



Town of Amherstburg Council Brief

Highlights from the July 13th, 2026 meeting of Council:

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Council adopted the following minutes:

- 2026 05 11 - Regular Council Meeting Minutes
- 2026 06 15 - Special Council Meeting Minutes
- 2026 06 23 - Regular Council Meeting Minutes

PRESENTATIONS

Essex-Windsor EMS Dispatch Software Update

Council received a presentation from Chief Lammers and Deputy Chief Lee regarding the upcoming implementation of the Medical Priority Dispatch System in the region. The presentation provided an overview of the current dispatch system and paramedic response components, outlined the need for modernization, and reviewed response prioritization, project objectives, and implementation timelines.

Amherstburg Official Plan Review - Dillion Consulting

Council received a presentation from Dillon Consulting regarding the final Official Plan. The presentation outlined the comprehensive review process undertaken to develop the Plan, provided an overview of the project timeline leading to its completion, and highlighted the key amendments, policies, and content incorporated into the final document to guide future growth and development within the Town.

REPORTS

Kingsbridge Subdivision Phase 10C – Assumption of Sidewalks

Council considered a report regarding the assumption of the sidewalks within Kingsbridge Subdivision Phase 10C. Following a two-year maintenance period and the completion of all identified sidewalk repairs by the developer, Administration confirmed that all deficiencies had been addressed. Council approved the acceptance and assumption of the sidewalks, completing the Town's assumption of all municipal infrastructure within Phase 10C.

New Town of Amherstburg Official Plan

Council considered the new Town of Amherstburg Official Plan, a long-range planning document that will guide growth and development over the next 30 years. Council received the report, adopted the new Official Plan, and directed Administration to forward it to the County of Essex for approval.

Summary of Site Plan Control Applications from February 20, 2026 through June 22, 2026

Council considered a report providing an update on Site Plan Control applications and agreements active between February 20, 2026, and June 22, 2026. The report summarized executed SPC agreements and active public files, including project status, building permit information, and related public consultation activities. Council received the report for information.

Policing Options Post December 31, 2028

Council received a report outlining the status of on the Town's review of policing options beyond the expiry of the current Windsor Police Services agreement on December 31, 2028. The report advised that the remaining options under consideration are OPP policing services or the re-establishment of a stand-alone Amherstburg Police Service, with further information and cost analysis to be presented once the OPP Policing Resource Plan is received. Council received the report for information.

Bill 97 Changes to MFIPPA and New Mandatory Privacy Requirements

Council considered a report on the impacts of Bill 97 amendments to the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA), which introduce new municipal privacy, compliance, and information governance requirements effective January 1, 2027. Council moved to refer the financial and staffing implications of these changes to the preparation of the 2027 Operating Budget.

Amendments to the By-Law Enforcement Policy

Council approved amendments to the Town's By-law Enforcement Policy, which included revisions to improve clarity, align with current policies and best practices, update definitions, and outline staff responsibilities.

Provincial Expansion of Bring-Your-Own Alcohol Event Permits

Council considered the implications of recent provincial changes permitting "bring-your-own" alcohol at certain community events and received information regarding the associated public safety, liability, enforcement, and community well-being considerations. Council directed Administration to update the Town's Municipal Alcohol Management Policy to reflect industry best practices and require that only events operating under an AGCO-issued Special Occasion Permit (SOP) be permitted.

CONSENT CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from the Ontario Provincial Regarding Policing Resource Plan Status

Council received correspondence from the Ontario Provincial Police advising that the Amherstburg Policing Resource Plan is still being developed and is expected to be presented to Council later in 2026, after which the Town will have six months to respond.

Letter from AMCTO - Bill 97 Proposed MFIPPA Changes Recommendations

Council received correspondence from AMCTO to the Minister of Public Business Service Delivery and Procurement regarding Bill 97, highlighting municipal concerns about implementation timelines, resource requirements, and the need for additional guidance and legislative clarity.

Letter from the Honourable Robert J. Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (234-2026-1873) - Changes to Strong Mayor Framework

Council received correspondence from the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing advising of recent changes to Ontario's strong mayor framework, including new election-year budget and governance restrictions intended to strengthen accountability during municipal election years. The changes took effect June 22, 2026.

Letter from the Amherstburg Chamber of Commerce - Business Excellence Awards

Council received correspondence from the Amherstburg Chamber of Commerce thanking the Town for sponsoring the Employer of the Year award at the 21st Annual Business Excellence Awards.

CORRESPONDENCE

Proclamation Request for Emancipation Day – Amherstburg Freedom Museum

Council proclaimed August 1st, 2026 as Emancipation Day in the Town of Amherstburg.

NEW BUSINESS

Artificial Intelligence Data Centres

Council provided direction to Administration and requested that the County of Essex undertake a review of land use policies related to artificial intelligence (AI) data centres, including consideration of potential planning policy updates, public engagement, and the use of external expertise.

BY-LAWS

Powers Drain - By-law 2026-022 - Third and Final Reading

Council approved By-Law 2026-022 to authorize improvements to the Powers Drain, based on the engineering report prepared by R. Dobbin Engineering Inc.

Beneteau, Vollans and Tremblay Drains - By-law 2026-023 - Third and Final Reading

Council approved By-Law 2026-023 to authorize improvements to the Beneteau, Vollans and Tremblay Drains based on the engineering report prepared by R. Dobbin Engineering Inc.

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