



The Corporation of the Town of Essex

Regular Council Meeting Minutes

October 19, 2020, 6:00 PM

Essex County Civic Centre Council Chambers
360 Fairview Avenue West, Essex

This meeting was hosted from the Essex County Civic Centre Council Chambers, 360 Fairview Avenue West, Essex. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the Essex County Civic Centre building not being open to the public at this time, this meeting was only available electronically to the public via livestream on YouTube with delegates as well only being able to participate electronically.

Present: Deputy Mayor Richard Meloche
Councillor Joe Garon
Councillor Morley Bowman
Councillor Kim Verbeek
Councillor Steve Bjorkman
Councillor Chris Vander Doelen
Councillor Sherry Bondy

Regrets: Mayor Larry Snively

Also Present: Robert Auger, Town Solicitor, Legal and Legislative Services/Clerk
Shelley Brown, Deputy Clerk, Legal and Legislative Services
Chris Nepszy, Chief Administrative Officer
Doug Sweet, Director, Community Services/Deputy CAO
Jeffrey Morrison, Director, Corporate Services/Treasurer
Lori Chadwick, Director, Development Services
Kevin Girard, Director, Infrastructure Services
Alex Denonville, Manager, Strategic Communications

1. Call to Order

Deputy Mayor Meloche called the meeting to order at approximately 6:05 PM.

2. Closed Meeting Report

3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest noted at this time.

4. Adoption of Published Agenda

4.1 Regular Council Meeting Agenda for October 19, 2020

R20-10-380

Moved By Councillor Bjorkman

Seconded By Councillor Vander Doelen

That the published agenda for the October 19, 2020 Regular Council Meeting be adopted with the following addition:

1. Councillor Bondy has two Notices of Motions to be presented only this evening as Agenda items 15.2.1 and 15.2.2. and brought back for Council's consideration at the next Regular Meeting of Council.

Carried

5. Adoption of Minutes

5.1 Regular Council Meeting Minutes for October 5, 2020

R20-10-381

Moved By Councillor Bowman
Seconded By Councillor Garon

That the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held October 5, 2020, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

5.2 Special Council Meeting Minutes for September 8, 2020

R20-10-382

Moved By Councillor Garon
Seconded By Councillor Verbeek

That the minutes of the Special Council Meeting held September 8, 2020, held for the purpose of a Statutory Public Meeting to present and obtain public feedback on a proposed Zoning By-Law Amendment, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

6. Public Presentations

6.1 Essex Region Conservation Authority

Claire Sanders, Climate Change Specialist from the Essex Region Conservation Authority, provided a power point presentation regarding the planning of the Essex County Regional Energy Plan (ECREP), and explained the steps being taken towards a successful implementation.

She advised Council that they are hopeful that a sustainable regional energy plan can be put into action early next year.

R20-10-383

Moved By Councillor Bjorkman
Seconded By Councillor Bowman

That the presentation by Claire Sanders, Climate Change Specialist from the Essex Region Conservation Authority, providing an overview of the Essex County Regional Energy Plan, be received.

Carried

7. Unfinished Business

8. Reports from Administration

8.1 Economic Development Report 2020-18

RE: Building Development Overview September 2020

- Development Overview
- Building Report

R20-10-384

Moved By Councillor Bondy

Seconded By Councillor Bowman

That Economic Development Report 2020-18, entitled "Building and Development Overview September 2020", prepared by Nelson Silveira, Economic Development Officer, dated October 19, 2020, be received.

Carried

8.2 Drainage Report 2020-11

RE: Appointment of an Engineer under Section 78 of the Drainage Act to replace a bridge on the 10-11 Sideroad Drain

R20-10-385

Moved By Councillor Bjorkman

Seconded By Councillor Bowman

That Drainage Report 2020-11, entitled "Appointment of an Engineer under Section 78 of the Drainage Act to replace a bridge on the 10-11 Sideroad Drain", prepared by Lindsay Dean, Drainage Superintendent, dated October 19, 2020 be received; and

That Council appoints Rood Engineering Incorporated under Section 78 of the Drainage Act for a replacement bridge on the 10-11 Sideroad Drain.

