



Town of Amherstburg Council Brief

Highlights from the November 10th, 2025 meeting of Council:

RECOGNITIONS

Heritage Property Plaque Presentations

Heritage Property Plaques were presented to recognize Parks Canada Commissariat/ Callam Residence and Belle Vue.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Response to Resident email regarding the Town Investment Strategy

Council received the report for information.

Tabling of the Proposed Operating and Seven Year Capital 2026 Budget

Council moved to table the proposed 2026 Operating and Seven-Year Capital budgets, which prioritize maintaining service levels in alignment with the 2022–2026 Community Strategic Plan. To support these objectives, a proposed levy increase of \$2,202,349 has been recommended. Factoring in assessment growth, the municipal tax rate will rise by 2.86%, equating to an annual increase of \$85.13, or approximately \$1.64 per week, for a home assessed by MPAC at \$250,000.

Operating Budget Highlights

The operating budget addresses key priorities while ensuring financial sustainability. Major drivers include:

- **Contractual Salary Obligations:** \$1,751,204 for contractual salary, and an increase to both benefit costs and retiree benefits.
- **Police Services:** \$387,000 to maintain public safety.
- **Dispatch & Radios:** \$147,662 for emergency communication systems.
- **Asset Management Plan:** \$516,506 for infrastructure sustainability.
- **New Debt Servicing:** \$225,000 for debt payments.
- **Insurance:** \$69,946 to reflect rising premiums and market adjustments in municipal insurance coverage.

Capital Budget Highlights

The 2026–2032 Capital Budget proposes a \$96.48 million investment over seven years, with \$9.57 identified for 2026. Recommendations are balanced against projected reserve funding.

Factors for consideration:

- **Future Planning:** The 2026–2032 budgets are presented for approval in principle, subject to revisions, except for the approved ladder truck under Fleet.
- **Extended Forecasting:** A 7th year (2032) has been introduced, recommendations are balanced against forecasted available reserve funding.

Proposed Changes to Conservation Authorities

Consideration of motions related to this matter has been postponed until after the Essex Region Conservation Authority (ERCA) Board meeting and will be brought forward at the next meeting of Council on November 27, 2025.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mayoral Direction NO. 2025-001 – Strong Mayors Budget Preparation

The Mayor presented the proposed budget in accordance with the Strong Mayor powers and advised Council that it is now available for their review, discussion, and consideration of any motions. Any motions passed by Council could result in increases or decreases to the proposed budget.

Mayoral Direction NO. 2025-002 – Shortening of Strong Mayors Budget Veto Period

The Mayor reduced his veto period from ten days to zero, signaling that he will not exercise his veto powers over any Council decisions arising from the budget deliberations.

NOTICE OF MOTION

Hydro One Presentation Request – Power Disruptions

A motion will be brought forward at the next Council meeting on November 27 formally requesting that Hydro One representatives attend a future meeting to explain the recent frequent power outages in the Town, outline any planned maintenance or infrastructure improvements to enhance electricity reliability, and answer questions from Council. The motion will also direct Administration to coordinate and schedule the presentation.

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