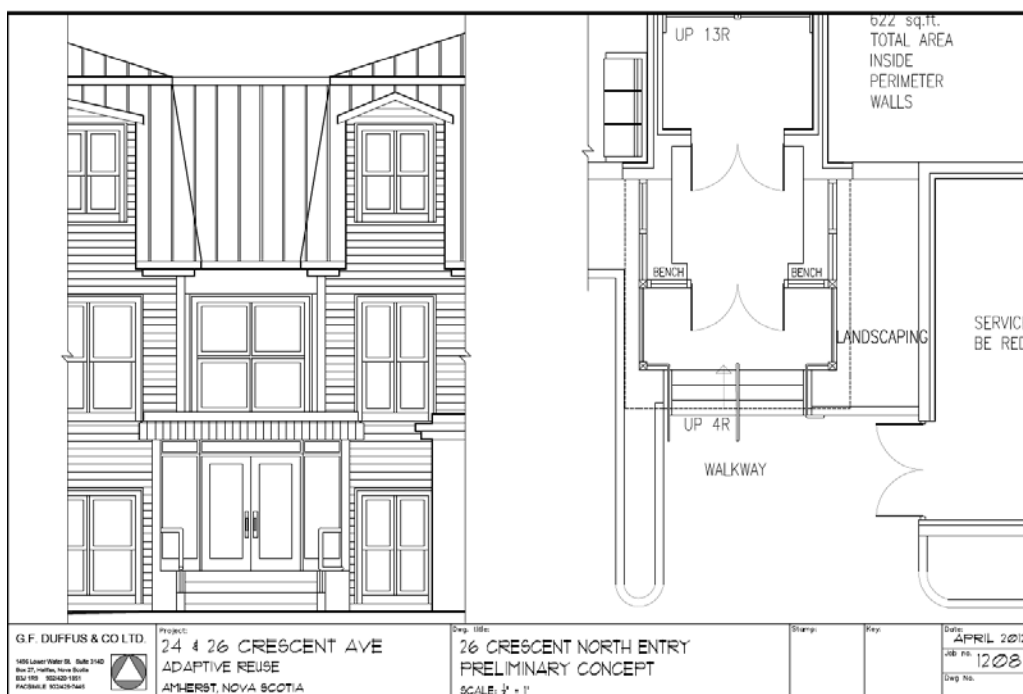
#### Terms and Conditions:

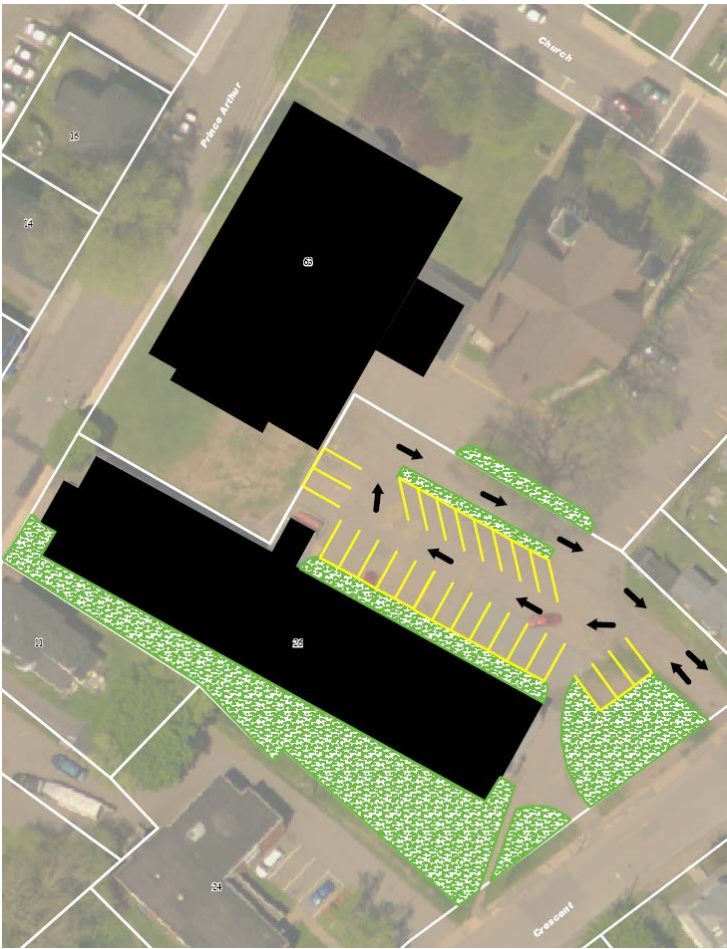
1. The use of the property be limited to a multi-family residential development with a maximum of 46 units;
2. The building be limited to a maximum of 3 floors;
3. A minimum of 20 parking spaces be provided for residents generally in accordance with schedule D;
4. The exterior design of the buildings shall be generally in accordance with Schedule B;
5. All driveway and parking areas be maintained with asphalt and kept clear of snow and otherwise be unobstructed at all times so as to be passable by emergency vehicles;
6. Signage on the property be limited to one free standing sign a maximum of 1.6 square metres in size and one facial wall sign with a maximum height of 0.6 metres. Such signage are not to be internally illuminated;
7. Outdoor lighting be situated so as not to impact adjacent properties.
8. Solid waste pickup will be private, and the responsibility of the owner. Storage bins shall be placed at the rear of the property and enclosed from the view of the public.
9. Landscaping will be provided in accordance with the following:
  - a) Grass be incorporated and maintained in all areas of the property not utilized for buildings, parking or walkways.
  - b) A minimum and combination of 8 native trees and shrubs be incorporated with other low maintenance landscaping features, demonstrated in schedule C, in an area most visible to the public and to the satisfaction of the development officer.

