

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES**

Tuesday, May 13, 2025, 1:00 PM  
Middlesex County Building  
399 Ridout Street North, London

Members Present	Councillor DeViet Councillor Brennan Councillor Burghardt-Jesson Councillor Clarke Councillor Grantham Councillor Mayhew Councillor McGuire Councillor McMillan Councillor Ropp Councillor Smibert
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**1. CALL TO ORDER AND WARDEN'S REMARKS**

Warden Ropp called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.

**2. PROVISION FOR DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF**

None.

**3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Moved by Councillor Grantham  
Seconded by Councillor McGuire

THAT the Agenda be approved as presented.

Carried

**4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

4.a Minutes of the April 22, 2025 Meeting of Middlesex County Council

- 4.b Minutes of the April 29, 2025 Special Meeting of Middlesex County Council
- 4.c Closed Session Minutes of the April 29, 2025 Special Meeting of County Council

Moved by Councillor Clarke  
Seconded by Councillor Smibert

THAT the Minutes of the April 22, 2025 Meeting and April 29, 2025 Special Meeting be approved as presented;

THAT the Closed Session Minutes of the April 29, 2025 Meeting be approved as presented;

AND THAT the recommendations made by Committee of the Whole as set out in the Minutes of the April 22, 2025 Meeting be adopted.

Carried

## **5. INQUIRIES**

Councillor Burghardt-Jesson requested information on the implementation of the Middlesex Community Safety and Well-being Plan. The GM of Finance and Community Services will report back at a future meeting.

Councillor Clarke requested a staff report outlining the County's vacation policy, vacation accruals, and any outstanding balances on February 11, 2025 and inquired about the status of this request. The GM of Finance and Community Services will prepare a report for the June or July meeting of County Council.

## **6. NOTICES OF MOTION**

None.

## **7. COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS AND OTHER BUSINESS**

Warden Ropp thanked the Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc for hosting Middlesex Day.

## **8. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

Moved by Councillor McGuire  
Seconded by Councillor Smibert

THAT Committee of the Whole convene at 1:05pm.

Carried

8.a DELEGATIONS

None.

8.b REPORTS FROM COUNTY OFFICERS

None.

8.c ACTION ITEMS

8.c.1 Rooted in Community, Growing Toward Tomorrow - Middlesex County Strategic Plan (2025-2030)

Report from Paul Shipway, General Manager of Strategic Initiatives & Innovation

Presentation by Lynn van der Linde, CMC, Vice President, Quarry Consulting

Moved by Councillor Smibert

Seconded by Councillor Burghardt-Jesson

THAT the Rooted in Community, Growing Toward Tomorrow - Middlesex County Strategic Plan (2025-2030) Report be received for information;

THAT County Council adopt the Rooted in Community, Growing Toward Tomorrow - Middlesex County Strategic Plan (2025-2030), attached as *Appendix 'A'*;

AND THAT County Council approve the Implementation Plan, attached as *Appendix 'B'* as the initial operational framework to support execution of the Strategic Plan.

Carried

8.c.2 Establishing a Housing Advocate Role

Report from Cindy Howard, General Manager Finance, Durk Vanderwerff, Interim CAO & Director of Planning and Development

Moved by Councillor Grantham

Seconded by Councillor Mayhew

THAT the Housing Advocate – Role Portfolio Report be received for information;

THAT the scope of the Housing Advocate role portfolio, as outlined in this report, be approved in principle;

THAT staff be directed to proceed with consultation activities necessary to establish the position, identify KPI's and report back to Council.

Carried

#### 8.c.3 Speed Limit By-Law - Spring 2025 Update

Report from Chris Traini, P.Eng., County Engineer / Deputy CAO

Moved by Councillor DeViet

Seconded by Councillor McGuire

THAT the Speed Limit By-Law Spring Update report be received for information;

THAT the revised by-law designating prescribed rates of speed on County Roads No. 1 to 81 be introduced at the May 27, 2025 meeting of County Council.

Carried

#### 8.c.4 Thames Centre Resolution to Request a Traffic Study, Pedestrian Crosswalk at Catherine St & Richmond St. (Village of Dorchester, Thames Centre)

Report from Chris Traini, P.Eng., County Engineer / Deputy CAO

Moved by Councillor Grantham

Seconded by Councillor Clarke

THAT the Thames Centre Resolution to Request a Traffic Study Pedestrian Crosswalk at Catherine St & Richmond St, Village of Dorchester, Thames Centre report be received for information;

THAT staff be directed to inform the Municipality of Thames Centre that at pedestrian crossover is not warranted at the intersection of Catherine Street (CR 49) and Richmond Street;

AND THAT a modified school crossing be installed across Catherine Street (CR 49) at Richmond Street if so agreed by the Municipality of Thames Centre and at their cost.

