



Township of Essa Council Meeting Minutes

A Council meeting was held in person on Wednesday April 15, 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
Chris Rankin, Manager of Parks and Recreation
Deborah Dollmaier, Manager of Finance
Pedro Granes, Chief Building Official
Rachele Brown, Deputy Chief Building Official
Owen Curnew, Development Planner
Samuel Haniff, Manager of Planning
Sarah Corbett, Deputy Clerk
Krista Pascoe, Manager of Legislative Services/Clerk

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING BY THE MAYOR

Mayor Macdonald opened the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

No items.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolution:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Smith, Seconded by Councillor Sander

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, Council and Closed Session meetings held on the 4th day of March, 2026 be adopted as circulated. Motion Carried.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution:

Moved by Councillor Maltby, Seconded by Councillor Sander

Be It Resolved That the items listed in the Consent Agenda dated April 15, 2026, be received for information; and

That item 1.3 and 1.11 be referred to staff for action. Motion Carried.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Resolution:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Smith, Seconded by Councillor Maltby

Be It Resolved That the minutes of the Essa Public Library Board from its meetings of January 26, 2026 and February 23, 2026, be received as presented. Motion Carried.

6. PETITIONS

No items.

7. MOTIONS ANDNOTICES OF MOTIONS

a) Proclamation – World Autism Day 2026

Resolution:

Moved by Councillor Sander, Seconded by Councillor Maltby

Whereas World Autism Day is recognized on April 2, 2026, in Canada. Autism Ontario is one of the largest collective voices representing the autism community, and the work we do helps all autistic individuals and families in their communities have access to meaningful support, information, and connections - not only on April 2 but every day throughout the year; and

Whereas Autism impacts more than 135,000 individuals in Ontario, representing 1 in every 50 Canadian children and youth. It not only influences the lives of autistics but also their friends, families, and communities. It's crucial for us to raise awareness, and acceptance, provide support and promote a more inclusive society; and

Whereas Autism is a diverse spectrum that varies widely among individuals. Each person's experience with autism can change over time. This evolving journey highlights the uniqueness of every autistic individual, emphasizing the need for understanding and support tailored to their specific needs; and

Whereas Autism Ontario is the leading source of information and referral on autism, and since 1973, has been providing support, information, and opportunities for thousands of families and individuals across the province; and

Whereas Autism Ontario is devoted to raising public awareness about autism and addressing the everyday challenges faced by individuals with autism, their families, and the professionals who work alongside them. We urge everyone to recognize and celebrate the unique differences and needs of others, fostering an inclusive environment where all individuals can participate fully in activities and discussions. Together, we can create a society that values and includes everyone.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Essa hereby proclaim April 2nd as World Autism Day while committing to embrace awareness and acceptance today and every day throughout the year. Motion Carried.

b) Proclamation – Human Values Day 2026

Resolution:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Smith, Seconded by Councillor Maltby

Whereas raising and increasing the awareness of the basic Human Values of truth, right conduct, peace, love and non violence, as well as all the multiple sub values like honesty, integrity, kindness and caring in the Township of Essa is a primary goal of this wonderful Township;

Whereas these values are inherent in all creeds, countries, cultures and communities, making these values truly “Values without Borders”,

Whereas making the Township of Essa ‘A Township of Character’ is for the greatest benefits of all our citizens;

Whereas reducing and even erasing the incidents of violence of all types in our communities and our Township will bring peace and progress in all aspects and activities of this Township;

Whereas unlike other walks, Walk for Values is not a fundraiser, but a way to make the Township richer and healthier by pledging our commitment to practice these human values and be motivated to serve our community through volunteer work, or by donating blood or food for the needy;

Whereas Walk for Values is designed to raise the awareness of Human Values and to promote individual responsibility towards the collective future of humanity. Walk for Values is a platform to educate people on the importance of practicing these five human Values in daily life and the awareness it creates in the making of enlightened citizens for universal peace;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Essa hereby proclaim April 24, 2026 as “Human Values Day” in the Township of Essa. Motion Carried.

