

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 February 21, 2024.

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

Members Absent: Deputy Mayor Brad SMITH and Councillor Scott RUDY.

Staff Present: CAO-Treasurer Karen DePrest, Clerk Will Jaques, CBO John Scherer, Public Works Manager Tom Lightfoot, Fire Chief Scott Alexander and Human Resources/ Health and Safety Officer Jennifer Albrecht.

Mayor SCHAEFER welcomed everyone to the meeting. Councillor SMITH noted that February 18-24, 2024, is "Freedom to Read Week" in Canada. Mayor SCHAEFER noted that the "Coldest Night of the Year" event is being held on February 24, 2024.

Approve  
Agenda

1. Moved by: Scott ZEHR  
Seconded by: Steven VAN WYK  
Resolved that Council approve the agenda for the February 21, 2024, meeting as printed and circulated.

***CARRIED.***

**PECUNIARY INTERESTS:**

- None.

Confirm  
Minutes -  
Council

2. Moved by: Jeremy SMITH  
Seconded by: Matthew GILLESPIE  
Resolved that Council confirm the Minutes of the February 7, 2024, Council Meeting, as printed and circulated.

***CARRIED.***

Confirm  
Minutes -  
Special Council

3. Moved by: Steven VAN WYK  
Seconded by: Scott ZEHR  
Resolved that Council confirm the Minutes of the February 13, 2024, Special Council Meeting, as printed and circulated.

***CARRIED.***

**Correspondence & Reports – No Resolutions:**

- None.

**Correspondence & Reports – Resolutions Following:**

OSUM – 2024  
Conference

4. Moved by: Matthew GILLESPIE  
Seconded by: Scott ZEHR  
Resolved that Council approve the attendance of the following members at the 2024 OSUM Conference, to be held May 1-3, 2024, in Orillia:
- Jeremy Smith

***CARRIED.***

Staff Report  
#HRSC2024-02  
re: HR Updates  
-Vacation Policy

Human Resources/ Health and Safety Officer  
Jennifer Albrecht presented her report to Council regarding an update to the Vacation Policy.

5. Moved by: Jeremy SMITH  
Seconded by: Scott ZEHR  
Resolved that Council approve the recommended update to Policy #4.01 - Vacation Policy, as attached to Staff Report #HRSC2024-02.

***CARRIED.***

2024 Budget  
Public Meeting -  
Open

6. Moved by: Steven VAN WYK  
Seconded by: Scott ZEHR  
Resolved that Council does now adjourn to a Public Meeting for consideration of the 2024 Budget, at 7:17 p.m.

***CARRIED.***

CAO Karen DePrest highlighted the proposed 2024 budget. Members of Council discussed items related to the proposed 2024 budget. Ratepayer Steve Killing was present and asked various questions regarding the proposed budget.

Adjourn Budget  
Public Meeting -  
Council  
Reconvene

7. Moved by: Jeremy SMITH  
Seconded by: Scott ZEHR  
Resolved that the Public Meeting does now adjourn and Council reconvenes at 7:32 p.m.

***CARRIED.***

By-law: 8. Moved by: Matthew GILLESPIE  
1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Seconded by: Steven VAN WYK  
Reading Resolved that the following by-law be read a first  
and second time:  
• 2024-06 – Actual Cost By-law (Witzel Drain)

**CARRIED.**

By-law: 9. Moved by: Jeremy SMITH  
3<sup>rd</sup> & Final Seconded by: Scott ZEHR  
Reading Resolved that the following by-law be read a third  
and final time:  
• 2024-06 – Actual Cost By-law (Witzel Drain)

**CARRIED.**

Other and Council asked questions of staff regarding both the  
Unfinished Secondary Plan and Strategic Plan processes.  
Business

Confirming 10. Moved by: Scott ZEHR  
By-law Seconded by: Jeremy SMITH  
Resolved that By-law #2024-07 being a by-law to  
confirm the proceedings of Council held  
Wednesday February 21, 2024, be read a first,  
second and third time this 21<sup>st</sup> day of February,  
2024;

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

**CARRIED.**

Adjourn 11. Moved by: Steven VAN WYK  
Seconded by: Scott ZEHR  
Resolved that Council does now adjourn at  
7:39 p.m.

**CARRIED.**

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Will Jaques, Clerk

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Phil Schaefer, Mayor