



Municipality of Southwest Middlesex

Regular Council Meeting

Minutes

Wednesday, December 17, 2025, 1:30 PM

Council Present: Mayor Allan Mayhew;
Deputy Mayor Mike Sholdice;
Councillor Majorie Emery;
Councillor Don McCallum;
Councillor Mark McGill;
Councillor Ed Myers;
Councillor Martin Vink;

Council Absent: Councillor Joel Haggith;

Staff Present: Amanda Gubbels, CAO
Denice Williamson, Treasurer
Mauro Castrilli, Public Works Manager
Kevin Miller, Manager of Community Services & Facilities
Colleen Kelly, Deputy Clerk

Meeting can be viewed at:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6oo98BZcAvuVMKLDx88I4A>

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Mayhew called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

3. CONFIRMATION OF THE AGENDA

2025-349

Moved by Councillor Majorie Emery
Seconded by Councillor Don McCallum

That the Regular Agenda of Council dated December 17, 2025 be accepted as presented.

Carried

4. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

4.1 Mark Peacock, P.Eng., CAO/Secretary-Treasurer, Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority (LTVCA) - Amalgamation of Conservation Authorities

2025-350

Moved by Councillor Mark McGill
Seconded by Councillor Martin Vink

That the Council of the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex receive the delegation on December 17, 2025 from Mark Peacock, CAO/Secretary-Treasurer, Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority (LTVCA) titled Amalgamation of Conservation Authorities for information;

And that Council direct staff to support the resolution as recommended in the presentation.

Carried

4.2 Watson & Associates Economists Limited - Development Charges Background Study

2025-351

Moved by Councillor Don McCallum
Seconded by Councillor Mark McGill

That the Council of the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex receive the delegation on December 17, 2025 from Watson and Associates Economists Limited titled Development Charges Background Study for information.

Carried

5. CONSENT AGENDA

2025-352

Moved by Councillor Mark McGill
Seconded by Councillor Martin Vink

That the Council of the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex receive Items 5.1. to 5.16, with the exception of Item 5.8 St. Clair Region conservation Authority - Proposed Regional Consolidation of Ontario Conservation Authorities, Item 5.14 City of Toronto resolution of support regarding Adding Swim to Survive to the Ontario Curriculum to Improve Water Safety and Save Lives and Item 5.15 City of Peterborough resolution of support regarding the Elect Respect Campaign, which shall be received separately, as set out on the Consent Agenda for the December 17, 2025 Regular Meeting of Council, for information;

And that Council approve the minutes of the December 3, 2025 Regular Council Meeting and the December 10, 2025 Special Meeting of Council.

Carried

- 5.1 Draft Regular Meeting of Council Minutes - December 3, 2025
- 5.2 Draft Special Meeting of Council Minutes - December 10, 2025
- 5.3 Voucher Reports - November 2025 (FIN-2025-24)
- 5.4 Middlesex County November 27, 2025 Media Release - County Council Welcomes Councillor Clarke as the New Warden of Middlesex County
- 5.5 Middlesex-London Health Unit (MLHU) - Monthly Board of Health Update - November 2025
- 5.6 Middlesex-London Health Unit (MLHU) - Board of Health Report - Monitoring Food Affordability and Implications for Public Policy and Action
- 5.7 Municipal Engineers Association (MEA) appoints new Board of Directors at 2025 Annual General Meeting (AGM)
- 5.8 St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) - Proposed Regional Consolidation of Ontario Conservation Authorities

2025-353

Moved by Councillor Don McCallum

Seconded by Councillor Mark McGill

That the Council of the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex receive consent agenda item 5.8 - St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) - Proposed Regional Consolidation of Ontario Conservation Authorities for information;

And that Council direct staff to send a letter of support.

Carried

- 5.9 Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority (ABC) - Submission to ERO 025-1257
Consultation on proposed boundaries for the regional consolidation of Ontario's conservation authorities
- 5.10 Town of Petrolia resolution of support regarding City of Cambridge - Rent Protection for Tenants
- 5.11 Town of Blue Mountains resolution of support regarding Township of Tiny - TC Energy's Ontario Pumped Storage Project
- 5.12 Township of Minden Hills resolution of support regarding Town of Mattawa - Strong Mayor Powers
- 5.13 Township of Puslinch resolution of support regarding Municipality of South Huron and Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal - Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund
- 5.14 City of Toronto resolution of support regarding Adding Swim to Survive to the Ontario Curriculum to Improve Water Safety and Save Lives

2025-354

Moved by Deputy Mayor Mike Sholdice
Seconded by Councillor Majorie Emery

That the Council of the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex receive item 5.14 - City of Toronto resolution of support regarding adding Swim to Survive to the Ontario Curriculum to Improve Water Safety and Save Lives, for information;

And that Council direct staff to send a letter of support.

Carried

- 5.15 City of Peterborough resolution of support regarding the Elect Respect Campaign

2025-355

Moved by Mayor Allan Mayhew
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Mike Sholdice

That the Council of the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex receive item 5.15 - City of Peterborough resolution of support regarding the Elect Respect Campaign, for information;

And that Council direct staff to send a letter of support.

