



The Corporation of the Town of Essex

Regular Council Meeting Minutes

**This meeting was held electronically during a time of Declared Emergency pursuant to
Town of Essex By-Law 1902**

September 7, 2021, 6:00 pm

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

This meeting was hosted and chaired from the Town of Essex Municipal Building. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic this meeting was not currently open to the public for in person attendance. This meeting can be viewed by the public electronically via livestream on YouTube at www.youtube.com/EssexOntario

Present: Mayor Larry Snively
Deputy Mayor Richard Meloche
Ward 1 Councillor Joe Garon
Ward 1 Councillor Morley Bowman
Ward 2 Councillor Kim Verbeek
Ward 3 Councillor Steve Bjorkman
Ward 3 Councillor Chris Vander Doelen
Ward 4 Councillor Sherry Bondy

Also Present: Doug Sweet, Director, Chief Administrative Officer
Lori Chadwick, Director, Development Services
Robert Auger, Town Solicitor, Legal and Legislative Services/Clerk
Shelley Brown, Deputy Clerk, Legal and Legislative Services
Kate Giurissevich, Acting Director, Corporate Services
Richard Beausoleil, Manager, Capital Works and Infrastructure
Jake Morassut, Manager, Parks and Facilities
Ehva Hoffmann, Youth Council Member

1. Call to Order

Mayor Snively called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 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. National Anthem

4. Closed Meeting Report

5. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest noted at this time.

6. Adoption of Published Agenda

6.1 Regular Council Meeting Agenda for September 7, 2021

R21-09-364

Moved By Councillor Bowman

Seconded By Councillor Bjorkman

That the published agenda for the September 7, 2021 Regular Council Meeting be adopted as presented.

Carried

7. Adoption of Minutes

7.1 Regular Council Meeting Minutes for August 23, 2021

R21-09-365

Moved By Deputy Mayor Meloche

Seconded By Councillor Garon

That the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held August 23, 2021 be adopted as circulated.

Carried

7.2 Special Council Meeting Minutes for May 17, 2021

R21-09-366

Moved By Councillor Bowman

Seconded By Councillor Bjorkman

That the minutes of the Special Council Meeting held May 17, 2021 be adopted as circulated.

Carried

7.3 Special Council Meeting Minutes for May 31, 2021

R21-09-367

Moved By Deputy Mayor Meloche

Seconded By Councillor Garon

That the minutes of the Special Council Meeting held May 31, 2021 be adopted as circulated.

Carried

8. Public Presentations

8.1 Krista Desjardins

RE: Residential Sidewalk/School Zone Request for County Road 12, Colchester North Public School

The Mayor called for the Delegation to present but the delegate was not present at the meeting.

9. Unfinished Business

10. Reports from Administration

10.1 Finance and Business Services-2021-10

RE: Upgrade of Financial Software from WorkTech 6.0 to WorkTech Pearl

R21-09-368

Moved By Deputy Mayor Meloche

Seconded By Councillor Bowman

Recommended Action:

That Finance and Business Services-2021-10 entitled Upgrade of Financial Software from WorkTech 6.0 to WorkTech Pearl prepared by Jackson Tang, Assistant Manager, Business Services dated September 07, 2021 be received; and

That Council approves and directs Administration to enter into an agreement with CentralSquare Technologies for upgrading the existing financial software from WorkTech 6.0 to WorkTech Pearl in the amount of \$20,708.16 including non-refundable taxes to be funded from the Unspent Information Technology amount in Contingency Reserves.

Carried

10.2 Parks and Facilities-2021-11

RE: Request of Additional Funds for the Replacement of Cedar Shingles on Train Station Shed

R21-09-369

Moved By Councillor Bowman

Seconded By Councillor Vander Doelen

Recommended Action:

That Parks and Facilities-2021-11 entitled Request of Additional Funds for the Replacement of Cedar Shingles on the Train Station Shed, located at the Essex Train Station, prepared by Jake Morassut, Manager, Parks and Facilities dated September 7, 2021 be received; and

That Council approve the additional budgeted expenditures of \$1,547.84 for the Capital Project: 2021 Replacement of Cedar Shingles on Train Station Shed (CS-21-0070) from the Asset Management Reserve.

Carried

10.3 Capital Works and Infrastructure-2021-11

RE: Results of Request for Tender – Victor and Viscount Infrastructure Improvements

R21-09-370

Moved By Councillor Bowman

Seconded By Councillor Bjorkman

Recommended Action:

That Capital Works and Infrastructure 2021-11 entitled, Results of Request for Tender – Victor and Viscount Infrastructure Improvements prepared by Kevin Girard, Director, Infrastructure Services dated September 7, 2021 be received;

That Council award the Request for Tender – Victor Street and Viscount Parkway Infrastructure Improvements – 2021 (RFT-ID-21-019) to J & J Lepera Infrastructures Inc. in the amount of \$1,495,973.76 including non-refundable HST; and further

That Council approve the additional funding amounts for the projects as noted below further to the recommendations of said Report Capital Works and Infrastructure- 2021-11:

- \$130,167.09 (including non-refundable HST) above the approved 2021 Capital Budget of \$445,000 for the Victor Street Reconstruction Project from Victoria to Laird (PW-21-0033) from the Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF, previously Gas tax) grant monies held in reserve;
- \$20,793.99 (including non-refundable HST) above the approved 2021 Capital Budget of \$200,000 for the Viscount Parkway Improvements Project: Viscount Road rehabilitation (PW-21-0043) from the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) grant monies held in reserve;
- \$64,765.03 (including non-refundable HST) above the approved 2021 Capital Budget of \$275,000 for Victor Street Reconstruction Project from Victoria to Laird (Storm sewer) (PW-21-0034) from the Storm Sewer/Urban Levy Reserve (67% or \$43,392.57) and the Asset Management Reserve (33% or \$21,372.46);
- \$111,742.05 (including non-refundable HST) above the approved 2021 Capital Budget of \$165,000 for the Victor Watermain Project (WW-20-0013) from the Water Reserve; and
- \$5,091.68 (including non-refundable HST) above the approved 2021 Capital Budget of \$160,000 for the Victor Watermain Replacement (WW-21-0009) from the Water Reserve.

Carried

11. Reports from Youth Members

Youth Council Member Hoffman noted that she is now eligible to vote and spoke to the importance of everyone voting in the upcoming federal election.

12. County Council Update

Deputy Mayor Meloche discussed the recent Code Blacks that have occurred in the local area in relation to emergency medical services (“EMS”). Code Blacks are occurrences in which there are temporarily no available ambulances as all are currently in use. The Deputy mayor noted that these recent Code Blacks were due to hospital service levels and COVID-19. Bruce Crowder, Chief of EMS, has been working with the hospitals, Province, Windsor Essex County Health Unit and other care givers in

the area to try and combat Code Black occurrences. Deputy Mayor Meloche stated that this is occurring across the Province and it is difficult to add additional staff and ambulances. Chief Crowder is looking at several options including the scheduling of more overtime and EMS has recruited more new staff in the last year than any other year over the last 10 years.

13. Correspondence

13.1 Correspondence to be received

R21-09-371

Moved By Councillor Bjorkman

Seconded By Councillor Bowman

That the correspondence listed in Agenda Items 13.1.1 to 13.1.2 and 13.1.5 to 13.1.6 be received, that 13.1.3 be moved to Agenda item 13.2 and that Agenda item 13.1.4 be brought to the next regular council meeting agenda as unfinished business so as to allow nominations to come forth in regards to the Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Awards.

Carried

13.1.1 Correspondence relating to Covid-19 Pandemic

13.1.1.1 Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

RE: Questionnaire on COVID-19 Related Emergency Order
O. Reg 157/20: Work Deployment Measures for
Municipalities

13.1.2 Hydro One

RE: Response to Temporary Power Outages

13.1.3 The Corporation of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming

RE: Bill-C 313 Banning Symbols of Hate Act

13.1.4 Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

RE: Correspondence from Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
dated August 23, 2021 entitled Resources on the Truth and
Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Calls to Action

13.2 Correspondence to be considered for receipt and support

13.2.1 Essex Center B.I.A.

Correspondence dated August 30, 2021 advising Council of the
resignation by Terri Grondin-Sweet from the Essex Center B.I.A. Board of
Management

R21-09-372

Moved By Councillor Bjorkman

Seconded By Deputy Mayor Meloche

That correspondence from the Essex B.I.A. dated August 30, 2021
advising of Terri Grondin-Sweet's resignation from the Essex B.I.A.'s
Board of Management, be received with regret; and

That a letter be sent to Terri Grondin-Sweet thanking her for time spent on the Board and that By-Law 1777 be updated accordingly.

Carried

13.2.2 Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

R21-09-373

Moved By Councillor Vander Doelen

Seconded By Councillor Bondy

That the correspondence from Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) dated August 23, 2021 entitled "Draft resolution for Municipal Recognition of September 30 as National Day for Truth and Reconciliation; New Municipal Resource Materials" be received and supported; and

That Council recognizes September 30th as National Day for Truth and Reconciliation by adopting the following resolution:

Whereas the Truth and Reconciliation Commission released its final report on June 2, 2015, which included 94 Calls to Action to redress the legacy of residential schools and advance the process of Canadian reconciliation;

Whereas the recent discoveries of remains and unmarked graves across Canada have led to increased calls for all levels of government to address the recommendations in the TRC's Calls to Action;

Whereas all Canadians and all orders of government have a role to play in reconciliation;

Whereas the Federal Government has announced September 30, 2021, as the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (National Orange Shirt Day) and a statutory holiday;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Essex does hereby commit to recognizing September 30, 2021, as National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (National Orange Shirt Day) and encourages all citizens of the Town of Essex to wear an Orange Shirt in support thereof on September 30, 2021.

Carried

13.2.3 Essex and District Lions Club

RE: Annual White Cane Day - September 25, 2021

R21-09-374

Moved By Deputy Mayor Meloche

Seconded By Councillor Bowman

That the correspondence from the Essex and District Lions Club regarding the Annual White Cane Day on Saturday, September 25, 2021 be received and supported.

Carried

13.2.4 Mayor Snively

RE: Regular Council Meeting of September 20, 2021

Mayor Snively brought forward a Motion to move the date of the September 20, 2021 Regular Council Meeting to Tuesday, September 21, 2021 to accommodate the Federal Election.

R21-09-375

Moved By Councillor Bjorkman

Seconded By Councillor Verbeek

That the Regular Council Meeting scheduled for September 20, 2021 at 6:00 PM be moved to Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at 6:00 PM to accommodate the Federal Election.

Carried

14. Committee Meeting Minutes

15. Financial

16. New Business

17. Notices of Motion

17.1 The following Notices of Motion were presented at the August 23, 2021 Regular Council Meeting and are being brought forward this evening for Council's consideration:

17.1.1 Councillor Verbeek

R21-09-376

Moved By Councillor Verbeek

Seconded By Councillor Bondy

That Council have a discussion at the 2022 Budget Deliberations regarding the installation of sidewalks in Gesto as it is a safety concern for school aged children.

Carried

17.1.2 Councillor Bjorkman

R21-09-377

Moved By Councillor Bjorkman

Seconded By Deputy Mayor Meloche

That the Mayor and Council of Essex requests that the Government of Ontario add public health units to the Ombudsman of Ontario's mandate; and

That the recommendation by Paul Dube, Ombudsman, for all Ontario health units to be under the Ombudsman of Ontario's oversight mandate be received and supported and that a letter of support be sent to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, The Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Health Canada, Paul Dube, the Ontario Ombudsman, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).

Carried

18. Reports and Announcements from Council Members

Each of the Councilors were provided an opportunity to share information about past or upcoming events, activities and community functions.

18.1 Councillor Bjorkman

RE: Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) 2021 Conference

Councillor Bjorkman attended the Association of Municipalities of Ontario 2021 Conference and provided the following details from the conference:

1. An update was provided as to the number of citizens who were fully vaccinated with the COVID-19 vaccine and the importance of noting whether or not current cases have had the COVID-19 vaccination.
2. There was discussion on the development of the new Windsor-Essex Hospital.
3. There was discussion on the Conservation Authority Act and concerns related to the non-mandatory and mandatory items.
4. There was discussion on the need for the Province of Ontario to fund paramedicine.
5. There was discussion on women's leadership in the municipal sector and the importance of continuing to bring a female perspective forward and encourage women to be elected officials or committee members.
6. there was discussion as to the desire for Rural Broadband to be classified as an essential service to be provided by the Province/Municipalities and the need to advocate for our area and join with neighbouring communities in continuing to lobby the provincial government to provide more support thereof.

R21-09-378

Moved By Deputy Mayor Meloche

Seconded By Councillor Bondy

That the verbal report/presentation by Councilor Bjorkman regarding attendance participation at the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) 2021 Conference be received;

That Council recognizes the need for broadband internet to be an essential service by adopting the following resolution:

Whereas broadband internet is essential for life tasks including education, workforce, healthcare, and is a fundamental element of an inclusive and sustainable world;

Whereas the global pandemic has heightened the awareness of the problems that the lack of reliable and stable access to broadband and digital connectivity have on residents;

Whereas an increasing number of information resources, including government resources and services, are available solely online;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Essex does hereby call upon the Province of Ontario to deem Broadband Internet as an essential service and to provide support to all municipalities so that all residents of Ontario can have access to broadband as an integral part of their daily lives; and further that a letter requesting support be sent to the Honorable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and all local municipalities.

Carried

19. By-Laws

19.1 By-Laws that require a third and final reading

19.1.1 By-Law 2055

Being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the August 23, 2021 Regular Meeting of Council of the Corporation of the Town of Essex

R21-09-379

Moved By Councillor Bowman

Seconded By Councillor Verbeek

That By-Law 2055 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the August 23, 2021 Regular Meeting of Council of the Corporation of the Town of Essex be read a third time and finally passed on September 7, 2021.

Carried

19.1.2 By-Law 2038

Being a by-law to prohibit and regulate noise in the Town of Essex

R21-09-380

Moved By Councillor Bjorkman

Seconded By Councillor Bondy

That By-Law 2038 being a by-law to prohibit and regulate noise in the Town of Essex be read a third time and finally passed on September 7, 2021.

Carried

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

19.3 By-Laws that require a first and second reading

19.3.1 By-Law 2060

Being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the September 7, 2021 Regular Meeting of Council of the Corporation of the Town of Essex

R21-09-381

Moved By Councillor Vander Doelen

Seconded By Councillor Bjorkman

That By-Law being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the September 7, 2021 Regular Council Meeting of Council of the Corporation of the Town of Essex be read a first and second time and provisionally adopted on September 7, 2021.

Carried

20. Adjournment

R21-09-382

Moved By Deputy Mayor Meloche

Seconded By Councillor Bjorkman

That the meeting be adjourned at 7:21 PM.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk