



The Corporation of the Town of Essex

Special Council Meeting Minutes

November 24, 2025, 4:00 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
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
Shelley Brown, Deputy Clerk, Legal and Legislative Services
Kate Rowe, Director, Corporate Services
Marc Tortola, Manager, Strategic Communications
Brandi Sieben, Manager, Human Resources

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 a walkthrough of the 2026 Town of Essex Budget.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Bondy called the meeting to order at 4:03 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 November 24, 2025

SP25-11-001

Moved By Deputy Mayor Shepley

Seconded By Councillor Allard

That the published agenda for the November 24, 2025 Special Council Meeting be adopted as presented.

Carried

5. Reports from Administration

5.1 Kate Rowe, Director, Corporate Services/Treasurer

RE: 2026 Proposed Budget

Kate Rowe, Director, Corporate Services provided a walk through of the proposed 2026 Operating and Capital Budgets. She noted the public's top priorities of flood prevention, road repairs and emergency response & preparedness. She presented the Operating and Capital Budgets. Each Department was introduced to present Council with their Capital Budgets and provide Council the opportunity to ask questions.

SP25-11-002

Moved By Councillor Matyi

Seconded By Councillor Garon

That the Report entitled 2026 Proposed Budget presented by Kate Rowe, Director, Corporate Services/Treasurer be received.

Carried

6. Public Presentations

6.1 Mark Clifford, Harrow Colchester South Pickleball Club

RE: Adding Two New Pickleball Courts

Mark Clifford spoke on behalf of Harrow Colchester South Pickleball Club regarding the possibility of adding two additional pickleball courts at Harrow Arena. Jake Morassut, Director, Community Services presented a proposal for for additional tennis courts and four additional pickleball courts at Harrow Arena.

R25-11-003

Moved By Deputy Mayor Shepley

Seconded By Councillor Matyi

That the delegation by Mark Clifford on behalf of Harrow Colchester South Pickleball Club be received.

Carried

R25-11-004

Moved By Deputy Mayor Shepley

Seconded By Councillor Matyi

That Council recess for 10 minutes at 6:07 PM

Carried

6.2 Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Detachment Board External Committee

RE: 2026 Proposed Budget for the OPP Detachment Board

R25-11-005

Moved By Deputy Mayor Shepley

Seconded By Councillor McGuire-Blais

That the presentation by Dave Kigar, OPP Detachment Board External Committee be received.

Carried

6.3 Essex Centre Business Improvement Area (BIA) Board

RE: 2026 Proposed Budget for the Essex Centre BIA Board

SP25-11-006

Moved By Councillor Garon

Seconded By Councillor Allard

That the presentation by Stephanie Winger, Chair, Essex Centre BIA be received.

Carried

7. Adjournment

SP25-11-007

Moved By Deputy Mayor Shepley

Seconded By Councillor McGuire-Blais

That the meeting be adjourned at 8:46 PM.

Mayor

Clerk