

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – AUGUST 8, 2011

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, August 8, 2011 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

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

Visitors: Leadhand, Kelly Johnson

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 item 16 e) as his spouse is an employee of the Township.

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

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON JULY 11, 2011 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.

Carried

Mayor Nelson asked Mr. Johnson if he wished to address Council on any personal matters and he replied no.

Mr. Johnson, Leadhand was then welcomed to the table.

Timesheets for June 27 to July 8, 2011 and July 11 to 22, 2011 were read. Roadwork in general was discussed. All the calcium has been sprayed for the season. The road department has been cutting brush at intersections. There are still some culverts that need to be installed and the guide rail job on the Harstone road still needs to be completed. There is a bit of rutting on the hills but they are waiting for some rain before grading. The students are working out well.

Council asked how the new grader was working out. Mr. Johnson replied that it is using a little more fuel than budgeted but all in all it is working well and was a good investment.

Mr. Johnson was thanked for attending.

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

2. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by G. Garbutt

THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR JULY 31, 2011 TOTALLING \$105,391.94 BE APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

By-laws and Policies were discussed as follows:

- a) A draft By-law for Code of Conduct for Employees was reviewed. Minor changes will be made.
- b) A draft by-law to amend the Code of Conduct for Council was reviewed. The Deputy Clerk-Treasurer will be asked to look further into the Municipal Act to see what authority there is for the disciplinary actions of a Council member.
- c) A draft policy for progressive discipline was reviewed. Council asked that this policy be reviewed with the union contract to insure that there is no conflict with what is written there.
- d) A draft policy for substance abuse was reviewed. Minor changes will also be made to this document.

Consent application, 1B/08/11, for Daniel and Patricia Bigelow was reviewed and discussed. This application is for the addition to a lot owned by Mr. Joseph Deas. Mr. Deas submitted a letter with the application requesting that the planning board waive

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the requirement of a well on the severed piece of land as he plans on using this land as a nature park. It was

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

THAT THE CONSENT APPLICATION 1B/08/11 FOR DANIEL AND PATRICIA BIGELOW FOR THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED AS CONCESSION 2, N PT LOT 9, PCL 17600 TBF, FOR ON 13.33 HA SEVERANCE BE APPROVED PROVIDING IT MEETS ALL ASPECTS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR'S OFFICIAL PLAN.

Carried

Resolutions for endorsement were read as follows:

- a) Township of Tay – regarding Funding of Physician Recruitment in Ontario was filed.
- b) Municipality of Central Huron – requesting the Province of Ontario declare a moratorium on all current and future projects for on-shore and off-shore development of wind energy facilities was filed.
- c) Municipality of Bayham – requesting the Government of Ontario and Ontario Provincial Police reconsider the recent unrealistic policing services contract Agreement was filed
- d) Municipality of Meaford – supporting the donation of \$100 to the Town of Slave Lake was filed.

DSSAB issues were discussed as follows:

- a) Thunder Bay District Social Services Administration Board – 2010 Annual Report
- b) TBDSSAB Housing Strategy Final Report and presentation
- c) TBDSSAB – Update – Provincial Emergency Operations Centre

Correspondence was read as follows:

- a) Grant Thornton – Township of O'Connor's Financial Statements for year ending December 31, 2010
- b) Minutes of the Joint Services Committee – July 19, 2011. Councillor Loan also gave a brief update on what was discussed at the meeting. It was noted that rumors have been heard around the fire departments that the departments are amalgamating. It was reassured by Council that this is not the case.
- c) AMO – i) Watch File – July 14, 2011
ii) Watch File – July 21, 2011
iii) Watch File – July 28, 2011
iv) Watch File – August 4, 2011
- d) Thunder Bay Area EMO Newsletter – the 2nd Quarter 2011
- e) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Staffing Announcement
- f) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – regarding Changes to the Building Code (Ontario Regulation 350/06).
- g) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – regarding the Five-Year review of the Provincial Policy Statement.
- h) Ministry of Northern Development, Mines and Forestry – Progress update of the Growth Plan for Northern Ontario, July 2011.
- i) Places to Grow – Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe overview of five years progress.
- j) Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services – regarding Consultation on the Public Works Protection Act.
- k) Workplace Safety & Prevention Services – regarding Forum North 2011 – November 1 & 2, 2011 in Thunder Bay. This will be looked at again when the agenda comes out.
- l) OTS News – an Ontario Tire Stewardship Publication – Issue 13
- m) Ministry of Human Resources and Skills Development – regarding first call for nominations for the Prime Minister's Volunteer Awards program. No nominations will be made.
- n) Prosperity Northwest – September 21, 2011 will be held in prior to the Thunder Bay Regional Conference.
- o) Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario – Message from the President regarding 2012 Board of Directors

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

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Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) The Rural Health Fair to be held at the Norwest arena on August 17, 2011. There are 80 exhibitors and 22 presenters. The Township will have two volunteers working at the food booth for one shift as well as a Township booth for the whole day. Councillor Garbutt and Loan as well as Clerk-Treasurer Buob will volunteer during the day. It was suggested that possible a draw for a prize could be included at the booth.
- b) A letter was read from Agata Doucette, Community Development Coordinator from HAGI. This letter included more information on questions Council had after her presentation at the last meeting. Mayor Nelson will look into the possibility of transit funding for this service while he is at the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) conference.
- c) A reply letter from Mr. Ian Smith, Regional Director for the Ministry of Transportation with regard to Council's concerns with brush and trees along Highway 595 was read. The Ministry staff have recently been out and brushed some of the intersections along the highway. Mr. Smith also noted that their traffic section is conducting a count this year along Highway 595 and the information will be shared with the Township when it is completed. This information will determine the appropriate classification of the highway for winter maintenance.
- d) A reply letter from Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services, Jim Bradley with regard to Council's concerns regarding costs of firefighters training at the local level was read.

Councillor Racicot left the room.

- e) A report from Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Racicot with regard to an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) was read. If this program is implemented it will have to be included in the Township policies. The Deputy Clerk-Treasurer has inquired into what services are available for the Fire Department and the Office of the Fire Marshal has noted that they do not offer a program similar to an EAP. They do have a pier-to-pier support group for critical incident and stress management that they offer to department members who are having trouble dealing with emergency calls they participated in. Further information on the options of this program will be brought back to Council.

Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) A letter was read from the Township of Conmee with regard to the Thunder Bay District Health Unit (TBDHU) and the rural flu clinic. The Township of Conmee has concerns with the short period of time the TBDHU have planned for the rural flu clinic at the Kakabeka Legion.
 - b) Thunder Bay District Social Services Administration Board invitation to participate in the Social Assistance Review Focus Group. It was
4. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSONS ATTEND THE DISTRICT OF THUNDER BAY SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BOARD (TBDSSAB) FOCUS GROUP MEETING TO BE HELD IN THUNDER BAY ON AUGUST 11 OR 12, 2011.

REGISTRATION: NIL

COUNCILLOR GARBUTT

Carried

- c) Lakehead Region Conservation Authority Information on the Clean Air Partnership's Intensive Ontario Municipal Adaptation Training coming to Northern Ontario on September 19 & 20 and October 17 & 18 in the City of Greater Sudbury. No one will attend.

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- d) North of Superior Tourism Association regarding the Regional Ambassador Program. They are requesting a letter of support from each municipality stating that they are in favour of the program developed in their community. Council were in agreement and they have requested that the Clerk-Treasurer send a letter stating that the Township of O'Connor will support this worthwhile project.
- e) Ontario Electronic Stewardship regarding landfill diversion for e-waste. At this time the Township will continue with the same system we currently use.
- f) Ontario Federation of Independent Towers regarding transferring the authority of vehicle impoundment from the Ministry of Transportation to the Ontario Provincial Police. The Clerk-Treasurer will contact Mr. Smith from the Ministry of Transportation to confirm this information before making any comment.

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

- a) Thunder Bay District Health Unit – Media Release regarding the new Medical Officers of Health for the District of Thunder Bay. Dr. David Williams has be appointed as the Medical Officer of Health effective the beginning of October 2011 and will be joined by Dr. Janet DeMille in the position of Associate Medical Officer of Health as of September 2012.
5. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by G. Garbutt

**THAT THE COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURN TO THE O'CONNOR DAY
PLANNING MEETING TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2011 AT
7:00 P.M.**

TIME BEING: 10:07 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer