

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – DECEMBER 6, 2010

Minutes of the meeting held on December 6, 2010 at 8 p.m. in the municipal building.

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

Visitors: Leadhand – Kelly Johnson

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order at 8:22 p.m.

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: none

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

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2010 AND THE NOTES FROM THE TABLE TOP EXERCISE HELD ON NOVEMBER 23, 2010 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.

Carried

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

Mr. Johnson, Leadhand was welcomed to the table. Timesheet reports for November 1 to 12, 2010 and November 14 to 26, 2010 were discussed. Mr. Johnson explained to Council the work that is currently being done to the International truck #9 with regard to the electronic component of the fuel system. The grader is currently in at Strongco having the wing installed.

Roadwork in general was discussed. The roads are currently icy due to the rain earlier in the month and the cold snap that hit right after. They are being graded and sanded to keep them safe to drive on. The sander chain on the truck #7 is currently broken and parts have been ordered. The work on the shed at the disposal site has been delayed due to the recent weather. Mr. Johnson is hoping to have heat available this week.

It was noted that during the winter months if any of the road department staff are away on holidays that the seasonal and casual staff be made aware in case they are needed to come in on short notice due to weather.

Mr. Johnson reported to Council on the recent minor accident involving the Equipment Operator #1 with truck #9 and a van. The Ontario Provincial Police and the insurance company have been notified. The incident was also discussed thoroughly amongst the road employee and the Leadhand.

Mr. Johnson has ordered a warning school bus sign for Blaikie road as the bus is now stopping in the middle of the hill.

The relocation of the compression brake sign from Highway 590 to Strom road was discussed. This sign will not be moved until the spring as the trucks traveling on Strom road will soon be finished hauling for the season and the balance of the traffic will not see the sign if moved at this time. This matter will be discussed further in the spring.

The 2011 ROMA/OGRA Combined Conference to be held in Toronto on February 27 to March 2 was discussed. It was

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

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE 2011 ROMA/OGRA COMBINED CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN TORONTO FROM FEBRUARY 27 - MARCH 2, 2011.

REGISTRATION: \$495.00

KELLY JOHNSON – LEADHAND

Carried

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The Clerk-Treasurer will register and book the flight and room for Mr. Johnson. Mr. Johnson was thanked for attending.

The bills to be paid were passed around the table. It was

3. Moved by G. Garbutt
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR NOVEMBER 30, 2010 TOTTALLING \$111,188.23 BE APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

4. Moved by B. Jerry Loan
Seconded by J. Vezina

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

CK#9877	LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD	\$16,414.38
CK#9878	THUNDER BAY CATHOLIC DIST. SCHOOL BOARD	2,015.34
CK#9879	CSDC DES AUREOS BOREALES	<u>110.88</u>
		\$18,540.60

Carried

The Statement of Revenue and Expenditure to November 30, 2010 were reviewed. The Township has not yet received the money for the helipad maintenance. The Clerk-Treasurer will contact their office to see when it will be coming.

By-laws and Policies were discussed as follows:

- a) The Township Safety Mission Statement was discussed and it was

5. Moved by B. Jerry Loan
Seconded by G. Garbutt

THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR SAFETY MISSION STATEMENT BE ENDORSED.

Carried

By-law 2002-15, being a by-law to continue the deemed one-third expense allowance portion of the remuneration of the members of council was reviewed. Council were in agreement to continue with these provisions and it was

6. Moved by G. Garbutt
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

WHEREAS THE MUNICIPAL ACT, 2001, 283(7) REQUIRES COUNCIL TO REVIEW A BY-LAW UNDER SUBSECTION (5) AT A PUBLIC MEETING AT LEAST ONCE DURING THE FOUR-YEAR PERIOD. THEREFORE LET IT BE KNOWN THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2002-15 BEING A BY-LAW TO CONTINUE THE DEEMED ONE-THIRD EXPENSE ALLOWANCE PORTION OF THE REMUNERATION OF THE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL HAS BEEN REVIEWED. COUNCIL AGREE THAT THIS BY-LAW WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT.

Carried

By-law 2010-28 making amendments to the Dogs Running at Large By-law and Policy were reviewed and it was

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

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2010-28 BEING A BY-LAW TO AMEND BY-LAW NUMBER 2006-04 AND THE POLICY FOR THE CONTROL OF DOGS RUNNING AT LARGE, BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

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Resolutions for endorsement were read as follows:

a) NOMA – i) regarding Little Jackfish Hydro Generation & Transmission Project. It was

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

THAT THE RESOLUTION FROM THE NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION ENDORSING THE LITTLE JACKFISH HYDRO GENERATION & TRANSMISSION PROJECT BE ENDORSED.

Carried

ii) regarding recruiting and retaining physicians in rural areas. It was

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

THAT THE RESOLUTION FROM THE NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION REQUESTING THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO NEGOTIATE QUICKLY, THROUGH THE ONTARIO MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, A MORE EFFECTIVE AND PROPER FUNDING AGREEMENT FOR ATTRACTING AND RETAINING PHYSICIANS IN RURAL AND NORTHERN COMMUNITIES BE ENDORSED.

Carried

b) Municipality of Trent Hills – regarding the production of a Canadian coin depicting an image of Canadians honouring our fallen soldiers from bridges that span the Highway of Heroes. It was

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

THAT THE RESOLUTION FROM THE MUNICIPALITY OF TRENT HILLS REQUESTING THE PRODUCTION OF A CANADIAN COIN DEPICTING AN IMAGE OF CANADIANS HONOURING OUR FALLEN SOLDIERS FROM BRIDGES THAT SPAN THE HIGHWAY OF HEROES BE ENDORSED.

Carried

c) Township of Cavan Monaghan – regarding Industrial Wind Turbines was filed.

d) & e) County of Lambton regarding Ontario Works eligibility rules for persons disqualified from the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) and barriers of no debt clearance for these loans were filed.

f) Municipality of Central Elgin – regarding the date changes for the Term of Council. It was

11. Moved by J. Vezina
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE RESOLUTION FROM THE MUNICIPALITY OF CENTRAL ELGIN REQUESTING THAT THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS ACT AND THE MUNICIPAL ACT BE AMENDED TO PROVIDE FOR A DATE IN NOVEMBER WHEN THE NEWLY ELECTED COUNCIL SHALL TAKE OFFICE BE ENDORSED.

Carried

The Thunder Bay District Social Services Administration Board (TBDSSAB) issues were discussed as follows:

- a) The Board has appointed Mr. Bill Bardica as Acting Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) as of October 30, 2010 until such time as the new CAO is in position.
- b) Current programs available to residents of TBDSSAB member Municipalities. These include an Ontario Energy Credit, Emergency Energy Fund and District Child Recreational Assistance Program. This information was included in the December issue of the Township's newsletter.
- c) Draft Housing Analysis Report and Strategy is now available for review. Comments will be accepted until February 15, 2011. This document will be available for review by the public in the Township office.

