

MIDDLESEX COUNTY COUNCIL

MINUTES

Tuesday, June 24, 2025, 1:00 PM
Middlesex County Building
399 Ridout Street North, London

Members Present Warden Ropp
 Councillor Brennan
 Councillor Burghardt-Jesson
 Councillor Clarke
 Councillor DeViet
 Councillor Grantham
 Councillor Mayhew
 Councillor McGuire
 Councillor McMillan
 Councillor Smibert

1. CALL TO ORDER AND WARDEN'S REMARKS

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

M. Ivanic read the Land Acknowledgment as follows:

We acknowledge that the land we stand upon today is the traditional territory of the Attawandaron (Add-a-won-da-run), Anishinabeg (Ah-nish-in-a-beg), Haudenosaunee (Hoden-oh-show-nee), and Lunaapeewak (Len-ahpay-wuk) peoples who have long standing relationships to the land, water and region of Southwestern Ontario. The local First Nation communities of this area include Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, Oneida Nation of the Thames First Nation, and Munsee-Delaware Nation.

We acknowledge the treaties that are specific to this area: Treaty 2 (McKee Purchase), Treaty 3 (Between the Lakes Purchase), Treaty 6 (London Township Purchase), Treaty 21 (Long Woods Purchase) and Treaty 29 (Huron Tract Purchase). We value the significant contributions, both in the past and the present of local and regional first nations of Turtle Island.

We acknowledge historic and ongoing injustices that indigenous peoples endure in Canada and we affirm our commitment to honouring indigenous voices,

nations and cultures, and to moving forward in the spirit of reconciliation and respect.

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

None.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Councillor DeViet

Seconded by Councillor Burghardt-Jesson

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 May 27, 2025 Meeting of Middlesex County Council

4.b Minutes of the June 13, 2025 Special Meeting of Middlesex County Council

4.c Closed Session Minutes of the May 27, 2025 Meeting of Middlesex County Council

4.d Closed Session Minutes of the June 13, 2025 Special Meeting of Middlesex County Council

Moved by Councillor Clarke

Seconded by Councillor McGuire

THAT the Minutes of the May 27, 2025 Meeting and June 13, 2025 Special Meeting be approved as presented;

THAT the Closed Session Minutes of the May 27, 2025 Meeting and June 13, 2025 Special Meeting be approved as presented;

AND THAT the recommendations made by the Committee of the Whole as set out in the Minutes of the May 27, 2025 meeting be adopted.

Carried

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.a ACTION ITEMS

5.a.1 2025 Insurance Renewal

Report from Chris Traini, Deputy CAO, County Engineer and Cindy Howard, Deputy CAO, County Treasurer

Moved by Councillor Smibert
Seconded by Councillor Grantham

THAT the 2025 Insurance Renewal report be received for information;

AND THAT the proposed 2025/26 insurance program as submitted by Intact Public Entities Inc. with a premium of \$1,359,238 for twelve months plus applicable taxes to June 30, 2026 be approved.

Carried

5.a.2 2025 Borrowing By-Law

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

Moved by Councillor McMillan
Seconded by Councillor Burghardt-Jesson

THAT the 2025 Borrowing By-Law report be received for information;

AND THAT a by-law authorizing the borrowing of funds with a maximum limit of \$2,000,000 at any one time in 2025 be introduced at the July 8, 2025 meeting of County Council.

Carried

5.a.3 Request to Remove 0.3 m (1 foot) Reserve - 11726 Petty Street (County Road 19)

Report from Alex Bondarenko, Senior Legal Counsel and Chris Traini, P.Eng., Deputy CAO/County Engineer

Moved by Councillor Smibert
Seconded by Councillor DeViet

THAT the request to lift the reserve across a portion of the frontage of 11726 Petty Street (County Road 19) in the Municipality of North Middlesex be approved;

THAT the request to accept a transfer of Part 8 on the Draft Plan by the County be approved;

THAT staff be directed to complete the transfer of Parts 6 and 7 on the enclosed Draft Plan from the County to the owner of 11726 Petty Street (County Road 19) to give effect to the lifting of the reserve for the purpose of a shared driveway access;

AND THAT staff be directed to complete the transfer of Part 8 (1-foot reserve) on the enclosed Draft Plan from the owner of 11726 Petty Street (County Road 19) to the County for the Applicant to comply with Condition #11 of the Notice of Decision.

Carried

5.a.4 Consolidated Municipal Service Manager (CMSM) Cost Apportionment Amending Agreements

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

Moved by Councillor Mayhew

Seconded by Councillor McGuire

THAT the Consolidated Municipal Service Manager (CMSM) Cost Apportionment Amending Agreements Report be received for information;

AND THAT by-laws be introduced at the June 24, 2025 Council Meeting to:

- a. Authorize the Consolidated Municipal Service Manager (CMSM) Cost Apportionment Amending Agreements (Appendices 'A'-'D'); and
- b. Authorize the Warden and the County Clerk to execute the Agreements.

Carried

6. INQUIRIES

Councillor Burghardt-Jesson inquired about the status of the 2024 Audit process. The General Manager of Finance and Community Services advised that KPMG is in the process of conducting the Audit and a report is expected at the first Council meeting in September. The GM also advised that a report on the 2026 Budget process will be introduced at the July 8, 2025 meeting.

7. NOTICES OF MOTION

None.

8. COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS AND OTHER BUSINESS

None.

9. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Moved by Councillor Clarke

Seconded by Councillor Smibert

THAT Committee of the Whole convene at 1:11pm.

Carried

9.a DELEGATIONS

9.a.1 Middlesex County Inter-Community Transit Assessment

Presentation by Matthew Lattavo, Left Turn Right Turn (LTRT)

Moved by Councillor Smibert

Seconded by Councillor Brennan

THAT the Middlesex County Inter-Community Transit Assessment be received for information.

Carried

9.b REPORTS FROM COUNTY OFFICERS

None.

9.c ACTION ITEMS

9.c.1 Good Roads Rural Road Safety Initiative

Report from Chris Traini, County Engineer / Deputy CAO

Moved by Councillor Burghardt-Jesson
Seconded by Councillor Grantham

WHEREAS official statistics from the Government of Ontario confirm that rural roads are inherently more dangerous than other roads;

AND WHEREAS, despite only having 17% of the population, 55% of the road fatalities occur on rural roads;

AND WHEREAS, rural, northern, and remote municipalities are fiscally strained by maintaining extensive road networks on a smaller tax base;

AND WHEREAS, preventing crashes reduces the burden on Ontario's already strained rural strained health care system;

AND WHEREAS, roadway collisions and associated lawsuits are significant factors in runaway municipal insurance premiums. Preventing crashes can have a significant impact in improving municipal risk profiles;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the County of Middlesex requests that the Government of Ontario take action to implement the rural road safety program that Good Roads has committed to lead. It will allow Ontario's rural municipalities to make the critical investments needed to reduce the high number of people being killed and seriously injured on Ontario's rural roads; and

FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Hon. Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation, Hon. King Surma, Minister of Infrastructure, Hon. Trevor Jones, Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Lisa Thompson, Minister of Rural Affairs, Hon. Jill Dunlop, Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response and Hon. Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health, and Good Roads; and

FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated to all municipalities in Ontario requesting their support.

Carried

9.c.2 County Road and Bridge Assumption Study

Report from Chris Traini, County Engineer / Deputy CAO

Moved by Councillor DeViet
Seconded by Councillor Clarke

THAT the County Road and Bridge Assumption Study report be received for information;

AND THAT a by-law be introduced to authorize the transfer of the roads identified in *Appendix "A"* of the 2025 County Road & Bridge Assumption Study to the County of Middlesex, upon receipt of resolutions passed by the Council of each affected local municipality:

- a. authorizing the transfer of the highway;
- b. confirming there is no debt on the highway, or agreeing to pay all amounts due in respect of the highway that would otherwise become the County's obligation pursuant to section 53(b) the *Municipal Act, 2001*; and
- c. agreeing to pay the County for the capital and maintenance costs of the highway as outlined in *Appendix "A"* of the 2025 County Road & Bridge Assumption Study.

Carried

9.c.3 Middlesex Supports 2025-2026

Report from Cindy Howard, General Manager of Finance & Community Services & Joe Winsor, Manager Social Services

Moved by Councillor Smibert
Seconded by Councillor McMillan

THAT the Middlesex Supports 2025-2026 report be received for information;

THAT County Council approve the allocation of the unspent \$6,336.00 to be divided evenly (\$792.00 per municipality) among the eight lower-tier Middlesex County municipalities, to support children and youth in accessing sports and recreation opportunities.

AND THAT the General Manager of Finance and Community Services be authorized to execute, on behalf of the County of Middlesex, all agreements and other documents necessary to allocate the remaining funding as described in the Middlesex

Supports 2025-2026 Report on confirmation that such agreements and other documents be in a form satisfactory to the County Solicitor.

Carried

9.c.4 London-Middlesex Child Care and Early Years Service System Plan Update – 2024 Progress Report

Report from Cindy Howard, General Manager Finance and Community Services, Deputy CAO

Moved by Councillor Clarke

Seconded by Councillor Smibert

THAT the London-Middlesex Child Care and Early Years Service System Plan Update – 2024 Progress Report be received for information.

Carried

9.c.5 Homeless Prevention and Housing Plan 2024 Update

Report from Cindy Howard, General Manager Finance and Community Services, Deputy CAO

Moved by Councillor Grantham

Seconded by Councillor Brennan

THAT the Homeless Prevention and Housing Plan 2024 Update be received for information.

Carried

9.c.6 Budget Variance Report January to May 2025

Report from Cindy Howard, General Manager Finance and Community Services, Deputy CAO

Moved by Councillor Mayhew

Seconded by Councillor Smibert

THAT the Budget Variance Report for January to May 2025 be received for information.

Carried

9.c.7 Population, Housing and Employment Projections

Report from Abby Heddle-Jacobs, Planner II (Policy & Special Projects)

Moved by Councillor Mayhew

Seconded by Councillor DeViet

THAT the Population, Housing and Employment Projections report be received for information;

THAT the Growth Analysis Update Middlesex County Final Report dated April 25, 2025, be endorsed as the basis for the projected growth scenarios most likely to occur over the 20- to 30-year planning horizon;

THAT the Medium-High Growth Scenario for Population and Housing, and the Medium Growth Scenario for Employment, be identified as the recommended growth scenarios for long-term planning to the year 2056;

AND THAT the Report be included in the draft amendment to the County Official Plan for the purposes of consultation.

Carried

9.c.8 Proposed Plan of Subdivision (File No. 39T-SC2301); Carroll Street East Developments; Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc

Report from Durk Vanderwerff, Interim Chief Administrative Officer and Director of Planning and Development

Moved by Councillor Grantham

Seconded by Councillor Clarke

THAT the Proposed Plan of Subdivision (File No. 39T-SC2301); Carroll Street East Developments; Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc report be received for information;

THAT the proposed Plan of Subdivision (File No. 39T-SC2301) be granted draft plan approval subject to conditions;

THAT a Notice of Decision be circulated as required by the Planning Act;

AND THAT the Notice of Decision indicate that all written submissions received on the application were considered; the effect of which helped make an informed recommendation and decision.

