

**TOWN OF AMHERST
Regular Council Meeting
Minutes**

Date: June 24, 2019
Time: 7:00 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
 Greg Jones, Fire Chief
 Dwayne Pike, Police Chief
 Tom McCoag, Corporate Communications Officer
 Andrew Fisher, Manager of Planning and Strategic Initiatives
 Shelley Rector, Chief Financial Officer
 Rebecca Taylor, Business Development Officer
 Kimberlee Jones, Municipal Clerk
 Natalie LeBlanc, Deputy Clerk

1. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mayor Kogon gave the Territorial Acknowledgement.

2. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kogon called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

3. O CANADA

Caylee Vanderkooi did the singing of O Canada.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

4.1 Approval of the Agenda

Moved By Councillor Rhindress

Seconded By Councillor Jones

That the agenda be approved as circulated.

Motion Carried

4.2 Approval of Minutes

4.2.1 May 27, 2019 Regular Council

Moved By Councillor Byrne

Seconded By Deputy Mayor Christie

That the minutes of the May 27, 2019 regular meeting of Council be approved as circulated.

Motion Carried

4.2.2 June 13, 2019 Special Council

Moved By Councillor MacKenzie

Seconded By Councillor Jones

That the minutes of the June 13, 2019 special meeting of Council be approved as circulated.

Motion Carried

5. REQUESTS FOR DECISION

5.1 Smoke-Free Recreational Places Bylaw Amendments 2nd Reading

Moved By Councillor Blanch

Seconded By Councillor Jones

That Council give second reading to the Bylaw to Amend the Smoke-Free Recreational Places Bylaw to include the use of cannabis and vaping.

Motion Carried

BY-LAW TO AMEND THE
SMOKE-FREE RECREATIONAL PLACES BYLAW C-12

The Town of Amherst Smoke-Free Recreational Places By-law C-12, approved by Council on May 28, 2012, is hereby amended as follows:

Delete Section 3. b . in it's entirety:

~~"smoke" means to smoke, hold or otherwise have control over lighted tobacco.~~

And replace it with the following:

'Smoke' means to smoke, inhale or exhale smoke from, burn, carry, hold or otherwise have control over a lit or heated cigarette, cigar, pipe, waterpipe, electronic cigarette or other device that burns or heats tobacco, cannabis or another substance that is intended to be smoked or inhaled;

Add Section 3. c. as follows:

- c. 'Cannabis' means a cannabis plant as defined by the Cannabis Act (Canada) and includes any products containing cannabis in any form.

Add Section 4.c. as follows:

- c. the grounds of an event on Town property or property maintained by the Town, that is open to the public, including, but not limited to a festival, market or concert whether admittance to the event is gratis or for a fee'.

5.2 PACE Bylaw Amendments 2nd Reading

Moved By Deputy Mayor Christie

Seconded By Councillor Byrne

That Council give second reading of a Bylaw to Amend the Town of Amherst By-law Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Program.

Motion Carried

BY-LAW TO AMEND

THE PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY (PACE) BYLAW B-8

The Town of Amherst PACE By-Law, B-8 approved by Council on October 22, 2018 is hereby amended as follows:

1. Replace *Director of Finance* with *Chief Financial Officer* throughout.
2. Replace *Energy Efficiency Upgrades* with *Clean Energy Upgrades* throughout
3. Replace references to the *Assessment Act* to the *Municipal Government Act* throughout.
4. Change section 3 (c) to better define what a Clean Energy Upgrade includes.
5. Change section 3(h) to allow owner-occupied multi-unit residences with 2 units.
6. Change section 5 to better define participant approval.
7. Add section 7 to define what is included in a *PACE charge*.
8. Add section 9 and 10 that establishes the 10-year financing term, and provides for additional default charges.
9. Add section 12 to establish the annual payment and reaffirms default payment terms.
10. Add section 17 that removes the interest rate from the Bylaw and references the PACE Program Policy for the rate. This change allows future interest rate changes without the need to amend the Bylaw.
11. Removes the redundant *INSTALLMENT PAYMENTS* section as these provisions are captured in new sections 9 and 10 of the *PAYMENT OF CHARGE* section.

Moved By Deputy Mayor Christie

Seconded By Councillor Jones

That Council adopt the corresponding PACE Program Policy, and authorize the CAO to enter into a service contract with Clean Nova Scotia Foundation.

