



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTHWOLD

MINUTES

Regular Council Meeting
Monday October 28, 2024
7:00 p.m. Council Chambers, Fingal/Via Video Link

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Grant Jones
Councillor John Adzija
Councillor Sarah Emons

COUNCIL ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Justin Pennings
Councillor Scott Fellows

ALSO PRESENT: Lisa Higgs, CAO/Clerk
Michele Lant, Director of Corporate Services/Treasurer
Aaron VanOorspronk, Director of Infrastructure & Development Services
Corey Pemberton, Director of Building & Community Services/Chief Building Official
Brent Clutterbuck, Drainage Superintendent
June McLarty, Deputy Clerk

Mayor Jones called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ADDENDUM TO AGENDA:

DISCLOSURES: None

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Council Minutes – Adopt

2024-327 Councillor Emons – Councillor Adzija

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of October 15, 2024 are hereby adopted. **CARRIED**

Committee Minutes – Review

2024-328 Councillor Adzija – Councillor Emons

THAT Council had reviewed the draft Minutes of the Draft Minutes of the War Memorial Committee Meeting of September 17, 2024, Draft Minutes of the Southwold 175 Committee Meeting of October 7, 2024, and Draft Minutes of the Shedden Recreation and Keystone Complex Meeting of October 17, 2024

CARRIED

DRAINAGE:

DRA 2024-05 Gregory Drain 2024 Tender Results

2024-329 Councillor Emons – Councillor Adzija

THAT Council of the Township of Southwold award the contract for the construction of the Gregory Drain 2024 to Bokkers Excavating Ltd. for a total cost of \$201,165.00+HST;

AND FURTHER THAT Council instructs the Mayor and Clerk to sign the contract and forward a copy of the signed contract to the successful contractor.

CARRIED

DRA 2024-06 Taylor Drain 2024 Tender Results

2024-330 Councillor Emons – Councillor Adzija

THAT the Council of the Township directs the Clerk to send notice to affected owners of a meeting to consider the contract price.

CARRIED

REPORTS:

CBO 2024-15 Furnace Replacement Quotes

STAFF DIRECTION

Staff was directed by Council to award the quote to Aecon/Hardy for the furnace replacement at cost of \$21,995.00 plus HST.

FIN 2024-24 OCIF Funding

Michele Lant, Director of Corporate Services/Treasurer presented this report to Council. It was also noted that the allocation that will be received will be used in the preparing of the 2025 budget.

CAO 2024-80 Hen Licencing Update

2024-331 Councillor Emons – Councillor Adzija

THAT Council give consideration to By-Law No. 2024-52, a By-Law adopting a licensing system to permit Backyard Hens in R1 Zones in the Township of Southwold; and,

THAT Council give consideration to By-Law No. 2024-53, a By-Law to amend the User Fee By-Law to adopt a licence fee of \$150.00 for Backyard Hens; and,

THAT Council directs staff to include wording in the next housekeeping amendment to the Zoning By-Law to amend section 3.16, the "Keeping of Animals", to permit backyard hens in certain R1 Zones, subject to a licence being issued; and,

THAT staff be directed to cease enforcement of chickens listed in section 3.16 of the Zoning By-Law, so long as the regulations of By-Law 2024-52 are complied with, until such time as the housekeeping Zoning By-Law can be adopted.

CARRIED

2025 Council Meeting Dates

2024-332 Councillor Adzija – Councillor Emons

THAT Council approve the 2025 Council Meeting dates.

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Colleen Burns RE: Distemper Cases
- Town of Tillsonburg Resolution RE: Continued Funding Support Southwest Community Transit

Colleen Burns, Authorized Wildlife Custodian for Ontario's Native Wildlife attended the Council meeting. She provided information on the number of cases of animas with distemper in the Township and the cost to euthanasia the animals.

Distemper Cases

2024-333 Councillor Emons – Councillor Adzija

THAT the correspondence from Colleen Burns was received as information.

CARRIED

STAFF DIRECTION

Staff was directed by Council to contact the City of St. Thomas and the Municipality of Central Elgin to further discuss the payment of euthanizing distempered animals.

Town of Tillsonburg Resolution RE: Continued Funding Support Southwest Community Transit

2024-334 Councillor Emons – Councillor Adzija

BE THAT IT BE RESOLVED the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Southwold hereby supports the attached resolution #2024-474 from the Town of Tillsonburg regarding the continued funding support for Southwest Community Transit, and,

THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Transportation, Elgin-Middlesex-London MPP Rob Flack, SCOR EDC and the Town of Tillsonburg.

CARRIED

BY-LAWS:

- By-law No. 2024-52, being a by-law to regulate backyard hens within Residential One (R1) Zone in the Township of Southwold
- By-law No. 2024-53, being a by-law to amend user fees, Backyard Hens

By-law Nos. 2024-52 and 2024-53

2024-335 Councillor Adzija – Councillor Emons

THAT By-law Nos. 2024-52 and 2024-53 be read a first and second time, considered read a third time and finally passed this 28th day of October 2024.

CARRIED

CLOSED SESSION:

2024-335 Councillor Adzija – Councillor Emons

THAT Council of the Township of Southwold now moves again into a session of the meeting that shall be closed to the public at **7:50 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)) – Township Planning Staff
- A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board (Section 239 (2)(c)) – MTO Property Acquisition
- Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose (Section 239(2)(f)) – Cleaning and Clearing By-law

CARRIED

Adjournment of Closed Session

2024-336 Councillor Adzija – Councillor Emons

THAT Council of the Township of Southwold adjourns the Closed Session of the Regular Council meeting at **10:02 p.m.**

CARRIED

STAFF DIRECTION

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

Confirming By-law

- By-law No. 2024-55, being a By-law to confirm the resolutions and motions of the Council of the Township of Southwold, which were adopted on October 28, 2024

Confirming By-law

2024-337 Councillor Adzija – Councillor Emons

THAT By-law No. 2024-55 be read a first and second time, considered read a third time and finally passed this 28th day of October, 2024.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT:

2024-338 Councillor Adzija – Councillor Emons

THAT Council for the Township of Southwold adjourns this Regular meeting of Council at **10:05 p.m.**

CARRIED

Original signed by:

Mayor
Grant Jones

Original signed by:

CAO/Clerk
Lisa Higgs