



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTHWOLD

MINUTES

Regular Council Meeting
Monday September 9, 2024
7:00 p.m. Council Chambers, Fingal/Via Video Link

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Grant Jones
Deputy Mayor Justin Pennings
Councillor John Adzija
Councillor Sarah Emons
Councillor Scott Fellows

ALSO PRESENT: Lisa Higgs, CAO/Clerk
Aaron VanOorspronk, Director of Infrastructure & Development
Services (7:55 p.m.)
Corey Pemberton, Director of Building & Community Services/Chief
Building Official
Jeff McArthur, Director of Emergency Services/Fire Chief
June McLarty, Deputy Clerk

Mayor Jones called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

ADDENDUM TO AGENDA:

12. CLOSED SESSION

- (d) A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board (Section 239 (2)(c)) – Talbotville WWTP Lands
- (e) Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose (Section 239 (2)(f)) – General Legal Matters

DISCLOSURES: None

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Council Minutes – Adopt

2024-269 Councillor Fellows – Deputy Mayor Pennings

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of August 12, 2024 are hereby adopted.

CARRIED

Committee Minutes – Review

2024-270 Councillor Fellows – Councillor Emons

THAT Council had reviewed the draft Minutes of the Canada Day Committee Meeting of July 18, 2024, the draft Minutes of the Southwold 175 Meeting of August 12, 2024, the draft Minutes of the Economic Development Committee Meeting of August 22, 2024 and the draft Minutes of the Young at Heart Committee Meeting of August 29, 2024.

CARRIED

REPORTS:

FIR 2024-10 Activity Report – July 2024 and August 2024

Jeff McArthur, Director of Emergency Services/Fire Chief presented this report to Council.

ENG 2024-48 Activity Report – August 2024

This report was presented to Council.

ENG 2024- 49 Magdala Road Construction Award

2024-271 Councillor Emons – Councillor Fellows

THAT Report ENG 2024-49 relating to the construction award for Magdala Road, be received for information; and

THAT the tender submitted by R. Russell Construction in the amount of \$223,684.31 plus HST be accepted; and

THAT a Contingency and Testing Allowance of \$25,000 be approved.

CARRIED

CBO 2024-12 Fingal Office Furnace and Air Conditioning

2024-272 Councillor Adzija – Deputy Mayor Pennings

THAT Council approve the replacement of the existing furnace at the Township office due to the increasingly costly repairs and the professional assessment indicating that the unit is nearing the end of its operational life.

CARRIED

CBO 2024-13 Activity Report – August 2024

Corey Pemberton, Director of Building & Community Services/Chief Building Official presented this report to Council.

CAO 2024-59 Activity Report – August 2024

Lisa Higgs, CAO/Clerk presented this report to Council.

CAO 2024-60 Backyard Chickens in Settlement Areas

2024-273 Deputy Mayor Pennings – Councillor Emons

THAT Council directs staff to prepare the necessary Zoning By-law Amendment to allow Chickens on residentially-zoned properties; and,

THAT Council directs staff to provide a survey to the public to solicit feedback on the implementation of a licensing program; and,

THAT Council directs staff to develop a licensing program for backyard chickens; and,

THAT Council directs staff to possibly establish a licensing fee; and,

THAT Council directs staff to ensure that the draft licensing/animal control By-law includes set fines and appropriate short-form wording which will achieve effective enforcement goals.

CARRIED

STAFF DIRECTION

Staff was directed by Council to maintain the moratorium on enforcement against backyard chickens in residential zones until further notice.

CAO 2024-61 Achieving Living Wages in the Township of Southwold

2024-274 Councillor Fellows – Councillor Adzija

THAT Council of the Township of Southwold endorses staff's recommendation that the municipality continue to strive to achieve living wage for all employees of the Township.

CARRIED

CAO 2024-62 Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund

2024-275 Councillor Fellows – Deputy Mayor Pennings

THAT Council authorize staff to submit an Application for Funding under the Ontario Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund; and,

THAT Council provide direction on the preferred project for application;

THAT Council direct staff to confer with the Parks Committee to confirm the recommended project for application.

CARRIED

STAFF DIRECTION

Staff was directed by Council to submit an application for the trails at Corsley Park as the project for the Ontario Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund and to also engage with the Parks Committee on what features will be needed for the trails.

County Council Highlights – August 13, 2024

Mayor Jones presented this report to Council.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- The Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Command – Military Service Recognition Book Ad
- Resolution from the Township of Stirling Rawdon RE: Public Sector Salary Disclosure
- Kettle Creek Conservation Authority RE: Watershed-based Resource Management Strategy – Consultation Period

Military Service Recognition Book Ad

2024-276 Councillor Fellows – Councillor Emons

THAT Council of the Township of Southwold agrees to the placement of a business card size ad in the Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Command Military Service Recognition Book to help to honor Ontario's Veterans at a cost of \$395.00 (HST included).

CARRIED

Council has reviewed the other items under Correspondence

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Elgin County 2024 Business Retention and Expansion Program Report

Council reviewed the item under Other Business.

CLOSED SESSION:

2024- 276 Councillor Adzija – Councillor Fellows

THAT Council of the Township of Southwold now moves again into a session of the meeting that shall be closed to the public at **8:12 p.m.** in accordance with Section 239 (2) of the Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, c. 25 for discussion of the following matters;

- Personal Matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees (Section 239 (2)(b)) – 2 items – Planning Services and Public Works/Parks Department
- A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board (Section 239 (2)(c)) – Commercial Plaza
- A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board (Section 239 (2)(c)) – Talbotville WWTP Lands
- Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose (Section 239 (2)(f)) – General Legal Matter

CARRIED

Adjournment of Closed Session

2024-277 Councillor Adzija – Councillor Emons

THAT Council of the Township of Southwold adjourns the Closed Session of the Regular Council meeting at **9:56 p.m.**

CARRIED

STAFF DIRECTION

Staff were directed by Council to the 5 items that were discussed in the Closed Session.

Confirming By-law

- By-law No. 2024-47, being a By-law to confirm the resolutions and motions of the Council of the Township of Southwold, which were adopted on September 9, 2024

Confirming By-law

2024-278 Councillor Fellows – Deputy Mayor Pennings

THAT By-law No. 2024-47 be read a first and second time, considered read a third time and finally passed this 9th day of September, 2024.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT:

2024-279 Councillor Adzija – Councillor Emons

THAT Council for the Township of Southwold adjourns this Regular meeting of Council at **9:57 p.m.**

CARRIED

Original signed by
Mayor
Grant Jones

Original signed by
CAO/Clerk
Lisa Higgs