



**Town of Amherst
Regular Town Council Meeting
Monday, March 6, 2023, 6:30 p.m.
Town Room, Town Hall**

Virtual Public Access: <https://amherstma.zoom.us/j/85868456484>

Agenda

Note: Members of the public may attend virtually via Zoom, by phone by calling phone (301) 715-8592, enter webinar ID: 858 6845 6484, or in person. The meeting will also be live broadcast on Amherst Media channel 17 and <https://amherstmedia.org/live-stream>

1. Call to Order

2. Announcements

Upcoming Town Council Meetings:

- Regular Meeting: March 20, 6:30 p.m.
- Town Council Retreat: March 25, 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Upcoming Council Committee Meetings:

- Community Resources Committee:
 - March 16, 4:30 p.m.
 - March 30, 4:30 p.m.
- Finance Committee:
 - March 7, 3:00 p.m.
 - March 21, 3:00 p.m.
- Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee:
 - March 15, 9:30 a.m.
 - March 29, 9:30 a.m.
- Town Services and Outreach Committee:
 - March 9, 7:00 p.m.
 - March 23, 7:00 p.m.

Upcoming District Meetings:

- District 4: March 8, 7:00 p.m., by Zoom
- District 1: March 21, 7:00 p.m., by Zoom
- District 3: March 26, 2:00 p.m., Jones Library

Community Events

- Screening of The Big Payback and discussion with former Evanston Alderwoman Robin Rue Simmons, sponsored by AHRA – March 30, 2023, 6:00 PM (Flyer is in the packet)

Visit the boards and committees calendar at www.AmherstMA.Gov/Calendar for up-to-date meeting information

3. Hearings – *None*

4. General Public Comment

Residents are welcome to express their views for up to 3 minutes, at the discretion of the Town Council President, based upon the number of people who wish to speak. The Council will not engage in a dialogue or comment on a matter raised during General Public Comment.

5. Consent Agenda

- 6.a. Adoption of 2023 Tibetan National Uprising Day Proclamation
- 6.b. Adoption of 2023 Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month Proclamation
- 6.c. Amendment to Previously Adopted Resolution Affirming the Town of Amherst’s Commitment to End Structural Racism and Achieve Racial Equity for Black Residents
- 8.a. Adoption of Proposed Amendments to Town Council Rules of Procedure: Rules 3.2., 5.1., and 5.2.
- 11.a-e. Approval of the following meeting minutes:
 - December 5, 2022 Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes
 - December 12, 2022 Special Town Council Meeting Minutes
 - December 17, 2022 Special Town Council Meeting Minutes – Four Towns
 - December 19, 2022 Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes
 - February 6, 2023 Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes
 - February 27, 2023 Special Town Council Meeting Minutes – Public Forum on Centennial Funding
 - February 27, 2023 Special Town Council Meeting Minutes – Public Forum on Community Preservation Act Projects
 - February 27, 2023 Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes

6. Resolutions and Proclamations – Consent Agenda

- a. 2023 Tibetan National Uprising Day Proclamation
 - 1) Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee Report
 - 2) Council Discussion
 - 3) Motion and Vote
- b. 2023 Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month Proclamation
 - 1) Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee Report
 - 2) Council Discussion
 - 3) Motion and Vote

- c. Amendment to Previously Adopted Resolution Affirming the Town of Amherst's Commitment to End Structural Racism and Achieve Racial Equity for Black Residents
 - 1) Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee Report
 - 2) Council Discussion
 - 3) Motion and Vote

- 7. Presentations and Discussion
 - a. Discussion with Senator Jo Comerford and Representative Mindy Domb
 - 1) Senate and House Committee Assignments
 - 2) Senate and House Bills of interest to Amherst
 - 3) PILOT Legislation and Formulas
 - 4) Affordable Housing
 - 5) Governor's FY2024 Budget
 - 6) Open Meeting Law
 - 7) Special Acts filed by Amherst: Ranked Choice Voting, Real Estate Transfer Fee, and An Act Extending Voting Rights to Lawful Permanent Residents
 - 8) Council Questions and Discussion

- 8. Action Items
 - a. Proposed Amendments to Town Council Rules of Procedure: Rules 3.2., 5.1., and 5.2. – Consent Agenda
 - 1) Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee Report
 - 2) Council Discussion
 - 3) Motion and Vote
 - b. Town Council Meeting Format
 - 1) Council Discussion

- 9. Appointments
 - a. Town Manager Appointments – *None*
 - b. Town Council Appointments – *None*

- 10. Committee and Liaison Reports
 - a. Community Resources Committee
 - b. Elementary School Building Committee
 - c. Finance Committee
 - d. Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee
 - e. Joint Capital Planning Committee
 - f. Jones Library Building Committee
 - g. Town Services and Outreach Committee
 - h. Liaison Reports: Amherst Affordable Housing Trust, Board of Health, Community Preservation Act Committee, Community Safety and Social Justice Committee, Disability Access Advisory Committee, Energy and Climate Action Committee, Planning Board, Recreation Commission, and Transportation Advisory Committee

11. Approval of Minutes – Consent Agenda
 - a. December 5, 2022 Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes
 - b. December 12, 2022 Special Town Council Meeting Minutes
 - c. December 17, 2022 Special Town Council Meeting Minutes – Four Towns
 - d. December 19, 2022 Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes
 - e. February 6, 2023 Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes
 - f. February 27, 2023 Special Town Council Meeting Minutes – Public Forum on Centennial Funding
 - g. February 27, 2023 Special Town Council Meeting Minutes – Public Forum on Community Preservation Act Projects
 - h. February 27, 2023 Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes
12. Town Manager Report
13. Town Council Comments
 - a. President Report
 - b. Future Agenda Items
 - 1) Council Retreat
 - c. Councilor Comments
14. Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair 48 Hours in Advance of the Meeting
15. Executive Session – *None*
16. Adjourn

To join the Council meeting via Zoom teleconferencing:

Go to <https://amherstma.zoom.us/j/85868456484>

To join the Council meeting via telephone: Call (646) 876-9923 or (312) 626-6799

Enter webinar ID when prompted 858 6845 6484

When prompted to enter your participant number press #

During the public comment period, the Council President will recognize members of the public. When called on, please identify yourself by stating your full name, pronouns, and district or address.

Public Comment:

In person: sign in with the Council Clerk

Zoom: click “raise hand” during the public comment period

*Telephone: press *9 on your keypad during the public comment period*