Carried

8.3 Drainage Report 2020-12

RE: Abandonment of the top end of the Hamelin Drain

- By-Law 1958
Being a by-law to provide for the Hamelin Drain (Abandonment of the north 15 metres)

R20-10-386

Moved By Councillor Verbeek

Seconded By Councillor Bjorkman

That Drainage Report 2020-12, entitled "Abandonment of the top end of the Hamelin Drain", prepared by Lindsay Dean, Drainage Superintendent, dated October 19, 2020 be received; and

That Council approves the abandonment of the most northerly 15 metres of the Hamelin Drain under Section 84 of the Drainage Act; and

That By-Law 1958, being a by-law to provide for the Hamelin Drain (Abandonment of the north 15 metres), be read a first, a second and a third time and finally passed on October 19, 2020.

Carried

8.4 Drainage Report 2020-13

RE: Results of Request for Tender - 5th Concession Road Bank Repairs on the Richmond Drain

R20-10-387

Moved By Councillor Bowman
Seconded By Councillor Garon

That Drainage Report 2020-13, entitled "Results of Request for Tender - 5th Concession Road Bank Repairs on the Richmond Drain", prepared by Lindsay Dean, Drainage Superintendent, dated October 19, 2020, be received; and

That Council awards the Request for Tender - 5th Concession Road Bank Repairs on the Richmond Drain (RFT-ID-20-017) to Sterling Ridge Infrastructure Inc. in the amount of \$249,902.21 including non-refundable HST.

Carried

8.5 Communications Report 2020-02

RE: Update on EssexWorks System

- EssexWorks Summary March to September 2020

Alex Denonville, Manager, Communications provided Council with an overview of the report.

R20-10-388

Moved By Councillor Bjorkman
Seconded By Councillor Garon

That Communications Report 2020-02, titled "Update on EssexWorks System", prepared by Alex Denonville, Manager, Communications, dated October 19, 2020, be received.

Carried

9. Reports from Youth Members

10. County Council Update

11. Correspondence

11.1 Correspondence to be received

R20-10-389

Moved By Councillor Garon
Seconded By Councillor Bowman

That correspondence listed in Agenda Item 11.1 be received and, where indicated, to further share such information with the community using suitable methods of communication.

Carried

11.1.1 Jacki Durocher

Email dated October 7, 2020
RE: COVID Pandemic

11.1.2 AMCTO October 2020 Blog Post

RE: COVID-19 Updates: Pre-Screening and Province's Plan for the Second Wave

11.1.3 AMCTO October 13, 2020

RE: AMCTO Advocacy Update
Bill 204, Helping Tenants and Small Businesses Act, 2020 receives royal assent

11.2 Correspondence to be considered for receipt and support

11.2.1 Lake of Bays

RE: Reform to the Municipal Insurance Policy

Correspondence dated October 9, 2020 to Premier Doug Ford requesting a reform to the Municipal Insurance Policy

R20-10-390

Moved By Councillor Bjorkman
Seconded By Councillor Bondy

That the copy of correspondence from Lake of Bays to Premier Doug Ford, dated October 9, 2020 expressing their concerns and requesting a reform to the Municipal Insurance Policy, be received and supported; and

That a letter of support be sent to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, MP Chris Lewis, MPP Taras Natyshak, and to the Township of Lake of Bays.

Carried

11.2.2 Township of Asphodel-Norwood

RE: Cannabis Production

Correspondence dated October 7, 2020 to the Ministers, Members of Parliament and Members of Provincial Parliament requesting that legislation be enacted to support local governments with land use management and enforcements issues relating to cannabis production.

R20-10-391

Moved By Councillor Vander Doelen
Seconded By Councillor Bowman

That the copy of correspondence, dated October 7, 2020 from the Town of Asphodel-Norwood to the Ministers of Members of Parliament and Members of Provincial Parliament, requesting that they enact legislation to support local governments with land use management and enforcements issues, be received and supported; and

That a letter of support be sent to the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, Taras Natyshak, MPP Essex, Chris Lewis, MP Essex and the Township of Asphodel-Norwood.

Carried

12. Committee Meeting Minutes

12.1 Essex Accessibility Advisory Committee - September 25, 2020

- Recommendation to Council (EAAC20-09-010) That Council support a letter being sent to ERCA regarding the accessibility issues as it pertains to the John R. Park Homestead and the new visitor's centre with a request that either paved or packed stone walkways be laid throughout the Homestead grounds to better accommodate those with accessible needs and requirements as well as the designated handicap parking spot.
- Recommendation to Council (EAAC20-09-011) That Council support a letter being sent to the County of Essex asking for paved sidewalk access on County Road 8 from Talbot Street to Highway 3 to better facilitate accessing the local restaurants and businesses by those walking, in particular, those with an accessible challenge or difficulties.

R20-10-392

Moved By Councillor Bjorkman

Seconded By Councillor Verbeek

That the Essex Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting minutes of September 25, 2020, be received and the recommendations contained in the minutes, be approved and adopted as circulated.

Carried

12.2 Essex Police Services Board (EPSB)

- May 7, 2020
- September 3, 2020

R20-10-393

Moved By Councillor Garon

Seconded By Councillor Verbeek

That the minutes for the Essex Police Services Board (EPSB) for the May 7, 2020 and September 3, 2020 meetings, be received and adopted as circulated.

Carried

13. Financial

13.1 2020 Capital Variance (as at August 31, 2020)

Jeffrey Morrison, Director, Corporate Services/Treasurer provided Council with a summary of the report.

R20-10-394
Moved By Councillor Garon
Seconded By Councillor Bowman

That the 2020 Capital Variance Report (as at August 31, 2020), as prepared by Corporate Services Department, be received.

Carried

- 14. New Business
- 15. Notices of Motion

15.1 The following Notice of Motion was presented at the October 5, 2020 Regular Council Meeting and is being brought forward this evening for Council's consideration:

15.1.1 Councillor Bondy

RE: Diversity Training Program for Council

R20-10-395
Moved By Councillor Bondy
Seconded By Councillor Verbeek

That Administration be directed to come back with a diversity training program for Council which includes AODA customer services standard training to ensure Council is up to date with requirements under accessibility legislation and the human rights code.

Councillor Bondy asked for a recorded vote.

	Support	Opposed
Deputy Mayor Meloche	X	
Councillor Garon	X	
Councillor Bowman	X	
Councillor Verbeek	X	
Councillor Bjorkman	X	
Councillor Vander Doelen	X	
Councillor Bondy	X	
Results	7	0

Carried (7 to 0)

15.2. The following Notices of Motions are being presented this evening and will be brought forward at the November 2, 2020 Regular Council Meeting for Council's consideration:

15.2.1 Councillor Bondy

RE: Mileage for Committee of Adjustment Members

That Council cover mileage for members of the Committee of Adjustment

15.2.2 Councillor Bondy

RE: Opposition to further Amalgamation

That the Town of Essex is strongly opposed to further amalgamation whereas we feel our residents are best served now by the current model in terms of dollars and services; and

Whereas we appreciate the municipal modernization grant and are working hard to ensure our municipal operations are more efficient internally and looking for possible efficiencies externally; and

Whereas we are opposed to further restructuring in the future, but we are not opposed to sharing some services where our service quality, safety and price to our residents is not compromised.

16. Reports and Announcements from Council Members

Each Council member was provided an opportunity to discuss their latest news and activities in the municipality.

17. By-Laws

17.1 By-Laws that require a third and final reading

17.1.1 By-Law 1956

Being a by-law to acquire and assume lands for the purpose of dedication as a public highway

R20-10-396

Moved By Councillor Bondy

Seconded By Councillor Bjorkman

That By-Law 1956 being a by-law to acquire and assume lands for the purpose of dedication as a public highway, be read a third time and finally passed on October 19, 2020.

Carried

17.1.2 By-Law 1957

Being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the October 5, 2020, Regular Meeting of the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Essex

R20-10-397

Moved By Councillor Bowman

Seconded By Councillor Verbeek

That By-Law 1957 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the October 5, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Essex, be read a third time and finally adopted on October 19, 2020.

Carried

17.2 By-Laws that require a first, second, third and final reading

17.2.1 By-Law 1959

Being a by-law to amend By-Law 224, the by-law to regulate parking
(Houghton Street north easterly limit)

R20-10-398

Moved By Councillor Bowman

Seconded By Councillor Bjorkman

That By-Law 1959 being a by-law to amend By-Law 224, the by-law to regulate parking, be read a first, a second and a third time and finally passed on October 19, 2020.

Carried

17.3 By-Laws that require a first and second reading

17.3.1 By-Law 1960

Being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the October 19, 2020, Regular Meeting of the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Essex

R20-10-399

Moved By Councillor Bjorkman

Seconded By Councillor Verbeek

That By-Law 1960 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the October 19, 2020, Regular Meeting of the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Essex, be read a first and a second time and provisionally adopted on October 19, 2020.

Carried

18. Adjournment

R20-10-400

Moved By Councillor Garon

Seconded By Councillor Verbeek

That the meeting be adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk