



EAST ZORRA-TAVISTOCK

Regular Meeting of Council

Minutes

August 7, 2024, 9:00 a.m.
Council Chambers
89 Loveys Street East
Hickson, Ontario, N0J 1L0

Members Present: Mayor Phil Schaefer
Deputy Mayor Brad Smith
Councillor Scott Rudy
Councillor Steven Van Wyk
Councillor Scott Zehr
Councillor Matthew Gillespie
Councillor Jeremy Smith

Staff Present: CAO-Treasurer Karen DePrest
Clerk Will Jaques
Corporate Initiatives Officer/Deputy Clerk Meaghan Vader
Public Works Manager Tom Lightfoot
Fire Chief Scott Alexander

1. Call to Order and Opening Remarks

Mayor Schaefer welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Councilor Jeremy Smith noted that Domestic Abuse Services Oxford celebrated their 50th anniversary in June and that this month they are fundraising through a 50/50 raffle. Also noted was that United Way Oxford is running their annual supplies for students campaign to provide back to school supplies for students in Oxford County.

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Brad Smith
Seconded by: Scott Zehr

Resolved that Council approve the agenda for the August 7, 2024 meeting as printed and circulated.

CARRIED

3. Disclosure

4. Minutes

a. July 3, 2024 Council Meeting Minutes

Moved by: Jeremy Smith
Seconded by: Steven Van Wyk

Resolved that Council confirm the Minutes of the July 3, 2024, Council Meeting, as printed and circulated.

CARRIED

5. Public Meetings

- a. MVA Application A-2-2024 (2274581 Ontario Inc. (c/o Chrissy Yantzi))

At 9:05 a.m., Council, constituted as the Committee of Adjustment, considered Minor Variance Application #A-2-2024 for 2274581 Ontario Inc. (c/o Chrissy Yantzi). Planner Dustin Robson presented Planning Report #CP2024-235.

Members of the Committee asked questions of the Planner and Staff. The applicant was not present for the hearing application. The Committee considered the comments made in making its decision regarding this application.

Moved by: Scott Zehr

Seconded by: Steven Van Wyk

Resolved that Council, constituted as the Committee of Adjustment, approve Application File A-2-2024, submitted by 2274581 Ontario Inc. for lands described as Lot 9, Plan 41M371 in the Village of Tavistock, being municipally known as 100 Fred Krug Avenue, as it relates to:

1. Relief from Section 12.2, Table 12.2 - Residential Type 1 (R1) Zone Provisions, to increase the maximum lot coverage allowance from 40% to 43.8%.

As the variance requested is considered to be:

- i) in keeping with the general intent and purpose of the Official Plan;
- ii) minor variance from the provisions of the Township of East Zorra-Tavistock Zoning By-Law #2003-18;
- iii) desirable for the appropriate development or use of the land, building or structure; and,
- iv) in keeping with the general intent and purpose of the Township of East Zorra-Tavistock Zoning By-Law #2003-18.

CARRIED

6. Delegations and Appointments

7. Correspondence

- a. ROEDC - April-May 2024 Activity Report

Council reviewed the April-May 2024 Activity Report from the Rural Oxford Economic Development Corporation (ROEDC).

Moved by: Brad Smith

Seconded by: Scott Rudy

Resolved that the correspondence from the Rural Oxford Economic Development Corporation (ROEDC) - April-May 2024 Activity Report - be accepted as information.

CARRIED

b. UTRCA - Lifting the Freeze on Fees

Council reviewed the correspondence from the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA) requesting the Province to reverse their decision on freezing fees that conservation authorities can charge for planning, development and permitting applications.

Moved by: Scott Zehr

Seconded by: Steven Van Wyk

Resolved that the Council for the Township of East Zorra-Tavistock support the request initiated by the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA) with respect to reversing the decision of the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry of Ontario, Graydon Smith, to freeze the fees conservation authorities can charge in regard to planning, development, and permitting fees.

And further that the Mayor of the Township of East Zorra-Tavistock be authorized to sign on to a letter of support prepared on behalf of the elected leaders of the municipalities of the Upper Thames River watershed.

CARRIED

c. Rail Safety Week 2024

Council reviewed the correspondence regarding Rail Safety Week 2024.

Moved by: Steven Van Wyk

Seconded by: Scott Rudy

Resolved that the correspondence regarding Rail Safety Week 2024 be accepted as information.

CARRIED

d. Oxford County - Contract Award (Punkeydoodles Corner Intersection Improvements)

Council reviewed the correspondence from the County of Oxford regarding the contract award for the Punkeydoodles Corner Intersection Improvements.

Moved by: Scott Rudy

Seconded by: Jeremy Smith

Resolved that the correspondence from Oxford County regarding the contract award for Punkeydoodles Corner Intersection Improvements be accepted as information.

CARRIED

- e. Tavistock Agricultural Society - Municipal Significance Request (Fall Fair)

Council reviewed the correspondence from the Tavistock Agricultural Society regarding their proposed Hospitality Area at the annual Tavistock Fall Fair.

Moved by: Brad Smith
Seconded by: Scott Zehr

Resolved that Council designates the Tavistock Fall Fair Hospitality Area as "Municipally Significant".

CARRIED

8. Reports

- a. Staff Report FC2024-01 - Regional Training Centre (RTC)

Fire Chief Scott Alexander reviewed his report with Council regarding Regional Training Centres (RTCs).

Moved by: Matthew Gillespie
Seconded by: Scott Zehr

Resolved that Report #FC2024-01 - RTC, Ontario Fire College Regional Training Centre-Joint municipal initiative, be received as information;

And that the Township of Norwich be authorized to sign the Emergency Services Training and Registration Agreement between the Ontario Fire College and the Corporation of the Township of Norwich on behalf of the Rural Fire Services of Oxford County (Norwich, Blandford-Blenheim, East Zorra-Tavistock, Zorra, South-West Oxford) to establish a Regional Training Centre.

CARRIED

- b. Staff Report HRSC 2024-05 - Township Organizational Chart Policy

Human Resources and Safety Officer Jennifer Albrecht presented her report to Council regarding updating the Township's Organizational Chart.

Moved by: Brad Smith
Seconded by: Steven Van Wyk

Resolved that Council adopt the updated Township Organizational Chart Policy#1.01 V.7.

CARRIED

- c. Councillor Van Wyk - Recreation Advisory Committee (RAC) Updates

Councillor VanWyk provided an update from the June 24, 2024 RAC meeting. Provided an update about the community survey and open houses.

9. By-laws

10. Notice of Motion and New Business

11. Unfinished Business

a. EZTransit

CAO Karen DePrest provided an update on EZTransit.

b. Secondary Plan Project

c. Strategic Plan Project

Council reviewed the draft 2024-2028 Strategic Plan.

Moved by: Scott Zehr

Seconded by: Jeremy Smith

Resolved that Council adopt the 2024-2028 Township Strategic Plan as amended.

CARRIED

d. eScribe

12. Adjourn to Closed to the Public Session

13. Reconvene to Open to the Public Session

14. Confirming

Moved by: Jeremy Smith

Seconded by: Scott Rudy

Resolved that By-law #2024-31 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council held Wednesday August 7, 2024, be read a first, second and third time this 7th day of August, 2024;

And further that the Mayor and Clerk and hereby authorized to sign the same and affix the corporate seal thereto.

CARRIED

15. Adjournment

Moved by: Brad Smith

Seconded by: Scott Zehr

Resolved that Council does now adjourn at 10:16am.

CARRIED

Will Jaques, Clerk

Phil Schaefer, Mayor