

The Council of the Township of East Zorra-Tavistock met in the Council Chambers at the Township Administration Building, Hickson, Ontario at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday March 6, 2024.

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, Fire Chief Scott Alexander, Corporate Initiatives Officer Meaghan Vader and Human Resources/ Health and Safety Officer Jennifer Albrecht.

Mayor SCHAEFER welcomed everyone to the meeting, noting that the new Township Office open house is being held on Friday March 22nd. Mayor SCHAEFER also noted that the Canadian flags at various Township buildings have been lowered to honour the passing of former Prime Minister Brian Mulroney. Councillor SMITH noted the fundraising success of the Innerkip Lions Club for the Coldest Night of the Year event (highest donations collected amongst all Lions Clubs in Canada), as well as the upcoming Innerkip Lions Club fish fry, being held on Friday March 29th. Additionally, Councillor SMITH noted **that Friday March 8 is International Women's Day.**

Approve
Agenda

1. Moved by: Scott ZEHR
Seconded by: Brad SMITH
Resolved that Council approve the agenda for the March 6, 2024, meeting as printed and circulated.

CARRIED.

PECUNIARY INTERESTS:

- Steven VAN WYK – Items #5(b) and #5(c) (Prowind Renewables - Presentation and Wind Concerns EZT - Presentation, respectively.)

Confirm Minutes - Council

2. Moved by: Jeremy SMITH
 Seconded by: Matthew GILLESPIE
 Resolved that Council confirm the Minutes of the February 21, 2024, Council Meeting, as printed and circulated.

CARRIED.

Correspondence & Reports – No Resolutions:

- None.

Correspondence & Reports – Resolutions Following:

Tavistock Royals – MAP Exception Request

Council reviewed the correspondence from the Tavistock Royals Hockey Club regarding their request for an exception to the Municipal Alcohol Policy to allow for alcohol to be consumed in the tiered seating area of the Tavistock Arena, during various games.

3. Moved by: Scott RUDY
 Seconded by: Matthew GILLESPIE
 Resolved that Council approve the request from the Tavistock Royals Hockey Club for an exception to the Municipal Alcohol Policy, to allow for alcohol to be consumed in the tiered seating area of the Tavistock Arena during their hockey games on the following dates:

- Sunday February 11th
- Saturday February 17th
- Friday February 23rd
- Sunday March 3rd
- Sunday March 10th
- Sunday March 17th

CARRIED.

County Council– Updates & Questions

Mayor SCHAEFER provided an update on County Council activities.

By-law:
 1st & 2nd
 Reading

4. Moved by: Jeremy SMITH
 Seconded by: Scott ZEHR
 Resolved that the following by-laws be read a first and second time:

- 2024-08 – Budget and Tax Rates By-law
- 2024-09 – Innerkip Minor Ball Agreement
- 2024-10 – Hickson Sports and Recreation Agreement

CARRIED.

- By-law: 5. Moved by: Brad SMITH
 Seconded by: Matthew GILLESPIE
 3rd & Final Resolved that the following by-laws be read a third
 Reading and final time:
- 2024-08 – Budget and Tax Rates By-law
 - 2024-09 – Innerkip Minor Ball Agreement
 - 2024-10 – Hickson Sports and Recreation Agreement

CARRIED.

At 9:16 a.m., Sean-Michael Stephen from Watson and Associates Economists Ltd. presented the draft Development Charges Background Study, and responded to questions and comments of Council and Staff regarding the Study.

Having declared a pecuniary interest in regards to agenda items #5(b) and #5(c), Councillor Steven VAN WYK left the meeting at 9:47 a.m.

At 9:48 a.m., Helmut Schneider from Prowind Renewables made a presentation to Council regarding a wind farm proposed on lands within East Zorra-Tavistock and Blandford-Blenheim, and responded to questions of Council.

At 10:22 a.m., David Cunningham, representing Wind Concerns EZT, made a presentation to Council regarding concerns with wind farms, including the wind farm proposed by Prowind Renewables.

6. Moved by: Brad SMITH
 Seconded by: Scott ZEHR
 Resolved that the Township of East Zorra-Tavistock declares itself to be an unwilling host for wind turbine developments.

CARRIED.

Recorded Vote on Resolution #6 called by Councillor SMITH.

NAME	YEA	NAY
Matthew GILLESPIE	X	
Scott RUDY	X	
Phil SCHAEFER	X	
Brad SMITH	X	
Jeremy SMITH	X	
Scott ZEHR	X	
Total – <i>CARRIED</i>	6	0

Councillor Steven VAN WYK returned to the meeting at 10:54 a.m.

Council observed a recess from 10:55 a.m. to 11:05 a.m.

Adjourn to
Closed to the
Public Session

7. Moved by: Scott ZEHR
Seconded by: Scott RUDY
Resolved that Council does now adjourn to a Closed to the Public Session, at 11:06 a.m., to consider the following matters:

- February 7, 2024, Closed to the Public Session Minutes (s. 239 (2) (c), (i), (j))
- Human Resources Matter (s. 239 (2) (b))

CARRIED.

Rise from
Closed to the
Public Session

8. Moved by: Scott RUDY
Seconded by: Steven VAN WYK
Resolved that Council does now rise from its Closed to the Public Session at 11:55 a.m.

CARRIED.

Council observed a recess between 11:56 p.m. and 12:54 p.m.

9. Moved by: Jeremy SMITH
Seconded by: Brad SMITH
Resolved that Council suspend its rules of procedure under Procedural By-law #2018-01, as amended, to extend the meeting until no later than 4:30 p.m.

CARRIED.

Strategic
Planning
Session

Council participated in a Strategic Planning Session facilitated by the Strategic Planning project consultant, Rob Adams, from Town Hall Consulting.

Confirming
By-law

10. Moved by: Scott ZEHR
Seconded by: Scott RUDY
Resolved that By-law #2024-11 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council held Wednesday March 6, 2024, be read a first, second and third time this 6th day of March, 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: Brad SMITH
Seconded by: Matthew GILLESPIE
Resolved that Council does now adjourn at 3:59 p.m.

CARRIED.

Will Jaques, Clerk

Phil Schaefer, Mayor