Such planting is to take place within one growing season of the construction of the said unit.

## Schedule B

### 26 Crescent Avenue - Development Agreement





**4.4. Municipal Election - Electronic Voting**

**Moved By: Councillor Robert Bird**  
**Seconded By: Councillor David March**  
**That Council approve the option to permit internet/telephone voting for the period October 9 through 14 for the 2012 municipal election, and direct staff to issue an RFP for the provision of electronic voting services.**

**Motion Defeated**

<b>Recorded</b>		
Robert Small	Yes	No
George Baker		
Robert Bird	Yes	No
Dale Fawthrop		

David March	Yes	
Terry Rhindress		No
Robert Angel		No
<b>Results</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>

**4.5. Leave of Absence Policy re CPP Changes**

**Moved By: Councillor David March**  
**Seconded By: Councillor Terry Rhindress**  
**That Council approve the amended Leave of Absence Policy 4000-14 which removes the requirements for employees to take a leave of absence during the Canada Pension Plan qualification period.**

**Motion Carried**

**PERSONAL LEAVE OF ABSENCE POLICY 04000-14**

**PURPOSE:**

To clearly establish a uniform policy on employee leaves of absence and to specify, as near as is possible, the conditions under which such absences will be granted.

**POLICY:**

Leaves of absence without pay may be granted to maintain continuity of service in instances where unusual or unavoidable circumstances require an employee’s absence. Leave is granted on the assumption that they employee will be available to return to active employment when the conditions necessitating the leave permit.

In general, a leave of absence is considered a privilege. In no circumstances is leave granted automatically but must be requested by the employee. Granting leaves of absence should be administered with utmost discretion since employees are protected with some of the Town’s benefits while on leave. In granting a leave of absence the employee’s service record and circumstances requiring the leave should be carefully examined.

Leaves of absence are broken down into two categories:

- a) Short-term Leave of Absence (two through five working days)  
Such absences may be granted without pay when the cause is reasonable and/or unavoidable (such as an extension of Compassionate Leave), and provided the absence is arranged in advance with the Department Head or, if this is prevented by an emergency, reported promptly to him/her.

The Department Head may at his/her discretion and in conformance with the provisions of this policy, grant employees up to one week (5 working days) of unpaid leave of absence. Such leaves are subject to review and approval of the Chief Administrative Officer for conformance to policy.

Employees granted such leaves of absence by the above authority shall resume work on the first scheduled workday following the expiration date of the approved unpaid absence.

An employee, with the prior approval of the Chief Administrative Officer, may receive salary for short term absence if it is deemed to be in the interest of the Town of Amherst.

