

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESSA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 2025**

MINUTES

A Council meeting was held in person on Wednesday June 4, 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
C. Rankin, Manager of Parks and Recreation
S. Haniff, Manager of Planning
J. Kolb, Manager of Public Works
D. Dollmaier, Manager of Finance
S. Corbett, Acting Manager of Legislative Services

1. OPENING OF MEETING BY THE MAYOR

Mayor Macdonald opened the meeting at 6:34p.m.

2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

3. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES AND MOTIONS

Resolution No: CR069-2025 Moved by: Sander Seconded by: Kiezebrink

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 21st day of May, 2025 be adopted as circulated.

---Carried---

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution No: CR070-2025 Moved by: Smith Seconded by: Sander

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the items listed in the Consent Agenda dated June 4, 2025, be received for information; and
THAT item A3 be referred to Staff for Action.

---Carried---

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

6. PETITIONS

7. MOTIONS AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS

a. Proclamation – World Elder Abuse Awareness Day – June 15, 2025.

Resolution No: CR071-2025 Moved by: Sander Seconded by: Maltby

WHEREAS the Township of Essa's older adults deserve to be treated with respect and dignity and valued as contributing members of society, imparting a wealth of experience and wisdom in our communities; and

WHEREAS the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, in support of the United Nations International Plan of Action, proclaimed this day to recognize the significance of elder abuse as a public health and human rights issue; and

WHEREAS the Township of Essa recognizes the importance of taking action to invest in creating social change, to prioritize the prevention of elder abuse and raise awareness to foster a better understanding of abuse and neglect of older adults and their rights; and

WHEREAS elder abuse has a significant impact on the lives of older adults and families and is not limited to race, gender, culture, or circumstance, regardless of whether the abuse is physical, emotional, sexual, financial or neglect; and

WHEREAS ageism and social isolation are major causes of elder abuse in Ontario; and
WHEREAS it is recognized that it is up to all of us, as citizens, organizations, communities, and governments, to work collectively to prevent violence and abuse of older adults in their homes and communities; and

WHEREAS preventing abuse of older adults through improving and maintaining social and health services and systems such as housing, income security, and safety will improve their quality of life and allow them to live independently and contribute to the vibrancy of Ontario; and

WHEREAS there is respect for human rights, equality, and justice there can be no abuse; therefore, all the Township of Essa residents are urged to join this global movement to promote the Rights of Older Adults and Stop Abuse and Restore Respect;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Township of Essa hereby proclaims June 15, 2025, as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, and encourages all residents to recognize and celebrate seniors and their ongoing contributions to the success and vitality of our province.

---Carried---

b. Proclamation – Hope Air Day – June 6, 2025.

Resolution No: CR072-2025 Moved by: Kiezebrink Seconded by: Sander

WHEREAS, access to healthcare is a fundamental right for all citizens, regardless of their geographic location; and

WHEREAS, Hope Air, a charitable organization, has been tirelessly dedicated to providing access to healthcare by facilitating free flights and other services for patients living in rural and under-served communities in Ontario, ensuring they can receive vital medical treatment regardless of distance or financial means; and

WHEREAS, Hope Air has been instrumental in bridging the gap between smaller communities and hospitals far from home, reducing the barriers that often prevent individuals from reaching medical care; and

WHEREAS, the impact of Hope Air extends beyond the individual patients served, positively affecting families, communities, and the healthcare system as a whole by promoting wellness and reducing the burden of untreated medical conditions; and **WHEREAS**, the compassion, dedication, and commitment demonstrated by Hope Air and its volunteers embody the spirit of community and the belief in the inherent value of every individual's well-being; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT by the Council of the Township of Essa that June 6th, 2025, shall be known as "Hope Air Day" in recognition of the invaluable contributions made by Hope Air to the health and well-being of individuals in Ontario's remote and rural communities.

AND FURTHER, we urge all citizens to join us in celebrating Hope Air Day and to reflect on the significance of ensuring equitable access to healthcare for all members of our society. Let us reaffirm our commitment to supporting initiatives that promote health equity and extend our gratitude to Hope Air for their unwavering dedication to serving those in need.

---Carried---

- c. **Motion - Consider Consent of County of Simcoe By-law 7119-25 to Change the Composition of County Council.**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Essa consents to County of Simcoe By-law 7119-25, being a By-law to Change the Composition of Council of the Corporation of the County of Simcoe; and

THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the County Clerk.

---Defeated Unanimously---

8. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

9. **BY-LAWS**

10. **QUESTIONS**

11. **CLOSED SESSION**

Resolution No: CR073-2025 Moved by: Smith Seconded by: Sander

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: Staffing Matters.**

- *Personal Matters About an Identifiable Individual [s.239(2)(b)]*

---Carried---

Motion to Rise and Report from Closed Session Meeting of June 4, 2025.

Resolution No: CR074-2025 Moved by: Smith Seconded by: Sander

BE IT RESOLVED that Council rise and report from the Closed Session Meeting at 7:16 p.m.

---Carried---

- a. Confidential Verbal Update from the Chief Administrative Officer, re: Staffing Matters.

Resolution No: CR075-2025 Moved by: Smith Seconded by: Maltby

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

---Carried---

12. CONFIRMATION BY-LAW

By-law 2025-33

Resolution No: CR076-2025 Moved by: Maltby Seconded by: Sander

BE IT RESOLVED THAT leave be granted to introduce By-law 2025-33, that being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Committee of the Whole, Closed Session, and Council meetings held on this 4th day of June, 2025; and, that said By-law be read a first, and taken as read a second and third time and finally passed.

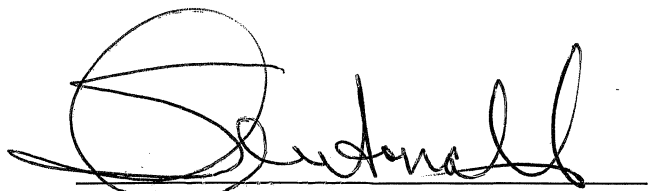
---Carried---

13. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution No: CR077-2025 Moved by: Smith Seconded by: Maltby

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this meeting of Council of the Township of Essa adjourn at 7:17 p.m. to meet again on the 18th day of June, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

---Carried---



Sandie Macdonald
Mayor



Sarah Corbett
Acting Clerk