



## Township of Essa Council Meeting Minutes

---

A Council meeting was held in person on Wednesday June 3, 2026, in the Council Chambers of the Administration Centre.

In attendance: Mayor Macdonald  
Deputy Mayor Smith  
Councillor Kiezebrink  
Councillor Sander  
Councillor Maltby

Staff in Attendance: Michael Mikael, Chief Administrative Officer  
Debbie Dollmaier, Manager of Treasury  
John Kolb, Manager of Public Works  
Lisa Lehr, Manager of Automated Speed Enforcement  
Pedro Granes, Chief Building Official  
Samuel Haniff, Manager of Planning  
Sarah Corbett, Deputy Clerk  
Krista Pascoe, Manager of Legislative Services/Clerk

### **1. OPENING OF THE MEETING BY THE MAYOR**

Mayor Macdonald opened the meeting at 6:49 p.m.

### **2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

None.

### **3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

#### **Resolution:**

Moved by Councillor Kiezebrink, Seconded by Councillor Sander

Be It Resolved That the motions duly passed and approved at the Committee of the Whole meeting of this date be approved; and

That the minutes of the Committee of the Whole, Council and Closed Session meetings held on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2026 be adopted as circulated. Motion Carried.

### **4. CONSENT AGENDA**

#### **Resolution:**

Moved by Councillor Maltby, Seconded by Councillor Kiezebrink

Be It Resolved That the items listed in the Consent Agenda dated June 3, 2026, be received for information. Motion Carried.

## 5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Resolution:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Smith, Seconded by Councillor Sander

Be It Resolved That the minutes of the Essa Public Library Board from its meeting of April 27, 2026, and the minutes of the Traffic Advisory Committee from its meeting on May 5, 2026 be received as presented. Motion Carried.

## 6. PETITIONS

No items.

## 7. MOTIONS AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS

### a) Proclamation – Hope Air Day

#### Resolution:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Smith, Seconded by Councillor Kiezebrink

Whereas, access to healthcare is a fundamental right for all citizens, regardless of their geographic location; and

Whereas, Hope Air, a charitable organization, has been tirelessly dedicated to providing access to healthcare by facilitating free flights and other services for patients living in rural and under-served communities in Ontario, ensuring they can receive vital medical treatment regardless of distance or financial means; and

Whereas, Hope Air has been instrumental in bridging the gap between smaller communities and hospitals far from home, reducing the barriers that often prevent individuals from reaching medical care; and

Whereas, the impact of Hope Air extends beyond the individual patients served, positively affecting families, communities, and the healthcare system as a whole by promoting wellness and reducing the burden of untreated medical conditions; and

Whereas, the compassion, dedication, and commitment demonstrated by Hope Air and its volunteers embody the spirit of community and the belief in the inherent value of every individual's well-being; and

Now therefore be it resolved that by the Council of the Township of Essa that June 6th, 2026, shall be known as "Hope Air Day" in recognition of the invaluable contributions made by Hope Air to the health and well-being of individuals in Ontario's remote and rural communities.

And further, we urge all citizens to join us in celebrating Hope Air Day and to reflect on the significance of ensuring equitable access to healthcare for all members of our society. Let us reaffirm our commitment to supporting initiatives that promote health equity and extend our gratitude to Hope Air for their unwavering dedication to serving those in need. Motion Carried.

**b) Proclamation – World Elder Awareness Day**

**Resolution:**

Moved by Councillor Sander, Seconded by Deputy Mayor Smith

Whereas the Township of Essa's older adults deserve to be treated with respect and dignity and valued as contributing members of society, imparting a wealth of experience and wisdom in our communities; and

Whereas the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, in support of the United Nations International Plan of Action, proclaimed this day to recognize the significance of elder abuse as a public health and human rights issue; and

Whereas the Township of Essa recognizes the importance of taking action to invest in creating social change, to prioritize the prevention of elder abuse and raise awareness to foster a better understanding of abuse and neglect of older adults and their rights; and

Whereas elder abuse has a significant impact on the lives of older adults and families and is not limited to race, gender, culture, or circumstance, regardless of whether the abuse is physical, emotional, sexual, financial or neglect; and

Whereas ageism and social isolation are major causes of elder abuse in Ontario; and

Whereas it is recognized that it is up to all of us, as citizens, organizations, communities, and governments, to work collectively to prevent violence and abuse of older adults in their homes and communities; and

Whereas preventing abuse of older adults through improving and maintaining social and health services and systems such as housing, income security, and safety will improve their quality of life and allow them to live independently and contribute to the vibrancy of Ontario; and

Whereas there is respect for human rights, equality, and justice there can be no abuse; therefore, all the Township of Essa residents are urged to join this global movement to promote the Rights of Older Adults and Stop Abuse and Restore Respect;

Now therefore be it resolved that Council of the Corporation of the Township of Essa hereby proclaims June 15, 2026, as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, and encourages all residents to recognize and celebrate seniors and their ongoing contributions to the success and vitality of our province. Motion Carried.

**c) Proclamation – Seniors Month**

**Resolution:**

Moved by Councillor Maltby, Seconded by Councillor Kiezebrink

Whereas Seniors Month is an annual province-wide celebration; and

Whereas Seniors have contributed to and continue to contribute immensely to the life and vibrancy of this municipality; and

Whereas Seniors continue to serve as leaders, mentors, volunteers, and important and active members of the community; and

Whereas contributions from seniors past and present warrant appreciation and recognition, and their stories deserve to be told; and

Whereas the health and well being of seniors is in the interest of all, and further adds to the health and well-being of the community; and

Whereas the knowledge and experience seniors pass on to others continues to benefit us all;

Now therefore be it resolved that Council of the Corporation of the Township of Essa hereby proclaims the month of June as "Seniors Month" and encourages all citizens to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of our seniors. Motion Carried.

**d) Notice of Motion – Park Signage**

**\*Item to be discussed and voted on at the June 29, 2026, Council Meeting.**

Be It Resolved that Council approve the re-naming of the front directional sign at Utopia Park from Utopia Soccer Pitch to "Coulson Utopia Soccer Pitch"; and

That a new sign be erected inside the fields, using the standard wooden park signage that reads "Coulson Utopia Athletic Field".

**8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

No items.

**9. BY-LAWS**

- a) **By-law 2026-23 – Amendment to By-law 2026-19 – Feeding of Wildlife**
- b) **By-law 2026-24 – Transient Trader By-law Amendment**

**Resolution:**

Moved by Councillor Sander, Seconded by Deputy Mayor Smith

Be It Resolved That By-laws 2026-23 as amended, and 2026-24 be read a first, and taken a second and third time and finally passed. Motion Carried as amended.

**10. QUESTIONS**

None.

**11. CLOSED SESSION**

**Resolution:**

Moved by Councillor Kiezebrink, Seconded by Councillor Maltby

Be It Resolved That Council proceed to a Closed Session in order to address matters pertaining to:

**a) Confidential verbal update from the Chief Administrative Officer, re: South Simcoe Strategy**

- Plans and Instructions for Negotiation (s.239(2)(k))
- Information (s.239(2)(j)). Motion Carried.

Motion to Rise and Report from the Closed Session Meeting of June 3, 2026.

**Resolution:**

Moved by Councillor Kiezebrink, Seconded by Councillor Maltby

Be It Resolved That Council rise and report from the Closed Session Meeting at 7:22 p.m. Motion Carried.

**a) Confidential verbal update from the Chief Administrative Officer, re: South Simcoe Strategy**

**Resolution:**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Smith, Seconded by Councillor Maltby

Be It Resolved That confidential verbal update from the CAO be received. Motion Carried.

**12. CONFIRMATORY BY-LAW**

**Resolution:**

Moved by Councillor Kiezebrink, Seconded by Councillor Maltby

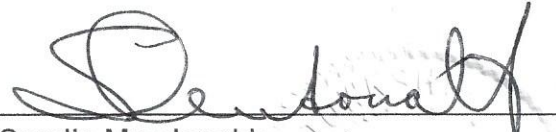
Be It Resolved That leave be granted to introduce By-law 2026-25, that being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Committee of the Whole, Closed Session and Council meetings held on this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June, 2026; and, that said By-law be read a first, and taken as read a second and third time and finally passed. Motion Carried.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

**Resolution:**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Smith, Seconded by Councillor Sander

Be It Resolved That this meeting of Council of the Township of Essa Adjourn at 7:24 p.m. Motion Carried.



Sandie Macdonald,  
Mayor



Krista Pascoe, Manager of Legislative  
Services/Clerk