c) Notice of Motion – Angus Royal Canadian Legion Request

Resolution:

Moved by Councillor Kiezebrink, Seconded by Councillor Maltby

Be It Resolved that Council approve the Angus Royal Canadian Legions request to allow Food Trucks at their 100th Anniversary Celebration taking place on July 18th, 2026 at the Angus Legion located at 15 Fraser Street, Angus; and further that the Legion ensures all necessary Health Unit approvals are in place. Motion Carried.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No items.

9. BY-LAWS

- a) By-law 2026-09 – Tax Rate By-law
- b) By-law 2026-10 – BIA Tax Rate By-law
- c) By-law 2026-11 – Restricted Acts-Lame Duck Provisions
- d) By-law 2026-12 – Housekeeping By-law
- e) By-law 2026-13 – Site Plan Control By-law
- f) By-law 2026-14 – Parking By-law Amendments (OLG)
- g) By-law 2026-15 – Building Department Fees

Resolution:

Moved by Councillor Sander, Seconded by Deputy Mayor Smith

Be It Resolved That By-laws 2026-09, 2026-10, 2026-11, 2026-12, 2026-13, 2026-14 and 2026-15 be read a first, and taken a second and third time and finally passed.

Motion Carried.

10. QUESTIONS

None.

11. CLOSED SESSION

Resolution:

Moved by Councillor Sander, Seconded by Deputy Mayor Smith

Be It Resolved That Council proceed to a Closed Session in order to address matters pertaining to:

- a) **Confidential Staff Report from the Chief Administration Officer, re: Staffing Matters**
 - Personal Matters About an Identifiable Individual – s.239(2)(b)
 - Labour Relations or Employee Negotiations – s.239(2)(d)
- b) **Confidential Staff Report from the Chief Administration Officer, re: Land Acquisition**
 - Acquisition or Disposition of Land – s. 239(2)(c)
 - Plans and Instructions for Negotiation – s. 239(2)(k). Motion Carried.

Motion to Rise and Report from the Closed Session Meeting of April 15, 2026.

Resolution:

Moved by Councillor Maltby, Seconded by Councillor Sander

Be It Resolved That Council rise and report from the Closed Session Meeting at 7:16 p.m. Motion Carried.

**a) Confidential Report CAO004-26 from the Chief Administrative Officer, re:
Staffing Matters**

Resolution:

Moved by Councillor Sander, Seconded by Deputy Mayor Smith

Be It Resolved That Confidential Staff Report CAO004-26 be received; and

That Option No. 1 in this Confidential Staff Report be approved. Motion Carried.

**b) Confidential Staff Report CAO005-26 from the Chief Administrative Officer, re:
Land Acquisition**

Resolution:

Moved by Councillor Kiezebrink, Seconded by Councillor Maltby

Confidential Staff Report CAO005-26 be received; and

That Council direct staff in accordance with Options 2 and 3 as contained within this report. Motion Carried.

12. CONFIRMATORY BY-LAW

Resolution:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Smith, Seconded by Councillor Sander

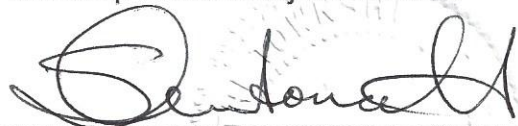
Be It Resolved That leave be granted to introduce By-law 2026-16, that being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Committee of the Whole, Closed Session and Council meetings held on this 15th day of April, 2026; and, that said By-law be read a first, and taken as read a second and third time and finally passed. Motion Carried.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Smith, Seconded by Councillor Maltby

Be It Resolved That this meeting of Council of the Township of Essa Adjourn at 8:19 p.m. Motion Carried.



Sandie Macdonald,
Mayor



Krista Pascoe, Manager of Legislative
Services/Clerk