

Town of Amherstburg Council Brief

Highlights from the September 8th, 2025 meeting of Council:

REPORT OUT FROM IN-CAMERA SESSION

Item A – Striking Committee Information

Administration was directed to proceed on the verbal direction of council.

Item B – Legal Advice and Information Regarding a Proposed DevelopmentThe matter was deferred by Council.

Item C – Legal Advice and Information Related to an Economic Development Matter The matter was heard by Council for informational purposes.

Council supported the initiative led by Mayor Prue and Administration to engage Diageo unions, local and provincial representatives, and company officials in efforts to protect jobs and maintain operations at the Amherstburg plant. Council confirmed contact has been made with the Premier, Minister of Economic Development, and relevant offices, and directed that a letter be sent to County Council and all Ontario municipalities requesting their support.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Council adopted the following minutes:

- 2025 04 14 Special Planning Meeting Minutes
- 08 11 2025 Regular Council Meeting Minutes
- 08 11 2025 Special Council Meeting Planning Minutes

REPORTS

Co-An Park Expenditure

Council approved a transfer of \$1,122.91 from Reserve 2006 to cover the Town of Amherstburg's 50% share of the cost to rent a temporary concession container at Co-An Park this summer. The rental was necessary after the permanent concession structure was deemed unsuitable for use due to health and safety concerns. This cost-sharing aligns with the joint ownership and operation agreement between the Towns of Amherstburg and Essex.

Request for Council Exemption for Post Disaster Construction for Municipal Garage on Boblo Island

Council approved an exemption from post-disaster construction requirements under the Ontario Building Code for the proposed municipal garage at 596 Gold Coast Drive on Boblo Island. Since, the structure will solely house a fire vehicle, Council has the authority to approve this exemption under the Building Code Act.

Additional Information – Fraserville Alley Closing Application

Council approved the next steps in the process to close a portion of the Fraserville alley right-of-way. Adjacent property owners will be given the opportunity to purchase the land, and the Manager of Planning Services will provide cost estimates and next steps. A future report will come back to Council following cost estimates and notice to land owners. A bylaw to initiate the closure process was also passed.

Repeal By-law 2004-06

Council deferred the matter until October 14, 2025.

2025 Asset Management Plan (AMP)

Council approved the 2025 Asset Management Plan (AMP), which outlines the condition, replacement needs, and long-term funding strategies for the Town's infrastructure. The plan meets all current provincial requirements and includes financial models to address the Town's infrastructure funding gap over the next 10, 15, and 20 years. Council also directed that funding options be further considered during the 2026 budget deliberations.

Adoption of the 2026 Amherstburg Council Meeting Schedule

Council approved the 2026 Calendar of Council Meetings as presented, and waived Section 3.8 of the Procedural By-law to allow for changes to the regular meeting schedule in January, June, October, and November.

2025 Special Events Approval Part 6

Council approved Part 6 Special Events brought forward which included the Ruck 2 Remember, 2025 Legion Week Parade, Rick Meloche Bike Ride, River Lights Festival – Opening Night and River Lights Festival.

Town of Amherstburg – Election Planning 2026

Council has approved the use of traditional in-person voting with electronic tabulators as the method of voting for the 2026 Municipal Election. This decision follows a detailed review of alternative voting methods, accessibility considerations, and community feedback from the 2022 election. Council also passed By-law 2025-070, authorizing the use of optical scanning tabulators for the 2026 election.

INFORMATION REPORTS

July 2025 Amherstburg Detachment Policing Activities

Council received the report for information.

Building Activity Report for Month of April to June 2025

Council received the report for information.

Summary of Site Plan Control Applications April 15, 2025 through August 11, 2025 Council received the report for information.

CONSENT CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence from Municipality of Strathroy- Caradoc - Re: Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box

Council received correspondence from Strathroy-Caradoc urging Ontario to make producers pay for recycling from all sources, not just some, to prevent unfair costs falling on municipalities.

2025 Ontario Senior Achievement Awards

Council received correspondence from the Minister for Seniors and Accessibility inviting the submission of a nomination for the 2025 Ontario Senior Achievement Award.

CORRESPONDENCE

Fire in the Hole - 3rd Annual Cornhole Tournament - Amherstburg Firefighters Association

The Town of Amherstburg Council has approved a \$500 gold sponsorship for the Amherstburg Firefighters Association's 3rd Annual "Fire in the Hole" Cornhole Tournament. The funding will come from the Council donation budget to support this community event.

Flag Raising Request – National Seniors Day

Council approved the flag raising request to recognize National Senior's Day on Wednesday, October 1, 2025.

CONSENT OTHER MINUTES

Council received the minutes of the following:

- July 3rd, 2025 Amherstburg Environmental Advisory Committee
- July 16th, 2025 Audit and Finance Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
- August 7th, 2025 Amherstburg Environmental Advisory Committee
- August 14, 2025 Heritage Committee Meeting Minutes

OTHER MINUTES

Drainage Board Meeting Minutes - August 6, 2025

Council has adopted the minutes and approved several drainage matters as recommended. This includes the receipt of engineer reports for the proposed creation of the Murray Drain and Perth Drain under Section 4 of the Drainage Act, with Council provisionally adopting By-law 2025-063 and By-law 2025-062, respectively. Council also directed that the engineer's report for improvements to the Lakewood Drive Drain No. 3 & Pumping Scheme be sent back to the engineer to remove Parcel 1 from the watershed. In addition, Council adopted the proposed drainage apportionments as presented.

BY-LAWS

2025-047 – A By-law to regulate the Keeping of Animals and the Care and Control of Animals within the Town of Amherstburg

Council gave final approval to By-law 2025-047, a by-law to regulate the keeping, care, and control of animals within the Town of Amherstburg. The by-law was read three times and passed, authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to sign the document. This updated by-law supports responsible pet ownership and animal welfare in the community.

By-law 2025-072 - Appoint Fence Viewers

Council approved By-law 2025-072, a by-law to appoint Fence Viewers under the provisions of the Line Fences Act. This appointment ensures that the Town continues to meet its responsibilities under the Act in resolving boundary fence disputes between property owners.

By-law 2025-073 - Appoint Property Standards

Council approved By-law 2025-073, a by-law to appoint a Property Standards Committee. This committee will hear appeals related to property standards orders and help ensure that properties in Amherstburg are maintained in accordance with the Town's by-laws.

By-law 2025-074 - Appoint Livestock Valuers

Council has approved By-law 2025-074, a by-law to appoint Livestock Valuers for the Town of Amherstburg. Livestock Valuers are responsible for assessing and reporting livestock losses due to wildlife, in accordance with the Ontario Wildlife Damage Compensation Program.

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