



The Corporation of the Town of Essex

Special Council Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2026, 5:00 pm

Location: Essex Municipal Building, 33 Talbot Street South

Present: Mayor Sherry Bondy
Deputy Mayor Rob Shepley
Ward 1 Councillor Joe Garon
Ward 1 Councillor Katie McGuire-Blais
Ward 2 Councillor Kim Verbeek
Ward 3 Councillor Brad Allard
Ward 3 Councillor Jason Matyi

Absent: Ward 4 Councillor Rodney Hammond

Also Present: Kate Giurissevich, Chief Administrative Officer
Joseph Malandrucolo, Director, Legal and Legislative Services/Clerk
Lori Chadwick, Director, Development Services
Kevin Girard, Director, Infrastructure Services
Jake Morassut, Director, Community Services
Kate Rowe, Director, Corporate Services
Lyndsay Phoenix, Legislative Clerk

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request. Please contact the Clerk's Office at clerks@essex.ca or 519-776-7336 extension 1100 or 1101.

The purpose of this meeting was to present the 2025 Asset Management Plan.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Bondy called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM

2. Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that this land is the traditional territory of the Three Fires Confederacy of First Nations (comprised of the Ojibway, the Odawa, and the Potawatomi Peoples), and of the Huron-Wendat Peoples. We value the significant historical and contemporary contributions of local and regional First Nations and all of the Original Peoples of Turtle Island who have been living and working on the land from time immemorial.

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 Special Council Meeting Agenda for February 17, 2026

SP26-02-04

Moved By Councillor Matyi

Seconded By Mayor Bondy

That the published agenda for the February 17, 2026 Special Council Meeting be adopted as presented.

Carried

5. Reports from Administration

5.1 2025 Asset Management Plan, Capital Works and Asset Management-2026-01

RE: 2025 Asset Management Plan

Alexa Wylde, Senior Asset Manager, PSD Citywide presented on the 2025 Asset Management Plan which included an overview on state of the infrastructure and proposed levels of service analysis for core and non-core assets. The report contained forecasted capital requirements together with a recommendation for a financial strategy to address capital funding gap based on a 20-year plan. The recommendation proposed is to achieve 75% of ideal funding by annual tax increase of 2.1%, annual water rate increase of 1.3% and annual wastewater rate increase of 2.8%. Ms. Wylde noted recommendations and next steps to be asset inventory, continuous improvement and regular review of the asset management plan as well as measuring levels of service.

SP26-02-05

Moved By Councillor Verbeek

Seconded By Deputy Mayor Shepley

That Capital Works and Asset Management Report 2026-01 entitled 2025 Asset Management Plan prepared by Erica Tilley, P. Eng., Assistant Manager, Capital Works & Asset Management dated February 17, 2026 be received; and

That the 2025 Asset Management Plan prepared by PSD Citywide dated January 2026, attached to Capital Works and Asset Management-2026-01 be adopted as the Town's Asset Management Plan and posted to the Town's website;

That the Financial Strategy from the 2025 Asset Management Plan of increasing taxes by 2.1% over a period of 20 years be incorporated into the annual budget for deliberation to ensure sufficient funds are available for capital investments, to minimize further infrastructure backlogs and meet replacement needs as they arise; and

That the Council direct administration to further investigate and identify alternative revenue which can be used to offset burden of the annual tax increase of 2.1% from this financial strategy.

Carried

6. Public Presentations

7. Adjournment

SP26-02-06

Moved By Councillor Matyi

Seconded By Councillor Garon

That the meeting be adjourned at 5:56 PM.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk