

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – APRIL 26, 2011

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, April 26, 2011 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

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

Visitors: Fire Chief Henry Mattas
Cheryl Maki, Chief Building Official
Becky Davis, Dog Control Officer

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m..

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: Councillor Racicot declared an interest in items 16 b) c) and e) as his spouse is an employee of the Township.

1. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by G. Garbutt

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE BUDGET MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2011 AND THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2011 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.

Carried

Mayor Nelson asked Ms. Davis if she wished to address Council as a resident of the Township. She replied no.

Mr. Ian Robson, Municipal Enforcement/Provincial Offences Officer for the Township was scheduled for 7 p.m. An email was read from Mr. Robson apologizing for being unable to attend at the last minute.

Ms. Cheryl Maki, Chief Building Official was welcomed to the table to address any concerns or issues she had with regard to her position. Introductions were made. Ms. Maki discussed with Council the possible need to increase the permit fee for the Commercial, Industrial and Institutional class. Several inspections are required for these public buildings and with a previous permit within the Township there were several extra inspections, which the full expense may not have been covered in the current fee structure. It was also noted that solar panels and communication towers recently becoming of interest do not fit into any of our classes for fee structure for a permit. It was suggested that a new class be added to our fee structure for these items. Ms. Maki will get more information with regard to the solar panels and communication towers and a possible fee structure for them.

Council asked how the Township of O'Connor rates compare to the other municipalities that she works with. The Township of Gillies use a fee per inspection and the Township of Conmee and the Municipality of Neebing use the fee per square footage method, the same as the Township of O'Connor, and both of their rates are slightly higher. Council would like to review the Township's fees at an upcoming meeting.

Ms. Maki, during her recent Building Officials & and the Law training, informed Council of the Municipal Liability with regard to building construction and inspection issues. There is case laws available on the Ontario Building Official Association (OBOA) website if Council wish to review them.

Ms. Maki offered Council a copy of the 2010 Code and Construction Guide - Plans Examination Checklist and Inspection Checklist for Part 9 Housing. This document is to provide assistance to the Building Official in plans review and inspection.

Council asked Ms. Maki to provide the Clerk-Treasurer with Occupancy Permits as soon as they are issued so she can inform the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) of the buildings completion. Ms. Maki informed Council that currently she does notify MPAC directly with regard to the completions. The Township can do up their own occupancy permits or can order a form from Municipal World.

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – APRIL 26, 2011

There is also a form available that the permit holder signs stating that they will not occupy the home until the occupancy permit has been approved. It was suggested that this form be included in the building permit package. It was noted that to receive an occupancy permit the building does not have to be 100% complete, however all safety compliance must be completed.

Ms. Maki also commented on the Township of O'Connor's Official Plan and the upcoming review. She would like Council to consider lowering the minimum square footage requirement for buildings. She has had comments from residents with regard to this and the Township of O'Connor is higher than the surrounding municipalities.

Garden Suites vs In-law suites were also discussed. Currently the Township's Official Plan does not allow for in-law suites. Separate cooking facilities in a basement apartment for example would constitute this designation.

Ms. Maki would like to make a submission for the May Cornerstone with regard to May being International Building Safety Month and emphasize the need for a building permit. She would also like to host an information night for anyone in the surrounding municipalities to come and ask questions with regard to building. The Township of O'Connor Community Centre would be a central location and she would like to hold the meeting here if possible. Council agreed with hosting this information session in O'Connor. A date will be arranged with the Clerk-Treasurer.

Ms. Maki was thanked for attending.

Ms. Becky Davis, Dog Control Officer was welcomed to the meeting. Introductions were made. Ms. Davis informed Council that she has recently moved out of the Township and is residing in Oliver Paipoonge temporary. She does still have a facility to hold dogs if needed. There have been very few calls recently. She does have some changes she would like to see with regard to the By-law but they are not ready at this time. Council thanked Ms. Davis for attending and invited her to attend another meeting when she has the amendments she would like drafted.

Fire Chief Mattas was welcomed to the table. The Fire Department report from March 26 to April 20, 2011 was read. There has only been one First Response call since the last report and it was called off right away. The two new captains for the Fire Department are Greg and Mike Biloski. Fire Chief Mattas has registered members for the upcoming Module A and Module B training in Thunder Bay.

Fire Chief Mattas presented a draft copy of a Fire Department member's equipment inventory list. This document will name the member and list all equipment, including serial numbers if applicable of their assigned gear and equipment. Council would like some minor changes made to the form. The Clerk-Treasurer will forward the changes to the Fire Chief.

Fire Chief Mattas informed Council that the Fire Department is currently reviewing their policies. These policies, once completed by the department, will have to be approved by Council.

The high speed internet options for the fire hall were discussed. The booster system previous looked into only had a signal of 50% to the garage door and you would lose another 30-40% through the steel building. Another option was looked into but the equipment costs were expensive, trees would have to be cut and it may still not work. Council will continue to look into the options.

A document from Emergency Management Ontario with regard to the launch of the Ontario Emergency Public Warning System was read.

Due to the time restraint earlier during the Fire Department budget meeting the discussion with regard to the tanker truck and driver training was moved to this meeting. Fire Chief Mattas reported that according to the NFPA 2000 edition the water tank on the tanker truck requires baffles as it is an emergency vehicle. As our current tanker truck was formerly a fuel truck and water is heavier than fuel the current tanker is over weight for most of our bridges. Also when the roads and ground are soft and the tank is

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – APRIL 26, 2011

full the truck cannot go to as many places due to this weight and it is top heavy. The current members either do not have the proper licence to driver the tanker or do not feel comfortable doing so. The clutch in the truck is in bad shape and there is bodywork that should be done. Something will need to be done with this vehicle soon.

Fire Chief Mattas would like to suggest the purchase of a newer cab and chassis with an automatic transmission for easier driving with the installation of a new plastic tank as a replacement for our current tanker. Fire Chief Mattas suggested an 1800 gallon tank on a single axle truck. Council would like to see a bigger tank on a tandem axle truck. Fire Chief Mattas will get some prices for the different options for Council.

Currently driver training has not been included in the budget. The tanker is not a good vehicle to use for training at this time.

Fire Chief Mattas was thanked for attending.

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

2. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT THE FOLLOWING BILLS FOR APRIL 2011 BE PAID – THESE BILLS WILL BE INCLUDED ON THE APRIL 2011 ROAD AND ADMINISTRATION VOUCHER.

CK#10121 HYDRO ONE NETWORKS INC.	\$306.65
CK#10122 J. VEZINA (PIZZA-APRIL 11TH BUDGET MTG)	50.83
CK#10123 AMCTO ZONE 9 (CONFERENCE REGISTRATION)	100.00
CK#10124 NETWORKING & KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE	24.86
CK#10125 REPLACEMENT CHEQUE #10100	275.21
CK#10126 TBAYTEL (TELEPHONE)	375.62
CK#10127 R. NELSON (APRIL HONOURARIUM)	1,125.00
CK#10128 B. DENNHARDT (MEDICAL/DENTAL)	105.00
CK#10129 RECOOL CANADA INC. (LANDFILL RECYCLING)	169.50
CK#10130 GRANT THORNTON (2010 INTERIM AUDIT FEE)	<u>2,825.00</u>
	\$5,357.67

Carried

Resolutions for endorsement were reviewed as follows:

- a) Municipality of Sioux Lookout – requesting that NOMA call upon the Provincial Government to review the Provincial Wood Supply Competitive Process and the Forest Tenure Reform regarding wood allocations was filed
- b) City of Oshawa – requesting that the Minister of Education amend the Education Act to declare Voting Day of Municipal Elections as a Professional Activity Day was filed
- c) Town of Ingersoll – requesting that a portion of the HST charged on gasoline and diesel be directed to a predictable funding mechanism was filed
- d) Town of Ingersoll – requesting that the Province develop and implement a plan to attract health care professionals without cost to municipalities was filed.

A date for a meeting with the Thunder Bay District Social Services Administration Board to discuss their budget and the Township of O'Connor's levy was discussed. As the Chair of the board is Iain Angus, a Councillor for the City of Thunder Bay, and the City's meetings are also on Monday evenings it was

3. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by G. Garbutt

THAT THE COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2011 HAVE THE START TIME MOVED TO 6:00 P.M. TO ACCOMMODATE THE THUNDER BAY DISTRICT SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BOARD CHAIR AND CHIEF ADMINISTRATION OFFICER.

Carried

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – APRIL 26, 2011

Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) Ministry of Northern Development, Mines and Forestry – Cal McDonald, ADM regarding an Update on Implementation of the Growth Plan for Northern Ontario, 2011. A full report will be presented at the upcoming NOMA conference.
- b) Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) – Media Release – NOMA Outlines concerns with Forest Tenure Legislative
- c) Randy Hillier – Liberal Government Shuts Down Debate on Bill 151
- d) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – i) Watch File April 14, 2011
ii) Watch File April 21, 2011
iii) AMO – regarding Minimum Maintenance Standards for Road Signs. Council will look at the signs during their upcoming Township inspection.
iv) AMO Supports Accessible Communities
v) Firefighters Mandatory Retirement Legislation Introduced – It has been confirmed that this legislation does not affect volunteer firefighters.
vi) Federal Election Platform Analysis
- e) Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs – regarding Provincial Motion for Mandatory Retirement of all Suppression Firefighters over the Age of 60
- f) Ministry of Tourism and Culture regarding Provincial Investment in Ontario's Public Library System. Additional funding will be provided to libraries in Ontario in 2011. The Township of O'Connor's share will be donated to the Oliver Paipoonge Public Library as they provide the library services to our residents.
- g) The Metis Nation of Ontario – introduction letter
- h) Ministry of the Environment (MOE) – regarding Phase One and Two Environmental Site Assessments Guidance Under Brownfields Ontario Regulation 153/04 – accepting comments until May 23, 2011. No comments will be made at this time.

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) A new date for a Community Policing Strategies Meeting for concerns with traffic on Strom road. The Ontario Provincial Police were unavailable to attend the original date of April 21 which was set at the last Council meeting. A new date was discussed and it was

4. Moved by G. Garbutt
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE FOLLOWING DATE BE SET FOR A COMMUNITY POLICING STRATEGIES MEETING - WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 2011 AT 7 P.M. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

Carried

- b) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – March Planning workshop follow-up
- c) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Citizens' Guide to Land-use Planning – information with regard to an Official Plan was made available for Council.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Zoning By-law Application – File No. 2011-01 – Sharon Loghrin – To re-zone property from Extractive Industrial (E) to Rural (RU). Due to time restraints to get a notice sent to the property owners and required agencies the Clerk-Treasurer contacted Council by telephone with regard to a meeting date and agreed on the meeting date prior to this meeting. A formal resolution setting this date was

5. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR HEREBY DIRECTS THE CLERK-TREASURER TO SET A PUBLIC MEETING DATE UNDER SECTION 34 OF THE ONTARIO PLANNING ACT FOR MAY 24, 2011 AT 6:30 P.M. AS IT RELATES TO ZONING APPLICATION NUMBER 2011-01. MEETING TO BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

Carried

Councillor Racicot left the room.

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – APRIL 26, 2011

- b) Public Services Health & Safety Association – MOL Young/New Worker Blitz Webinar – May 3, 2011. Clerk-Treasurer Buob, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Racicot and Leadhand Kelly Johnson will participate.
- c) Thunder Bay District Health Unit – Fair, Festival and Special Event Information Session: April 27, 2011 in Thunder Bay. No one will attend.
- d) Jack Watson, City of Timmins – Invitation to attend the upcoming FONOM Conference to be held in Timmins on May 11 to 13, 2011. Mayor Nelson will attend as President of the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association.
- e) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – 2011 Annual Conference to be held in London August 21 to 24, 2011. Mayor Nelson will also attend this conference as the President of the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA).

Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting.

- f) A date for O'Connor Day Planning Meeting was discussed and it was
- 6. Moved by G. Garbutt
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT THE FOLLOWING DATE BE SET FOR AN O'CONNOR DAY PLANNING MEETING, WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2011 AT 7 P.M.

THE MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE O'CONNOR COMMUNITY CENTRE.

Carried

Councillor Racicot informed Council that he has enquired into the rental of deep fryers for this year event and has tentatively booked them from A to Z rentals.

For information purposes a building permit for renovations has been approved for 397 Highway 595.

- 7. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by B. J. Loan

THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE TOWNSHIP INSPECTION TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 6, 2011 AT 9:00 A.M.

TIME BEING: 9:48 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer