



Essex County Council Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 10, 2022

7:00 PM

Council Chambers, 2nd Floor

360 Fairview Avenue West

Essex, Ontario N8M 1Y6

<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
 - Steve Bjorkman, Deputy Mayor, Town of Essex
 - Marc Bondy, Mayor, Town of LaSalle
 - Mark Carrick, Alternate Member, Town of LaSalle
 - Aldo DiCarlo, Mayor, Town of Amherstburg
 - Tony Gaffan, Alternate Member, Town of Kingsville
 - Hilda MacDonald, Mayor, Municipality of Leamington
 - Richard Meloche, Mayor, Town of Essex
 - Michael Prue, Alternate Member, Town of Amherstburg
 - Gord Queen, Deputy Mayor, Town of Kingsville
 - Larry Verbeke, Deputy Mayor, Municipality of Leamington
- Absent:
- Crystal Meloche, Deputy Mayor, Town of LaSalle
 - Leo Meloche, Deputy Mayor, Town of Amherstburg
- Administration:
- Mike Galloway, Chief Administrative Officer
 - Mary Birch, Director, Legislative and Community Services/Clerk
 - Allan Botham, Director, Infrastructure & Planning Services
 - Jeanie Diamond Francis, Manager, Community Services
 - Katherine Hebert, Deputy Clerk
 - Don McArthur, Manager, Communication and Organizational Development
 - David Sundin, County Solicitor
 - Crystal Sylvestre, Administrative Assistant, Legislative and Community Services

1. Closed Meeting

178-2022

Moved By Larry Verbeke

Seconded By Tom Bain

That Essex County Council move into a closed meeting following the regular session of Council on August 10, 2022.

Carried

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 and members of Council attended the meeting at the Essex County Civic Centre, Council Chambers.

Leo Meloche and Crystal Meloche were absent.

Mark Carrick attended as the alternate member for the Town of LaSalle.

Michael Prue attended as the alternate member for the Town of Amherstburg.

Tony Gaffan attended as the alternate member for the Town of Kingsville.

(Nelson Santos – resigned as Mayor of Kingsville July 17, 2022)

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 everyone who is joining us virtually this evening. We are fortunate to have technology at our fingertips that makes it easy and

convenient for residents to attend meetings, as well as stay informed and participate in local government.

The County of Essex marked its 230th birthday last month. Over its history, the engagement of residents with their local governments has been critical in shaping the county we live in today. We want your continued participation. In a couple of months, you will be voting for the mayors, council members and school trustees who will represent you for the next four years.

The deadline for candidates to file their nomination papers is Friday, August 19, at 2 p.m. We want to see a wide diversity of passionate candidates with a commitment to serving their communities.

If you are one of those people, we encourage you to step forward. If you know one of those people, encourage them to step forward.

It is easy to be cynical, but I know that the folks who sit around this table and around council tables across Essex County make a big difference in the lives of local residents. They are the ones who take your calls about potholes and flooded basements. They are the ones who show up at community events and celebrations, where you can tap them on the shoulder for a chat.

Local government officials are the ones you deal with most, and they are ones who know you the best. Let's make sure we have an exceptional slate of candidates vying for local office in the October 24 municipal election. During four years in office, they can have a huge impact.

Next week, many of us who are current members of municipal councils will be gathering in Ottawa for the Association of Municipalities of Ontario annual conference. There we will discuss strategies for creating more affordable housing and reducing homelessness. We will share information and get insights from experts about addressing the climate crisis and reducing the amount of waste going into landfills.

It is also our opportunity to meet face-to-face with provincial ministers and officials to make sure they are aware of the issues that matter most to the residents of Essex County.

Through your municipal representatives, your voices are heard at many levels, so get informed and get involved in the upcoming municipal election. Your voice matters."

7. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest raised.

8. Adoption of Regular Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the July 20, 2022 Regular Meeting of Essex County Council.

179-2022

Moved By Gord Queen

Seconded By Hilda MacDonald

That the minutes of the July 20, 2022 Regular Meeting of Essex County Council be adopted as presented.

Carried

9. Delegations and Presentations

180-2022

Moved By Marc Bondy

Seconded By Joe Bachetti

That the delegation regarding the Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee Annual Report be permitted to address County Council.

Carried

9.1. City of Windsor - Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee

Debbie Cercone, Interim Commissioner of Human and Health Services, Kirk Whittal, Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services, Jen Tanner, Manager of Homelessness and Housing Support, Mike Deimling, Social Housing Analyst and Kelly Goz, Coordinator, Housing Administration and Development to present the 2021 Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee (HHAC) Annual Report.

Refer to Reports and Questions item 12.1.

Jen Tanner provided Council with an overview of the 2021 Housing and Homelessness Annual Report. She highlighting the following points:

- The Canada Ontario Housing Benefit was implemented in Windsor-Essex in July 2021. Under this program, 267 households were assisted and of them 15 percent were County residents.
- The Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee (HHAC) was working on a rent supplement mitigation strategy to seek

out sources of funding to lessen the impact to individuals whose supports had expired or were expiring.

- Legislative changes required updates to the rent geared to income calculations effective July 2021.
- As required by the Federal and Provincial government, the HHAC conducted point in time count of people experiencing homelessness in March 2021. The data collected from this count remained fairly consistent from previous years; this data was used in conjunction with other information to guide decisions related to housing and homelessness.
- The Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS) was developed to record information pertaining to people experiencing homelessness. This database collects pertinent information used to connect people with timely support suited to their needs. Emergency shelters and a number of other regional providers were currently using the HIFIS program and it was expressed that the goal was to enroll all of the agencies that support the bi-names process for the region.
- Capital funding provided to the region had provided 99 new supportive housing units. The discussion included a breakdown of the new housing stock being 78 units in the City and 12 in the County.

Warden McNamara requested clarification on how decisions would be made regarding the allocation of \$3.521M that was received for the region for the years 2023-24. Kelly Goz explained the functions of the Community Advisory Board (CAB) as the designated community entity in place to ensure practice aligns with legislation and direction from the regional governments, including the 10-year Master Plan.

Ms. Goz provided information regarding various funding streams, noting that the Provincial government has continued to realign funding to be consistent with the Federal contribution towards homelessness prevention with a housing first approach. Discussions included the CAB's obligation to ensure that the legislated requirement to match funding provided from other levels of government was adhered to. Funding shortfalls versus regional need were discussed along with the necessity for a regional strategy that better addresses the need of the residents of both the City and the County.

The Warden urged City administration to incorporate the County of Essex and local tier staff in discussions to forge a more cooperative program that would be prepared to meet short timelines for funding opportunities and provide solutions to residents of the region in a more wholesome manner.

The accuracy of data that was collected regarding people experiencing homelessness in the County in the point-in-time count was questioned. It was suggested to the City that they engage local tier municipal offices, such as the planning departments, to gain more accurate information regarding the state of homelessness in County municipalities.

10. Communications

10.1. Correspondence

182-2022

Moved By Tracey Bailey

Seconded By Aldo DiCarlo

That the correspondence listed on the Regular Agenda for August 10, 2022, be received and any noted action approved.

Carried

10.1.1 Windsor Essex Community Housing Corporation

July 26, 2022 - WECHC Board of Directors Names New CEO, Cynthia Summers

10.1.2 Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce

July 19, 2022 - [WERCC Chamber News](#)

10.1.3 Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce

August 5, 2022 - [Chamber News Update](#)

10.1.4 Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative (GLSLCI)

July - [Making Waves Newsletter](#)

10.1.5 Invest Windsor-Essex

Highlights of the [2022 Second Quarter Activities](#)

10.1.6 Ontario Sheep Farmers

July 2022 - Livestock Guardian Dogs and Herding Dogs, proposed changes to description

10.1.7 Pathway to Potential

Monthly Newsletter - [July 2022 Updates](#)

10.1.8 St. Clair College Foundation

July 28, 2022 -Correspondence thanking Essex County Council for their investment and education and providing the Foundation Annual Endowment Report.

10.1.9 Town of Essex

Resolution RE Endorsement of Active School Travel Charter

10.1.10 Town of Aurora

Resolution RE Private Member's Bill C-233, [An Act to Amend the Criminal Code of Canada \(Sex-selective Abortion - Keira's Law\)](#)

10.1.11 Township of Bonfield

Resolution RE Amber Alert System

10.1.12 City of Brantford

July 29, 2022 - AMO Letter, resolution related to Potential Threat to Residential Home Ownership

10.1.13 City of Brantford

Resolution RE Prosperity Partnership with Indigenous Nations and a Timely Resolution of Haldimand Tract Land Dispute

10.1.14 Municipality of Huron Shores

Resolution RE Increase the Administration Fee on Wildlife Claims

10.1.15 Town of Mattawa

Resolution RE Amber Alert System - Draven Alert

10.1.16 Township of North Dumfries

Resolution RE Ontario Must Build it Right the First Time

10.1.17 Municipality of Port Hope

Resolution RE Changes to Amber Alert System

10.1.18 Municipality of Port Hope

Resolution RE Bill 109, More Homes for Everyone Act, 2022

10.1.19 Township of Puslinch

Resolution RE Summary and Implications of [Provincial Bill 109, the More Homes for Everyone Act 2022](#)

10.1.20 Town of Aylmer

Resolution RE Warming and Cooling Centre Policy - Appeal for Financial Support from Provincial and Federal Government

10.1.21 Ontario Ministry of Education

July 25, 2022 - News Release - [Ontario Launches its Plan to Catch Up, Plan Starts with Students Back in Classrooms, On Time](#)

10.1.22 Ontario Ministry of Health

July 21, 2022 - News Release - [COVID-19 Vaccine Bookings to Open For Children Aged Six Months to Under Five Years, COVID-19 Paid Sick Days Extended to March 31, 2023](#)

10.1.23 Ontario Ministry of Health

July 13, 2022 - News Release - [Ontarians Aged 18+ Eligible for Second Booster Shot, Free rapid antigen tests extended to December 31, 2022, including for general public](#)

10.1.24 Ontario Ministry of Health

August 3, 2022 - [News Release - Ontario Introduces French Accents on Health Cards](#)

10.1.25 Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

July 26, 2022 - News Release - [Ontario Providing More Supportive Housing in Windsor, Province investing \\$1.8 million to building housing units for vulnerable populations](#)

10.1.26 Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

August 2, 2022 - News Release - [Canada and Ontario support housing for vulnerable youth in Windsor](#)

10.1.27 Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

July 26, 2022 - News Release - [Ontario Creates Supportive Housing in Windsor, Province investing over \\$3 million to support vulnerable populations at risk or experiencing homelessness](#)

10.1.28 Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

July 28, 2022 - News Release - [Canada and Ontario Taking Further Action to Grow and Sustain the Agri-Food Workforce, Governments addressing agri-food labour challenges to strengthen food security and supply chains](#)

10.1.29 Ontario Premier's Office

August 3, 2022 - [News Release - Ontario Training More Workers for In Demand Careers in Auto Manufacturing Free Program Will Help 500 People Start Better Jobs and Earn Bigger Paycheques](#)

10.1.30 Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

July 28, 2022 - [AMO Watchfile Online](#)

10.1.31 Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

August 3, 2022 - [AMO Policy Update – Mental Health and Addictions Submission and Automated Camera-Based Enforcement Guidance Released](#)

10.1.32 Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

August 4, 2022 - [AMO Watchfile Online](#)

10.1.33 Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

August 4, 2022 - [AMO Policy Update - High-Speed Internet Access Announcement](#)

10.2 Resolutions

There were no resolutions for the consideration of Council for August 10, 2022.

11. Consent Agenda

183-2022

Moved By Marc Bondy

Seconded By Tom Bain

That the recommendations in the Administrative Reports listed as item(s) 11.1, on the Consent Agenda for August 10, 2022, be approved.

Carried

11.1. Approval of Invoices - Legal and Consulting Services

Report number 2022-0810-LCS-R19-DS, Approval of Invoices, Legal and Consulting Services, dated August 10, 2022, from David Sundin, County Solicitor

12. Reports and Questions

12.1. Housing and Homelessness Initiatives Update

Report number 2022-0810-LCS-R17-MB, Housing and Homelessness Initiatives Update, dated August 10, 2022, from Mary Birch, Director, Legislative and Community Services/Clerk

181-2022

Moved By Mark Carrick

Seconded By Richard Meloche

That Essex County Council receive Report #2022-0810-LCS-R018-MB regarding Housing and Homelessness Initiatives Updates, for information.

Carried

12.2. Vacancies Created by Resignation of Kingsville Mayor

Report number 2022-0810-LCS-R20-MB, Vacancies Created by Resignation of Kingsville Mayor, dated August 10, 2022, from Mary Birch, Director, Legislative and Community Services/Clerk

Mary Birch provided the report to Council outlining the positions vacated by the resignation of Kingsville Mayor, Nelson Santos. Ms. Birch noted that the Town of Kingsville had resolved on August 8, 2022 that Deputy Mayor Gord Queen would attend County Council meetings as acting Mayor and Tony Gaffan would attend as the alternate member representing the Town.

Ms. Birch explained that due to the forthcoming municipal election the seats left vacant would be assigned as follows for the remainder of this term of Council:

- If it were necessary for someone to fill in for the Warden, a member of County Council would be selected to be Presiding Officer for the meeting.
- The Tourism Windsor-Essex Pelee Island (TWEPI) board seat will remain vacant.
- The County of Essex Striking Committee seat will remain vacant.

The Essex County Library Board requires balanced representation throughout the term from each municipality; therefore as the representative for Kingsville, Gord Queen will assume the position on the Essex County Library Board for the remainder of the term.

184-2022

Moved By Marc Bondy

Seconded By Tom Bain

That Essex County Council appoint Deputy Mayor Gord Queen to the Essex County Library Board for the balance of this term of Council; and further that the vacant position of Deputy Warden, vacant County position on TWEPI, and vacant position on the Essex County Striking Committee remain vacant for the balance of the term of Council.

Carried

12.3. Restricted Acts of Council - Election Cycle 2022

Report number 2022-0810-LCS-R018-MB, Restricted Acts of Council - Election Cycle 2022, dated August 10, 2022 from Mary Birch, Director, Legislative and Community Services/Clerk

Mary Birch provided the report to Council regarding the ability under the Municipal Act to delegate the authority of Council in the event there are less than three quarters of the current Council eligible to return to Council after the nomination day or the municipal election. Based on retirement notifications of current members received to date, it was determined at this time that the Essex County Council would be required to enact a by-law to address restricted acts of council if they wished to conduct business prohibited by a lame duck Council.

Ms. Birch explained the proposed by-law ensured the continuity of business by delegating a specific list of authorities to the CAO, Mike Galloway or an alternate in his absence.

185-2022

Moved By Michael Prue

Seconded By Marc Bondy

That, provisional upon Essex County Council being subject to the restricted acts of Council set out in Section 275 (3) of The Municipal Act, 2001 as amended, following nomination day, Essex County Council delegates approval authority for the period August 19, 2022 to November 23, 2022 to the Chief Administrative Officer, or in his absence the Acting Chief Administrative Officer in approving the following acts:

1. appointment or removal of any Officer (Department Head) of the County of Essex
2. disposition of real property owned by the County of Essex
3. unbudgeted expenditures or liabilities of the County of Essex exceeding \$50,000.

And further that Administration will report to Essex County Council any use of this delegated authority at the first regular County Council meeting of the new term.

Carried

13. Unfinished Business

There was no Unfinished Business for August 10, 2022.

14. New Business

There was no New Business for August 10, 2022.

15. Adoption of By-Laws

186-2022

Moved By Aldo DiCarlo

Seconded By Larry Verbeke

That By-law 2022-25 through 2022-26, for August 10, 2022, having been read a first, second and third time, be finally passed and enacted.

Carried

15.1. By-law Number 2022-25

Being a By-law to Authorize the Delegation of Authority to the Chief Administrative Officer for Certain Duties During Restricted Periods

15.2. By-law Number 2022-26

Being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the County of Essex for August 10, 2022.

16. Notice of Motion

There were no Notices of Motion for August 10, 2022.

17. Adjournment

187-2022

Moved By Tracey Bailey

Seconded By Joe Bachetti

That the Essex County Council meeting for August 10, 2022 be adjourned at 8:52 PM.

Carried

Gary McNamara

Warden - County of Essex

Mary Birch

Director, Legislative and Community Services/Clerk

Date Signed