



**Elgin County Council
Regular Council Meeting
Minutes**

**May 13, 2025, 9:00 a.m.
Council Chambers
450 Sunset Drive
St. Thomas ON**

Members Present: Warden Grant Jones
Deputy Warden Ed Ketchabaw
Councillor Dominique Giguère
Councillor Mark Widner
Councillor Jack Couckuyt
Councillor Andrew Sloan (virtual)
Councillor Todd Noble
Councillor Mike Hentz
Councillor Richard Leatham

Staff Present: Blaine Parkin, Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk
Nicholas Loeb, Director of Legal Services
Michele Harris, Director of Homes and Seniors Services
Brian Masschaele, Director of Community & Cultural Services
Jennifer Ford, Director of Financial Services/Treasurer
Mat Vaughan, Director of Planning and Development
Holly Hurley, Director of People & Culture
Emily Waldick, Manager of Human Resources
Katherine Thompson, Manager of Administrative Services/Deputy Clerk
Jenna Fentie, Legislative Services Coordinator
Stefanie Heide, Legislative Services Coordinator

1. Meeting Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. with Warden Jones in the chair.

2. Approval of Agenda

Council consented to the deferral of item 9.3 - Manager of Library Services - 2024 Library Performance Report to a future meeting of County Council.

Moved by: Councillor Couckuyt
Seconded by: Councillor Leatham

RESOLVED THAT the agenda for the May 13, 2025 County Council Meeting be approved as amended.

Motion Carried.

3. Introductions, Recognitions, Memorials

None.

4. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by: Councillor Widner
Seconded by: Councillor Noble

RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting held on April 22, 2025 be adopted.

Motion Carried.

5. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

None.

6. Presenting Petitions, Presentations and Delegations

None.

7. Motion to Adopt Recommendations from the Committee of the Whole

Moved by: Councillor Hentz

Seconded by: Councillor Giguère

RESOLVED THAT items CW25-5 to CW25-13 from the Committee of the Whole Meeting dated April 22, 2025 and the recommendations therein be adopted.

Motion Carried.

8. Committee Recommendations

8.1 Rural Initiatives and Planning Advisory Committee - April 22, 2025 Recommendations

Moved by: Deputy Warden Ketchabaw

Seconded by: Councillor Leatham

RESOLVED THAT item RIPA25-5 from the Rural Initiatives and Planning Advisory Committee Meeting dated April 22, 2025 and the recommendations therein be adopted.

Motion Carried.

9. Reports for Information and Immediate Consideration

9.1 Warden Jones - Warden's Activity Report (April 2025)

Warden Jones presented the report detailing his activities for April 2025.

Moved by: Councillor Hentz

Seconded by: Councillor Leatham

THAT the report titled "Warden's Activity Report (April 2025)" from Warden Jones dated May 13, 2025 be received and filed.

Motion Carried.

9.2 Manager of Human Resources - Human Resources - Accessibility Week Update

The Manager of Human Resources presented the report highlighting the activities that the County will host during Accessibility Week in Canada.

Moved by: Councillor Noble

Seconded by: Councillor Giguère

RESOLVED THAT the report titled "Human Resources- Accessibility Week" from the Manager of Human Resources dated May 13, 2025, be received and filed.

Motion Carried.

9.3 Manager of Library Services - 2024 Library Performance Report

This report was deferred to a future meeting of County Council.

10. Council Correspondence

Moved by: Councillor Widner
Seconded by: Councillor Leatham

RESOLVED THAT Correspondence Items 10.1 - 10.6 be received and filed.

Motion Carried.

- 10.1 Letter from Ex-Warden's Association to Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing expressing the Association's collective concerns and opposition to the expansion of Strong Mayor Powers**
- 10.2 Resolution from the Town of Aylmer opposing the expansion of Strong Mayor Powers**
- 10.3 Letter from AMO President to Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing regarding Strong Mayor Powers**
- 10.4 Letter from SCOR EDC Chair of the Board of Directors re: Update on Regional Rail Infrastructure Project Application**
- 10.5 Invitation to attend the London District Catholic School Board Community Partnerships Meeting on May 22, 2025**
- 10.6 Resolution from City of Richmond Hill requesting provincial regulations to restrict keeping of non-native ("exotic") wild animals**

11. Statements/Inquiries by Members

11.1 Warden Jones - Elgin County Warden's Charity Golf Tournament

Warden Jones reminded Councillors that the Annual Elgin County Warden's Charity Golf Tournament is one month away and encouraged Councillors to sign up to play.

12. Closed Meeting Items

Moved by: Councillor Sloan
Seconded by: Councillor Hentz

RESOLVED THAT we do now proceed into closed meeting session in accordance with the Municipal Act to discuss the following matters under Municipal Act Section 239 (2):

Closed Meeting Item #1 - Closed Meeting Minutes - April 22, 2025

Closed Meeting Item #2 - Human Resources Matter (verbal)

(b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees; and (f) advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose.

Motion Carried.

12.1 Closed Meeting Minutes - April 22, 2025

12.2 Director, People & Culture and Director of Legal Services - Human Resources Matter (verbal)

13. Motion to Rise and Report

Moved by: Councillor Noble
Seconded by: Councillor Giguère

RESOLVED THAT we do now rise and report.

Motion Carried.

Closed Meeting Item #1 - Closed Meeting Minutes - April 22, 2025

Moved by: Deputy Warden Ketchabaw

Seconded by: Councillor Hentz

RESOLVED THAT the April 22, 2025 Closed Meeting Minutes be adopted.

Motion Carried.

Closed Meeting Item #2 - Human Resources Matter (verbal)

Moved by: Councillor Widner

Seconded by: Councillor Leatham

RESOLVED THAT the confidential verbal report from the Director of People & Culture and the Director of Legal Services be received and filed.

Motion Carried.

14. Consideration of By-Laws

14.1 By-Law No. 25-20 Fees and Charges

BEING a By-Law to Provide a Schedule of Services and Activities Subject to Fees and Charges by the County of Elgin and to Repeal By-Laws No. 24-26 and 24-45.

Moved by: Deputy Warden Ketchabaw

Seconded by: Councillor Hentz

RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 25-20 be now read a first, second, and third time and finally passed.

Motion Carried.

14.2 By-Law No. 25-21 Confirmation

BEING a By-Law to Confirm Proceedings of the Municipal Council of the Corporation of the County of Elgin at the May 13, 2025 Meeting.

Moved by: Councillor Leatham

Seconded by: Councillor Giguère

RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 25-21 be now read a first, second and third time and finally passed.

Motion Carried.

15. Adjournment

Moved by: Councillor Sloan

Seconded by: Councillor Noble

RESOLVED THAT we do now adjourn at 9:18 a.m. to meet again on May 27, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

Motion Carried.

Blaine Parkin,
Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk.

Grant Jones,
Warden.