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Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) Thunder Bay District Health Unit – Update report dated November 23, 2010 from Shirley Hunt, Councillor, Board representative.
- b) Township of Gillies – copy of letter to Premier Dalton McGuinty endorsing the Township of O'Connor's resolution regarding funding for the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority's new building.
- c) Municipality of Shuniah – resolution requesting continuation of the Amethyst Sector Field Officer position. Council endorsed the Township of Alberton's resolution regarding the same issue at the last meeting.
- d) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – i) Update on Transitional Assistance funding as part of the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) allocation. The AMO has sent a letter to the Honourable Dwight Duncan expressing the need for the continued support from the Province for mitigation funding to the municipalities in 2011.
 - ii) Watch File – November 25, 2010
 - iii) Watch File – December 2, 2010
 - iv) AMO Breaking News – Government Announces Provincial Long Term Affordable Housing Strategy
 - v) AMO Breaking News – Government will make changes to welfare but Special Diet Allowance stays for now
 - vi) Board of Directors appointing Acting President due to the lose of their President in the municipal election.
- e) Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) – i) Update regarding Acting President. The immediate Past President Dennis Brown will serve as the Acting President until the new board can meet in January to elect an interim President to serve until the Annual General Meeting. Mayor Nelson is the Township's new representative on the Board and Council endorse Mayor Nelson running for the President's seat of NOMA.
 - ii) Copy of adopted resolution regarding the Emergency Management Ontario staffing. Council endorsed this issue at their last meeting.
 - iii) Regarding vacancies on the AMO board and policies respecting appointment of representatives to the Northern Caucus
- f) Superior North EMS – Strategic Planning and Governance Committee letter to Thunder Bay District Municipal League (TBDML) and email to Councillor Garbutt as board member. Council agree with the representation for the area as described in the email. This being three from the City of Thunder Bay, three from the district, one from the municipalities surrounding the City, one from the Regional Hospital, one from the District hospitals, one from the Chamber of Commerce and one from the District Chamber of Commerce. Council feel that Norm Gale, Chief of EMS should act as a tie breaker vote. For the Municipalities surrounding the City, Council felt that one of the larger municipalities should represent the group. This information will be forwarded to Mr. Taniwa, Secretary-Treasurer of the TBDML.
- g) Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) – Update – MPAC Activities
- h) Action Plan – Prime Minister Stephen Harper's announcement regarding the extension of the infrastructure projects deadline. The deadline for the Infrastructure Stimulus Funding (ISF) has been extended from March 31, 2011 to October 31, 2011.
- i) Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA) – Federal Government Announces Extension of ISF Deadline
- j) Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) – request for Nominations for 2011-2015 ROMA board
- k) Municipal Taxpayer Advocacy Group – copy of email sent to MPP Brad Duguid, Ontario Minister of Energy - Eighteen City Councils endorsed motions regarding HST on Hydro bills

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old business, Council discussed

- a) 2010 Christmas Party – The price for the menu as suggested by Council and some Christmas menus from the Metropolitan Moose were reviewed. Other caterers and locations were discussed. The Clerk-Treasurer will get more information and bring it to the next meeting for further discussion. It was agreed that spouses of the Council, Staff and Volunteer Fire Department and First Response Team that attend will pay for their own dinners. The party will be held in the new year.

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12. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by G. Garbutt

TIME BEING: 10:30 P.M. THAT THE BUSINESS OF THIS MEETING CONTINUE.

Carried

- b) The Fire Department's Annual Compliance Report for the office of the Fire Marshal was reviewed and signed by the Mayor. The Clerk-Treasurer will contact Mr. Welyki, Fire Protection Adviser, Office of the Fire Marshal to inform him that it is ready and make arrangement to get it to him.

Under New business, Council discussed

- a) The ice surface of the outdoor skating rink. It was suggested that possibly a white plastic could be put down prior to flooding to try to keep the ice surface from melting early in the spring due to the dark spots coming through on the asphalt. The cost of plastic was discussed and it was suggested that Fire Chief Mattas look into this further.
- b) The winter road condition of Highway 595 was discussed. Council would like a letter sent to Mr. Ian Smith, Regional Director of the Ministry of Transportation asking what the Township can do to improve the winter maintenance and address the safety issue on this Highway. Mr. Smith will be in attendance at the January 10, 2011 Council meeting and Council will also discuss this with him at that time.
- c) Municipality of Bayham – regarding Lottery Licence Requirements – Local Penny Sales. Council did not have a comment on this issue.
- l) Green Q Partners – regarding Solar energy projects.

Under further new business, Council discussed the future four laning of Highway 11/17 between Kakabeka Falls and Shabaqua Corners. Councillor Loan and Clerk-Treasurer Buob will look into this issue and bring more information to the next meeting.

The bank signing authority for the upcoming term of Council was discussed and it was

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

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR'S AUTHORIZED SIGNING OFFICERS FOR BANKING PURPOSES BE: MAYOR NELSON OR COUNCILLOR GARBUTT OR COUNCILLOR LOAN AND CLERK-TREASURER BUOB OR DEPUTY CLERK-TREASURER RACICOT.

Carried

Issues brought forward or letters received after agenda was mailed

- a) The Premier of Ontario – reply letter to Council's resolution with regard to OMPF Farm Tax rebate and Managed Forest Tax Incentive Programs.

For information purposes a new barn permit has been approved for 988 Highway 588.

14. Moved by G. Garbutt
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2010 AT 7:00 P.M.

TIME BEING: 11:13 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer