



**The Corporation of the Town of Essex**

**Special Council Meeting Minutes**

January 13, 2021, 5:00 pm

Location: <https://www.youtube.com/user/EssexOntario>

This meeting was hosted and chaired from the Essex Municipal Building, 33 Talbot Street South, Essex. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the Essex Municipal 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: Mayor Larry Snively  
Deputy Mayor Richard Meloche  
Councillor Joe Garon  
Councillor Morley Bowman  
Councillor Kim Verbeek  
Councillor Sherry Bondy  
Councillor Chris Vander Doelen

Absent: Councillor Steve Bjorkman

Also Present: Chris Nepszy, Chief Administrative Officer  
Robert Auger, Town Solicitor, Legal and Legislative Services/Clerk  
Shelley Brown, Deputy Clerk, Legal and Legislative Services  
Doug Sweet, Director, Community Services/Deputy CAO  
Jeffrey Morrison, Director, Corporate Services and Treasurer  
Lori Chadwick, Director, Development Services  
Kevin Girard, Director, Infrastructure Services  
Rita Jabbour, Manager, Planning Services  
Niharika Bandaru, Climate Change Analyst

**1. Call to Order**

**2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

**3. Adoption of Published Agenda**

**3.1 Special Council Meeting Agenda for January 13, 2021**

RE: Draft Climate Change Adaptation Plan

**SP21-01-009**

Moved By Deputy Mayor Meloche

Seconded By Councillor Verbeek

**That** the published agenda for the January 13, 2021 Special Council Meeting be adopted as presented.

**Carried**

#### 4. Presentation from Administration

RE: Draft Climate Adaptation Plan for the Town of Essex 2021 - 2026

Lori Chadwick, Director, Development Services provided an introduction and advised Council that after the presentation of the draft Plan today, there will be a opportunity for Council and the public to provide feedback and comments on the draft Plan until February 3, all in preparation for Council's next special meeting on the Plan currently scheduled for February 8.

Niharika Bandaru, Climate Change Analyst then presented to Council a walkthrough of the power point presentation on the Draft Climate Adaptation Plan for the Town of Essex (2021 - 2016). Ms. Bandaru provided an overview of the document outlining areas for the Town of Essex such as climate projections and impacts, strategies to mitigate climate risks, methodology, consultations, objectives (both and corporate objectives), timelines, costs, and implementation, monitoring and review.

With respect to objectives Ms. Bandaru identified the following 6 community engagement and partnership objectives which would entail the Town working in partnership with other community stakeholders:

- 1) Support the enhancement of the health, safety and quality of life of the town of Essex community;
- 2) Encourage the preservation of the natural environment and support the adoption of nature-based solutions;
- 3) Minimize risk to private building sand property;
- 4) Support Opportunities for investment into adaptation -based innovation for local business
- 5) Help advocate for community emergency preparedness; and
- 6) Promote Community engagement and participation in climate change awareness and adaptation opportunities

With respect to objectives Ms. Bandaru also identified the following 5 corporate objectives which would relate to those services, operations, assets and policies that specifically come under the management of the Corporation of the Town of Essex

- 1) Enhance staff Health and safety;
- 2) Protect the Town's natural assets and emphasize nature based solutions;
- 3) Build and strengthen the Town's infrastructure resilience;
- 4) integrate climate change adaptation into town planning and policy making; and
- 5) Build Community Services that are tempered to climate change impacts.

#### **SP21-01-010**

Moved By Councillor Bowman  
Seconded By Councillor Garon

**That** the presentation entitled Climate Ready: A Climate Change Adaptation Plan for the Town of Essex 2021 - 2026, be received.

**Carried**

**5. Adjournment**

**SP21-01-011**

Moved By Councillor Verbeek

Seconded By Deputy Mayor Meloche

That the meeting be adjourned at 6:08 PM

**Carried**

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Mayor

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Clerk