Carried

5.16 Honourable Jill Dunlop, Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response - Emergency Management Modernization Act Achieves Royal Assent

6. COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT - None

7. PUBLIC MEETINGS - None

8. STAFF REPORTS

8.1 Chief Administrative Officer

8.1.1 2026 Budget Survey - Public Results Summary (CAO-2025-67)

2025-356

Moved by Councillor Ed Myers

Seconded by Councillor Martin Vink

That the Council of the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex receive the report dated December 17, 2025 prepared by the Chief Administrative Officer titled 2026 Budget Survey – Public Results Summary (CAO-2025-67) for information;

And that Council directs the Manager of Finance/Treasurer to use the received public feedback to inform the development of the proposed 2026 municipal budget.

Carried

8.1.2 2026 Budget Survey - Council Results Summary (CAO-2025-68)

2025-357

Moved by Councillor Don McCallum

Seconded by Councillor Majorie Emery

That the Council of the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex receive the report dated December 17, 2025 prepared by the Chief Administrative Officer titled 2026 Council Budget Survey Results Summary (CAO-2025-67) for information;

And that Council directs the Manager of Finance/Treasurer to use the received Council feedback to inform the development of the proposed 2026 municipal budget.

Carried

- 8.2 Clerk - None
- 8.3 Finance - None
- 8.4 Public Works

8.4.1 Currie Drain and Kerekes Drain - Section 78 Improvement (DS-2025-19)

2025-358

Moved by Deputy Mayor Mike Sholdice
Seconded by Councillor Martin Vink

That the Council of the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex receive the report dated December 17, 2025, prepared by the Drainage Superintendent titled Currie Drain and Kerekes Drain – Section 78 Improvement (DS-2025-19) for information;

And that Council appoint Spiret Associates Engineers & Architects under Section 78 of the Drainage Act from the owner of Conc. 2 NLR PT lots 23 & 24, for an improvement to the Currie Drain and Kerekes Drain (formerly of Ekfrid Township).

Carried

- 8.5 Community Services and Facilities - None
- 8.6 Fire - None
- 8.7 Building - None
- 8.8 Planning - None

9. NOTICE OF MOTION - None

10. CORRESPONDENCE AND PETITIONS

- 10.1 Mayor Frank Campion, City of Welland correspondence regarding A Call to Action: Standing Together for Justice and the Protection of Canada's Children

2025-359

Moved by Deputy Mayor Mike Sholdice
Seconded by Councillor Ed Myers

That the Council of the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex receive the correspondence from Mayor Frank Campion, City of Welland regarding A Call to Action: Standing Together for Justice and the Protection of Canada's Children for information.

Carried

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

12. NEW BUSINESS - None

13. COUNTY COUNCIL AND CONFERENCE UPDATE - None

14. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Appreciation was expressed for the hard work and commitment from local charities.

Information was shared regarding upcoming events for families over the holidays.

15. CLOSED SESSION

2025-360

Moved by Councillor Martin Vink

Seconded by Councillor Don McCallum

That the Regular Meeting of Council of the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex be temporarily adjourned at 2:42 p.m. to permit the holding of a meeting in Closed Session for the purpose(s) of:

Exceptions Pursuant to Section 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001

Carried

15.1 Closed Item - Closed Meeting Minutes - December 10, 2025

15.2 Closed Item - Section 239(2)(c) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board

15.3 Closed Item - Section 239(2)(b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees

16. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION

2025-361

Moved by Deputy Mayor Mike Sholdice

Seconded by Councillor Ed Myers

That the Council of the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex rise from Closed Session and reconvene to the Regular Meeting of Council at 3:52 p.m.

And that in open session, Council approve the previous Closed Minutes from December 10, 2025;

And that Council receive the report related to Section 239(2)(c) for information;

And that Council receive the report related to section 239(2)(b) for information and provide direction to the Clerk regarding next steps.

Carried

17. BY-LAWS

2025-362

Moved by Councillor Don McCallum

Seconded by Councillor Ed Myers

That the Council of Southwest Middlesex give a third and final reading to by-law 2025/089 and adopt by-laws 2025/109 to 2025/112 as listed below.

Carried

- 17.1 2025/089 Being a by-law Lethbridge Drain 2025 (third and final reading)
- 17.2 2025/109 Being a by-law to authorize the execution of a Voter List Management Services agreement with Datafix - 2026 Municipal Election
- 17.3 2025/110 Being a by-law to appoint an Interim Clerk
- 17.4 2025/111 Being a by-law to appoint an Interim Deputy Clerk
- 17.5 2025/112 Being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council on December 17, 2025

18. FUTURE MEETINGS (subject to change)

Special Meeting of Council (Budget) - Wednesday January 7, 2026 at 9:30 a.m.

Regular Meeting of Council - Wednesday January 14, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

Special Meeting of Council (Budget Presentation) - Wednesday January 21, 2026 at 9:30 a.m.

19. ADJOURNMENT

2025-363

Moved by Councillor Majorie Emery

Seconded by Councillor Ed Myers

That the Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned at 3:57 p.m.

Carried