Carried

**8.d CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION ITEMS**

8.d.1 Electronic Payments - April 2025

8.d.2 Strathmere Lodge Monthly Census Report - March 2025

8.d.3 News Release - Ontario Unlocking Free Trade Within Canada - April 16, 2025

8.d.4 MPAC: 2024 Annual Report

8.d.5 Longwood to Lakeshore Project Update – Spring 2025

8.d.6 Longwood to Lakeshore Project - Notice of Preferred Route and Invitation to Virtual & Community Open Houses #4

8.d.7 Board of Health Update - April 2025

8.d.8 Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus Media Release: Western Ontario Municipal Conference Returns in 2025 Following a Successful Inaugural Event

Moved by Councillor Burghardt-Jesson

Seconded by Councillor McGuire

THAT Items 8.d.1 to 8.d.8 be received for information.

Carried

Moved by Councillor Brennan

Seconded by Councillor Smibert

THAT Committee of the Whole rise at 1:54pm.

Carried

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

**9.a ACTION ITEMS**

9.a.1 Chief Administrative Officer Recruitment

Presentation by Jon Stungevicius, Waterhouse Executive Search

Moved by Councillor DeViet

Seconded by Councillor McGuire

THAT the Chief Administrative Officer Recruitment Presentation be received for information;

THAT all of Council participate in the hiring process;

THAT Council and direct reports to the CAO be included in the survey;

THAT the timeline as proposed be approved, subject to the exact dates and times to be confirmed with Council by the Clerk;

THAT the draft advertisement as proposed be approved.

Carried

Moved by Councillor Burghardt-Jesson

Seconded by Councillor Clarke

THAT Council recess until 3:15pm.

Carried

9.a.2 Middlesex County Loan Program: Municipality of Southwest Middlesex Application

Report from Cindy Howard, General Manager of Finance and & Community Services / Deputy CAO / County Treasurer & Josh White, Procurement Services Manager

Moved by Councillor Smibert

Seconded by Councillor Clarke

THAT the Middlesex County Loan Program: Municipality of Southwest Middlesex Application report be received for information;

THAT the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex's Middlesex County Loan Program application in the amount of \$687,500.00 for the Glencoe Business and Industrial Park Servicing Project be approved and;

AND THAT a by-law be introduced at the May 13, 2025 Council meeting to:

1. Authorize and approve the Loan Agreement with the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex; and
2. Authorize the Warden and the County Clerk to execute the Agreement

Carried

9.a.3 Award of Tender #MC-2025-08 – Middlesex County Governance & Administration Centre

Report from Chris Traini, County Engineer & Cindy Howard, General Manager of Finance & Community Services / Treasurer

Moved by Councillor Mayhew

Seconded by Councillor Brennan

THAT the Award of Tender # MC-2025-08 - Middlesex County Governance & Administration Centre report be received for information;

THAT the County Engineer be authorized and directed to award the Tender # MC-2025-08 to Baribeau Construction London Limited in the amount of \$12,597,602.00 before taxes;

THAT the short-term construction financing be funded through reserves and reserve funds;

THAT staff be directed to prepare a report with options to fund the project costs up to a maximum of \$14,782,270 through a combination of debentures and reserves to be presented to Council in the second quarter of 2026;

AND THAT the County Engineer be authorized to execute, on behalf of the County of Middlesex, all agreements and other documents necessary to implement this award on confirmation that such agreements and other documents be in a form satisfactory to the County Solicitor.

Carried

## **10. BY-LAWS**

10.a #7334 - A BY-LAW to Authorize an Agreement with The Corporation of the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex through the Middlesex County Loan Program

10.b #7335 - A BY-LAW to Confirm the Proceedings of the May 13, 2025 Meeting of County Council

Moved by Councillor Smibert

Seconded by Councillor McMillan

THAT the by-laws be given a first and second reading.

Carried

Moved by Councillor DeViet

Seconded by Councillor Grantham

THAT the by-laws be given a third and final reading.

Carried

## **11. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

11.a Next Meetings

- Tuesday, May 27, 2025
- Tuesday, June 24, 2025
- Tuesday, July 8, 2025

11.b Middlesex County Warden's Charity Golf Tournament

Tuesday, June 17, 2025 at Caradoc Sands Golf Club



**12. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Councillor Smibert

Seconded by Councillor Burghardt-Jesson

THAT the meeting adjourn at 3:52pm.

Carried

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Marci Ivanic, County Clerk

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Brian Ropp, Warden