- b) Long-Term Leave of Absence (in excess of five working days)

Consideration for such a leave of absence will depend upon:

- i) the reason for the leave
- ii) length of service of the employee
- iii) liability under any Provincial or Federal law
- iv) probable extent of the absence
- v) cost to the Town of Amherst of covering the absence

The terms and conditions of such leaves may vary with each case and are usually subject to research and negotiation by the Chief Administrative Officer.

Such long-term leaves shall require the approval of the Department Head and the CAO.

More specifically, but not to restrict the generality of this or any other paragraph contained herein, consideration will be given to requests and recommendations for unpaid absences in excess of five (5) working days in accordance with the following conditions, and upon approval from the CAO:

- i) Family Illness – When circumstances are of exceptional nature and compel absence from work, requests must be submitted specifying complete details of the reason for the request and an estimation of the extent of the request for leave.
- ii) Personal Business or Educational Leave: Absences may be considered when circumstances are of an exceptional nature and do not involve outside employment. Leave for educational reasons of benefit to both employee and the Town of Amherst may be viewed favorably but shall be given the same consideration prior to a decision. All requests must be submitted in writing specifying complete details of the reason for, and length of the request.

**BENEFITS:**

Employees who currently participate in the Blue Cross Benefit Plan will be required to pay 100% of the premium while on leave in excess of 5 working days. Payment must be provided to the Town in the form of post-dated cheque.

Employees granted any form of Leave of Absence must report to work on the first scheduled workday following the expiration of the leave.

**4.6. Smoke Free Recreational Places By-law**

**Moved By: Deputy Mayor Dale Fawthrop  
Seconded By: Councillor George Baker  
That the motion to approve first reading of the Smoke Free Places By-law be removed from the table.**

**Motion Carried**

**Moved By: Councillor David March  
Seconded By: Councillor Robert Angel  
That Council approve first reading of the Smoke Free Places By-law**

**Motion Defeated**

**Moved By: Deputy Mayor Dale Fawthrop  
Seconded By: Councillor George Baker  
that Council approve first reading of the Smoke Free Recreational Places By-law as presented.**

**Amendment #1:**

**Moved By: Councillor David March  
Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Dale Fawthrop  
That the by-law be amended at paragraph 4 to say that smoking at the Amherst Stadium be restricted to a designated area in the parking lot that may be anywhere on the property except at the front of the building.**

**Motion Carried**

**Amendment #2:**

**Moved By: Councillor George Baker  
Seconded By: Councillor Terry Rhindress  
That paragraph 5 be amended to delete the words "not more than two hundred dollars" and replacing it with the words "fifty dollars".**

**Motion Defeated**

**Original Motion Carried with Amendment #1**

**SMOKE-FREE RECREATIONAL PLACES BY-LAW****TITLE**

1. This By-law shall be known and may be cited as the "Smoke Free Recreational Places By-Law" of the Town of Amherst.

**BACKGROUND**

2. The *Municipal Government Act*, in Section 172(1) (a), (c) and (d) authorizes a council to make by-laws for municipal purposes respecting the health, well-being, safety and protection of persons; persons and activities in public places and places open to the public; and nuisances, including burning, odours and fumes.

**INTERPRETATION**

3. In this By-law:
  - a) "playground" means any park or recreational area designed in part to be used by youth that has play or sports equipment installed or has been designated or landscaped for play or sports activities, or any similar facility located within the Town.
  - b) "smoke" means to smoke, hold or otherwise have control over lighted tobacco.

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## PROHIBITION

4. No person shall smoke in any of the following places:
- a) a park or playground on Town property or property maintained by the Town;
  - b) an outdoor recreational facility on Town property, or property maintained by the Town, including but not limited to a sports field, grandstand, seating area or bleacher; or

***Smoking at the Amherst Stadium shall be restricted to a designated area in the parking lot that may be anywhere on the property except at the front of the building***

## OFFENCE AND PENALTY

5. Anyone who violates any section of this by-law is guilty of an offence and is liable, on summary conviction, to a fine of not more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00).

## SEVERABILITY

6. In the event that any provision of this by-law becomes or is declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be illegal or unenforceable, the remainder of this by-law will continue in full force and effect.

