



EAST ZORRA-TAVISTOCK

Regular Meeting of Council

Minutes

December 4, 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
Corporate Initiatives Manager/Clerk Meaghan Vader
Community and Recreation Manager Will Jaques
Fire Chief Scott Alexander
Chief Building Official John Scherer
Corporate and Building Services Clerk Ashley Gerencser

1. Call to Order and Opening Remarks

Mayor Schaefer welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Mayor Schaefer provided a reminder that the Purple Bench Campaign's bench unveiling is scheduled today at Stonegate Park in Innerkip at 1:30pm.

Deputy Mayor Smith shared that the Hickson Lions Club had distributed poinsettias as part of their annual fundraiser. He noted that the Lions Club has also donated plants to the nursing homes in Tavistock, the Post Office and Township Administration Building. Deputy Mayor Smith also thanked Mayor Schaefer for his presence and continued attendance of community events.

Councillor Smith acknowledged that we are currently in the midst of the 16 days of activism against gender-based violence in Canada. Councillor Smith shared the actions being taken in Oxford County, including Oxford County's declaration of intimate partner violence and gender-based violence as an epidemic, and the statistics of reported intimate partner violence. Councillor Smith noted Bill S249, An Act respecting national action for the prevention of intimate partner violence is currently in the House of Commons.

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Scott Zehr

Seconded by: Steven Van Wyk

THAT Council approve the agenda for the December 4, 2024 meeting as printed and circulated.

CARRIED

3. Disclosure

4. Minutes

a. November 20, 2024 Council Meeting Minutes

Moved by: Jeremy Smith

Seconded by: Scott Rudy

THAT Council confirm the Minutes of the November 20, 2024, Council Meeting, as amended.

CARRIED

5. Public Meetings

6. Delegations and Appointments

7. Correspondence for Information

8. Correspondence for Action

a. OPP Detachment Billing Increases

THAT Council receive the correspondence from the Municipality of Leamington as information.

Moved by: Brad Smith

Seconded by: Scott Zehr

THAT Council receive the correspondence from the Municipality of Leamington as information.

CARRIED

b. Safe and Well Oxford Steering Committee, re: Ontario's Child Welfare Services sector need for funding

Moved by: Steven Van Wyk

Seconded by: Brad Smith

THAT Council receive the letter from Children's Aid Society of Oxford County and the Township of Zorra as information.

AND THAT Council direct staff to prepare the necessary letter of support as requested by the Children's Aid Society of Oxford County.

CARRIED

9. Reports

a. FC-2024-02 - Quarterly Report

Emergency Services Manager/Fire Chief, Scott Alexander presented his report to Council reviewing the quarterly departmental activity.

Moved by: Steven Van Wyk

Seconded by: Scott Zehr

THAT Report FC-2024-02 be received as information.

CARRIED

b. CIO-2024-11 - 2025 Council Meeting Schedule

Corporate Initiatives Manager/Clerk Meaghan Vader presented her report to Council regarding the 2025 Council Meeting Schedule.

Moved by: Scott Zehr

Seconded by: Jeremy Smith

THAT Report CIO-2024-11 be received as information.

AND THAT Council deviate from Section 3.25 of the Procedural By-law and adopt the 2025 Council meeting schedule as attached to report CIO-2024-11.

AND FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to amend Section 3.25 of the Procedural By-law to adjust the meeting start time of the second monthly meeting to 9:00am.

AND FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to bring the amended By-law to a future meeting of Council for adoption.

For (1): Phil Schaefer

Against (6): Brad Smith, Scott Rudy, Steven Van Wyk, Scott Zehr, Matthew Gillespie, and Jeremy Smith

DEFEATED (1 to 6)

Moved by: Brad Smith

Seconded by: Scott Rudy

THAT Council Report CIO-2024-11 be received as information.

AND THAT Council deviate from Section 3.25 of the Procedural By-law to remove the first meeting of January, and the second meeting of July and August.

For (6): Brad Smith, Scott Rudy, Steven Van Wyk, Scott Zehr, Matthew Gillespie, and Jeremy Smith

Against (1): Phil Schaefer

CARRIED (6 to 1)

10. By-laws
11. Notice of Motion and New Business
12. Unfinished Business
 - a. Secondary Plan
 - b. DEI Inclusion Charter
13. Adjourn to Closed to the Public Session
14. Reconvene to Open to the Public Session
15. Confirming and Adjournment

Moved by: Jeremy Smith

Seconded by: Brad Smith

THAT By-law 2024-47 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council held December 4, 2024, be read a first, second and third time this 4 day of December, 2024;

AND THAT the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the same and affix the corporate seal thereto.

AND FURTHER THAT Council does now adjourn at 9:45am.

CARRIED

Meaghan Vader, Clerk

Phil Schaefer, Mayor