



Essex County Council Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 6, 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
 - Aldo DiCarlo, Mayor, Town of Amherstburg
 - Hilda MacDonald, Mayor, Municipality of Leamington
 - Crystal Meloche, Deputy Mayor, Town of LaSalle
 - Leo Meloche, Deputy Mayor, Town of Amherstburg
 - Richard Meloche, Deputy Mayor, Town of Essex
 - Nelson Santos, Deputy Warden, Mayor, Town of Kingsville
 - Gord Queen, Deputy Mayor, Town of Kingsville
 - Larry Verbeke, Deputy Mayor, Municipality of Leamington
 - Morley Bowman, Alternate Councillor, Town of Essex
- Absent:**
- Larry Snively, Mayor, Town of Essex
- Administration:**
- Mike Galloway, Chief Administrative Officer
 - Mary Birch, Director of Council & Community Services/Clerk
 - Jayne Brooks Keller, Administrator - Sun Parlor Home
 - Kristie Cronin, Director of Human Resources
 - Robin Greenall, CEO/Chief Librarian, Essex County Library
 - Katherine Hebert, Deputy Clerk
 - Bruce Krauter, Chief, Essex Windsor EMS
 - Don McArthur, Manager, Communication and Organizational Development
 - Crystal Sylvestre, Council and Community Services Administrative Assistant
 - Sandra Zwiers, Director of Financial Services/Treasurer

1. Closed Meeting

A Closed Meeting of County Council was held at 6:30 p.m., pursuant to Section 239 (2) (d) of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended to discuss labour relations or employee negotiations.

196-2021

Moved By Gord Queen

Seconded By Crystal Meloche

That Council move into a closed meeting pursuant to Section 239 (2) (d) of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, for the following reason:

(d) labour relations or employee negotiations

Carried

198-2021

Moved By Marc Bondy

Seconded By Tom Bain

That Council rise from the closed meeting and adjourn at 6:49 pm.

Carried

2. Moment of Reflection

3. Singing of 'O Canada'

4. 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.

Larry Snively was absent; Morley Bowman attended in his place.

5. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest raised.

6. Adoption of Regular Meeting Minutes

September 15, 2021 Essex County Council Meeting Minutes

199-2021

Moved By Larry Verbeke

Seconded By Aldo DiCarlo

That the minutes of the September 15, 2021 Regular Meeting of Essex County Council be adopted as presented.

Carried

7. 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:

It has been inspiring over the last 19 months to watch our dedicated County of Essex staff going above and beyond while continuing to enhance their skills.

Renée Renaud is one of those staff members. She is the assistant director of care and infection prevention control at Sun Parlor Home. I can't imagine a more challenging position during the pandemic.

Yet, while she has been shouldering these responsibilities, Renée completed an intensive leadership training program. Not only did she pass, she received the highest mark for her case study. As a result, AdvantAge Ontario has recognized her with the Donna Rubin Leadership Program Award.

Congratulations Renée! We are proud of your accomplishment.

You and your colleagues at Sun Parlor Home do such an outstanding job and make such a difference in the lives of residents and their families. No wonder you were named runner-up in the Best Nursing Home category in the Windsor Star's Best of YQG Awards.

I want to share just two of the many positive comments residents made recently about the excellent care they receive at Sun Parlor.

"The staff are always so busy but are so nice," says one.

Another resident says: "I was in other homes before coming to (Sun Parlor Home) and this is by far the best one."

Thank you, Sun Parlor Home staff, for all you do!

The staff at Essex-Windsor EMS are also to be commended for your tireless work on the front lines. On top of the measures you are taking to deal with the pandemic, you are seeing the number of calls you are responding to increase to pre-pandemic levels.

We will hear more about this from Chief Bruce Krauter later this evening, but we would be remiss if we didn't first salute you for being true heroes in this health crisis.

We also want to congratulate our 14 new EMS recruits! Welcome to the team Angelo, Andrew, Bailey, Courtney, Claudio, Charlie, Dylan, Erica, Erica, Irvan, Jenna, Mackenzie, Ryan and Sara. We are excited to have you aboard.

New staff members bring fresh ideas and approaches that help us

improve services to the residents of Essex County. Diana Radulescu joined us this year as the county's active transportation coordinator. She is the driving force behind a contest challenging us to use motorized vehicles less this month.

It's called the Rethink Your Drive Contest. To enter, all you have to do is walk, ride a bike or use some other form of active transportation instead of driving a car for short trips in Essex County. You can find out about the prizes and how to enter by going to the County of Essex website or the CWATS Twitter, Facebook and Instagram pages.

We can all benefit from the exercise we get from rethinking our drive, and it's a great way to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions. So, get moving and get outdoors to enjoy our fine fall weather this month. There's nothing quite like Autumn in Essex County.

8. Delegations and Presentations

There were no delegations scheduled for the October 6, 2021 meeting.

9. Communications

9.1 Correspondence

200-2021

Moved By Joe Bachetti

Seconded By Leo Meloche

That the correspondence listed on the Regular Agenda for October 6, 2021, be received and any noted action approved.

Carried

9.1.1 Advancing Women Conference

Spotlight on [Women in Agriculture](#)

9.1.2 Consul of Mexico in Leamington

September 13, 2021 - Letter of appreciation following Mexican Independence Day celebrations and for County and Warden's support

9.1.3 Township of Huron-Kinloss

Resolution RE Provincial Offences Court, Bill 177 - Stronger, Fairer, Ontario Act

9.1.4 Township of Scugog

Resolution RE Support for increased funding for rural municipalities from the Provincial and Federal Governments, as it relates to major infrastructure projects, bridges and culverts.

9.1.5 City of Sarnia

Resolution RE Considerations under the Landlord Tenant Act for evictions based on renovations

201-2021

Moved By Tom Bain

Seconded By Gord Queen

That Essex County Council support the resolution of the Council of the City of Sarnia, seeking Provincial action and meaningful steps to address the increasing issue of evictions of tenants for the purpose of renovation.

Carried

9.1.6 Pathway to Potential

September 2021 [Information Sharing Newsletter](#)

9.1.7 Great Lakes and St Lawrence Cities Initiative (GLSLCI)

October 7, 2021 - [Webinar, Leveraging Your Waterfront to Transition Your Economy](#): Your waterfront is a valuable asset. Join us for a discussion on how you can further develop this precious asset to grow your economy.

GLSLCI [Webinar Series 2021](#)

9.1.8 County-wide Active Transportation System (CWATS)

October 1, 2021 - [CWATS Launches Rethink Your Drive Contest](#)

9.1.9 Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

September 14, 2021 - [AMO Policy Update – Vaccine Certification](#)

9.1.10 Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

September 17, 2021 - [LAS Risk Management Symposium 2021](#)

9.1.11 Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

September 21, 2021 - [AMO Training, Navigating Conflict Relationships as an Elected Official](#)

9.1.12 Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

September 23, 2021 - [AMO Watchfile Online](#)

9.1.13 Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

September 28, 2021 - [Municipal Cyber Security Forum](#)

9.1.14 Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

September 29, 2021 - [AMO Watchfile Online](#)

9.2 Resolutions

There were no resolutions for consideration for October 6, 2021.

10. Consent Agenda

There were no items for the Consent Agenda for October 6, 2021.

11. Reports and Questions

11.1 Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority (EWSWA)

Minutes from the July 6, 2021 Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority Board Meeting, Mayor Aldo DiCarlo, Chair

Aldo DiCarlo mentioned that the high value of recyclables has provided financial advantages and if the trend continued the increased revenue would provide an opportunity to offset some of the cost of the current year's budget.

He advised that the Food and Organic recycling processes continued to be researched. And that once additional details on the Provincial Policy guidelines were available, the Authority would be able to proceed with the required decisions. He further advised that the Authority Board had requested that EWSWA Administration make a presentation at County Council as well as at the local Council meetings to provide updates when appropriate.

202-2021

Moved By Aldo DiCarlo

Seconded By Marc Bondy

That the minutes of the Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority Meeting for July 6, 2021 be received.

Carried

11.2 Essex County Accessibility Advisory Committee (ECAAC)

Minutes from the August 12, 2021 Essex County Accessibility Advisory Committee (ECAAC), Deputy Mayor Gord Queen, Vice Chair.

Gord Queen reminded Council and the public that the WE Check the Trails program remained active and residents were encouraged to offer their feedback through the website. Mr. Queen also reminded Council that there would be a Joint AAC Chairs meeting scheduled prior to the end of the year, providing an opportunity for the local AAC's to share information on accessibility matters in each municipality.

203-2021

Moved By Gord Queen

Seconded By Tracey Bailey

That the minutes of the Essex County Accessibility Advisory Committee for August 12, 2021 be adopted.

Carried

11.3 Land Acknowledgement Statement

Report number 2021-1006-CCS-R08-MB, Land Acknowledgement Statement, dated October 6, 2021 from Mary Birch, Director of Council and Community Services/Clerk

Mary Birch presented the report to Council recommending the adoption of a land acknowledgement statement which would be read at Council meetings and other County of Essex events.

It was explained that many government offices and schools have implemented Land Acknowledgement statements as an early step in the Reconciliation process. County Administration reviewed and researched many adopted statements from other local organizations

and consulted with the Caldwell First Nations on the development of the statement.

Ms. Birch also informed Council that in addition to including the Land Acknowledgement Statement in meeting procedures, Administration intended to include staff training through the Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion in the 2022 budget.

204-2021

Moved By Marc Bondy

Seconded By Nelson Santos

That the Essex County Council adopt the following Land Acknowledgement Statement, as a living document, open for revisions for one year to allow for feedback and advice regarding its ongoing use:

We (I) 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.

Carried

11.4 Essex-Windsor EMS 2020-2021 Response Experience

Report number 2021-1006-EMS-R007-BK, Essex-Windsor EMS 2020-2021 Response Experience, dated October 6, 2021 from Bruce Krauter, Chief, Essex-Windsor Emergency Medical Services

Chief Bruce Krauter presented the report to Council covering EMS operations for the period of January 2020 to September 2021. The information in the report was generated through data collected from Electronic Patient Care Records platform and open data sources such as the Windsor Essex County Health Unit, Critical Care Services Ontario, Ministry of Health databases and the 2018 EWEMS 10-year Master Plan approved in 2019. He explained that, referencing numerous sources of information allowed EWEMS to make sound changes and recommend enhancements. He noted there was an error in the total municipal percentages in the Table

on Page 3 of his report. ***(Note: Table has been corrected on archived version of October 6, 2020 Agenda)*

Chief Krauter explained that COVID-19 lockdowns contributed to lower call volume and hospital utilization in early 2020, but once restrictions eased in 2021, challenges presented by increased call volume, resource utilization and off load delays returned and included other pressures not felt in the early waves of the pandemic such as healthcare backlog, decreased capacity in hospitals and rates of infection that fluctuate daily.

Chief Krauter mentioned that Ministry of Health response targets had been difficult to meet in 2021, but that scenario was being experienced in the sector across the Province. He explained that, to mitigate challenges EWEMS partnered with neighbouring communities and allied agencies for mutual aid and tiered response to provide adequate response.

He indicated that Ambulance offload delays continued to be a challenge, but EWEMS utilized diversion protocols with the communication centre and hospitals to ensure all patients were receiving the right care, at the right time and at the right place. Contributing factors to offload delays included decreased capacity at hospital, increased call volume and an increase of emergency room walk ins. He explained that the increase of emergency room walk ins was due to the lack of access to primary care physicians, as a result of reduced open office hours. He advised that the new data charting system implementation impacted the speed of flow when initially introduced, but that system was working well now.

Chief Krauter stated that the 10-year Master Plan had offered numerous recommendations and milestones with a goal of providing an efficient and effective service within the community. He advised that since the last report to Council, funding for the Community Paramedicine program had been received and that team was active providing care to palliative patients awaiting long term care at home. As well, last year EWEMS activated their Mental Health and Addiction Response Team (MHART) who connect citizens with the right support resources.

He explained that the redeployment of staff was completed earlier in the year following recommendations provided by ORH in the Master Plan. He noted that the redeployment process was originally planned for 2020 and then was rescheduled due to COVID-19. ORH had recommended adjusting the schedule of ambulances to follow call volume trends. He stated that maintaining staffing

complements was an issue being experienced across the healthcare sector. Chief Krauter explained the Province had offered financial support to many sectors to mitigate this issue but the challenge of finding staff to do the work remained.

205-2021

Moved By Marc Bondy

Seconded By Tom Bain

That Essex County Council receive Report number 2021-1006-EMS-R007-BK regarding the Essex Windsor EMS 2020-2021 Response Experience and Service Delivery Impacts.

Carried

12. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business for October 6, 2021.

13. New Business

13.1 Public Reporting of Closed Meeting

A Closed Meeting of Essex County Council was held at 6:30 PM, prior to the regular Council meeting this evening, pursuant to Section 239 (2) (d) of the Municipal Act, 2001.

Administration provided Council with an update regarding labour relations or employee negotiations.

13.2 County Road 31 and Hwy 3 Intersection

Larry Verbeke presented a concern regarding the intersection of County Road 31 at Highway 3, stating that the traffic volume impeded North bound travel on County Road 31 at that intersection. Mr. Verbeke requested that Mike Galloway request Infrastructure Services to consider the addition of an advanced turning lane on County Road 31 at that intersection in the future.

14. Adoption of By-Laws

206-2021

Moved By Aldo DiCarlo

Seconded By Crystal Meloche

That By-law Number 2021-32, having been read a first, second and third time, be finally passed and enacted.

Carried

14.1 By-law Number 2021-32

Being a by-law to Confirm the Proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the County of Essex for October 6, 2021

15. Notice of Motion

There were no Notices of Motion at the October 6, 2021 meeting.

16. Adjournment

That the Essex County Council meeting for October 6, 2021 be adjourned at 7:53 PM.

207-2021

Moved By Richard Meloche

Seconded By Nelson Santos

Carried

Gary McNamara

Warden - County of Essex

Mary Birch

Director of Council and Community Services/Clerk

Date Signed