## FORCE AND EFFECT

7. This by-law has effect from and after the date of publication.

### **4.7. Funding Request - Amherst Powerlifting**

**Moved By: Councillor Terry Rhindress**

**Seconded By: Councillor David March**

**That Council approve funding in the amount of \$250 under the Town's Festivals and Events Policy in support of the Atlantic Powerlifting Challenge that was held at the Wandlyn Inn on April 21st, 2012.**

**Motion Carried**

### **4.8. Funding Request - Cross Border Challenge**

**Moved By: Councillor George Baker**

**Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Dale Fawthrop**

**That Council approve funding in the amount of \$1,000 under the Town's Festivals and Events Policy in support of the Cross Border Challenge taking place June 23, 2012.**

**Motion Carried**

### **4.9. Funding Request - CANSA Conference**

**Moved By: Councillor David March**

**Seconded By: Councillor Terry Rhindress**

**That Council approve funding in the amount of \$500 under the Town's Festivals and Events Policy in support of the 7th Annual Provincial Persons with Disabilities Conference as hosted by CANSA.**

**Motion Carried**

### **4.10. Funding Request - Royal Canadian Army Reunion**

**Moved By: Councillor Robert Bird**

**Seconded By: Councillor Robert Angel**

**That Council approve funding in the amount of \$500 under the Town's Festivals and Events Policy in support of the Reunion Year 2012, as hosted by the Royal Canadian Army Service Corps Association (Atlantic).**

**Motion Carried**

### **4.11. Tender - Asphalt Patching**

**Moved By: Deputy Mayor Dale Fawthrop**

**Seconded By: Councillor David March**

**That Council accept the low tender for asphalt paving from 10251 PEI Inc. O/A Central Roadways at their unit prices for asphalt, for an estimated maximum total of \$288,775 plus HST.**

**Motion Carried**

<b>Recorded</b>		
Robert Small	Yes	
George Baker	Yes	
Robert Bird		No
Dale Fawthrop	Yes	
David March	Yes	
Terry Rhindress		No
Robert Angel	Yes	
<b>Results</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>

#### 4.12. Tender - Gravel Products

**Moved By: Robert Angel**  
**Seconded By: Councillor David March**  
**That Council accept the low tender for gravel products from Bowers' Construction Ltd at their unit bid price for each type of gravel for an estimated total of \$55,600 plus HST.**

**Motion Carried**

#### 4.13. 217 Victoria Street - Former RCMP Property

**Moved By: Councillor Terry Rhindress**  
**Seconded By: Councillor David March**  
**that Council declare the property located at 217 Victoria Street surplus and list it for sale with a local real estate firm with an asking price of \$125,000.**

**Motion Carried**

### 5. INFORMATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

### 6. INTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### 6.1. Planning Advisory Committee

Councillor March presented the following report on behalf of the Planning Advisory Committee:

A meeting of the Planning Advisory Committee was held on April 16, 2012. The Committee considered three separate development agreements, and after holding a public information session to obtain input, recommended all three agreements to Council for approval.

The three development agreements were:

- 1) 1 Park Street - to convert a 2 unit building into a 6 unit building;
- 2) 24 Crescent Avenue – to convert a former office building into a 13 unit apartment building;
- 3) 26 Crescent Avenue – to convert a former school into a 30 – 46 unit apartment building.

#### 6.2. Amherst Board of Police Commissioners

Councillor Fawthrop presented the following report on behalf of the Amherst Board of Police Commissioners:

The Amherst Board of Police Commissioners met on April 11, 2012 at Town Hall.

The 2012-13 budget for the Amherst Police Department was discussed briefly at that time. The draft budget has been revised and submitted to Corporate Services, and expected to be presented to Council shortly. The Board will have an opportunity to consider approving the Department's portion of the budget; a special meeting may be required for that purpose.

The Commission ratified the 2012-2015 Strategic Plan as prepared by Michael Bell following the planning session held in late January 2012. The Chief will check with members of the department before the Board ratifies the Mission Statement for the Department.

The Commission nominated Lisa Emery to fill the current vacancy on the Nova Scotia Association of Police Boards.

The Commission also made a decision to correspond with the Minister of Justice regarding the retention of the Local Intelligence Officer position within Cumberland County, and to ask all five municipal councils in Cumberland to support this initiative as well.

