



**TOWN OF AMHERSTBURG  
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING – 2014 BUDGET**

**Tuesday, April 8, 2014**

**10:00 AM**

Council Chambers, 271 Sandwich Street South, Amherstburg

**MINUTES**

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**PRESENT**

Mayor Wayne Hurst  
Deputy Mayor Ron Sutherland  
Councillor Carolyn Davies  
Councillor Bart DiPasquale  
Councillor Robert (Bob) Pillon  
Councillor Diane Pouget  
Councillor John Sutton

Mike Phipps, Chief Administrative Officer  
Paula Parker, Acting Clerk

Administration

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 10:07 am.

**DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST & GENERAL NATURE THEREOF**

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest noted.

**REPORTS - FINANCE**

**3.1 2014 Proposed Budget**

The CAO thanked administration for all its hard work developing a very tight budget for Council's consideration for 2014. There are numerous changes to this year's budget to make it much more understandable for Council and the public.

The CAO advised Council that the Water and Wastewater budget is not included in this budget and will come later in the year for consideration.

The Supervisor of Financial Management provided a detailed overview of the 2014 Budget and explained its changes in appearance. She touched on changes to global expenses, police/crossing guards and human resources.

Discussion ensued between Council and administration with regard to the 2014 budget.

Councillor Pillon moved, Deputy Mayor Sutherland seconded:

**That Council break for 30 minutes for lunch at 12:10pm.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Sutton moved, Deputy Mayor Sutherland seconded:

**That Council reconvene at 12:55pm.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

**Councillor Davies moved, Councillor Sutton seconded:**

**That the presentation be received.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That Council recess budget sessions until April 9, 2014 at 10am.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

## **April 9, 2014**

Councillor Davies moved, Councillor DiPasquale seconded

**That Council reconvene budget session at 10:02 am.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

The Mayor asked if there were any disclosures of pecuniary interest.

None were noted.

The Mayor asked for Council's opinion on what they each would like to see come from the 2014 budget deliberations.

- Deputy Mayor Sutherland advised he would like to hear the opinions of all Council before he decides
- Councillor Pouget would like to only keep the essentials
- Councillor DiPasquale wants to see a more reasonable budget at 3-4% max
- Councillor Pilon wants to get to 5% - would eliminate anything
- Councillor Davies wants to see the budget well under 10%, interested to see where Town of Amherstburg compares to other municipalities with similar population
- Councillor Sutton wants a long term plan to replenish reserves and debt reduction strategy

The CAO stated that he would have comparisons at the next meeting with respect to % and school.

Council directed administration to come back with nothing more than a 3-5% increase.

Councillor Sutton moved, Deputy Mayor Sutherland seconded:

**That Council recess budget sessions until April 15, 2014.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

## **April 15, 2014**

Deputy Mayor Sutherland moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That Council reconvene budget sessions.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

The Mayor asked if there were any disclosures of pecuniary interest.

Councillor Sutton declared a pecuniary interest with respect to a grant request from the House of Shalom. Councillor DiPasquale declared a pecuniary interest with respect to the grant request from the Black National Historic Museum.

Discussion ensued with respect to Police increase of 4.5% and salary and benefits. Councillor Pouget requested figures for 2009, 2012 and how many people that were hired in the last 2 years.

Councillor Sutton moved, Deputy Mayor Sutherland seconded:

**That Council recess at 11:45am until 12:30pm.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Davies moved, Deputy Mayor Sutherland seconded:

**That Council reconvene at 12:34pm.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That administration bring back a long term reserve replenishment, as well as a long term debt plan.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

Councillor Pillon moved, Councillor Sutton seconded:

**That the Heritage rebate program be eliminated in 2014.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Failed**

The Acting Director of Financial Services took Council through the grant requests.

Councillor Sutton and Councillor DiPasquale vacated their seats and withdrew from discussion and voting on grants.

Councillor Davies moved, Councillor Pillon seconded:

**That Council maintain the \$30,000 in the budget for grants to charitable organizations.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Pillon moved, Councillor DiPasquale seconded:

**That Council eliminate the yard waste depot.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That Council recommend to RFP for a Development Study so that development charges and 2% parkland fees can be added to the process.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That the Libro hours be reduced.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor Pillon seconded:

**That Human Resources remove overtime hours from its budget.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Pillon moved, Councillor Sutton seconded:

**That Council remove \$25,000 from reforestation for the budget for 2014.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Deputy Mayor Sutherland moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That Council keep the crossing guard program in place for 2014.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That Council support the increase in the tax certificate fee.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That Council support supplementary tax revenue.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That Council support carrying charges on drainage reports.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Davies moved, Councillor Pillon seconded:

**That Council remove the GPS purchase from the 2014 budget.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor Pillon seconded:

**That Council recess for 15 minutes at 2:17pm.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Deputy Mayor Sutherland moved, Councillor Sutton seconded:

**That Council resume at 2:41pm.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Davies moved, Councillor Sutton seconded:

**That Council support the sale of old arena equipment.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Deputy Mayor Sutherland moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That Council support the addition of revenue from the sale of the water tower property, St. Arnaud St right of way, etc. that are surplus to the needs of the Town.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor DiPasquale moved, Councillor Pillon seconded:

**That Council complete the streetlight illumination and leave it in the 2014 budget.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor DiPasquale moved, Councillor Sutton seconded:

**That Council complete the reduction of road gravel and leave it in the 2014 budget.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor DiPasquale moved, Councillor Pouget seconded:

**That Council cut \$30,000 from the Council/CAO general expenses budget for 2014.**

Administration stated that there were some Council members that had already incurred expenses that would still need to be paid. Council agreed to pay the incurred costs and limit anything further.

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor Pillon seconded:

**That Council explore the sale of Malden Community Centre.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Pouget moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That Council leave the \$8000 in the 2014 budget for maintenance of Malden Community Centre.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That Council not concur with charges for garbage services.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**



Councillor Davies moved, Councillor Pillon seconded:

**That Council support the closure of the visitor information centre and a plan be developed for further use and \$10,000 from its revenue go to reserves.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor DiPasquale moved, Councillor Pouget seconded:

**That Council keep the Lions Pool in the 2014 budget.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Pillon moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That Council not sell the fire truck at station 3.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Deputy Mayor Sutherland moved, Councillor Pillon seconded:

**That Council not remove the santa parade from the 2014 budget.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Davies moved, Councillor Sutton seconded:

**That Council keep the full splash pad hours in the 2014 budget.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Deputy Mayor Sutherland moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That Council not concur with a user fee increase to ice rates for additional revenue.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Sutton moved, Deputy Mayor Sutherland seconded:

**That Council recess from budget sessions at 4:00pm until April 22, 2014 at 10am.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

### **April 22, 2014**

Councillor Sutton moved, councilor Davies seconded:

That Coucil reconvene budget sessions at 10:00am.

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

The Mayor asked if there were any disclosures of pecuniary interest.

None were noted.

The CAO answered previous questions from the last deliberation with respect to staff.

Councillor Davies moved, Councillor Sutton seconded:

**That Council direct administration to review the FIR and other information posted to the web for accuracy.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That Council receive the 2013 budget to actuals and monthly reporting to Council going forward.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

It was noted in discussion that there was a \$493,000 surplus for 2013.

Councillor Pouget moved, Councillor DiPasquale seconded:

**That administration provide Council the total number of full time and part time and casual employees with total salaries and benefits.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Pillon moved, Deputy Mayor Sutherland seconded:

**That Council leave no dust control for 2014 in the budget.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Deputy Mayor Sutherland moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That Council keep the car show contribution of \$4000 in the 2014 budget.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Deputy Mayor Sutherland moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That Council keep the Canada Day celebration \$20,000 in the 2014 budget.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Deputy Mayor Sutherland moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That Council keep the \$100,000 for the MMAH financial review in the 2014 budget.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Pillon moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That Council move the suggested sale of River Canard Park to the review of sale of surplus properties.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Discussion ensued with regard to the \$493,000 draft number for 2013 surplus. It was suggested to be used toward the tax stabilization reserve. There was also discussion on savings to budget by cutting employees.

Deputy Mayor Sutherland moved, Councillor Sutton seconded:

**That Council recess until 1:00pm.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Sutton moved, councilor Davies seconded:

**That Council resume at 1:08pm.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

The Mayor stated that any further discussion on employees should be done in-camera under section 239(2)(b).

Council moved in-camera to discuss items under section 239(20)(b)

Deputy Mayor Sutherland moved, Councillor Sutton seconded:

**That Council resume public budget deliberations at 3:04pm.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Sutton  
moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That \$290,000 of the 2013 surplus be used to apply towards the tax rate and any additional to apply to the tax stabilization reserve.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Davies moved, Councillor Pouget seconded:

**That Council approve and expedite the \$40,000 to be used from gas tax.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Sutton moved, Deputy Mayor Sutherland seconded:

**That Council keep the capital budget as is with the understanding that all projects are brought back to Council for final approval in a report including the manner of funding for which the project will be paid.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Deputy Mayor Sutherland moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That Council recess at 3:33pm and reconvene to budget session on May 9, 2014.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

## **May 9, 2014**

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That Council reconvene budget session.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

The Mayor asked if there were any disclosures of pecuniary interest.

None were noted.

Discussion ensued with respect to where Council stood with budget deliberations thus far.

Councillor Pillon moved, Councillor DiPasquale seconded:

**The Council recess for 10 minutes at 10:29am.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Deputy Mayor Sutherland moved, Councillor Sutton seconded:

**That council resume at 10:45am.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Pouget moved, Deputy Mayor Sutherland seconded:

**That Council waive rules of order and allow Mr. Hobbs, Mr. Broderick and MR. Moore to address Council regarding budget.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

The three residents listed above addressed Council with their budget concerns.

The Manager of Engineering and Operations took Council through the capital works projects proposed for 2014.

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That Council support the expenditures of the gas tax as put forward by administration.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That Council accept the net budget increase for 2014 of 3.85%, and further that By-law 2014-39 being a by-law to levy taxes and provide for collection thereof be taken as having been read three times and finally passed and the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign same.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Davies moved, Councillor Sutton seconded:

**That Council adjourn budget sessions at 12:10pm.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

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Mayor - Wayne Hurst

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Acting Clerk – Paula Parker