

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR - MINUTES – FEBRUARY 11, 2008

Minutes of the meeting held on February 11, 2008 at 7 p.m. in the municipal building.

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

Visitors: Kelly Johnson, Leadhand

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: Councillor Racicot declared an interest in item 15 c) as his spouse is an employee of the township.

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

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 2008 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.

Carried

Mr. Johnson was welcomed to the table. Timesheets for January 14 to 25, 2008 were read. A fuel tank for the back of the Township's 4 x 4 truck was discussed. Monthly Workplace Inspection Reports were read for the garage for November, December, January and February. The Clerk-Treasurer will contact Mr. Chessell to have a safety meeting with the administration staff.

Roadwork in general was discussed. The department has been dealing with the weather. With the high winds the ice is starting to show through on the roads again. They will be hauling more sand to the municipal yard this week. They will also be working on shop B. They also plan on doing winter brushing on some of the sideroads.

Mr. Johnson was thanked for attending.

The bills to be paid were passed around the table and it was

2. Moved by G. Garbutt
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR JANUARY 31, 2008 TOTTALLING \$84,529.18 BE APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

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

THAT THE FOLLOWING BILLS FOR FEBRUARY 2008 BE PAID – THESE BILLS WILL BE INCLUDED ON THE FEBRUARY 2008 VOUCHER.

CK#7795 THUNDER BAY DSSAB(LEVY FOR FEBRUARY 2008)	\$8,923.51
CK#7796 H. MATTAS (FEBRUARY HONORARIUM)	<u>300.00</u>
	\$9,223.51

Carried

Resolutions for endorsement were read as follows:

- a) Township of Greater Madawaska requesting the province establish a system whereby revenue from stumpage fees paid to the province by logging companies be used to compensate municipalities for road damage was filed
- b) Township of Galway-Cavendish & Harvey petitioning the Government of Canada and the Province of Ontario to ban the ownership of handguns was filed
- c) City of Waterloo regarding the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation was filed
- d) Township of Russell requesting the Provincial government to amend the formula used to calculate a municipality's debt capacity was filed

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- e) Town of Thessalon supporting the tabled resolution in the Ontario Legislature regarding the Government of Ontario assuming responsibility for all municipal bridges in Ontario. It was

4. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by G. Garbutt

THAT THE RESOLUTION FROM THE TOWN OF THESSALON SUPPORTING THE TABLED RESOLUTION IN THE ONTARIO LEGISLATURE REGARDING THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO ASSUMING RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL MUNICIPAL BRIDGES IN ONTARIO BE ENDORSED.

Carried

- f) City of Thunder Bay regarding Operation Overseas and Operation Porch Light. It was

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

THAT THE RESOLUTION FROM THE CITY OF THUNDER BAY ENCOURAGING ITS CITIZENS AND THOSE ACROSS ONTARIO TO TURN ON THEIR PORCH LIGHTS AT 7 P.M. ON FEBRUARY 18, 2008 TO SHOW SUPPORT FOR OUR SOLDIERS BE ENDORSED.

Carried

Due to the fact that this date is only one week away and no newsletter will be going out prior, this information will only be posted on the township website.

The 2008 Thunder Bay District Social Services Administration Board Budget and municipal levy was reviewed. The Township of O'Connor's levy for 2008 decreased from 2007.

Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) AMO i) AMO's Response to a Commentary in Recent Edition of the Financial Post
ii) AMO's Pre-Budget Submission Seeks Continued Transformation of Fiscal Arrangements
iii) AMO Report to Members on January 2008 Board Meeting
iv) Effective Leadership Skills – Head of Council Forum at the AMO conference
v) Canada and Ontario Announce Call for Proposals on Local Immigration Partnerships
b) Town of Marathon – letter of support for the Municipality of Shuniah's resolution with regard to funding of the Northwestern Campus of the Ontario Fire College. The Township of O'Connor Council also endorsed this resolution at their last meeting.
The balance of correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) Township signing authority was discussed at the previous meeting as Mayor Nelson will now be out of town more often. The Clerk-Treasurer confirmed with the bank that another name could be added as a signing authority and it was

6. Moved by J. Vezina
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

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

Carried

- b) Friesens history book update on the extra 40 books they had in storage. They have checked through these books and have found two with errors. They owed us 23 copies to bring us to our full order and they agreed to ship the total balance of books to us at no charge because of all the trouble we had. These books have arrived at the office.

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Councillor Racicot left the room.

- c) Township of O'Connor Union Agreement – Article 17 with regard to Paid Holidays was read with regard to the new Provincial public holiday "Family Day". At the January 28th meeting it was decided that the staff would not receive this holiday in 2008 and that it would be discussed further during Union Negotiations later this year. The Clerk-Treasurer was asked by Council to check to see what the Union Agreement states in this regard. The agreement does state "the Employer recognizes the following paid holidays... and "Any other day proclaimed as a holiday by the Federal, Provincial or Municipal Government. It was then agreed that the Township employees will be entitled to this holiday in 2008.

Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting.

Under New business, Council discussed

- a) Thunder Bay District Municipal League requesting upcoming events to put on their events calendar. Council agreed to give the information on the following events: Paul Goulet Fire Fighters Competition, the Strawberry Festival and O'Connor Day.
b) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing report showing the Township of O'Connor's 2008 Annual Repayment Limit.

Under further new business, Council discussed an issue of concern for the Lakehead Rural Planning Board. The Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge is having trouble with an approval process for subdivisions in their municipality. The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing is encouraging no growth in the area and they have stated that in the unorganized territory there will be only 200 parcels allowed between 2007 to 2017.

Councillor Garbutt reported on the CPAC meeting she attended. The 4th quarter incident report shows an increase in calls for 2007. This will be available at the next meeting. False alarm calls have become an issue. The 2008 billing will be increasing for police services.

Issues brought forward or letters received after agenda was mailed

- a) Oliver Paipoonge Public Library 2008 contract for service. It was

7. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by Lee Ann Nygard

THAT THE LIBRARY CONTRACT FOR THE YEAR 2008 WITH THE MUNICIPALITY OF OLIVER PAIPOONGE LIBRARY BOARD FOR THE LIBRARY SERVICES BE SIGNED.

Carried

- b) Thunder District Municipal League conference update
c) Lakehead Source Protection Committee – Notice of Commencement
d) North of Superior Training Board requesting feedback to the 2008 Trends, Opportunities and Priorities (TOP) Report
e) Township of Gillies update with regard to advertising for By-law Enforcement Officer. Ms. Caren, Clerk-Treasurer, has not heard from Conmee or Dorion on this issue as yet. Neebing is willing to share in the advertising and hiring of a by-law enforcement officer. Councillor Garbutt noted that Staff Sergeant Mantey of the O.P.P. was going to mention the position to the President of the O.P.P. retirees association.

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

THAT THE COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURN TO MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2008 AT 7:00 P.M.

TIME BEING: 7:45 P.M.

Carried