6.3. **Dangerous and Unightly Premises Committee** – Nil Report

6.4. **Youth Advisory Council**

Councillor Bird presented the following report on behalf of the Youth Advisory Council:

Amherst Youth Town Council met at the Fire Hall for their April meeting and completed a tour of the facility and an overview of services with Chief Crossman. They proceeded to Council Chambers after this tour for their regular meeting.

AYTC members were joined by Cst. Galloway and Cst. Hebert from APD for an overview of a summer program Amherst Police are coordinating. "Kops for Kids" will be an opportunity for Amherst Police to work with youth ages 6-10 in a mock police academy setting. This will take place the first week in August. Due to the success of the Youth Amazing Race, these officers requested that AYTC members volunteer to help police with this initiative.

On April 21st AYTC members assisted the Amherst Food Assistance Network with their door to door food collection campaign. On April 28th three AYTC members participated in the "Pursue your Passion" workshop for youth held at the YMCA. This workshop was facilitated by the Heartwood Centre for Community Youth Development and provided an opportunity to plan a youth focused event in Amherst during National Youth Arts Week, May 1-7.

Jenn Borne and AYTC member James Gaudet participated in the Northern LOT (Leaders of Today) meeting on March 31st in Truro at the Slate Youth Centre. This committee is essentially a provincial youth council. This group meets on a regular basis and provides a link to youth and their coordinators in other municipalities to find out what projects they are working on. Northern LOT is also responsible for an annual provincial youth summit.

AYTC members held a YouthFest planning session on April 23rd at the Stadium in preparation for their annual YouthFest which will be held at the Amherst Stadium on Saturday, June 30.

The next regular AYTC monthly meeting will be held Monday, May 7th at 4:00 PM in Council Chambers.

Councillor Bird also extended Council's appreciation to the AYTC members for attending and video recording the council meetings.

7. **EXTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

7.1. **Cumberland Public Libraries**

Councillor Angel presented the following report on behalf of Cumberland Public Libraries:

Community Access Program (CAP) Funding

The Cumberland Public Libraries rely on Federal funding from Industry Canada to help us provide free computers and wireless access. Industry Canada has announced the cancellation of CAP funding. Without Federal money it will not be possible for us to keep up with technological changes and provide many of the instructional computer sessions. Please visit our website for more information and contact your MP, Scott Armstrong with any concerns.

Did you know...

That Cumberland Public Libraries has all kinds of fantastic television shows on DVD? Check out The Walking Dead, The Waltons, Supernatural, M.A.S.H., Downton Abbey, Game of Thrones and many more. See what we have at [www.cumberlandpubliclibraries.ca](http://www.cumberlandpubliclibraries.ca).

Open House

The renovations at the Four Fathers Memorial Library are finally complete. Celebrate with us on April 18th from 6-8 p.m. See our beautiful new paint, carpet, and circulation desk and enjoy some refreshments.

Statistics

During this year's March Break (March 12th to 17th) the Cumberland Public Libraries offered 19 programs, everything from making snow globes to Star Wars finger puppets to paper airplane races, with 268 children attending throughout the County.

7.2. **Cumberland RDA** - Nil Report

7.3. **Cumberland YMCA** - Nil Report

7.4. **Downtown Amherst Revitalization Society**

Councillor March presented the following report on behalf of the Downtown Amherst Revitalization Society:

On April 5th, the Downtown Amherst Revitalization Society (DARS) announced its plans to wind down the society's activities. Directors of the Society felt that the initial mandate of DARS has been accomplished and with the investment made in the downtown over the past two years, it would be beneficial for the downtown businesses to work with the Town, possibly through an advisory committee of Council, to market the downtown core.

A Terms of Reference for a Downtown Business Advisory Committee has been drafted and Council is now planning to meet with the business community on May 16 at 6:30 PM to get their input on the Terms of Reference and to discuss both issues and opportunities for downtown Amherst in the coming years.

#### **7.5. Cumberland Joint Services Management Authority**

Councillor Rhindress presented the following report on behalf of the CJSMA:

A meeting of the Cumberland Joint Services Management Authority Board was held April 19 at the ED Fullerton Municipal Building. Significant issues dealt with at the meeting included:

- A review of the performance management plan for the Authority. The Board approved the plan in principal and directed the Manager to further develop the goals and timelines of the individual priorities. The Manager is to report back at the next Board meeting.
- The Board passed a motion to waive tipping fees for the Clean Across Nova Scotia event to be held on June 8th and 9th. Solid waste disposed through this program will not count towards disposal for the purposes of determining our diversion credits. Clean Across Nova Scotia is a provincial program aimed at getting community groups and individuals to pick up garbage and litter all over Nova Scotia. For more information please go to [www.clean.ns.ca](http://www.clean.ns.ca).

Deputy Mayor Fawthrop suggested the Clean Across NS program be considered next year in the Earth Day planning.

The CAO reported that the CJSMA Budget, approved by Council, has been rejected by the Town of Springhill. (additional details from Greg)

#### **7.6. Northern Region Solid Waste Committee**

Councillor Baker presented the following report on behalf of the Northern Region Solid Waste Committee:

A meeting of the Northern Region Solid Waste Committee was held April 19th in Truro. Significant information discussed at that meeting includes:

The Resource Recovery Fund Board (RRFB) has reduced Enforcement Funding from \$100,000 to \$75,000 per region. However, they are allowing the regions to take the difference out of the MAP funding allocated to each Region. The net result is still a funding reduction in \$25,000 to each region.

The Committee would like each municipality to review their planning documents to ensure that solid waste sorting and storage facilities are a required part of the approval process for large apartment buildings.

Once again the RRFB will have summer students conducting audits on the Provinces landfills. The purpose of the audits is to determine compliance with the banned substances legislation.

The CJSMA received \$17,000 less in diversion credits last year than anticipated. Most of this reduction is attributed to C&D leaving the jurisdiction.

#### **7.7. L. A. Animal Shelter**

Councillor Angel presented the following report on behalf of the L. A. Animal Shelter:

The LA Animal Shelter would appreciate your assistance in promoting the following fundraising events:

The staff of Scotiabank, Victoria St, Amherst are currently selling tickets on a basket in support of the Shelter. The basket is valued at \$350. Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5 and are available at the Branch. Draw is May 27, 2012.

##### May 12th

Gallery 8 will be hosting mini photo sessions for dogs (in studio only). The fee is \$25 per sitting with 80% of the proceeds going to the Shelter. The dog owner will also receive a 5X7 print of their pet. To book appointments please call Gallery 8 at 660-3115. Your pet's photo may be considered for a 2013 L.A. Animal Shelter Calendar!

# 01147

## May 27th

The Jesse Payne Memorial walk is scheduled for May 27, 2012 from 2:00 to 4:00 PM. All proceeds will support the Shelter. Walkers depart from the Rotary Park on Willow Street in Amherst and various routes are planned to accommodate young and old. A BBQ will follow the walk—donations will be gratefully accepted. Everyone is invited to participate. You do not need a dog and we encourage parents to bring their children. Registration forms and pledge sheets are available at [www.laanimalshelter.ca](http://www.laanimalshelter.ca).

## June 2nd

The Lillian Allbon Animal Shelter will celebrate its 25th anniversary of incorporation in June 2012. To honor this event, the Shelter has launched its “Shelter our Pets” campaign. During the month of May we will be canvassing monetary donations from local businesses and organizations. On Saturday, June 2, 2012 the Tantramar FM Community Radio Station is graciously hosting a Radio-a-Thon to showcase our campaign. Please email [shelterourpets@laanimalshelter.ca](mailto:shelterourpets@laanimalshelter.ca) if you would be willing to assist in any way with this campaign.

## 8. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Small reported that the budget is in works and should be presented for decision in May. Council will meet with business owners in the downtown on May 16. He congratulated the Hospital Foundation on their annual event which was held this past weekend.

He recognized the Amherst Lions Club for hosting the provincial convention in Amherst last weekend as well, which brought in more than 350 people. He acknowledged the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Cumberland Y Service Club - a tribute to the great work they do in the community. He also acknowledged two young athletes, Felicia and Kyrsten Landry on being top gymnasts in Atlantic Canada, and extended congratulations to them and many others who represent our community. The Home and Cottage show is this weekend and Mayor Small said he hoped people will take the time to attend.

On motion by Councillor Rhindress, the meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

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Gregory D. Herrett,CA  
Town Clerk and CAO

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Robert Small  
Mayor