

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – DECEMBER 15, 2014

Minutes of the meeting held on December 15, 2014 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

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

Visitors: Fire Chief Henry Mattas

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m..

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: none

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

THAT THE NOTES FROM THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF COUNCIL AND THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING BOTH HELD ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2014 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.

Carried

Fire Chief Mattas was welcomed to the table. The Fire Department report was read. There was only one mutual aid call from November 23 to December 21, 2014 and the call was called off before anyone left the firehall.

Fire Chief Mattas reported that the group training with the Township of Gillies and Nolalu is working out well. They recently did training with fire and smoke at the Township of Gillies disposal site. The new members have been attending regularly. Two members of the Fire Department have been working very hard to get the rink ready for skating however the warmer weather this past week has taken its toll on their work. The Fire Department Auxiliary will be holding their Christmas raffle draw at their Tuesday night meeting. They are currently having a slight issue with the paging system but the cell phone system is working well and this page goes out approximately one minute after the pager system.

The level of propane at the fire hall was discussed and it was agreed that the tank will be filled prior to yearend.

Council informed Fire Chief Mattas that there will once again be a Township Christmas party and the Fire Department and First Response Teams will be invited. Details will be determined later in the meeting and the information will be provided to them for their meeting Tuesday night.

Fire Chief Mattas was thanked for attending.

The Statement of Revenue and Expenditures to November 30, 2014 were reviewed.

Estimates for December 2014 were also reviewed and discussed.

The Administration and Roads Voucher for December 15, 2014 was reviewed and it was

2. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR DECEMBER 15, 2014 TOTTALLING \$72,907.71 BE APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

As the committee appointments were previous discussed at the December 1, 2014 Council meeting it was

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

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THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2014-22 BEING A BY-LAW TO APPOINT A PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR FOR THE YEARS 2015, 2016, 2017 AND 2018 BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

4. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by K. Foekens

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2014-23 BEING A BY-LAW TO CONSTITUTE AND APPOINT A COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

Resolutions for endorsement were discussed as follows:

- a) Township of Pelee regarding OPP billing model was filed.
- b) Township of Pelee regarding the elimination of home delivery of postal services was filed.
- c) County of Huron regarding the elimination of home delivery of postal services was filed.

DSSAB issues were discussed as follows:

- a) 2015 Thunder Bay District Social Services Administration Board (TBDSSAB) Budget information for planning purposes was read. The proposed impact for 2015 has been presented to the Board with an anticipated 1.6% increase. This is still subject to change as they are still early in the process.
- b) Under One Roof: A Housing and Homelessness Plan is available for review. The document is a 10 year strategy the outlines the priorities for the TBDSSAB.

Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – i) Watchfile December 4, 2014.
ii) Watchfile December 11, 2014.
iii) Bill 8, Accountability and Transparency Measures Update.
iv) Request for Nominations to fill vacancies on the 2014-2016 AMO Board of Directors.
v) Ministry of Education Proposing New Process for School Closures.
- b) The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) and Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) – Revise Anti-SLAPP Bill to address Northern Ontario Concerns: Northern Municipalities.
- c) Ministry of Citizenship, Immigration and International Trade, Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport – regarding the Ontario's 400th Celebrations Program.
- d) Thunder Bay Community Economic Development Commission – regarding their Strategic Plan.
- e) NOMA – Invitation from Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to comment regarding the Hometown Proud Campaign. Council is not interested at this time.
- f) Ontario Heritage Trust – Doors Open Ontario program.

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) Appointment of Acting Head of Council and it was

5. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by K. Foekens

THAT THE ACTING HEAD OF COUNCIL SHALL BE APPOINTED ON A ROTATING ALPHABETICAL ORDER OF COUNCIL FOR EACH MONTH OF THE YEARS, DECEMBER 2014, 2015, 2016 AND 2018 AS FOLLOWS:
COUNCILLOR FOEKENS: MONTHS OF JANUARY, MAY, SEPTEMBER
COUNCILLOR LOAN: MONTHS OF FEBRUARY, JUNE, OCTOBER
COUNCILLOR RACICOT: MONTHS OF MARCH, JULY, NOVEMBER
COUNCILLOR VEZINA: MONTHS OF APRIL, AUGUST, DECEMBER
BE IT RESOLVED THAT IF THE ACTING HEAD OF COUNCIL IS NOT AVAILABLE FOR MEETINGS, EMERGENCIES, ETC., THE COUNCILLOR FOR THE PREVIOUS MONTH WILL BE APPOINTED ACTING HEAD OF COUNCIL IN HIS/HER STEAD.

Carried

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b) Appointments to Boards and it was

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

THAT APPOINTMENTS FOR THE YEARS 2015, 2016, 2017 AND 2018 BE MADE AS FOLLOWS:

LAKEHEAD REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY	JIM VEZINA
LAKEHEAD RURAL PLANNING BOARD	BISHOP RACICOT
THUNDER BAY DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT	CONMEE'S TURN
THUNDER BAY DISTRICT VETERINARY COMMITTEE	KEVIN FOEKENS
	JIM VEZINA
THUNDER BAY DISTRICT MUNICIPAL LEAGUE	RON NELSON
	ALT. JERRY LOAN
EMERGENCY MEASURES ORGANIZATION	RON NELSON
	ALT.
	BISHOP RACICOT
THUNDER BAY COMMUNITY POLICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE	JERRY LOAN

Carried

- c) An email was read from the Township of Conmee advising that they have appointed Councillor Bob McMaster to the Thunder Bay District Health Unit Board. The seat on this board is shared between the Township of Conmee and Township of O'Connor.
- d) The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP)'s attendance at a January 2015 Council meeting was discussed. It was agreed to have Staff Sergeant Graham attend the January 26, 2015 Council meeting. He has already confirmed that he can attend either meeting in January. A list of questions and concerns was drafted with regard to the new OPP billing model and the Township's options coming into the new year. Following this meeting Council would then like to host a public meeting to inform the public of new billing model, the costs associated with it and what they can do to help prevent excess costs.
- e) Christmas Party prices and quotes were reviewed. Quotes were received from seven caterers and it was

7. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR HOLD A 2014 CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR COUNCIL, STAFF, FIRE DEPARTMENT AND FIRST RESPONSE VOLUNTEERS AT THE KAKABEKA HOTEL ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2015. SPOUSES AND GUESTS WILL PAY FOR THEIR OWN DINNER.

Carried

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Thunder Bay District Health Unit – 2015 Public Health Levy. The Township's levy will increase over 2014 by \$10 for 2015.
- b) Conmee SK8PARK – Sponsorship Opportunities. Council will consider making a donation to the park during the budget process. They would also like to offer a full page advertisement in the Cornerstone newsletter for the groups donation request at no charge.
- c) Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA) – Constitutional Amendment. Council reviewed and discussed the amendments which will be presented and voted upon by the membership at the upcoming Annual General Meeting.
- d) Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) – Request for nominations for the 2015 – 2019 ROMA Board. No nominations will be made.
- e) Ontario Ministry of the Environment & Climate Change Property Entry & Risk Management Official/Risk Management Inspector Training Course. No one will be attending.
- f) Municipal Risk Services Limited – regarding Risk Management Guide for Elected Officials. Council will not be ordering a copy.

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Issues brought forward or letters received after the agenda was mailed

- a) Ministry of Citizenship, Immigration and International Trade – regarding the Volunteer Services Awards – deadline for nominations is January 25. The Clerk-Treasurer will look further into this award to see if it is the same one that Council nominated three members of the Fire Department / First Response/ Auxiliary for last year and see if any of the Township’s other volunteers are eligible for this year.
- b) Ontario Power Authority – regarding the draft Scoping Assessment Report for Northwestern Ontario. This document is available on line for review.

An issue regarding an investigation in which the By-law Enforcement / Provincial Offences Officer is currently looking into was to be discussed and it was

- 8. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by K. Foekens

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE NEXT PORTION OF THE MEETING BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC IN ORDER TO DISCUSS LITIGATION OR POTENTIAL LITIGATION, INCLUDING MATTERS BEFORE ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNALS, AFFECTING THE MUNICIPALITY OR LOCAL BOARD; PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION 239(2)(E) OF THE MUNICIPAL ACT, 2001.

TIME BEING: 9:11 P.M.

Carried

The Clerk-Treasurer reported to Council on the current issue at hand.

- 9. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by K. Foekens

TIME BEING: 9:30 P.M.

THAT WE NOW MOVE TO OPEN MEETING.

Carried

- 10. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2015 AT 7:00 P.M.

TIME BEING: 9:31 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer