



Essex County Council Special Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 4, 2023

4:00 PM

Council Chambers, 2nd Floor

360 Fairview Avenue West

Essex, Ontario N8M 1Y6

<https://video.isilive.ca/countyofessex/live.html>

Council:	Michael Akpata, Deputy Mayor - Town of LaSalle Joe Bachetti, Deputy Warden / Deputy Mayor - Town of Tecumseh Tracey Bailey, Mayor - Municipality of Lakeshore Sherry Bondy, Mayor - Town of Essex Kimberly DeYong, Deputy Mayor - Town of Kingsville Chris Gibb, Deputy Mayor - Town of Amherstburg Hilda MacDonald, Warden / Mayor - Municipality of Leamington Crystal Meloche, Mayor - Town of LaSalle Michael Prue, Mayor - Town of Amherstburg Dennis Rogers, Mayor - Town of Kingsville Rob Shepley, Deputy Mayor - Town of Essex Larry Verbeke, Deputy Mayor - Municipality of Leamington Kirk Walstedt, Deputy Mayor - Municipality of Lakeshore
Absent:	Gary McNamara, Mayor - Town of Tecumseh
Administration:	Mary Birch, Director, Legislative and Community Services/Clerk Allan Botham, Director, Infrastructure & Planning Services Katherine Hebert, Manager, Records and Accessibility/Deputy Clerk Don McArthur, Manager, Communication and Organizational Development David Sundin, County Solicitor Crystal Sylvestre, Coordinator, Legislative and Community Services

Sandra Zwiers, Chief Administrative Officer
Rebecca Belanger, Manager of Planning Services

1. Call to Order

The special public meeting was held, pursuant to Sections 17 & 22 of the Planning Act, R.S.O., 1990, as amended, for the purposes of obtaining public comments on the proposal to amend the County of Essex Official Plan to incorporate policies that would allow for the County to participate in grant programs of the County of Essex's seven (7) local municipalities that have Community Improvement Plans.

2. Land Acknowledgement Statement

We acknowledge the land on which the County of Essex is located is the traditional territory of the Three Fires Confederacy of First Nations, comprised of the Ojibway, Odawa and Potawatomie Peoples.

We specifically recognize Caldwell First Nation and other First Nations which have provided significant historical and contemporary contributions to this region.

We also value the contributions of all Original Peoples of Turtle Island, who have been living and working on this land from time immemorial.

3. Recording of Attendance

Warden MacDonald and all members of Council attended the meeting at the Essex County Civic Centre, Council Chambers.

Gary McNamara was absent.

Brian Houston attended as an alternate member for the Town of Tecumseh.

4. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

There were no conflicts of pecuniary interest declared.

5. County Warden's Welcome and Remarks

Warden MacDonald welcomed Council, Administration and the viewing public to the Special meeting. The Warden explained that the amendment to the Official Plan would allow the municipalities within the County to maximize their opportunity to attract large scale businesses to the area for the betterment of all.

6. Delegations and Presentations

256-2023

Moved By Joe Bachetti

Seconded By Chris Gibb

That the delegations regarding OPA No.3 - Community Improvement Policies be permitted to address County Council.

Carried

6.1 Invest Windsor Essex

Marion Fantetti, Business Ombudsman, Invest Windsor Essex provided Council with a presentation supporting the exploration and incorporation of Community Improvement Plan (CIP) policies to allow for the County to participate in grant programs with the local tiers.

7. Communications

7.1 Correspondence

258-2023

Moved By Michael Prue

Seconded By Chris Gibb

That the correspondence listed on the special agenda for October 4, 2023, be received and any noted action approved.

Carried

7.1.1 Notice of Complete Application and Virtual Public Meeting

Official Plan Amendment - File Number OPA-03 Community Improvement Plan Policies

7.1.2 Town of Tecumseh

Correspondence supporting Community Improvement Plan Policies OPA Amendment. (See Appendix D under Item 6.1)

7.1.3 Invest Windsor Essex

Correspondence supporting Community Improvement Plan Policies OPA Amendment. (See Appendix E under Item 6.1).

7.1.4 Essex Region Conversation Authority

Correspondence indicating no objections to Community Improvement Plan Policies OPA Amendment. (See Appendix F under Item 6.1)

8. Reports and Questions

8.1 Public Meeting to Hear Comments on County Official Plan Amendment to Update the Community Improvement Plan Policies

Report Number 2023-1004-IPS-R32-RB, Public Meeting to Hear Comments on County Official Plan Amendment to Update the Community Improvement Plan Policies, from Rebecca Belanger, Manager, Planning Services, dated October 4, 2023.

Rebecca Belanger explained the feedback received regarding the amendment to the Official Plan from local municipalities, Essex Region Conservation Authority and Invest WindsorEssex. All of the correspondence supported the amendment.

257-2023

Moved By Larry Verbeke

Seconded By Kimberly DeYong

That Essex County Council receive Report Number 2023-1004-IPS-R32-RB regarding the County Official Plan Amendment Number 3 to update the community improvement plan policies.

Carried

9. Adjournment

259-2023

Moved By Crystal Meloche

Seconded By Michael Akpata

That Essex County Council Special Meeting for October 4, 2023 be adjourned at 4:37 PM.

Carried

Hilda MacDonald

Warden - County of Essex

Mary Birch

Director, Legislative and Community Services/Clerk