

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – APRIL 11, 2011

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Monday, April 11, 2011 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

Present: Mayor Nelson
Councillors: Garbutt, Racicot, Vezina
Clerk-Treasurer Buob

Visitors: Kelly Johnson, Leadhand

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m..

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: Councillor Racicot declared an interest in items 15 c) v) and 18 a) as his spouse is an employee of the Township.

1. Moved by J. Vezina
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 28, 2011 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.

Carried

2. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by G. Garbutt

THAT COUNCILLOR LOAN BE MARKED ABSENT FOR PERSONAL REASONS.

Carried

Mr. Johnson was welcomed to the table. Timesheet reports for March 7 to 18, 2011 and March 21 to April 1, 2011 were read. Roadwork in general was discussed. The road department has been removing trees off the roads after the wind storm and cleaning culvert ends. The frost heaves are starting to settle and they are waiting for the roads to dry before starting any projects.

Mr. Johnson has not at this time contacted TWD with regard to steaming culverts for them.

The location and the number of the signs to be posted with regard to the non-use of compression brakes within the Township was discussed. The current sign posted on the Welcome to O'Connor sign will be moved to Strom road. Other possible locations and size of signs will be discussed further during the Township inspection.

Workplace Safety and Prevention Services is holding a Networking and Knowledge Exchange and it was

3. Moved by J. Vezina
Seconded by G. Garbutt

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE WORKPLACE SAFETY & PREVENTION SERVICES - NETWORKING AND KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE – “DON'T SAY IT WILL NEVER HAPPEN” TO BE HELD IN THUNDER BAY ON APRIL 27, 2011.

REGISTRATION: \$11.00 PLUS HST

**KELLY JOHNSON, LEADHAND
BRENT DENNHARDT**

Carried

The Road Department's Five Year Road Plan was presented to Council. This plan outlines the major projects the Road Department would like to see completed in the next five years. The plan is subject to change due to funding opportunities or if priorities change due to different circumstances that may occur over the years.

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Council moved item 16 a), the high-speed internet booster system information forward on the agenda to discuss with Mr. Johnson. The system that was originally planned to be setup for boosting the office's internet service to the garage and fire hall will not work as it needs a clear line of site and the row of trees in front of the office and community centre does not allow for this. The option of cutting down the trees in front was discussed. Another internet service at the garage or fire hall is still an option however there would be the monthly charge. Mr. Johnson does not feel that it would be worth the extra monthly expense for the garage to have this service.

Mr. Johnson was thanked for attending.

The roads and administration voucher for March 31, 2011 was reviewed and it was

4. Moved by G. Garbutt
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR MARCH 31, 2011 TOTTALLING \$104,238.46 BE APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

The Statement of Revenue and Expenditures to March 31, 2011 were reviewed.

By-law and Policies were discussed as follows:

- a) By-law Number 2011-07 – Being a By-law to amend the Procedural By-law, Sections 3, 5, 12 and 15 was reviewed and it was

5. Moved by J. Vezina
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2011-07 BEING A BY-LAW TO AMEND BY-LAW NUMBER 2002-22, THE BY-LAW TO GOVERN THE PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

- b) By-law Number 2011-08 – Being a By-law to amend the current Notice By-law, Sections 1 and 6 was reviewed and it was

6. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by G. Garbutt

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2011-08 BEING A BY-LAW TO AMEND BY-LAW NUMBER 2007-24, THE PROVISION OF GIVING NOTICE BY-LAW BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

Consent Application number 1B/01/11 was discussed. Upon further review of the mapping by the Lakehead Rural Planning Board, it was noticed that the majority of the property in the application was zoned Extractive Industrial. This zoning designation does not allow for use of any building or structure for any purpose except accessory buildings for the use of pits and quarries. The land is currently not an active pit and it has not been used as such for several years. It also was not registered in 2007 with the Ministry of Natural Resources as such. The application was deferred at the Lakehead Rural Planning Board meeting to allow for this issue to be addressed by the owner. The applicant could submit a Minor Variance application or a Zoning Amendment application to the Township to request that this designation be changed. The Deputy Clerk-Treasurer has contacted the Ministry of Natural Resources with regard to this matter and was told that they would not have a concern with the property being rezoned as it was not currently registered as a pit or quarry.

The Clerk-Treasurer will meet with the property owners and Ms. Martyn, Secretary-Treasurer of the Lakehead Rural Planning Board to discuss the options.

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Resolutions for endorsement were reviewed as follows:

- a) Township of Ignace regarding the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, Emergency Medical Services funding formula was filed
 - b) Township of Terrace Bay requesting that the Government of Ontario do a Feasibility Study on the costs and benefits of Improving the Sultan Road and Highways 144, 667, 129 and 101 to the same class as Highway 17 was filed
 - c) Northwestern Ontario Emerald Ash Borer Task Force regarding the Urban Forestry mandates was filed
 - d) Town of Ingersoll regarding the support of the Ontario Bill 22, an Act to Amend the Children's Law Reform Act was filed
 - e) Municipality of Tweed regarding the destruction of buildings used for grow ops was filed
 - f) Regional Municipality of Halton regarding the directing of a portion of the revenue derived from the HST charged on gasoline and diesel sales to a new predictable funding and it was
7. Moved by G. Garbutt
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT THE RESOLUTION FROM THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF HALTON REQUESTING THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO CONSIDER DIRECTING A PORTION OF THE REVENUE DERIVED FROM HST CHARGED ON GASOLINE AND DIESEL SALES TO A NEW PREDICTABLE FUNDING MECHANISM THAT WILL ALLOW ONTARIO'S MUNICIPALITIES TO MAKE THE CRITICAL INVESTMENTS NEEDED TO BE EFFECTIVE STEWARDS OF TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE BE ENDORSED.

