

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

MINUTES

The Regular Meeting of Council was held in person on Wednesday March 20, 2024, following the Committee of the Whole in the Council Chambers of the Administration Centre, Township of Essa.

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

Staff in attendance: M. Mikael, Interim CAO/Manager of Public Works(Left at 6:37 p.m.)
C. Rankin, Manager of Parks and Recreation (Left at 6:35 p.m.)
S. Haniff, Manager of Planning (Left at 6:35 p.m.)
S. Corbett, Deputy Clerk (Left at 6:35 p.m.)
L. Lehr, Manager of Legislative Services

1. OPENING OF MEETING BY THE MAYOR

Mayor Macdonald opened the meeting at 6:28 p.m.

2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

3. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES AND MOTIONS

Resolution No: CR050-2024 Moved by: Sander 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, and Regular Council meetings held on the 6th day of March, 2024 be adopted as circulated.*

----Carried-----

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution No: CR051-2024 Moved by: Maltby Seconded by: Sander

***BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the items listed in the Consent Agenda dated March 20th, 2024, be received for information; and
THAT Items A2, A4, A5 and A11(a) be referred to section B for staff action.*

----Carried-----

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

6. PETITIONS

7. MOTIONS AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS

a. Federal Infrastructure Funding Not Keeping Pace with Population Growth

Resolution No: CR052-2024 Moved by: Sander Seconded by: Smith

WHEREAS, Canada is experiencing record population growth, having welcomed 1.25 million new Canadians last year alone; and

WHEREAS, According to the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) we need to build at least 3.5 million additional homes by 2030, and municipalities need to build or expand the infrastructure to accommodate this growth; and

WHEREAS, FCM has estimated that the cost of the municipal infrastructure required support housing development is, on average, in the range of \$107,000 per unit; and

WHEREAS, According to Statistics Canada the cost of upgrade existing municipal infrastructure so that it is in a state of good repair is in the range of \$170 billion; and

WHEREAS, Non-residential construction price inflation has risen by 29% since the end of 2020 and municipalities are facing soaring costs for infrastructure project without a corresponding growth in revenue; and

WHEREAS, Unlike federal and provincial revenue, municipal tax revenue has not increased in recent years along with inflation, economic growth or population growth; and

WHEREAS, Municipalities are facing a gap in federal infrastructure funding as the 10-year Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program has come to an end, the Canada Community-Building Fund is being renegotiated and the Permanent Public Transit Fund is set to start in 2026; and

WHEREAS, The Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF), which was formerly known as the federal Gas Tax Fund, provides more than \$2billion in annual capital funding directly to municipalities through a predictable allocation mechanism, and municipalities of all sizes use the CCBF to deliver direct results for Canadians by building and renewing critical core public infrastructure, including water infrastructure, local roads, public transit and community, and cultural and recreational facilities;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the federal government work with agreement signatories and municipalities to maintain the CCBF as a source of direct, predictable, long-term funding for local infrastructure priorities; and

THAT the federal government commit, in Budget 2024, to the next generation of infrastructure programs, including a new program for water and wastewater infrastructure and an increase to the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund; and

THAT the federal government convene provinces, territories and municipalities to negotiate a "Municipal Growth Framework" to modernize the way that municipalities are funded in order to enable Canada's long-term growth.

----Carried-----

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

9. **BY-LAWS**

- a. **By-law 2024-18 – A By-law to amend Essa’s Automated Speed Enforcement Administrative Monetary Penalty Program.**

Resolution No: CR053-2024 Moved by: Maltby Seconded by: Sander

***BE IT RESOLVED** that By-law 2024-18 be read a first, and taken as read a second and third time and finally passed.*

----Carried----

10. **QUESTIONS**

11. **CLOSED SESSION**

Resolution No: CR054-2024 Moved by: Kiezebrink Seconded by: Sander

***BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council proceed to a Closed Session in order to address matters pertaining to:*

- a) **Confidential Staff Report CAO005-24, re: Staffing.**
- *Personal Matters About an Identifiable Individual [s.239(2)(b)]*
 - *Labour Relations or Employee Negotiations [s.239(2)(d)]*
- b) **Confidential Verbal Update from Mayor Macdonald and Deputy Mayor Smith, re: Staffing.**
- *Personal Matters About an Identifiable Individual [s.239(2)(b)]*
 - *Labour Relations or Employee Negotiations [s.239(2)(d)]*

----Carried----

Council proceeded into Closed Session deliberations at 6:35 p.m.

Motion to Rise and Report from Closed Session Meeting of March 20, 2024.

***BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council rise and report from the Closed Session Meeting at 7:03 p.m.*

- a. **PERSONAL MATTERS ABOUT AN IDENTIFIABLE INDIVIDUAL [s.239(2)(b)]
LABOUR RELATIONS OR EMPLOYEE NEGOTIATIONS [s.239(2)(d)]
Confidential Staff Report CAO005-24 submitted by Interim CAO, re:
Staffing.**

Resolution No: CR055-2024 Moved by: Kiezebrink Seconded by: Maltby

***BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Confidential Staff Report CAO005-24 be received: and **THAT** Council direct Staff in accordance with Option 2 as contained within the confidential report.*

----Carried----

- b. **PERSONAL MATTERS ABOUT AN IDENTIFIABLE INDIVIDUAL [s.239(2)(b)]
LABOUR RELATIONS OR EMPLOYEE NEGOTIATIONS [s.239(2)(d)]
Confidential Verbal Update from Mayor Macdonald and Deputy Mayor
Smith, re: Staffing.**

Resolution No: CR056-2024 Moved by: Smith Seconded by: Maltby

***BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the verbal update provided by the Mayor
and Deputy Mayor regarding staffing be received: and
THAT the Mayor be authorized to proceed as directed by Council.*

----Carried----

12. **CONFIRMATION BY-LAW**

By-law 2024-19

Resolution No: CR057-2024 Moved by: Smith Seconded by: Maltby

***BE IT RESOLVED THAT** leave be granted to introduce By-law 2024-19, that being a
By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Committee of the Whole, Closed and Council
meetings held on this 20th day of March, 2024; and, that said By-law be read a first, and
taken as read a second and third time and finally passed.*

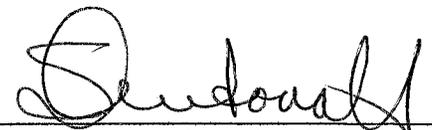
----Carried----

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

Resolution No: CR058-2024 Moved by: Smith Seconded by: Maltby

***BE IT RESOLVED THAT** this meeting of Council of the Township of Essa adjourn at
7:05 p.m. to meet again on the 3rd day of April, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.*

----Carried----



Sandie Macdonald
Mayor



Lisa Lehr
Manager of Legislative Services