

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESSA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JULY 2, 2025**

MINUTES

A Council meeting was held in person on Wednesday July 2, 2025, in the Council Chambers at the Administration Centre located at 5786 County Road 21, Utopia.

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

Staff in attendance: M. Mikael, Chief Administrative Officer
D. Dollmaier, Manager of Finance
P. Granes, Chief Building Official
S. Haniff, Manager of Planning
J. Kolb, Manager of Public Works
C. Rankin, Manager of Parks and Recreation
L. Lehr, Manager of Automated Speed Enforcement

Regrets: S. Corbett, Acting Manager of Legislative Services

1. OPENING OF MEETING BY THE MAYOR

Mayor Macdonald opened the meeting at 6:52 p.m.

2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None.

3. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES AND MOTIONS

Amendment to Committee of the Whole Minutes of June 18, 2025
- Section 11 "Other Business"

Resolution No: CR087-2025 Moved by: Sander Seconded by: Smith

***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 18th day of June, 2025 be adopted as amended.***

---Carried---

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution No: CR088-2025 Moved by: Sander Seconded by: Smith

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the items listed in the Consent Agenda dated July 2, 2025,

be received for information; and

THAT Council approve the request from the Ivy Orange Hall for a donation in the amount of \$2,500.00, with a motion to be brought forward under section 7 for Council's approval.

---Carried---

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Minutes of the Traffic Advisory Committee.

Resolution No: CR089-2025 Moved by: Sander Seconded by: Maltby

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Traffic Advisory Committee from their meeting held on 22nd day of April, 2025, be received.

---Carried---

6. PETITIONS

7. MOTIONS AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS

a. Proclamation – Overdose Awareness Day – August 31, 2025

Resolution No: CR090-2025 Moved by: Smith Seconded by: Kiezebrink

WHEREAS, the Township of Essa does affirm and acknowledge the harm and hardship caused by drug poisonings; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the purpose of International Overdose Awareness Day as remembering loved ones lost to overdose and ending the stigma of drug-related deaths; and

WHEREAS, we resolve to play our part in reducing the toll of overdose in our community, which claimed the lives of 136 (confirmed and probable) residents in Simcoe Muskoka in 2022 which was 22% lower than the 171 in 2021, while recognizing that despite this, 2022 deaths remain substantially higher than what was observed before the pandemic and four of these 136 deaths occurred in the Township of Essa with countless more lives affected forever; and

WHEREAS, we affirm that the people affected by overdose are our sons and daughters, our mothers and fathers, our brothers and sisters, and deserving of our love, compassion and support;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Township of Essa hereby proclaims August 31st, 2025, as Overdose Awareness Day in Essa Township.

---Carried---

b. Proclamation – Fierté Simcoe Pride – August 4 to 15, 2025
(Flag Raising Ceremony - TBD)

Resolution No: CR091-2025 Moved by: Maltby Seconded by: Smith

WHEREAS Fierté Simcoe Pride was formed on May 13, 2012, and its purpose is to

create a safe and inclusive Simcoe County that supports gender and sexual diversity through services, activities and events; and

WHEREAS *the Rainbow Pride Flag is raised to honour gender and sexual diversity in Simcoe County and is a symbol of the Pride movement and the advancement of human rights for sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and sex characteristics; and*

WHEREAS *the colour red signifies life, orange symbolizes healing, yellow symbolizes sunlight, green symbolizes nature, blue symbolizes serenity, peace and harmony; and finally, purple symbolizes spirit; and*

WHEREAS *the mission of Fierté Simcoe Pride is “to create and offer inclusive events, services, and educational opportunities that rise above heterosexism, heteronormativity and homo/bi/transphobia, promoting safe communities within Simcoe County”; and*

WHEREAS *Fierté Simcoe Pride is filled with numerous events and activities that focus on education, awareness, community development, creative expression and fun for the whole family.*

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT *Council of the Corporation of the Township of Essa hereby proclaims August 4 to 15, 2025 as a time to support Fierté Simcoe Pride and the activities of Fierté Simcoe Pride.*

---Carried---

c. Donation to Ivy Orange Hall & Community Centre – AED Station

Resolution No: CR092-2025 Moved by: Sander Seconded by: Smith

BE IT RESOLVED THAT *Council approve a financial donation in the amount of \$2,500.00 to the Ivy Orange Hall and Community Centre, to assist with off-setting costs associated with the purchase and installation of an AED Station; and THAT the \$2,500.00 be taken from the Operating Assistance G/L.*

---Carried---

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

9. BY-LAWS

a. By-law 2025-36 – A By-law to amend By-law 2023-33 (CSZ By-law)

Resolution No: CR093-2025 Moved by: Maltby Seconded by: Kiezebrink

BE IT RESOLVED THAT *By-law 2025-36 be read a first, and taken as read a second and third time and finally passed.*

---Carried---

10. QUESTIONS

11. CLOSED SESSION

Resolution No: CR094-2025 Moved by: Sander Seconded by: Maltby

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

- a. **Confidential Verbal Update from the Chief Administrative Officer re: 152 Greenwood.**
 - *Plans and Instructions for Negotiation (s. 239(2)(k))*
- b. **Confidential Staff Report CAO009-25 from the Chief Administrative Officer re: Staffing Matters (Tax Collector).**
 - *Personal Matters About an Identifiable Individual [s.239(2)(b)]*
 - *Labour Relations or Employee Negotiations (s. 239(2)(d))*
- c. **Confidential Staff Report CAO010-25 from the Chief Administrative Officer re: Potential Litigation – HRTO.**
 - *Personal Matters About an Identifiable Individual [s.239(2)(b)]*
 - *Litigation or Potential Litigation [s.239(2)(e)]*

---Carried---

Council proceeded into Closed Session at 7:02 p.m.

Motion to Rise and Report from Closed Session Meeting of July 2, 2025.

Resolution No: CR095-2025 Moved by: Kiezebrink Seconded by: Maltby

BE IT RESOLVED that Council rise and report from the Closed Session Meeting at 7:18 p.m.

The following items were passed by Council:

- a. ***PLANS AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR NEGOTIATION (s. 239(2)(k))***
Confidential Verbal Update from the Chief Administrative Officer, re: 152 Greenwood.

Resolution No: CR096-2025 Moved by: Kiezebrink Seconded by: Smith

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Confidential verbal update provided by the CAO be received.
---Carried---

- b. ***PERSONAL MATTERS ABOUT AN IDENTIFIABLE INDIVIDUAL [s.239(2)(b)]***
LABOUR RELATIONS OR EMPLOYEE NEGOTIATIONS (s. 239(2)(d))
Confidential Staff Report CAO009 from the Chief Administrative Officer, re: Staffing Matters.

Resolution No: CR097-2025 Moved by: Sander Seconded by: Maltby

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Staff Report CAO009-25 be received; and

THAT Council authorize staff to proceed with Option No. 2 as contained within this Confidential report.

---Carried---

- c. **PERSONAL MATTERS ABOUT AN IDENTIFIABLE INDIVIDUAL [s.239(2)(b)]
LITIGATION OR POTENTIAL LITIGATION (s. 239(2)(e))**
Confidential Staff Report CAO010 from the Chief Administrative Officer,
re: Potential Litigation - HRT0.

Resolution No: CR098-2025 Moved by: Kiezebrink Seconded by: Maltby

*BE IT RESOLVED THAT Staff Report CAO010-25 be received; and
THAT Council authorize staff to proceed with Option No. 2 as contained within this Confidential report.*

---Carried---

12. CONFIRMATION BY-LAW

By-law 2025-37

Resolution No: CR099-2025 Moved by: Maltby Seconded by: Kiezebrink

BE IT RESOLVED THAT leave be granted to introduce By-law 2025-37, that being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Committee of the Whole, and Council meetings held on this 2nd day of July, 2025; and, that said By-law be read a first, and taken as read a second and third time and finally passed

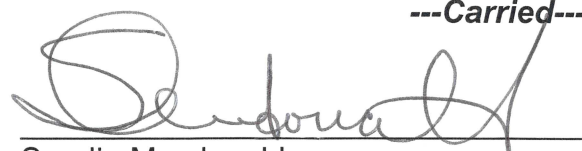
---Carried---

13. ADJOURNMENT


Resolution No: CR100-2025 Moved by: Smith Seconded by: Sander

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this meeting of Council of the Township of Essa adjourn at 7:25 p.m. to meet again on the 3rd day of September, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

---Carried---



Sandie Macdonald
Mayor



Michael Mikael
Chief Administrative Officer