

The Council of the Township of East Zorra-Tavistock met in the Council Chambers at the Township Administration Building, Hickson, Ontario at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday December 20, 2023.

Members Present: Mayor Phil SCHAEFER, Deputy Mayor Brad SMITH and Councillors Matthew GILLESPIE, Scott RUDY, Jeremy SMITH, Steven VAN WYK and Scott ZEHR.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: CAO-Treasurer Karen DePrest, Clerk Will Jaques, CBO John Scherer, Public Works Manager Tom Lightfoot and Fire Chief Scott Alexander.

Mayor SCHAEFER welcomed everyone to the meeting. Councillor SMITH noted the work of the "The Women of Ontario Say No" group, who are advocating for government legislation to hold municipally-elected politicians accountable for violence and harassment. Additionally, Councillor SMITH recognized former Township Councillor Don Lazenby, who was in attendance in the meeting gallery.

Approve
Agenda

1. Moved by: Brad SMITH
Seconded by: Scott ZEHR
Resolved that Council approve the agenda for the December 20, 2023, meeting as printed and circulated.

CARRIED.

PECUNIARY INTERESTS:

- None.

Confirm
Minutes -
Council

2. Moved by: Steven VAN WYK
Seconded by: Scott RUDY
Resolved that Council confirm the Minutes of the December 6, 2023, Council Meeting, as printed and circulated.

CARRIED.

Correspondence & Reports – No Resolutions:

- ROEDC – September to November 2023 Activity Report
- Good Roads – 2024 Conference
- Staff Report - #CAO2023 – 18 re: Treasury Reporting

Correspondence & Reports – Resolutions Following:

ROEDC –
September to
November 2023
Activity Report

Council reviewed the September – November, 2023 Activity Report from the Rural Oxford Economic Development Corporation (ROEDC).

Good Roads –
2024
Conference

Council discussed attendance at the upcoming Good Roads Conference in April, 2024. No members were able to attend the conference. In addition, Council discussed the upcoming AMO Conference, being held in August, 2024.

AMO – 2024
Conference

3. Moved by: Matthew GILLESPIE
Seconded by: Scott ZEHR
Resolved that Council approve the attendance of the following members at the 2024 AMO Conference, to be held August 18-21, 2024, in Ottawa:
 - Phil Schaefer
 - Jeremy Smith

CARRIED.

Treasury Board
Secretariat –
Community
Emergency
Preparedness
Grant

Council reviewed the correspondence from the Treasury Board Secretariat regarding the recently announced Community Emergency Preparedness Grant.

4. Moved by: Jeremy SMITH
Seconded by: Brad SMITH
Resolved that Council approve the Township submitting an application under the Community Emergency Preparedness Grant program.

CARRIED.

County Council–
Updates &
Questions

Mayor SCHAEFER provided an update on County Council activities, including the recently approved 2024 budget.

At 7:15 p.m., Logan Romph and Matt Alexander from WSP, the consultants working with the Township on the Secondary Plan project, made a presentation to Council regarding updates on the project, as well as the recommended settlement area boundary expansion (SABE) lands. Council entertained questions and comments from the public, who were advised that there will be additional opportunities for public engagement as the project continues.

- 5. Moved by: Jeremy SMITH
 Seconded by: Scott ZEHR
 Resolved that Council endorse moving forward with the proposed Settlement Area Boundary Expansion (SABE) lands, as presented by WSP at the December 5, 2023, meeting.

CARRIED.

Recorded Vote on Resolution #5 called by Councillor Smith.

NAME	YEA	NAY
Matthew GILLESPIE	X	
Scott RUDY	X	
Phil SCHAEFER	X	
Brad SMITH	X	
Jeremy SMITH	X	
Steven VAN WYK		X
Scott ZEHR	X	
Total - CARRIED	6	1

Staff Report
 #CAO2023 – 18
 re: Treasury
 Reporting

CAO-Treasurer Karen DePrest reviewed the Monthly Treasury Report with Council.

- 6. Moved by: Brad SMITH
 Seconded by: Scott ZEHR
 Resolved that Council approve the purchase of a laser levelling unit using surplus funds from the 2023 Township budget.

CARRIED.

By-law: 7. Moved by: Scott RUDY
 1st & 2nd Seconded by: Jeremy SMITH
 Reading Resolved that the following by-laws be read a first and second time:

- 2023-38 – Borrowing By-law
- 2023-39 – Interim Tax Levy By-law
- 2023-40 – Committee of Adjustment (2024)
- 2023-41 – Tavistock Men’s Club Agreement (Concession Booth)
- 2023-42 – User Fees and Charges

CARRIED.

By-law: 8. Moved by: Brad SMITH
 3rd & Final Seconded by: Matthew GILLESPIE
 Reading Resolved that the following by-laws be read a third and final time:

- 2023-38 – Borrowing By-law
- 2023-39 – Interim Tax Levy By-law
- 2023-40 – Committee of Adjustment (2024)
- 2023-41 – Tavistock Men’s Club Agreement (Concession Booth)
- 2023-42 – User Fees and Charges

CARRIED.

Other and Unfinished Business

Through Council, a question had been brought forward from a resident regarding changing the street name of the Zorra/East Zorra-Tavistock Line. The resident will be advised to request a delegation at an upcoming Council meeting to present their request.

Confirming By-law 9. Moved by: Scott ZEHR
 Seconded by: Steven VAN WYK
 Resolved that By-law #2023-43 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council held Wednesday December 20, 2023, be read a first, second and third time this 20th day of December, 2023;

And further that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the same and affix the corporate seal thereto.

CARRIED.

Adjourn 10. Moved by: Scott RUDY
 Seconded by: Brad SMITH
 Resolved that Council does now adjourn at 9:48 p.m.

CARRIED.