Carried

9.d CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION ITEMS

9.d.1 Electronic Payments - May 2025

9.d.2 Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Program

Report from Cara Finn, Director of Economic Development

9.d.3 Strathmere Lodge Monthly Census Report - May 2025

Report from Brent Kerwin, Strathmere Lodge Administrator

9.d.4 Ministry of Long Term Care Compliance Inspection - Inspection No. 2025-1622-0002

Report from Brent Kerwin, Strathmere Lodge Administrator

9.d.5 Ministry of Long Term Care Compliance Inspection - Inspection No. 2025-1622-0003

Report from Brent Kerwin, Strathmere Lodge Administrator

9.d.6 Municipality of Thames Centre - Resolution of Council No. 159-2025

9.d.7 Board of Health Update - May 2025

9.d.8 Municipality of Southwest Middlesex - Glencoe Industrial Park - Notice of Project Commencement

9.d.9 Correspondence from Mayor Chris Peabody, Mayor of Municipality of Brockton dated June 5, 2025

9.d.10 Correspondence from Ministry of Natural Resources - Reintroduction of the Geologic Carbon Storage Act

9.d.11 Correspondence from Ministry of Emergency Preparedness and Response - Reintroduction of proposed amendments to modernize the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act

9.d.12 Minutes of the May 8, 2025 Meeting of the Middlesex Accessibility Advisory Committee

9.d.13 Minutes of the May 14, 2025 Meeting of the Planning Advisory Committee

9.d.14 Minutes of the May 27, 2025 Meeting of the Library Board

9.d.15 Minutes of the June 6, 2025 Meeting of the County Road & Bridge Assumption Study Technical Steering Committee

9.d.16 Minutes of the June 12, 2025 Meeting of the Middlesex London Paramedic Service Authority Board

Moved by Councillor Smibert

Seconded by Councillor Brennan

THAT items 9.d.1 to 9.d.16 be received for information.

Carried

Moved by Councillor Clarke

Seconded by Councillor Smibert

THAT Committee of the Whole rise at 2:21pm.

Carried

10. CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Councillor Smibert

Seconded by Councillor DeViet

THAT the next portion of the meeting be closed at 2:21pm in order to consider the following:

10.a - Consolidated Municipal Service Manager (CMSM) Agreements. A position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board, in accordance with subsection 239(2)(k) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended; and

10.b - Vacation Policy and Vacation Accruals. Personal matters pertaining to identifiable individuals, including municipal employees, and a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to

be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board, pursuant to subsections 239(2)(b) and (k) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*.

Carried

- 10.a Consolidated Municipal Service Manager (CMSM) Agreements
- 10.b Vacation Policy and Vacation Accruals
- 10.c Closed Session Minutes - May 27, 2025 Meeting of County Council
- 10.d Closed Session Minutes - June 13, 2025 Special Meeting of County Council

11. RISE AND REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Councillor Burghardt-Jesson

Seconded by Councillor Mayhew

THAT Council rise from Closed Session at 2:57pm.

Carried

12. BY-LAWS

- 12.a #7342 - A BY-LAW to Authorize an Amending Agreement to the Ontario Works Services Cost Apportionment and Agency Agreement between the Corporation of the County of Middlesex and the Corporation of the City of London
- 12.b #7343 - A BY-LAW to authorize an Amending Agreement to the Land Ambulance Services Cost Apportionment Agreement between the Corporation of the County of Middlesex and the Corporation of the City of London.
- 12.c #7344 - A BY-LAW to authorize an Amending Agreement to the Housing Services Cost Apportionment and CHPI Agreement between the Corporation of the County of Middlesex and the Corporation of the City of London
- 12.d #7345 - A BY-LAW to authorize an Amending Agreement to the Child Care Services Cost Apportionment and Agency Agreement between the Corporation of the County of Middlesex and the Corporation of the City of London.

12.e #7346 - A BY-LAW to Confirm the Proceedings of the June 24, 2025 meeting of County Council

Moved by Councillor Burghardt-Jesson

Seconded by Councillor Mayhew

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

Carried

Moved by Councillor Brennan

Seconded by Councillor Mayhew

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

Carried

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS

13.a Next Meetings

- Tuesday, July 8, 2025
- Tuesday, August 12, 2025
- Tuesday, September 9, 2025

13.b 225th Anniversary of Middlesex County Tree Planting Giveaway

14. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Grantham

Seconded by Councillor McGuire

THAT the meeting adjourn at 3:01pm.

Carried

Marci Ivanic, County Clerk

Brian Ropp, Warden