

**Minutes of an Amherstburg Municipal Council  
Special Public Meeting Budget Review  
Thursday, March 24, 2011  
9:00 a.m. in Fire Station # 2**

**PRESENT:**

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

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Pamela Malott, CAO  
Brenda Percy, Manager of Council & Leg. Services/Clerk  
Paul Beneteau, Treasurer  
Kim Brydon, Accounting Supervisor  
Carol Bendo, Human Resources Manager  
Dave Carpenter, Manager of IT Services  
Todd Hewitt, Roads Superintendent  
Dwayne Grondin, Water and Wastewater Superintendent  
Eric Chamberlain, Drainage Superintendent  
Dennis Laporte, Director of Recreation and Culture  
Antonietta Giofu, Environmental Services Engineer  
Lory Bratt, Planning Coordinator  
Stephen Brown, Chief Building Official  
Lou Zarlenga, Director of Engineering and Infrastructure  
Tim Berthiaume, Chief of Police  
Anne Rota

There were no members of the media present at the meeting.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

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

Councillor Pouget declared a pecuniary interest in discussions relating to Dalhousie Street Road repairs.

**OPENING REMARKS**

Pamela Malott provided opening remarks with respect to the 2011 budget meetings.  
Paul Beneteau provided an overview of the agenda items.

Dennis Laporte provided a breakdown of the advertising budget of \$12,000 included in the operational budget.

Councillor Pillon moved, Councillor Sutton seconded:

**That Council concur with the monies allocated for recreation advertising.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Lost**

Dennis Laporte explained the importance of the advertising budget and impact on not having the funds available.

Deputy Mayor Sutherland questioned if the Recreation Department could find the advertising funds from within the current operational budget.

Councillor Pouget noted that users advertise themselves. Dennis Laporte explained that this advertising is to reach individual users, not the hockey schools. This is a different customer base.

Councillor Davies questioned whether the money spent on advertising could recoup these costs.

Paul Beneteau confirmed that the \$12,000 for Recreation advertising has already been budgeted in the 2011 preliminary budget estimates and tax rate.

Councillor Pillon moved, Councillor Sutton seconded:

**That Council concur with the request.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Lost**

Deputy Mayor Sutherland moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That Council receive the report and approve the budget item.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

### 3. Snow Removal Budget Increase

Paul Beneteau advised that snow removal budget was before Council at the March 23, 2011 Council meeting. Lou Zarlenga spoke to the item and noted the need to increase the budget by \$160,000. This amount was not included in the 2011 preliminary figures.

Pamela Malott felt that there could be savings realized by reviewing the different options available for winter control. She noted that it is time that Council review the level of service provided in this regard.

Deputy Mayor Sutherland moved, Councillor Pouget seconded:

**The increase to snow removal budget be deferred to later in the budget process.**

The Mayor clarified that the intent of the deferral is that the item be deferred to later in budget process.

Lou Zarlenga and Todd Hewitt were directed to bring back options before the budget deliberations are finished on reducing costs associated with snow removal. At that time Council may decide whether to commit the funds or look at other options to offset the increase.

The Mayor noted it is a level of service that Council must consider.

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

### 4. Pitch in Canada Week – discussed at previous council meeting

Paul Beneteau advised that this item was brought before Council at a previous Council meeting.

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor DiPasquale seconded:

**That Council not support the item.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

5. Audible signs

Lou Zarlenga advised that he would have figures for next budget session.

Councillor DiPasquale moved, Deputy Mayor Sutherland seconded:

**That the item be deferred to the March 25, 2011 budget session to allow Administration to bring costs before Council.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

6. Feral Cat Control

Councillor Sutton moved, Deputy Mayor Sutherland seconded:

**That Council not assign any monies in 2011 to feral cat program**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

7. Significant Budget Changes

Paul Beneteau reviewed the net changes to the budget as provided in the agenda package.

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That the item be received.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

8. 2010 Unbudgeted Items

Paul Beneteau reviewed the spreadsheet noting that these are items that have a direct impact.

Councillor Pillon asked that waiving of parks fees for charitable groups not be forecasted in the budget.

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor Pillon seconded:

**The item be received.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

**Police Operational Budget**

Tim Berthiaume presented the police operational budget.

Deputy Mayor Sutherland moved, Councillor Sutton seconded:

**That Council receive the budget, as presented.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

**9. New Initiatives**

To be heard after Capital budget.

**10. Rate Comparison**

Paul Beneteau reviewed the Preliminary Tax Rate Breakdown which showed how the increases are broken down. Any changes will result in shifts.

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That the information be received.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

**New Initiatives**

It was noted that staff issues would be addressed March 25, 2011 at In Camera session.

**Tourism War 1812 Product Delivery**

Anne Rota reviewed the New Initiative requesting a Product Developer Position.

Councillor Pouget moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That Council receive the presentation and concur with the recommendation.**

The Mayor put the Motion

**Motion Carried**

Council took break at 11:04 a.m. and resumed at 11:20 a.m.

**Capital Initiatives**

**1. Counter top for Council Chambers**

Deputy Mayor Sutherland moved, Councillor DiPasquale seconded:

**That the item be struck from consideration.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

**2. Town Organization Management System**

Item deferred to the closed session on March 25, 2011.

**3. Fire Inspector Vehicle**

Councillor Pillon moved, Councillor Sutton seconded:

**The item be deferred till the Fire Chief is available to speak to the matter.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

**4. Gordon House Painting**

Councillor Pillon moved, Councillor Pouget seconded:

**That the item be left on the initiative paper to allow for reconsideration at a later time.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

5. Asphalt pathway on County Road 10

Councillor Pillon moved, Councillor Sutton seconded:

**The item be deferred to 2012 budget deliberations.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

The Mayor felt that there must be pressure put on the County to revisit their procedures. The County should be responsible for not only the roads but also the shoulders and lighting of those roads.

6. Backhoe Replacement

Deputy Mayor Sutherland moved, Councillor DiPasquale seconded:

**The item be deferred to 2012 budget deliberations.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Todd Hewitt advised that he would bring forward an estimated cost to refurbish the backhoe, at the appropriate time, together with options.

7. Tar and Chip Program

Councillor Pouget declared a conflict of interest in matters respecting Dalhousie Street as Councillor Pouget resides on that road.

Lou Zarlenga referred to Dalhousie Street and 2011 Proposed Works in amount of \$356,495.00.

**Line 19 – Resurface Sandwich Street**

Councillor Pillon moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That Sandwich Street reconstruction be deferred.**

The Mayor put the Motion

**Motion Carried**

Line 22 – Meloche Road – UCCU Road Construction Program Phase 2

Councillor Davies moved, Councillor DiPasquale seconded:

**That the item be reconsidered later in the budget deliberations.**

The Mayor put the Motion

**Motion Carried**

Line 24 – Bridge over Sucker Creek at Concession 8

Councillor Pillon moved, Councillor Sutton seconded:

**That the item remain in the budget.**

The Mayor put the Motion

**Motion Carried**

Lines 25 and 26

Councillor Pillon moved, Deputy Mayor Sutherland seconded:

**That Council concur with the recommendation.**

The Mayor put the Motion

**Motion Carried**

Line 30

Councillor Pillon moved, Deputy Mayor Sutherland seconded:

**That Council concur with the recommendation.**

The Mayor put the Motion

**Motion Carried**

12:50 p.m. adjourned for lunch.  
Council resumed at 1:15 p.m.

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Members of the public were in attendance at the resumption of Council.

Tom Beaudoin addressed Council and asked if repairs to 3<sup>rd</sup> Concession would be completed this year.

Richard Regal addressed Council and indicated the state of disrepair of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Concession and asked that if the road is not repaired, the speed limit be reduced.



Another member of the public (*Note: did not identify himself*) sought clarification of the change in speed limits. Councillor Pillon noted that the police have been asked to report on the situation to the Traffic Committee.

Richard Regal sought clarification of the road repair in area that the solar panels are being located.

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor Pillon seconded:

**That Administration be directed to bring back to Council a budget that limits the tax increase to 2.78% and includes a plan to fix the 3<sup>rd</sup> Concession N between County Road 8 and County Road 10, tar and chip of the 9<sup>th</sup> Concession of Malden, fixes Lowes Sd. Rd between Fryer and Meloche and limits debentures to \$500,000 and that this be brought back to Council at the April 4, 2011 budget session.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

Councillor Davies noted that clear timelines for road repairs be communicated to the public.

Paul Beneteau reviewed the general rated capital items.

Antonietta Giofu and Dwayne Grondin reviewed the water & wastewater capital budget items.

Mark Beneteau addressed Council and asked for an update on Point Boulevard Road repair.

Councillor Pouget moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That Administration be directed to obtain a quote for the railings in the United Communities Credit Union complex.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Councillor Pouget moved, Councillor Davies seconded:

**That Council rise and adjourn at 2:20 p.m.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

**Motion Carried**



MAYOR - WAYNE HURST



CLERK - BRENDA M. PERCY