Carried

Thunder Bay District Social Services Administration Board's email was read. The new Chief Administration Officer of the board, Melissa Harrison, would like to tour the member municipalities and either informally or through a formal presentation, meet with Council. At the last Council meeting Council requested that an invitation be sent to the DSSAB board asking for a further explanation of the board's budget and the Township's levy. Mayor Nelson will speak with Chair, Iain Angus, about a meeting and a reply to Ms. Harrison will be made at this time.

Correspondence was read as follows:

- a) Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) – i) Copy of letter to the Standing Committee on General Government requesting that hearings on Bill 151 be held in Northwestern Ontario. Mayor Nelson, as President of NOMA, will be going in front of the committee on Wednesday.
 - ii) Ontario Government refuses request for Northern Hearings on Bill 151: Meetings on Forest Tenure Legislation to be held in Toronto
 - iii) Copy of letter to Premier McGuinty – Help us save Dubreuilville. A letter of support will not be forwarded
 - iv) Copy of letter to the Honourable Rick Bartolucci, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing regarding Proposed Changes to the Ontario Building Code
- b) Randy Hillier, PC Party Critic for Northern Development, Mines and Forestry
 - i) regarding the Cancellation of all Northern committee consultation on Bill 151.
 - ii) McGuinty Liberals Shut Door to Northern Consultations
 - iii) Urgent News regarding Forestry Consultations
- c) Association of Municipalities of Ontario – i) Watch File – March 31, 2011
 - ii) Watch File – April 7, 2011
 - iii) 2011 Provincial Budget Preserves Upload Schedule
 - iv) AMO Report to Members on March 2011 Board Meeting

Councillor Racicot left the room.

- v) Reminder – upcoming LAS/AMO Information Sessions. No one will attend.

Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting.

- d) Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario – 2011 Provincial Budget, March 29, 2011 – Municipal Highlights

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- e) Ontario Good Roads Association – 2011 Ontario Budget
 - f) AMCTO – Special Legislative Express: Accessibility Update March 2011
 - g) Margot Maidment, Program Delivery Administrator – Workplace Safety & Prevention Services – regarding upcoming training courses. It was
8. Moved by J. Vezina
Seconded by G. Garbutt

THAT CLERK-TREASURER BUOB AND LEADHAND JOHNSON ATTEND THE WORKPLACE SAFETY & PREVENTION SERVICES HIRING OUTSIDE CONTRACTORS TRAINING TO BE HELD IN THUNDER BAY ON APRIL 19, 2011.

Carried

- h) Local Services Board of Nolalu – regarding Junior Fire Cadet Program
- i) Stewardship Ontario – regarding Industry funding for Municipal Blue Box Recycling for 2010 Program Year. The 4th quarter payment has now been paid.

The Balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) The high-speed booster system for the garage and fire hall was further discussed. The Fire Department could possibly use the community centre for their training nights that they plan on accessing the internet. Council will discuss the options with the Fire Department at the next meeting.
 - b) The date for a Community Policing Strategies meeting was discussed. It was
9. Moved by G. Garbutt
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT A COMMUNITY POLICING STRATEGY MEETING TO ADDRESS CONCERNS WITH TRAFFIC ON STROM ROAD BE SET FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2011 AT 7:00 P.M.

Carried

- c) A reply letter from Michael Gravelle, MPP, with regard to Council's resolution in support of the funding opportunity for the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority's building was read.

Under further old business, Council discussed the Official Plan review. It was mentioned that there are no penalties or fines if the Township does not review their plan. This will be discussed further after Mr. Armstrong's presentation at the special meeting to discuss the required changes to the Official Plan to be held on June 14, 2011.

The fire department tanker's tanks were discussed with regard to the different weights between water and fuels. This information will be forwarded to the Fire Chief.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Ministry of Natural Resources - Aviation, Forest Fire and Emergency Services Branch – request to have a link to the public located on the Township's website. This link would display the current forest fire situation updates. Council agreed to have this link put up on the website.

Issues brought forward or letters received after the agenda was mailed were discussed as follows:

Councillor Racicot left the room.

- a) AMCTO Zone 9 Spring Meeting and Conference. It was

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10. Moved by G. Garbutt
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE AMCTO ZONE 9 SPRING MEETING AND CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN TERRACE BAY ON MAY 4 AND 5, 2011.

REGISTRATION: \$100.00

CLERK-TREASURER BUOB

Carried

Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting

- b) Norm Gale, Chief of EMS, Superior North Emergency Medical Services – invitation to attend the sod turning ceremony for the new Superior North EMS District Headquarters/ North Station. Councillor Vezina will attend.

11. Moved by G. Garbutt
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE BUDGET MEETING TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2011 AT 6:00 P.M.

TIME BEING: 9:15 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer