



## Township of Essa Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

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A Committee of the Whole meeting was held in person on Wednesday February 4, 2026, in the Council Chambers of the Administration Centre.

In attendance: Mayor Macdonald  
Deputy Mayor Smith  
Councillor Kiezebrink  
Councillor Sander  
Councillor Maltby

Staff in Attendance: Michael Mikael, Chief Administrative Officer  
Pedro Granes, Chief Building Official  
John Kolb, Manager of Public Works  
Samuel Haniff, Manager of Planning  
Lisa Lehr, Manager of Automated Speed Enforcement  
Sarah Corbett, Deputy Clerk  
Krista Pascoe, Manager of Legislative Services/Clerk

### **1. OPENING OF THE MEETING BY THE MAYOR**

Mayor Macdonald opened the meeting by reading the Indigenous Land Acknowledgement.

Mayor Macdonald offered condolences on behalf of Council to the family and friends of former Councillor Ron Henderson. A moment of silence was held.

### **2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

None.

### **3. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/PUBLIC MEETINGS**

#### **a) Jenna Bendayan, Argo Transit**

Jenna Bendayan, Head of Business Operations, Argo Transit provided a presentation that outlined Argo's transit solutions. She commented that the 18-passenger electric bus is an on demand, point to point service. She outlined that historically; the service has taken 3 months from RFP to implementation.

#### **b) Samuel Haniff, Zoning By-law Amendment**

See separate set of minutes.

### **STAFF REPORTS**

### **4. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**

a) Staff Report PD001-26 submitted by the Manager of Planning, re: New Official Plan – Next Steps and Timing Update

#### **Resolution:**

Moved by Councillor Sander, Seconded by Councillor Kiezebrink

Be It Resolved That Staff Report PD001-26 be received for information. Motion Carried.

## **5. PARKS & RECREATION**

No items.

## **6. FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES**

No items.

## **7. PUBLIC WORKS**

No items.

## **8. FINANCE**

No items.

## **9. AUTOMATED SPEED ENFORCEMENT (ASE)**

- a) **Staff Report A001-26 submitted by the Manager of Automated Speed Enforcement, re: Red Light Camera Program**

### **Resolution:**

Moved by Councillor Kiezebrink, Seconded by Councillor Maltby

Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Essa hereby receive report A001-26; and

That Council authorize staff to further proceed with the implementation of a Red Light Camera (RLC) Program within the Township of Essa utilizing Global Traffic Group Ltd. as the vendor; and

That Council direct staff to negotiate and prepare a draft agreement with Global Traffic Group Ltd., including scope, financial terms, and operational requirements, for presentation to Council for consideration at a future meeting.

That Council authorize staff to proceed with a Smart Intersection Pilot project at one (1) signalized intersection, at no cost to the Township of Essa, for a time-limited evaluation period. Motion Carried as amended.

## **10. CLERKS/BY-LAW ENFORCEMENT/IT**

- a) **Staff Report C003-26 submitted by the Manager of Legislative Services, re: After Hours Canine Control**

### **Resolution:**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Smith, Seconded by Councillor Maltby

Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Essa hereby receive Staff Report C003-26; and

That Council approve entering into an After-Hours Canine Control Agreement with Ontario Animal Control, effective April 1, 2026, to March 31, 2029, with an automatic re-new for an additional 3 years. Motion Carried.

## 11. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

- a) **Staff Report CAO001-26 submitted by the Chief Administrative Officer, re:  
Review of the Mileage Rate**

### **Resolution:**

Moved by Councillor Sander, Seconded by Deputy Mayor Smith

Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Essa hereby receive report CAO001-26;  
and

That Council approve increasing the mileage rate for staff using their personal vehicles to conduct Township business from the current \$0.72 per km to \$0.73 per km due to the increase in expenses associated with operating such vehicles and in accordance with the Department of Finance Canada. Motion Carried.

## 12. OTHER BUSINESS

- 1) Mayor Macdonald advised Council that they were in receipt of a request from Angus Morrison Elementary School requesting to host 3-6 local food truck vendors for their 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration in the fall of 2026. Council brought forward the following motion:

### **Resolution:**

Moved by Councillor Kiezebrink, Seconded by Councillor Maltby

Be It Resolved That Council support the request of Angus Morrison Elementary School Parent Council to host 3-6 local food truck vendors for their 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration in the fall of 2026. Motion Carried.

- 2) Mayor Macdonald advised that the annual Essa Mayor's Charity Golf Tournament will be held on June 2, 2026 at Bear Creek Golf Course, more details to come.
- 3) Mayor Macdonald advised that the Essa Public Library will be hosting Nacho Average Trivia Night on March 5, 2026 at 7 p.m. and encouraged everyone to participate.
- 4) Mayor Macdonald advised that the Nottawasaga Futures AgKnowledge Forum will be held on February 27, 2026 at 8:30 a.m. at the Gibson Centre in Alliston.
- 5) Mayor Macdonald advised that the Essa Historical Society will be hosting a Community BBQ in June, more details to come.
- 6) Mayor Macdonald advised that the County of Simcoe Warden's FunSpiel will be held on March 27, 2026.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

**Resolution:**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Smith, Seconded by Councillor Sander

Be It Resolved That this meeting of Committee of the Whole of the Township of Essa  
Adjourn at 6:55 p.m. Motion Carried.



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Sandie Macdonald,  
Mayor



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Krista Pascoe, Manager of Legislative  
Services/Clerk