# **Regular Meeting of Council**

### During Covid-19



### **Council Meetings Pre-Covid**





# Live Council Filming

#### Pros

- Open Public Meeting Council \ Delegates all in one location
- Minimal set up by staff
- Fully edited Posted on line 48 hours after the meeting
- Polished Product

### Cons

- On going costs
- Technical issues and AV Equipment



### **Council Meetings During Covid**





# Zoom

### Pros

- Easily maintained and managed by staff
- Live Streamed via You Tube
  - Currently used by most Municipalities
  - Cost Effective

### Cons

- No in person live component
- Technical issues for Council and delegates connecting
- Council at home



# Goal

The goal of The Town of Essex is to have a live productive meeting of council. This ensures the transparency to the public.

This helps to meet the priorities identified in our Strategic Plan, particularly "mitigating the impact of geographic distance on civic participation" and "improving the flow of information to citizens."





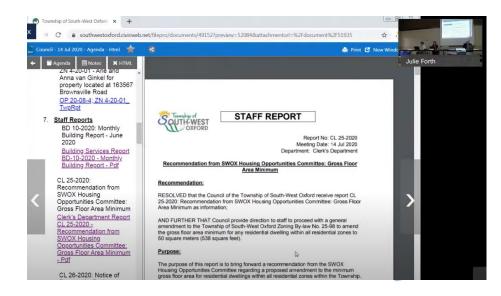
## **Meeting Goals**

Hybrid meeting - a concurrent in person \ electronic meeting. Councillors\ Staff in council chambers, delegates via Zoom and the meeting streamed for the public.

City of Saskatoon Hybrid – Mayor and Clerk in council chambers. Councillors \ Delegates streamed via Teams



Township of South-West Oxford – Council meetings in the Community Center for Social Distancing. Delegates streamed via WebEx



### **Meeting Goals**

City of Nanaimo BC – Council with dividers Streamed via eScribe



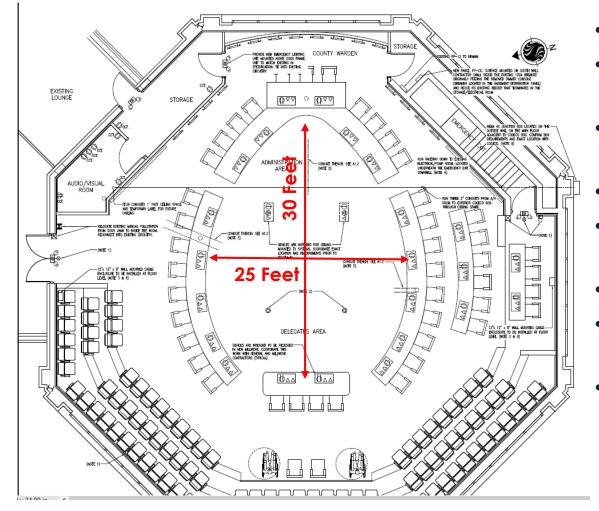


### **County Council Room**





# **County Council Room Challenges**



- Size of the room
  - Integrate County's Audio\ Video system
  - Broadcast agenda on screen
  - Remote delegates
  - Remote audio for Zoom participants
- County's WiFi Network
- Equipment set up and maintained by staff
- Must be portable



### Options





### **Production Crew**





## **Production Crew Challenges**

- Zoom Audio integration with County
- Delegate audio integration
- Network connectivity
- Extra equipment for staff to manage
- Complicated for staff to manage equipment controlling audio\ video
- On going cost



### **Current Method**





### **Current Method**

### Challenges

- Technical and equipment issues
- Backup equipment availability concerns
- Technical integration concerns
- Audio integration issues
- Network connectivity
- Issues integrating Zoom Audio
- Third Party control
- On going cost of \$635 per meeting



### **Media Street**





### Media Street

- Requires signed ongoing contract
  - Cost \$1160.00 per meeting
- Not yet tested



### QUOTE

Date:	September 1st, 2020	
To:	Town of Essex 33 Talbot Street South Essex, Ontario	
Re: Attention:	Live Streaming - Municipal Council Meetings Jack Barron	
Based on all of the informat job described will be as follo	ion known at this date, it is estimated that the total production cost of the ws:	
Description:	Shoot and Live Stream bi-weekly council meetings, every other Monday from approx 6pm-9pm. Live streaming will involve a mixture of on-location filming and Zoom participants. Quote is per shoot with multi- shoot discount applied.	
Shoot - includes 2 camera's, 1 operated/1 locked off		\$1,075.00
Live Stream Producer/Switcher Operator		\$425.00
Hard drive storage		In Kind
Auxilliary Equipment (includes:Switcher, Laptop, Capture Device)		\$550.00
Location/Staging/Audio Feeds/Lighting/Projectors/Screens/Zoom Coordinator		CLIENT
Dedicated Bandwidth		CLIENT
On-Camera Talent		CLIENT
Administrative Fee		Waived
50 % Multi-shoot Discount		-\$1,025.00
Total		\$1,025.00

\*plus applicable taxes

# Host our own Hybrid



# Zoom-Hybrid

#### Pros

- Administration and Council is familiar with Zoom
- Easily Integrate County's Audio\Video System
- Broadcast agenda on screen and on YouTube
- Allows for delegates
- Utilize our own equipment
- Cross platform
- Allows for a hybrid meeting

Cons

- Connectivity issues
- Audio integration at County Building



# Zoom-Hybrid

Option 1

- Council and Administration is seated around the table
- Councillors and Staff utilize their own equipment connect to Zoom.
  - To overcome the microphone issues we would provide lapel mics or headset with microphones

Option 2

- Add additional laptops and cameras in the room to give a Wide Angle Council Chamber views. This would show the entire chambers and who is attendance.
- Utilize County Audio System







## Our Zoom-Hybrid

#### Option 3

- Owl Labs 360 Degree Cameras Pro Connect
- Wide angle view on the top
- Integrated mic and speaker works with Zoom
- Active Speaker View





# Our Zoom-Hybrid

#### Option 3

- In the middle of the room 2 x Meeting Owl Pro Camera's tethered utilizing the Pro Connect Feature
  - Pro Connect extends the range of the Owl Pro and enhances performance of the Owl Pro Camera
- No need for attendees to log into Zoom
- Clerks utilize Zoom for delegates, publish agenda on line and to stream to YouTube
- Cost approximately \$3000.00 (not yet tested)



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# Our Zoom-Hybrid

#### Option 4

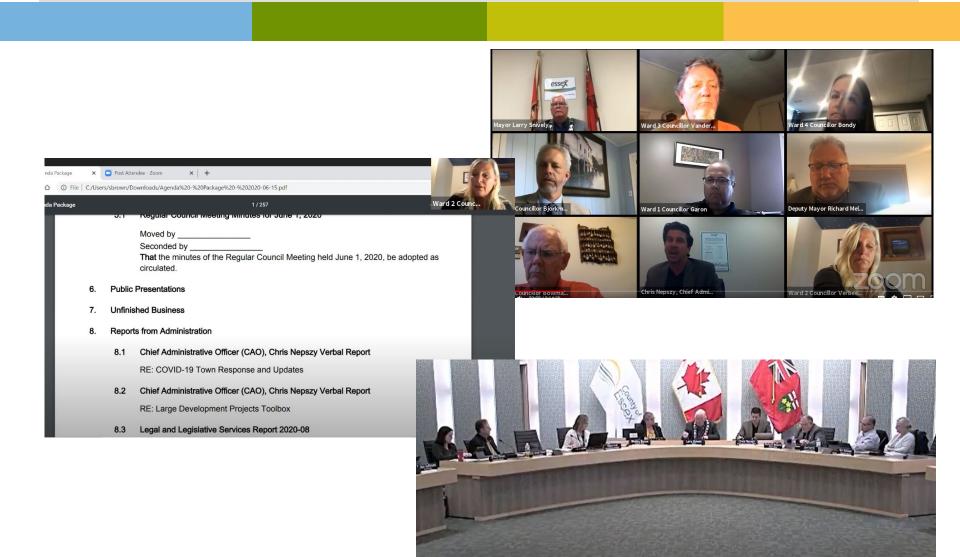
- Q-SYS Audio Video Conference System Enterprise \ Professional Level
- Portable (extensive set up cables for microphones camera)
- 3 X 360 Cameras for full room coverage
- 4 X Microphone
- Video Processors and mixer

#### Cons

- Cost \$21,000.00
- Requires extensive IT and Staff Training
- Extensive set up



### What Meets Our Needs?



### Recommendation

 That Council approve a hybrid form of regular council meeting in the form and manner outlined in the Office of the CAO Report 2020-07, commencing October 5, 2020, with such meetings to be based from and held in the County of Essex Council Chamber.





