



Town of Amherstburg Delegation Request Form

I wish to appear before:

☒ Council

☐ Advisory Committee of Council Specify: _____

Date of Meeting: July 25, 2022 August 8, 2022

Name of Delegate(s): Nancy Atkinson

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Attending as an Individual ☐

Representing a Group/Organization Amherstburg Taxpayers Association
(Name of Group/Organization/Business)

Have you contacted Administration regarding this matter? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, who? _____

Reason(s) for Delegation Request (subject matter to be discussed):

If the request is in response to an item on the agenda, please specify the item by agenda item #.

Questions on some taxpayers minds moving towards
election

By asking in open forum shows transparency that
any taxpayer in gallery or watching at home can be
privy to information.

(Use a separate page if more space is required or attach additional documentation.)

If your request is in response to an agenda item, are you in favour of the recommendation? If not, please provide your reasoning below:

n/a

****Speaking notes and presentation materials must accompany this request.**

Additional documentation attached?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Will a PowerPoint presentation be made?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Note: An electronic copy of the PowerPoint presentation is required to be submitted to the Town Clerk no later than 12:00 noon on the Friday before the meeting.

The completed Delegation Request Form is to be submitted to the Clerk, Town of Amherstburg, 271 Sandwich Street South, Amherstburg, ON N9V 2A5
Phone: 519.736.0012 Fax: 519.736.5403 or email: clerk@amherstburg.ca.

For office use only:

Date request received:

July 20/22 @ 4:29 pm

Request Received by (initials):

[Signature]

Request relates to:

post agenda deadline for July 25 agenda
Financial Inquiries

☐ Staff Report:

n/a

Staff Name:

n/a

Personal information contained on this form is authorized under Section 5 of the Town of Amherstburg's Procedure By-law, for the purpose of contacting individuals and/or organizations requesting an opportunity to appear as a delegation before Council or an Advisory Committee of Council. The Delegation Request Form may be published in its entirety with the public agenda which is also posted on the Town's website. The Procedure By-law is a requirement of Section 238(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001.

Please note that all meetings are open to the public except where permitted to be closed to the public under legislated authority. Questions regarding collection of the information on this form or additional accessibility requirements may be directed to the Municipal Clerk, 271 Sandwich Street South, Amherstburg, ON N9V 2A5, 519.736.0012.

Mr Mayor, Council and Administration

Thank you for your time this evening.

I have requested to appear before you on behalf of the Amherstburg Taxpayers Association as directed to do by a motion at their June meeting. I am asking for FIVE minutes of your time.

We are seeking the answers from our Council....those elected to represent us, those who have been sitting in their collective seats for almost 4years. While we have respect for Administration they are all new employees and there is a lot of secondhand information for them to sort through in getting up to speed in their respective new positions before their information becomes firsthand and therefore theirs.

There is much discussion surrounding the upcoming election and many taxpayers feel they need a much better understanding of how their municipality works in order to make better decisions at the voting polls. They want a better understanding of a councilors role and how it is governed. They are seeing that voting based on friends, friends of friends, nice person, social media, hearsay just are not qualifications that are meeting the requirements. Wanting firsthand answers and understanding the whys and the why nots are becoming much more important to many.

As a retired person who did come out to see for myself how things are suppose to work I became interested in the whys and why nots. Because of that I do read the budget, the agenda's, the reports and I have the councilor's Municipal Act, all the codes of conduct etc etc etc and STILL the whys and why nots have not been answered. I constantly advise others to read these documents as well. In an effort to have the taxpayers hear the information firsthand either in the gallery or while streaming online and as advised by the Ombudsman and Ministry offices to do so I would like to ask the following questions. Both offices indicated to me that our council holds the power and should be directing Administration

– Due to some unforeseen circumstances this deputation had to be put off a month and so since having written it we have received many Reports dealing with our questions.

I have amended it to include these reports in an effort to make more residents aware that they are available to the public....the audit report, the Ombudsman's report and the Integrity Commissioner's report - All cost factors necessary for the proper running of any business and a report card so to speak on the running of our Municipality.

QUESTIONS:

1- Given the perceived issues at townhall in the past 12 months was the Minister of Municipal Affairs ever consulted for direction, did the Minister ever offer Assistance to the municipality. As the outgoing Council will you call in the Minister to assure the next term of Council is starting out on a proper course both financially as well as in a compliant manner with the Municipal Act.

2- how is it an Audit report was forthcoming but the cost of that audit was not known at the time it was delivered to the public.

Why was council's main concern with the audit the fact that nothing "criminal" was found? Council, although residents asked for it, did not request a forensic audit so are you not concerned that not on one but on several occasions protocols put in place to ensure financial transparency and accountability were not followed?

Is it OK to spend taxpayers money without permission as long as it is not considered "criminal"?

Is this process still OK since the payable list seems to have disappeared from the agenda. These are important questions of the Residents when looking at the upcoming election and those who are running.

3- In researching the Office of Clerk it is stated in the Municipal act Section 228 (2) that a municipality may appoint deputy clerks who have all the powers and duties of the clerk under this and any other Act. Since we currently have 2 deputy clerks is it REALLY necessary to employ a designated Clerk since the Municipality is already very salary top heavy?

4-IN CAMERA MEETINGS...seems to have become a way of doing Business in Amherstburg but is it always necessary and could information be more forthcoming.

This question I believe has been answered in the Ombudsman's Report of July 2022 where he gives his findings with regards to 4 meetings in 2021 which he investigated. On page 12 and 13 of is report

Also please see Appendix ...minutes from meetings held in Amherstburg 2014 giving much more information than is currently shared re in camera meetings....why was this practice changed

5-And last but not least in our endeavour to understand the laws, rules and codes that are to be followed during council meetings ...how is it that residents are **THE ONLY** ones held accountable to these codes while more and more often councilors are allowed to disrespect the proceedings.

QUESTION: Is it fair to say that the gallery , the delegates, residents watching at home will learn from the standards set around the council table. To this end why can't rule of order be waived to allow a resident to ask a question on an agenda item.

Again this has been done in the past and seems to have become another **WHY IS IT NO LONGER DONE**. Not all residents are aware of the time Constraint of getting the agenda which is ridiculously huge on Thursday at 4 and get their request to speak to an item into townhall by noon on Friday....why does this council appear to not want to hear the residents in council chambers to get a better feel for what taxpayers are thinking and to encourage more residents to become more involved in the process without the expense of reports, surveys that a few internet savy may or may not respond to OR are we, expected to simply elect you and sit back and blindly accept your decisions while paying our biggest bill for the year.....yours, as well as many many employees salaries.

Thank you for your time and respect with regards to a group of residents who want to learn and vote responsibly for those who know and understand true transparency and accountability, **AND** have a true understanding of the role they are running for. Residents do your part....attend the meetings, read the reports Learn the protocols



**TOWN OF AMHERSTBURG
COUNCIL MEETING**

Monday, January 20, 2014

7:00 PM

Council Chambers, 271 Sandwich Street South, Amherstburg

A G E N D A

PRESENT

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

Mike Phipps, Chief Administrative Officer
Paula Parker, Deputy Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 4:06pm.

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST & GENERAL NATURE THEREOF
(In-Camera agenda items)

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest noted.

SPECIAL IN-CAMERA MEETING

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor Pilon seconded:

That Council move into an In-Camera Meeting of Council at 4:06pm., pursuant to Section 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, for the following reasons:

- ITEM A – Sherway Contracting – Section 239(2)(e) – litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board; and, Section 239(2)(f) – advise that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose
- ITEM B – CAO Contract – Section 239(2)(f) – advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

ADJOURNMENT OF IN-CAMERA MEETING

Why is it
no longer done
this way