Motion Carried

DEPARTMENT: Planning & Strategic Initiatives

TITLE: Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Program Policy

Minutes reference date: June 24, 2019

Revision date:

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 This policy identifies the eligible types of Clean Energy Upgrades that may be financed by the Town of Amherst through the Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Program Bylaw, and establishes the program financing details in section 2.
- 1.2 The table in Section 3 lists the eligible Clean Energy Upgrade types that may be financed. Each type of upgrade must be evaluated by a specific energy evaluation procedure and may need to conform to a particular energy standard, which is identified beside each upgrade type. The required evaluation procedure or standard ensures that the upgrade is studied from an energy science perspective, and that a definable energy benefit is determined.
- 1.3 In administering this Policy, the Town will ensure that any Clean Energy Upgrades requested by property owners to be financed through the PACE program are identified as being eligible types in the table in Section 3. Furthermore, the Town will ensure that for each requested upgrade, the required evaluation procedure or standard has been met and that a definable energy benefit has been determined or recommended by a qualified energy professional. These minimum conditions must be met before permitting a requested upgrade to be financed on the subject property.
- 1.4 The ability to approve financing for Clean Energy Upgrades on specific properties may be subject to further restrictions through the conditions set out in the PACE Bylaw and the PACE Customer Agreement.

2. FINANCING DETAILS

- 2.1 Interest will be charged on PACE charges at a rate of municipal cost of borrowing plus 2%.
- 2.2 The maximum number of homes entering this program is 10 per year.
- 2.3 The Maximum Eligible Amount is \$15,000 for homes with full assessed property values of less than or equal to \$150,000. For homes with full assessed property values of more than \$150,000, the Maximum Eligible Amount is lesser of \$25,000 or 10% of the full assessed property value.

3. PACE PROGRAM CLEAN ENERGY UPGRADE STANDARDS

Clean Energy Upgrade Type	Required Evaluation or Standard
A. Insulation for ceilings, floors, main walls, knee-walls, foundation walls, foundation headers, foundation slabs, and crawlspaces	Home Energy Assessment
B. Draft-proofing including caulking, weather stripping and duct sealing	Home Energy Assessment
C. Exterior doors	Home Energy Assessment
D. Exterior Windows	Home Energy Assessment
E. Domestic Hot Water Tanks	Home Energy Assessment
F. Drain Water Heat Recovery Systems	Home Energy Assessment
G. Heat Pumps	Home Energy Assessment
H. Wood & Pellet Heating Systems	Home Energy Assessment
I. Exhaust Ventilation	Home Energy Assessment
J. Balanced Heat Recovery Ventilation	Home Energy Assessment
K. Electric Vehicle Charging Stations	Home Energy Assessment and Time-of-Day Savings Assessment
L. Electric Thermal Storage (ETS) Systems	Home Energy Assessment and Time-of-Day Savings Assessment
M. Solar Hot Water Systems	Home Energy Assessment and Solar Potential Site Assessment
N. Solar Hot Air Systems	Home Energy Assessment and Solar Potential Site Assessment
O. Solar Photovoltaic Systems	Home Energy Assessment and Solar Potential Site Assessment

P. Swimming Pool Heating & Circulation Systems	Home Energy Assessment, Existing Load Assessment, and Solar Potential Site Assessment
Q. Supplementary work required to successfully complete the above listed upgrades. This may include but is not limited to removal of existing equipment or components, repairs and maintenance required, installation of vapour barriers and other water controls and freeze protection, testing and abatement of asbestos and vermiculite, and electrical upgrades.	Home Energy Assessment

5.3 Capital Budget Amendment - Community Credit Union Business Innovation Center Roof

Moved By Councillor Byrne

Seconded By Councillor Rhindress

That Council approve an amendment to this year's capital budget (2019-2020) to include \$75,000 for the replacement of the roof at the Community Credit Union Business Innovation Center, and remove it from the year two capital budget (2020-2021).

Motion Carried

5.4 Capital Budget Amendment - West Victoria Street Paving

Moved By Councillor MacKenzie

Seconded By Councillor Blanch

That Council approve the amendment to the 2019/20 Capital Budget for the recapping of a 610 meter long section of West Victoria Street between Liberty Lane and James Street in the amount of \$85,000 plus HST to be funded by Gas Tax Revenues.

Motion Carried

5.5 Award of Fire Truck

Moved By Councillor Rhindress

Seconded By Councillor Blanch

That Council award RFP-19-06 – Supply of One New Pumper Truck to Metalfab Ltd in the amount of \$575,000 plus HST.

Motion Carried

5.6 Award of Capital Paving

Moved By Councillor Jones

Seconded By Councillor Blanch

That Council award the 2019 Capital Paving Tender (T-19- 3) to the lowest compliant bidder, Costin Paving and Contracting, at their unit prices based on our estimated quantities in the total amount of \$ \$579,159.00 plus HST, and further, that staff be directed to negotiate a reduction in the amount of work to be completed, based on the unit prices submitted, to reflect the actual budget amount such that the value of the contract does not exceed \$588,000 including non-recoverable HST.

Motion Carried

5.7 Gritty to Pretty Program

Moved By Deputy Mayor Christie

Seconded By Councillor MacKenzie

That Council approve the Gritty to Pretty 2.0 Beautification Program.

Motion Carried

5.8 Declaration of Climate Change Emergency

The following resolution was read as drafted with the assistance of the Amherst Youth Town Council:

WHEREAS the Town of Amherst is working to meet all provincial targets in terms of renewable energy, and as such is a leader amongst Town governments in Nova Scotia; and,

WHEREAS we – along with all residents of Earth – are faced with a climate emergency, as recently recognized by a variety of municipalities across Canada; and,

WHEREAS the IPCC has issued a special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above the preindustrial levels caused by greenhouse gas emissions; and,

WHEREAS foreseeable and preventable climate-change related outcomes are of grave importance to the Town of Amherst; and,

WHEREAS the Town of Amherst will be ensuring that minimizing greenhouse gas emissions and the threat of sea level rise are top of mind in Council decision making and climate change mitigation and adaption issues will be important criteria in project prioritization; and,

WHEREAS the Town of Amherst has and is continuing to invest in major capital projects and is presented with opportunities to institute climate neutral building and long-term management practices; and,

WHEREAS the Town of Amherst has recently entered a contract with the Nova Scotia Government's Solar for Community Buildings Pilot Program which will see the installation of 75 kW of solar on the roof of the stadium and is currently partnering with Nova Scotia Power on the Smart Meter Pilot Project; and,

WHEREAS the Town of Amherst has identified environmental stewardship, including adaption, mitigation and sustainability as a key pillar of its strategic plan, which is an acknowledgment of the importance of incorporating climate-change implications into the Town's long-term strategic planning and budgeting; and,

WHEREAS the Town of Amherst is uniquely equipped to act as a role model and change maker for other Canadian communities; and,

WHEREAS in the Town of Amherst has a strong Active Transportation Plan and currently is expanding the infrastructure;

Moved By Councillor Blanch

Seconded By Councillor Jones

THAT the Amherst Town Council declare that we are in a state of climate emergency via proclamation and press release. Staff will be directed to develop a report outlining:

- **Steps the Town of Amherst could undertake to reduce its carbon footprint to meet the IPCC targets to keep warming below 1.5°C as expressed in the 2018 IPCC Report; and,**
- **Steps the Town of Amherst could undertake to support the businesses and residents of the Town of Amherst to further reduce or eliminate the communities carbon footprint; and,**
- **Related budgetary implications.**

Motion Carried

6. INTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1 Planning Advisory Committee

Information item; no direction given or action required.

6.2 Amherst Board of Police Commissioners

No report – next meeting is scheduled for June 26 at 3:00 p.m.

6.3 Amherst Youth Town Council

Information item; no direction given or action required.

6.4 Audit Committee

No Report

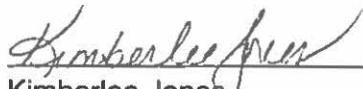
7. EXTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 7.1 Cumberland Public Libraries**
Information item; no direction given or action required.
- 7.2 Cumberland YMCA**
No Report
- 7.3 Cumberland Joint Services Management Authority**
Information item; no direction given or action required.
- 7.4 Northern Region Waste Resource Committee**
Information item; no direction given or action required.
- 7.5 Cumberland YMCA**
No Report
- 7.6 Senior Safety**
No Report
- 7.7 Inter Municipal Tourism**
No Report
- 7.8 Poverty Reduction**
No Report

8. ADJOURNMENT

**Moved By Deputy Mayor Christie
Seconded By Councillor Jones
To adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m.**

Motion Carried



Kimberlee Jones
Municipal Clerk



David Kogon, MD
Mayor