



## **Essex County Council Regular Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, December 15, 2021**

**7:00 PM**

**<https://video.isilive.ca/countyofessex/live.html>**

- Council:**
- Gary McNamara, Warden, Mayor, Town of Tecumseh
  - Joe Bachetti, Deputy Mayor, Town of Tecumseh
  - Tracey Bailey, Deputy Mayor, Municipality of Lakeshore
  - Tom Bain, Mayor, Municipality of Lakeshore
  - Marc Bondy, Mayor, Town of LaSalle
  - Mark Carrick, Town of LaSalle, Alternate Member
  - Aldo DiCarlo, Mayor, Town of Amherstburg
  - Hilda MacDonald, Mayor, Municipality of Leamington
  - Leo Meloche, Deputy Mayor, Town of Amherstburg
  - Richard Meloche, Deputy Mayor, Town of Essex
  - Gord Queen, Deputy Mayor, Town of Kingsville
  - Nelson Santos, Deputy Warden, Mayor, Town of Kingsville
  - Larry Snively, Mayor, Town of Essex
  - Larry Verbeke, Deputy Mayor, Municipality of Leamington
- Absent:**
- Crystal Meloche, Deputy Mayor, Town of LaSalle
- Administration:**
- Mike Galloway, Chief Administrative Officer
  - Mary Birch, Director of Council & Community Services/Clerk
  - Michelle Bishop, General Manager, EWSWA
  - Allan Botham, Director, Infrastructure & Planning Services/County Engineer
  - Steffan Brisebois, Manager of Finance and Administration
  - Jayne Brooks Keller, Administrator - Sun Parlor Home
  - Kristie Cronin, Director of Human Resources
  - Katherine Hebert, Deputy Clerk
  - Bruce Krauter, Chief, Essex Windsor EMS
  - Crystal Sylvestre, Council and Community Services Administrative Assistant
  - Sandra Zwiers, Director of Financial Services/Treasurer

**1. Closed Meeting**

There was no Closed Meeting scheduled for December 15, 2021.

**2. Moment of Reflection**

**3. Singing of 'O Canada'**

**4. Land Acknowledgement Statement**

We begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Three Fires Confederacy of First Nations, comprised of the Ojibway, Odawa and Potawatomie Peoples.

To recognize the land is an expression of gratitude to those whose territory you reside on, and a way of honouring the Indigenous people who have been living and working on the land from time immemorial.

We value the significant historical and contemporary contributions of local and regional First Nations and all the Original Peoples of Turtle Island.

**5. Recording of Attendance**

Warden McNamara attended the meeting virtually from the Essex County Civic Centre, Council Chambers. All other members of Council participated in the meeting virtually, via video conferencing from alternate remote locations.

Crystal Meloche was absent; Mark Carrick attended in her place as the alternative representative for the Town of LaSalle.

**6. County Warden's Welcome and Remarks**

Warden McNamara welcomed the members of County Council, Administration and members of the public and delivered the following greeting:

"Welcome to Essex County Council's final meeting of 2021. It has been a memorable year overshadowed by a pandemic we would all like to forget.

We hoped to be looking at COVID-19 in the rearview mirror by now. Sadly, that is not the case. Understandably, many of you feel frustrated. This virus has shown us we can't let our guard down. The latest curveball it has thrown at us is the Omicron variant, which is now spreading rapidly through Ontario and around the globe.

COVID's twists and turns have taken a toll on our physical, mental and financial health.

I know I speak for County Council when I say we are proud of the many, many health-care providers, residents, businesses and organizations that

have stepped up to protect the vulnerable, and showed caring and compassion to all.

You are the reason COVID has not knocked us out. You are the reason we are still moving forward.

This holiday season, we may not be able to do everything we want, but we can do a lot more than we could a year ago. The reason is we now have vaccines. The more people who are vaccinated, the more protection we all have from serious illness and death. The vaccines aren't perfect, but they are safe and effective.

Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to get their two doses. Thank you to those who are now eligible and lining up for their booster shots. And a big shout-out and round of applause for the five-to-eleven-year-olds who are now getting their first doses. Thank you for being brave!

If you still have not received your shots, think about giving yourself and the people around you the gift of that protection. The more residents who are vaccinated, the better for all of us.

These vaccinations will allow us to celebrate this holiday season safely, if we continue taking the precautions we know can protect everyone.

Keep those face masks handy and wear them properly when you are out in public. We all know how to smile with our eyes now, and we all want to keep smiling this time of year.

Work from home if you can and stay home when possible, so you can go out in public when it counts the most to you.

Please limit the size of your indoor holiday gatherings, and take advantage of video calls when meeting in person isn't possible or puts someone vulnerable at risk.

If we all take these steps, we can have a joyful holiday season while taking care of our mental and physical health – and each other.

I want to thank the incredible County of Essex staff for doing their part. They have taken on every challenge they've been handed to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and protect the public. On top of that, they united in the holiday spirit this past month to collect 70 large boxes and bags of gifts for families served by the Windsor-Essex Children's Aid Society.

I also want to thank County Council for your support and all you have done to keep your communities safe. I know it hasn't been easy, but you have been strong, supportive leaders.

Let's make these last few weeks of 2021 as happy and relaxing as possible while having a safe holiday season."

**7. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest**

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest raised.

**8. Adoption of Regular Meeting Minutes**

Minutes of the December 1, 2021 Essex County Council regular meeting.

**259-2021**

**Moved By** Marc Bondy

**Seconded By** Aldo DiCarlo

That the minutes of the December 1, 2021 Regular Meeting of Essex County Council be adopted as presented.

**Carried**

**9. Delegations and Presentations**

**9.1 Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority - 2022 Budget**

Michelle Bishop, General Manager and Steffan Brisebois, Manager of Finance and Administration, EWSWA to present the 2022 EWSWA budget. (Refer to Item 12.1 under Reports and Questions).

Michelle Bishop explained the increase of 4.1 percent in the proposed budget and outlined the impacts to the respective County municipalities. Ms. Bishop explained the estimated impacts were based on collection rates for disposal from 2021 and consider growth in the region. She confirmed that the 2022 budget had been approved by both the Board prior to this meeting.

Each of the recommendations were reviewed providing details to revenue and expenditures variances. Ms. Bishop explained the Authority experienced a surplus due to increase in the value of recycled materials.

Discussions included forecasts of current and future service models and the potential impacts to the Authority budget.

The Warden called for a motion to bring forward item number 12.1 under the Reports and Questions section of the agenda.

**260-2021**

**Moved By** Hilda MacDonald

**Seconded By** Aldo DiCarlo

That the delegation from the Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority be permitted to address County Council.

**Carried**

## **10. Communications**

### **10.1 Correspondence**

#### **262-2021**

**Moved By** Joe Bachetti

**Seconded By** Tom Bain

That the correspondence listed on the Regular Agenda for December 15, 2021, be received and any noted action approved.

**Carried**

#### **10.1.1 City of Windsor**

November 1, 2021 - City of Windsor Council decision RE Windsor-Essex County Environment Committee (WECEC) recommendations pertaining to single use plastics.

Michelle Bishop, General Manager, Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority (EWSWA) was asked to offer comment on single use plastics and local recycling. Ms. Bishop explained that these items are not recyclable at EWSWA facilities.

#### **263-2021**

**Moved By** Richard Meloche

**Seconded By** Aldo DiCarlo

That Essex County Council support the City of Windsor Resolution regarding WECEC recommendations pertaining to single use plastics.

**Carried**

#### **10.1.2 Town of Georgina**

Resolution RE Plastic film and wrapping disposal

#### **10.1.3 City of Kitchener**

Resolution RE Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) regulating of liquor licences and patio extensions related to the COVID-19 pandemic

**10.1.4 Northumberland County**

Resolution RE Provision of Provincial and Federal funding for rural municipal infrastructure projects for bridges and culverts

**10.1.5 Windsor-Essex Food Policy Council**

November 26, 2021 - Letter from the Windsor-Essex Food Policy Council regarding provincial Food and Organic Waste Framework

**264-2021**

**Moved By** Nelson Santos

**Seconded By** Richard Meloche

That Essex County Council recognize the Windsor Essex Food Policy Council (WEFPC) as an interested stakeholder in the development of a Regional Food and Organic Waste Management program.

**Carried**

**10.1.6 Ministry of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada -  
Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs Ontario**

November 19, 2021 - Letter from Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and Lisa M. Thompson, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs RE Canadian Agricultural Partnership

**10.1.7 Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA)**

November 20, 2021 - [ROMA Board to Release Important Findings and Recommendations on Rural Ontario Post-Covid 19](#)

**10.1.8 Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA)**

November 27, 2021 - [Submit your Questions for the Provincial Ministers' Forums](#)

**10.1.9 Report of the Auditor General of Canada to the  
Parliament of Canada**

[COVID-19 Pandemic Report 13](#) - Health and Safety of Agricultural Temporary Foreign Workers in Canada during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

**10.1.10 Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)**

November 23, 2021 - [Navigating Conflict Relationships as an Elected Official New Dates added - February 9/10, 2022 and April 6/7, 2022](#)

**10.1.11 Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)**

November 24, 2021 - [Save the Date – Municipal Energy Symposium Co-Hosted by AMO & LAS March 31st & April 1st, 2022](#)

**10.1.12 Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)**

November 29, 2021 - [AMO Policy Update – AMO Board Approves Indigenous-Municipal Relationship Agreement Guidance Document for Municipalities](#)

**10.1.13 Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)**

December 1, 2021 - [AMO Policy Update – Ontario Broadband Strategy, Excess Soil Regulations \(Webinar\), Planning Act Delegations](#)

**10.1.14 Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)**

December 2, 2021 - [AMO Watchfile Online](#)

**10.1.15 Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)**

December 2, 2021 - [Navigating Conflict Relationships as an Elected Official - New Dates added - February 16/17, 2022 and April 6/7, 2022](#)

**10.1.16 Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)**

December 9, 2021 - [AMO Watchfile Online](#)

**10.2 Resolutions**

There were no resolutions for Council's consideration for December 15, 2021.

**11. Consent Agenda**

**265-2021**

**Moved By** Gord Queen

**Seconded By** Marc Bondy

That the recommendation in the Administrative Report listed as item 11.1, on the Consent Agenda for December 15, 2021, be approved and further that the information items listed as items 11.2 and 11.3 on the said Consent Agenda be received.

**Carried**

**11.1 Approval of Invoices - Legal and Consulting Services**

Report number 2021-1215-CAO-R012-MG, Approval of Invoices - Legal and Consulting Services, dated December 15, 2021 from Mike Galloway, Chief Administrative Officer

**11.2 Windsor-Essex County Environment Committee (WECEC)**

Minutes of the November 18, 2021 Windsor-Essex County Environment Committee (WECEC) meeting., Deputy Mayor Gord Queen and Deputy Mayor Leo Meloche, committee members.

**11.3 Windsor-Essex County Regional 911 Technical Advisory Committee**

Minutes of the July 22, 2021 Windsor-Essex County Regional 911 Technical Advisory Committee meeting, Deputy Mayor, Tracey Bailey, committee member.

**12. Reports and Questions**

**12.1 Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority (EWSWA) 2022 Budget**

Report dated December 15, 2021, Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority 2022 Budget, Michelle Bishop, General Manager

A presentation of the 2022 Proposed EWSWA Budget was provided by Michelle Bishop, General Manager, EWSWA in Section 9.1 Delegations.

**261-2021**

**Moved By** Joe Bachetti

**Seconded By** Leo Meloche

THAT the Council of the County of Essex approve the 2022 Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority budget and a 4.1% increase to the 2021 total municipal assessment of \$13,612,740 based on a fixed cost allocation calculated on population and a Total Waste Management Fee of \$40.00 per tonne fee for refuse delivered for disposal. The total assessment to County of Essex municipalities and to the City of Windsor is to also include the increase in municipal tonnage from 2021 to 2022 being an additional 4,950 tonnes representing \$198,000. The overall 2022 assessment to Windsor and the County municipalities will be \$13,810,740.

