



Town of Amherstburg Council Brief

Highlights from the March 9th, 2026 meeting of Council:

REPORT OUT FROM IN-CAMERA SESSION

Item A: Legal Advice and Recommendations Related to a OPA and ZBA for Rivers Edge Phase III

Council received the matter for information.

Item B: Striking Committee Selection

Council appointed Dr. Qadri to the Licensing Committee and directed that By-law 2024-018 be amended and brought back for adoption to reflect this appointment.

Item C: Employment Matter Regarding Identifiable Employee

This matter was not heard by Council prior to the Regular Meeting. It will be reported at the next public Regular Meeting of Council.

Item D - Legal Advice and Negotiations regarding Economic Development Matters regarding the former Diageo Plant

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

Item E - Negotiations Associated with Policing Services in the Town of Amherstburg

Council received the matter for information.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Council adopted the following minutes with the understanding that the mover and seconder for Item 12.2, H. Murray Smith Centennial Park Update – Park Option, in the Minutes of February 23, 2026, would be corrected.

- 2026 02 23 - Regular Council Meeting Minutes
- 2026 01 19 - Regular Council Meeting Minutes

RECOGNITIONS

Heritage Property Plaque Presentations

The Lewis Arner Homestead and the Melvin Simpson Residence were both recognized as Heritage Properties. Plaques will be arranged for pickup by the property owners at a later date.

Recognition of Myrtle Donnipad – New Partnership Award

Council recognized Myrtle Donnipad, Economic Development Project Coordinator for the Town of Amherstburg, for receiving the New Partnership Award from the WEST Organization at the International Women’s Day event.

PRESENTATIONS

MPP Leardi - Recognition Certificate Presentation

MPP Leardi, on behalf of Raymond Cho, Minister for Seniors and Accessibility, presented Council with the Age-Friendly Community Award in recognition of the Town of Amherstburg’s commitment to supporting an age-friendly community

Primary Care Practitioners in Amherstburg/Windsor-Essex County - Windsor-Essex Ontario Health Team and Windsor-Essex County Health Unit

Representatives from the Windsor-Essex Ontario Health Team and the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit provided Council with an overview of the Ontario Health Team, including how patient attachment data is calculated and monitored. The presentation also outlined current information regarding access to primary care for patients in Amherstburg and the strategies and actions being undertaken by partners to address patient detachment in Amherstburg and across Essex County.

REPORTS

Annual Treasurer’s Report – 2025 Council and Appointee Statement on Remuneration and Expenses

Council received for information the Treasurer’s report dated February 23, 2026, regarding the Annual Treasurer’s Report – 2025 Council and Appointee Statement on Remuneration and Expenses. The report provides an itemized statement of remuneration and expense payments made in 2025 to members of Council and Council-appointed members of boards and committees, in accordance with the requirements of the Municipal Act, 2001.

Roof Replacement 320 Richmond (the HUB)

Council awarded the roof replacement for Amherstburg Community Services (320 Richmond – The HUB) to Accent Roofing and Siding in the amount of \$829,257.51 plus taxes. An over-expenditure of \$50,000 from the General Reserve was approved to cover the total project cost. The roof replacement will address critical building issues, extend service life, and reduce future maintenance costs.

Amendments to the Driveway Alteration or Installation Policy

Council approved amendments to the Driveway Alteration and Installation Policy as outlined in the February 20, 2026 report. The updates include revised definitions, clarified standards, and adjustments to align with current practices and operational requirements, ensuring safe and consistent access to private properties through the Town’s right-of-way.

Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program – Health and Safety Water Stream Fund Grant – Transfer Payment Agreement

Council authorized the Chief Administrative Officer and Mayor to execute the Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program Health and Safety Water Stream Grant Transfer Payment

Agreement for the Richmond Street Sanitary Sewer Replacement project. A capital expenditure of up to \$5,215,200 was approved, with grant funding of up to \$3,741,250 and the balance from Town reserves. Authority was delegated to the CAO to award contracts and execute agreements necessary to complete the project.

Notice of Intent to Designate – 130 Sandwich Street South

Council moved to defer the matter to the April 13th Regular Meeting of Council.

Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendment for 250-258 St. Arnaud Street

Council adopted Official Plan Amendment No. 29 and approved a related amendment to Zoning By-law 1999-52 for the properties located at 250–258 St. Arnaud Street. The amendments support the proposed development on the site, which currently contains two four-unit multi-residential buildings that will remain. Official Plan Amendment No. 29 will be forwarded to the County of Essex for final approval, and the project will proceed through the Site Plan Control process to address detailed design and servicing requirements.

Physician Recruitment Update

Council received a report on initiatives to recruit family physicians and nurse practitioners to Amherstburg, which outlined the current state of primary care and highlighted ongoing provincially led recruitment efforts. Council also directed Administration to collaborate with local healthcare partners and the public to enhance healthcare in the community, consider all feedback, provide progress updates, and send a letter to the Provincial Government, copying all municipalities, to support this initiative.

2026 Targeted Accessibility Improvements and Upgrades

Council approved the creation of two accessible parking spaces and an access aisle near the pickleball courts at the Libro Centre, as well as the addition of an accessible on-street parking space near Briar Ridge Park. These accessibility improvements will be funded through the Accessibility Compliance Reserve Fund.

Community Strategic Plan – Annual Progress Report

Council received for information the 2025 Annual Progress Report on the Community Strategic Plan, which outlines progress made on the plan's strategic goals, initiatives, and performance measures.

CONSENT OTHER MINUTES

Council received the following minutes:

- Heritage Committee Meeting Minutes - February 12, 2026
- Committee of Adjustment Meeting Minutes - February 9, 2026

NEW BUSINESS

Financial Update Request on the HUB

Council directed Administration to prepare a report outlining the amount of capital funds invested in, and revenue generated from, 320 Richmond Street (The HUB) since the Town acquired the property.

Flag Raising – Autism Ontario

Council approved raising the Ontario Autism flag on April 2nd.

Finlay’s Law – Request for Support for Improvements to Pediatric and Neonatal Emergency Care

Council expressed its support for Finlay’s law, a bill aimed at improving emergency care for pediatric and neonatal patients, particularly in communities without dedicated pediatric hospitals. Council directed that correspondence be sent to the Minister of Health and MPP Leardi to communicate the Town’s support for these improvements.

BY-LAWS

By-Law 2025-083 - Ernest Paquette Drain - Third and Final Reading

Council passed By-Law 2025-083, authorizing improvements to the Ernest Paquette Drain (2025) as outlined in the report by Josh Warner, P.Eng. of R. Dobbin Engineering Inc., and directed the Mayor and Clerk to sign the by-law.

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