

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR - MINUTES – APRIL 12, 2010

Minutes of the meeting held on April 12, 2010 at 7 p.m. in the municipal building.

Present: Mayor Nelson
 Councillors: Garbutt, Nygard, Racicot, Vezina
 Clerk-Treasurer Buob
 Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Racicot
 Visitors: Kelly Johnson, Leadhand
 Rosy Brizi and Angela Lee – Grant Thornton

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m..

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: Councillor Racicot declared an interest in item 17 d) as his spouse is an employee of the Township.

1. Moved by Bishop Racicot
 Seconded by G. Garbutt

**THAT THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY,
 MARCH 22, 2010 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.**

Carried

Mayor Nelson asked the visitors if they wished to address Council. They replied no.

Mr. Johnson, Leadhand, was welcomed to the table. Time sheets from March 8 to 19 and March 22 to April 2, 2010 were reviewed. Roadwork in general was discussed. The frost heaves are starting to come out and there are a few wet spots on the roads as a result. Blaikie Road hill is the worst spot. They will start to steam clean the equipment in the next couple of weeks. Mr. Johnson will be meeting with a representative from Hydro One on Tuesday, April 13th to discuss Council's concerns with regard to the location of the pole on Blaikie road.

A letter was read from the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors (AORS). The Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA) announced the end of partnership with the AORS on March 9, 2010. AORS is still looking for the Township's support and encourage continued membership. Mr. Johnson will look into this further to see what has been offered by each organization to see if we need to continue with both memberships.

A Township inspection was discussed and it was

2. Moved by G. Garbutt
 Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**THAT A TOWNSHIP INSPECTION BE SET FOR FRIDAY, MAY 28, 2010 AT
 8:30 A.M.**

Carried

Mr. Johnson was thanked for attending.

Ms. Brizi and Ms. Lee of Grant Thornton LLP were welcomed to the table. Ms. Brizi presented the 2009 Draft Consolidated Financial Statements for the Township. The statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted for the public sector as prescribed by the Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) of Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants. Due to the new changes in the PSAB reporting requirements with regard to Tangible Capital Assets for the Township in 2009, the comparative figures have been adjusted accordingly. Ms. Brizi explained to Council that the numbers and some of the reports will look different this year due to the inclusion of the Tangible Capital Assets. The notes in the document do explain the changes. Each report in the documents was explained to Council.

Ms. Brizi also discussed the inclusion of the joint local boards in each municipality's statements. In previous years under the proportionate consolidation basis of accounting, the Township's pro-rata share of the assets, liabilities, revenues and

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR - MINUTES – APRIL 12, 2010

expenditures that were subject to shared control were combined on a line-by-line basis with similar items in the Township's financial statements. Grant Thornton has had meetings with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and the Ministry and pleaded a strong argument that the Thunder Bay District Health Unit and the District Social Services Administrative Board are another level of government and their mandate is set by the provincial government and should not be included in the municipalities statements. The Ministry has now agreed that they are not required to include the joint local board financial information in the municipalities Consolidated Financial Statements. This would make the release of the Township's financials much quicker and will be more of a true statement for the Township. Council agreed that the Township of O'Connor's 2009 statements will not include the joint local boards' figures.

Ms. Lee then presented to Council the Internal control findings and the Audit Communication document. The Internal Control findings explain the significant deficiencies and other deficiencies and advisory comments. It also mentions the Tangible Capital Assets, Landfill Liability and the new Harmonized Sales Tax. The Audit Communication document also included information with regard to Auditing development, PSAB accounting development and the new transitional rules for harmonized sales tax. Ms. Lee also thanked the staff for their cooperation and assistance during the course of their examinations. A management letter will have to be signed and Grant Thornton will have the final statements for Council's approval in the near future now that they do not have to wait for the joint local boards' information.

Ms. Brizi and Ms. Lee were thanked for attending.

Bills to be paid were passed around the table and it was

3. Moved by Lee Ann Nygard
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR MARCH 31, 2010 TOTTALLING \$88,225.72 BE APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

4. Moved by Lee Ann Nygard
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT THE INFRASTRUCTURE STIMULUS FUNDING VOUCHER FOR THE NEW MUNICIPAL BUILDING TO MARCH 31, 2010 TOTTALLING \$71,181.41 BE APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

5. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by Lee Ann Nygard

THAT THE FOLLOWING BILLS FOR APRIL 2010 BE PAID – THESE BILLS WILL BE INCLUDED ON THE APRIL 2010 ROAD AND ADMINISTRATION VOUCHER.

CK#9399	THUNDER BAY POLICE	\$2,160.00
CK#9400	WILSON'S BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	\$ 145.75

Carried

Resolutions for endorsement were read as follows:

- a) Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association i) regarding Support for a Strong and Vibrant Fednor. It was

6. Moved by Lee Ann Nygard
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT COUNCIL ENDORSE THE RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION CALLING ON THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO:

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR - MINUTES – APRIL 12, 2010

- **RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF THE NODP/FEDNOR PROGRAM TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN NORTHERN ONTARIO;**
- **IMPROVE SERVICE DELIVERY TIMELINES TO ENSURE FUNDING REQUESTS ARE PROCESSED WITHIN 4 MONTHS;**
- **INDICATE ITS ONGOING SUPPORT FOR NORTHERN ONTARIO THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF CANADA FOR THE REGION OF NORTHERN ONTARIO; AND,**
- **COMMIT TO ANNUAL, STABLE FUNDING OF NOT LESS THAN \$90 MILLION FOR THE NODP PROGRAM.**

AND FURTHER THAT THIS RESOLUTION BE FORWARDED TO TONY CLEMENT, MINISTER OF INDUSTRY, NOMA, TBDML AND JOHN RAFFERTY, M.P..

Carried

- ii) regarding Endangered Species Act and NOMA's concerns about the impacts of the Endangered Species Act on economic growth. It was

7. Moved by G. Garbutt
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT COUNCIL ENDORSE THE RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION REGARDING THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

AND FURTHER THAT THIS RESOLUTION BE FORWARDED TO PREMIER DALTON MCGUINTY, LINDA JEFFERY, MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES, MICHAEL GRAVELLE, MINISTER OF NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT, MINES AND FORESTRY, NOMA, TBDML AND BILL MAURO, M.P.P..

Carried

- b) Township of Muskoka Lakes – requesting the Province of Ontario consider providing financial support to reduce the impact of meeting the requirements of the mandatory Accessibility Standards and that they provide increased education and awareness to the private sector regarding their requirements was filed.
- c) Gift of Life – requesting support for National Organ and Tissue Donation Awareness Week was filed.

Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) NOMA – i) Official Notice of Proposed Changes to the NOMA Constitution. These changes will be discussed at the upcoming annual general meeting.
ii) Greyhound Cutbacks
iii) Media Release regarding the Ontario Budget a Step in the Right Direction
- b) AMO – i) Watch File March 25, 2010
ii) Watch File April 1, 2010
iii) Watch File April 8, 2010
iv) Ontario Finance Minister Encourages Municipalities to Freeze Compensation
v) AMO Breaking News – 2010 Provincial Budget
vi) Report to Members on March 2010 Board meeting
vii) Breaking News – Joint and Several Liability Paper
- c) MFOA – 2010 Provincial Budget March 25, 2010 – Municipal Highlights
- d) Grant Thornton – 2010 Ontario Provincial budget – a summary
- e) Shirley Hunt – Thunder Bay District Board of Health representative – report received March 25, 2010
- f) Ministry of Northern Development, Mines and Forestry regarding Centre for Research and Innovation in the Bio-Economy (CRIBE) website and email coordinates
- g) Ontario Forest Industries Association – Media Release from the 2010 Forestry Coalition regarding Caribou Habitat Regulation
- h) TBayTel – Media Release regarding New TBayTel High Speed Wireless Mobile Network to Change Communication Landscape in the North and Rogers and TbayTel Team up to bring Enhanced Mobility Services to Northern Ontario

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR - MINUTES – APRIL 12, 2010

- i) Stewardship Ontario – regarding Industry funding for Municipal Blue Box Recycling for 2009 Program Year.

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) Animal Control Officer – Becky Davis. Council would like Ms. Davis to attend the next Council meeting to meet her and discuss the position.
- b) The completion of new building. A final building committee meeting date was discussed. Council felt that it should be held after Mr. Gammond has done his final review and the contractor has completed any deficiencies. April 29th was a suggested date. The Clerk-Treasurer will contact Mr. Gammond and the contractors to see if this date would be suitable for them. Some of the work that needs to yet be completed was discussed. The Clerk-Treasurer reported on the information she has received to date for window coverings for the building and which windows will be covered. The Clerk-Treasurer will confirm the quality and the look at the coverings and make a decision based on the quotes received. Chairs for the Council chambers were again discussed and will also be purchased by the Clerk-Treasurer.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Continuous Improvement Fund. A report from the Township of Gillies regarding the Development of a Cooperative and Integrated Communication and Public Engagement Program with the six surrounding municipalities was read. There would be a maximum cost per municipality of \$2,500 if all six municipalities participated. Council agreed that they will not participate at this time for that cost. If the cost was per capita rather than equal billing and in a lesser amount they may consider it.
- b) Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs – Municipal Politicians Seminar: Firefighting 101 May 2 & 3, 2010 in Toronto. No one will attend.
- c) Ministry of Community and Social Services – regarding 2010-2011 EnAbling Change Partnership Program. The Clerk-Treasurer will look further into this program to see what projects would qualify for the funding.

Councillor Racicot left the room.

- d) Workplace Safety North Training – Musculoskeletal Disorders Workshop and Violence and Harassment Prevention in the Workplace Workshop in Thunder Bay. The Clerk-Treasurer will be attending the AMCTO training and Mr. Johnson has already attended an IAPA networking luncheon with regard to the Violence and Harassment Prevention in the Workplace. No one will attend these workshops.

Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting.

- e) Federation of Canadian Municipalities – regarding 2010-2011 membership. Council agreed not to be a member of this organization for the current year.
- f) Horizon Wind Inc. – Invitation to networking event – April 16, 2010. No one will attend.

Issues brought forward or letters received after agenda was mailed.

- a) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – a copy of the letter sent to the Lakehead Rural Planning Board (LRPB) with regarding the Good Government Act, 2009, Delegation of Condominium Approvals was read. The LRPB will now be responsible for approvals of new condominiums for the Planning Board area beginning July 1, 2010.

- 8. Moved by J. Vezina
Seconded by Lee Ann Nygard

**THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE BUDGET MEETING TO BE HELD
ON MONDAY, APRIL 26, 2010 AT 6:00 P.M.
TIME BEING: 9:40 P.M.**

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer