



Town of Amherstburg Council Brief

Highlights from the February 14, 2022 meeting of Council:

Stillbrook Accessible Retirement Residences – Dr. Peter Nord made a presentation regarding a proposed seniors/assisted living development. Stillbrook Accessible Retirement Residences is a CRA-registered charitable organization providing a solution to support a growing demand for safe, affordable, and accessible housing for seniors. The proposed location is 2 acres of property in the north-west quadrant of Centennial Park. The Amherstburg proposal is the very first of its kind and will pave the way for the many sites across Ontario. Council received the presentation noting it would like to have public consultation on the matter before proceeding.

2022 Final Approved Operation Budget – Council approved the 2022 Operating Budget. The total own purposes tax levy is \$26,828,975, including \$25,492,486 general levy and \$1,336,489 special capital levy. The municipal tax rate impact from the levy change is an increase of 3.11%. The 2022 tax rates will be included in a further report to Council recommending approval of a Final Levy By-law.

2022 Capital Budget – Council tabled the 2022 Capital Budget. Deliberations will take place on Tuesday, February 22, 2022 @ 5:00 p.m.

Visit <https://www.amherstburg.ca/livestream> to watch the deliberations live!

Centennial Park and Jack Purdie Park Update – Council approved funds for the re-development of H. Murray Smith/Centennial Park and Jack Purdie Park in the amount of \$100,000 each as recommended in the 2022 Capital Budget. Stay tuned for the upcoming public consultation process for the re-development of both parks!

Gore Street and Ramsay Street Improvements – Council approved funds, not to exceed \$10,000, for improvements to the intersection of Gore Street and Ramsay Street.

2022 Municipal Election – Voting Method – A by-law will be before Council at their February 28th, 2022 meeting to consider placing the following question on the election ballot: Are you in favour of a Ward Election System?

Portable Sign Exemption from Moratorium/Waving of Fees – Council lifted the current moratorium on portable signs for the rest of 2022 calendar year; and further, waived the portable sign fees for 2022.

Integrated Management Plan for Plastics – Council supported the City of Windsor’s resolution to urge the Federal government to combat some 8,000 tonnes of Canadian plastic waste that ends up in landfills, incinerators or the natural environment every day.

Housing Affordability Task Force Report and Call to Re-examine Hospital Capital Funding – Council supported AMO’s position with respect to the Housing Affordability Task Force report recommendations including the following five main areas to quickly increase the supply of market housing, to meet a goal of adding 1.5 million homes over the next 10 years:

- making changes to planning policies and zoning to allow for greater density and increase the variety of housing;
- reduce and streamline urban design rules to lower costs of development;
- depoliticize the approvals process to address NIMBYism and cut red tape to speed up housing;
- prevent abuse of the appeal process and address the backlog at the Ontario Land Tribunal by prioritizing cases that increase housing; and
- align efforts between all levels of government to incentivize more housing.

Additionally, the Task Force report makes other recommendations to increase housing supply over the long-term, including to digitize and modernize the approvals and planning process, grow the skilled labour workforce, and encourage new pathways to home ownership.

**Interested in Council initiatives?
SUBSCRIBE to receive Council Agendas right to your email!**
[amherstburg.ca/council](https://www.amherstburg.ca/council)