**Carried**



## **12.2 Essex County Accessibility Advisory Committee (ECAAC)**

Minutes of the October 14, 2021 meeting of the Essex County Accessibility Advisory Committee (ECAAC), Deputy Mayor, Gord Queen, Vice Chair

### **266-2021**

**Moved By** Gord Queen

**Seconded By** Tom Bain

That the minutes of the Essex County Accessibility Advisory Committee for October 14, 2021 be adopted.

**Carried**

## **12.3 2021 Annual Accessibility Report**

Report number 2021-1215-CCS-R012-KH, 2021 Annual Accessibility Report, dated December 15, 2021 from Katherine Hebert, Deputy Clerk

Katherine Hebert updated the status of the initiatives outlined in the Five Year Accessibly Plan for 2018-2022. Ms. Hebert explained that the Plan was a requirement of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) and the County would be developing the next five-year plan for 2023-2027 throughout 2022.

Ms. Hebert explained that despite the challenges of 2021, the County of Essex maintained their focus on accessible initiatives. She noted an audit by the Accessibility Directorate was conducted in 2021 and the County was found to be compliant with all seven areas of review.

The Essex County Accessibility Advisory Committee continued to meet monthly throughout 2021 and collaborated with Essex Region Conservation Authority to offer feedback regarding the condition of local trail systems under their care. It was reported that the WE Check the Trails initiative would continue throughout 2022.

### **267-2021**

**Moved By** Gord Queen

**Seconded By** Marc Bondy

That Essex County Council receive the 2021 Annual Accessibility Report in compliance with the Essex County Multi-Year Accessibility Plan (2018-2022), as information.

**Carried**

#### **12.4 Intermunicipal Provincial Offences Court Services Agreement - Renewal**

Report number 2021-1215 FIN-R017-SZ, Intermunicipal Provincial Offences Court Services Agreement - Renewal, dated December 15, 2021 from Sandra Zwiers, Director, Financial Services/Treasurer

Sandra Zwiers highlighted the changes in the renewal Agreement noting that the Liaison committee, comprised of representatives from the seven local County municipalities and the City of Windsor had reviewed and approved the contract and that the third renewal period was from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2026.

##### **268-2021**

**Moved By** Larry Snively

**Seconded By** Hilda MacDonald

That Essex County Council authorize the execution of an Intermunicipal Provincial Offences Court Services 3<sup>rd</sup> Renewal Agreement with the City of Windsor for the period January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2026.

**Carried**

#### **12.5 Emergency Management 2021 Status Report and Compliance**

Report number 2021-1215-EM-R002-BK, Emergency Management 2021 Status Report and Compliance, dated December 15, 2021 from Bruce Krauter, Chief, Essex-Windsor Emergency Medical Services

Chief Bruce Krauter provided Council with the report outlining the updates made to the Essex County Emergency Management Program Committee membership. He further outlined the annual compliance requirements of the Ontario Fire Marshal and Emergency Management office, stating the department was prepared to submit the required documents.

##### **269-2021**

**Moved By** Marc Bondy

**Seconded By** Mark Carrick

That County Council:

1. Approve the composition of the Essex County Emergency Management Program Management Committee; and,
2. Receive the updated 2021 Hazard Identification Risk Assessment/HIRA for the County of Essex; and
3. Authorize the Emergency Measures Coordinator to submit the Annual Emergency Management Program Statement of Completion for 2021; and
4. Enact By-law 2021-36 to Adopt a Revised Emergency Management Program for the County of Essex.

**Carried**

### **12.6 Essex-Windsor EMS, 2022 Ambulance Procurement Approval**

Report number 2021-1215-EMS-R010-BK, Essex-Windsor EMS, 2022 Ambulance Procurement Approval, dated December 15, 2021 from Bruce Krauter, Chief, Essex-Windsor Emergency Medical Services

Chief Krauter explained the purchase of the ambulances was in accordance with the County's Asset Management Plan. Chief Krauter explained that production delays were anticipated and it was the desire of the service to place the order as soon as possible to mitigate delays.

Chief Krauter explained the units were budgeted for in the 2022 Budget, however unanticipated increases across the supply chain would require a transfer from reserve to fully furnish the cost of the purchase. The purchase price would be reevaluated in the 2022 Asset Management Plan for future acquisitions.

**270-2021**

**Moved By** Leo Meloche

**Seconded By** Tracey Bailey

That Essex Windsor EMS be approved to proceed with the 2022 ordering of seven (7) Crestline Coach Ltd. Type III ambulances with a total purchase price of \$1,415,624 (plus HST).

**Carried**

### **12.7 Essex-Windsor EMS, Uniform and Ancillary Devices, Dry Cleaning Contract EMS-2021-1013**

Report number 2021-1215-EMS-R011-BK, Essex-Windsor EMS, Uniform and Ancillary Devices, Dry Cleaning Contract EMS-2021-1013, dated December 15, 2021 from Bruce Krauter, Chief, Essex-Windsor Emergency Medical Services

Chief Krauter provided Council with the details of the procurement process and the resulting evaluation indicating that Blondie Cleaner was the successful service provider.

**271-2021**

**Moved By** Marc Bondy

**Seconded By** Aldo DiCarlo

That Essex Windsor EMS Uniform Dry Cleaning Contract #EMS2021-1013 be awarded to Blondie Cleaners for the period from 2022 to 2024, at a base cost of \$ \$992,260.44 (plus HST) and the inclusion of a possible two (2) year extension.

And Further, that Essex County Council authorize the Warden and the Clerk to execute the agreement on behalf of the Corporation of the County of Essex.

**Carried**

**13. Unfinished Business**

There was no Unfinished Business for December 15, 2021.

**14. New Business**

**14.1 Appointment of Representative to South Western Integrated Fibre Technology (SWIFT) Board**

Correspondence from Barry Field, SWIFT Executive Director, dated October 28, 2021, requesting a resolution of Essex County Council to re-appoint Warden McNamara to the SWIFT Board or nominate a member of Council for consideration as a WOWC member representative for a two-year term.

**272-2021**

**Moved By** Joe Bachetti

**Seconded By** Hilda MacDonald

That Essex County Council support the re-appointment of Essex County Warden Gary McNamara to the SWIFT Board of Directors.

**Carried**

## **14.2 Speed Reduction on CR-34 West of Manning**

On behalf of the Municipality of Lakeshore, Tom Bain requested the section of County Road 34 between Dawson Road and Manning Road be reduced from 70 km/hour to 50-60 km/hour.

Allan Botham, Director of Planning and Infrastructure, indicated that Infrastructure Services would review the information provided by the Municipality of Lakeshore and provide a report back to County Council for consideration.

### **273-2021**

**Moved By** Tom Bain

**Seconded By** Marc Bondy

That Administration be directed to review the request of Lakeshore Council, regarding a reduction in the speed limits to 50-60 km/hour on County Road 34 between Dawson and Manning Road.

**Carried**

## **15. Adoption of By-Laws**

### **274-2021**

**Moved By** Larry Verbeke

**Seconded By** Hilda MacDonald

That By-laws 2021-36 through 2021-39, having been read a first, second and third time, be finally passed and enacted.

**Carried**

### **15.1 By-law Number 2021-36**

Being a By-law to Adopt a Revised Emergency Management Program for the County of Essex.

### **15.2 By-law Number 2021-37**

Being a By-law to Appoint Auditors of the Corporation of the County of Essex for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2021.

### **15.3 By-law Number 2021-38**

Being a By-law Authorizing the Borrowing of Money to Meet Current Expenditures of the Council of the Corporation of the County of Essex.

### **15.4 By-law Number 2021-39**

Being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the County of Essex for December 15, 2021.

**16. Notice of Motion**

There were no Notices of Motion at the December 15, 2021 meeting.

**17. Adjournment**

That the Essex County Council meeting for December 15, 2021 be adjourned at 8:32 PM.

**275-2021**

**Moved By** Tom Bain

**Seconded By** Hilda MacDonald

**Carried**

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Gary McNamara

Warden - County of Essex

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Mary Birch

Director of Council and Community Services/Clerk