

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESSA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2024**

MINUTES

A Regular Council meeting was held in person on Wednesday November 20, 2024, in the Council Chambers at the Administration Centre located at 5786 County Road 21, Utopia.

In attendance: Mayor Sandie Macdonald
Councillor Pieter Kiezebrink
Councillor Liana Maltby
Councillor Henry Sander

Regrets: Deputy Mayor Michael Smith

Staff in attendance: Michael Mikael, Chief Administrative Officer
Lisa Lehr, Manager of Legislative Services
John Kolb, Manager of Public Works (Interim)
Samuel Haniff, Manager of Planning
Pedro Granes, Chief Building Official

1. OPENING OF MEETING BY THE MAYOR

Mayor Macdonald opened the meeting at 6:16 p.m.

2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None.

3. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES AND MOTIONS

Resolution No: CR170-2024 Moved by: Kiezebrink Seconded by: Maltby

***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, Regular Council and Closed Session meetings held on the 6th day of November, 2024 be adopted as circulated.*

---Carried---

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution No: CR171-2024 Moved by: Sander Seconded by: Kiezebrink

***BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the items listed in the Consent Agenda dated November 20, 2024, be received for information.*

---Carried---

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

6. PETITIONS

7. MOTIONS AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS

a. Notice of Motion – Fair Share of Provincial and Federal Government
Financial Support

Resolution No: CR172-2024 Moved by: Sander Seconded by: Kiezebrink

WHEREAS municipalities face growing infrastructure needs, including roads, bridges, public transit, water systems, and other critical services, which are essential to community well-being and economic development; and

WHEREAS the current sources of municipal revenue, including property taxes and user fees, are insufficient to meet these increasing demands for infrastructure investment; and

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario currently collects the Land Transfer Tax (LTT) on property transactions in municipalities across the province, generating significant revenue that is not directly shared with municipalities; and

WHEREAS the Federal Government collects the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on property transactions, a portion of which could be directed to municipalities to address local infrastructure needs; and

WHEREAS redistributing a portion of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to municipalities would provide a predictable and sustainable source of funding for local infrastructure projects without creating a new tax burden on residents or homebuyers; and

WHEREAS a redistribution of a portion of the existing Land Transfer Tax and GST would allow municipalities to better plan and invest in long-term infrastructure initiatives, supporting local economic growth and improving the quality of life for residents;

***NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council of the Township of Essa formally requests the Provincial Government to consider redistributing a portion of the Land Transfer Tax collected on property transactions to municipalities; and further,*

***THAT** Council of the Township of Essa calls on the Federal Government to allocate a percentage of the GST collected on property sales to municipalities; and*

***THAT** this redistribution of the Land Transfer Tax and GST be structured to provide predictable and sustainable funding to municipalities, allowing for better long-term planning and investment in infrastructure projects that benefit local communities, thus ensuring that local governments receive a fair share of the revenue to address critical infrastructure needs; and*

***THAT** copies of this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local Members of Parliament (MPs) and Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs); and*

***THAT** copies of this resolution be forwarded to all 444 Municipalities in Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy.*

---Carried---

b. Proclamation – International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women – November 25, 2024

Resolution No: CR173-2024 Moved by: Maltby Seconded by: Sander

WHEREAS November is Woman Abuse Prevention Month and November 25th is the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women; and
WHEREAS violence is the greatest gender inequality rights issue for women, girls and gender-diverse individuals, and our community is committed to ending femicide and all forms of gender-based violence; and
WHEREAS Femicide rates are on the rise in Ontario with over 52 femicides in Ontario since November 26th, 2023; and
WHEREAS on average every 6 days a woman or child lost their life due to men's violence last year in Ontario; and
WHEREAS Indigenous, Black, South Asian and South East Asian women and girls continue to experience high rates of violence, including femicide, on the 2022-2023 Ontario Femicide List; and
WHEREAS this month and throughout the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, we acknowledge our community's support of the "Wrapped in Courage" campaign and commitment to ending gender-based violence; and
WHEREAS there is an urgent need for greater investment and action to end gender-based violence in our community and throughout Ontario by all three levels of Government; and
WHEREAS a "Wrapped in Courage" campaign flag will be raised in November during Woman Abuse Prevention Month to recognize that the courage of a woman alone is not enough and that it takes an entire community to end gender-based violence;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Township of Essa hereby proclaims and declares that November 25th, 2024 shall be known as "The International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women" and urge all citizens to recognize this day by taking action to support survivors and become part of Ontario-wide efforts to end gender-based violence.

---Carried---

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

9. BY-LAWS

- a. By-law 2024-53 – A By-law to Delegate Authority to the CAO and Clerk for execution of Sub-Client Agreements for the ASE JPC.
- b. By-law 2024-54 – A By-law to enter into an agreement with Global Traffic Group for Automated Speed Enforcement.

Resolution No: CR174-2024 Moved by: Sander Seconded by: Maltby

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-laws 2024-53 and 2024-54 be read a first, and taken as read a second and third time and finally passed.

---Carried---

10. QUESTIONS

11. **CLOSED SESSION**

12. **CONFIRMATION BY-LAW**

By-law 2024-55

Resolution No: CR175-2024 Moved by: Kiezebrink Seconded by: Maltby

***BE IT RESOLVED THAT** leave be granted to introduce By-law 2024-55, that being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Committee of the Whole, Council meetings held on this 20th day of November, 2024; and, that said By-law be read a first, and taken as read a second and third time and finally passed.*

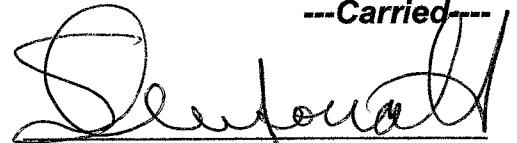
---Carried---

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

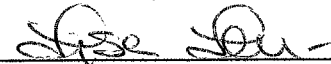
Resolution No: CR176-2024 Moved by: Sander Seconded by: Maltby

***BE IT RESOLVED THAT** this meeting of Council of the Township of Essa adjourn at 6:21 p.m. to meet again on the 4th day of December, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.*

---Carried---



Sandie Macdonald
Mayor



Lisa Lehr
Manager of Legislative Services