

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – FEBRUARY 22, 2011

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, February 22, 2011 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

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

Visitors: Fire Chief Henry Mattas
Brad Welyki, Fire Protection Advisor, Office of the Fire Marshal
Paul Roche & Jim Garriock, Solar Logix arrived at 7:51 p.m.

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

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

1. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by G. Garbutt

**THAT THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY,
FEBRUARY 7, 2011 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.**

Carried

2. Moved by J. Vezina
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT MAYOR NELSON BE MARKED ABSENT DUE TO WORK.

Carried

Mr. Brad Welyki, Fire Protection Advisor, Office of the Fire Marshal was welcomed to the table. Introductions were made. Council each made comment or asked questions of Mr. Welyki with regard to fire protection and maintenance of protective clothing. It was noted that the Essentials of Fire Protection session put on by the Office of the Fire Marshal and held in Thunder Bay on February 9th was a very good session.

Questions with regard to the requirements for bunker gear were asked and answered. The municipality has to abide by the Ontario mandate and the manufactures recommendation for maintenance, which includes Canadian General Standards Board (CGSB) 155.1 and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1971 Standard. Mr. Welyki explained that at this time NFPA 1851 has not been adopted as a regulation under the OHSAA, only NFPA 1971 for the purchase of new bunker gear. This NFPA 1851 standard deals with selection care and maintenance and does state that the bunker gear requires mandatory retirement after ten years. If the suit is being regularly inspected, tested and maintained and is deemed safe you can continue to use it, regardless of age. General inspections have to be completed by the Fire Department members regularly and advance inspections and repairs have to be performed by trained personnel. Mr. Welyki supplied the names of five different companies eligible to do this testing. Currently there are no businesses in Thunder Bay that he is aware of that offered advanced inspections and repairs. Cleaning and maintenance records of each piece of equipment must be kept. The Volunteer Firefighter Module A trains firefighters on how to do a general inspection on their gear. Mr. Welyki provided Council with documents and examples of forms that could be used for this, as well as documents that state what the Ministry of Labour Section 21 Advisory Committee for Section Four - Personal Protective Equipment states. Mr. Welyki showed Council the labeling and barcode inside a set of gear so that they are aware of how each suit is identified and shows that it meets the proper requirements.

It was recommended that the Establishing and Regulating By-law be updated stating specifically what core fire protection services the Township of O'Connor Fire Department provides to the ratepayers.

The Annual Compliance Report was discussed. This report verifies yearly that the fire department is in compliance with clause 2.(1)(a) of the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997 and shows if there have been any changes in the department or community that would impact the status. The Office of the Fire Marshal uses this data to ensure

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that departments are in compliance with the minimum requirements.

Mr. Welyki was thanked for attending and answering Council questions and concerns.

Mr. Paul Roche and Mr. Jim Garriock from Solar Logix were welcomed to the table. Introductions were made. Mr. Garriock gave a brief explanation of their business and the MicroFit program. The Ontario plan was modeled after a model in Germany which created 350,000 jobs. The program is supported by all parties of government and currently the Ontario program is the richest program. Mr. Roche then explained the program and how it could be used in O'Connor. A feasibility study conducted by Solar Logix would cost \$350.00 plus HST per location. The current 20 year contracts with the Ontario Power Authority are the most lucrative in the world. Monthly cheques for the power would come from the local distributor, Hydro One. An offer to connect must be submitted to Hydro One first and then a conditional approval can be submitted once it has been approved. The turn around is approximately 90 days and the offer expires in 6 months. There could be a possible low infrastructure issue in O'Connor with regard to the capacity of the connections. The grid may have to be upgraded before Hydro One might accept an offer to connect. Possibly locations were discussed. Council would like Solar Logix to come up with a ballpark number as to what it might cost if the Township was to go ahead. The company also provides funding at prime plus 2% open ended.

Council thanked Mr. Roche and Mr. Garriock for attending and making their presentation and will await their basic financial information on their system.

Fire Chief Mattas was welcomed to the table. The Fire Department report was read from January 20 to February 17, 2011. There was one First Response call and two mutual aid calls. One of the mutual aid calls was for first response and there is no agreement in place for this. Fire Chief Mattas will discuss this at the Zone meeting.

The issue of bunker suits was discussed. Fire Chief Mattas informed Council that he has been in contact with two of the companies that Mr. Welyki had mentioned. Council confirmed that the department is not to mix and match any bunker gear between manufacturers. It was confirmed that all of the departments gear is purchased from reputable companies and the labels do wear out on the gear.

A copy of the letter from the Zone One Mutual Aid Association to Mr. Stuart Mooney, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care with regard to migration of paging services was read. Fire Chief Mattas reported that Stuart Mooney is still waiting for pager inventory from the departments. To date they only have O'Connor's information.

The Northwestern Ontario's Conference on Disaster Management to be held in Dryden on April 5 – 7, 2011 was discussed. No one will be attending.

A copy of a letter from Bill Mauro, M.P.P., to the Minister of Finance, Minister of Infrastructure and Minister of Community Safety & Correctional Services requesting that the government, in their upcoming budget, consider supporting capital allocation for volunteer fire departments was read.

A quote from the Power Centre for a booster system to expand the hi-speed internet to the fire hall and garage was reviewed. Fire Chief Mattas would like to recommend that the Township proceed with this system as it would be an asset for Fire Department training. It was

3. Moved by G. Garbutt
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**THAT THE QUOTE FROM THE POWER CENTRE FOR ENGENIUS EOC
2611P-OUTDOOR AP/CLIENT BRIDGE PLUS INSTALLATION FOR \$424.00 +
HST BE ACCEPTED.**

Carried

Fire Chief Mattas was thanked for attending.

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Bills to be paid were passed around the table. It was

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

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

CK#10004	WORKPLACE SAFETY & PREVENTION SERVICES	\$ 37.29
CK#10005	HYMERS AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY	55.00
CK#10006	G. GARBUTT (HONOURARIUM)	373.65
CK#10007	THUNDER BAY AREA ZONE ONE MUTUAL AID	200.00
CK#10008	M.F.O.A. (2011 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP)	254.25
CK#10009	THUNDER BAY DSSAB (FEBRUARY LEVY)	8,087.00
CK#10010	GRANT THORNTON LLP (2010 AUDIT – INTERIM)	5,650.00
CK#10011	HYDRO ONE	487.88
CK#10012	TBAYTEL (TELEPHONE)	381.51
CK#10013	CANADA POST (CORNERSTONE POSTAGE)	44.14
CK#10014	KAKABEKA MOTOR HOTEL (CHRISTMAS DINNER)	918.52
CK#10015	J. LOAN (HONOURARIUM)	359.70
		<u>\$16,848.94</u>

Carried

By-law 2011-05 was discussed and it was

5. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2011-05 BEING A BY-LAW TO AMEND BY-LAW NUMBER 2002-21 SCHEDULE "A" THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR JURISDICTIONAL ROAD INVENTORY – DECEMBER 31, 2002 TO REFLECT UPDATED ROAD DATE COLLECTED THROUGH THE MUNICIPALITY'S ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

Policies were reviewed as follows:

Municipal Enforcement/Provincial Offences Officer - This policy changes the name from By-law Enforcement Officer and adds more of the job description in the responsibilities. It was

6. Moved by G. Garbutt
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE POLICY FOR THE BY-LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER DATED JULY 16, 1998 BE RESCINDED IN ITS ENTIRETY AND THE FOLLOWING "POLICY FOR THE MUNICIPAL ENFORCEMENT/PROVINCIAL OFFENCES OFFICER" BE ENDORSED.

PURPOSE: To establish the standards for the Municipal Enforcement/Provincial Offences Officer.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- 1) To enforce the By-Laws of the Township of O'Connor.
- 2) Receive, document and investigate complaints of By-law violations and seek compliance or enforce as required.
- 3) Prepare and serve Provincial Offences Notices, Orders and Summonses, prepare evidence required by the Courts, attend Provincial Offences Court and give evidence as a witness at trials.

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- 4) **Prepare correspondence and occasional reports to Municipal Council.**
- 5) **Liaise with community and civic inspection agencies, government agencies and related groups.**
- 6) **Perform other related duties as may be assigned.**

REPORT TO: The Municipal Enforcement/Provincial Offences Officer will report to the Clerk-Treasurer.

POLICY STATEMENT: The Municipal Enforcement/Provincial Offences Officer shall provide Council with a written report when there has been an incident in the Township.

This report will be given to the Clerk-Treasurer on the first of the month following the incident and will be included in the next Council meeting package.

This policy shall replace the policy entitled “Policy for the By-law Enforcement Officer” in its entirety.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This policy shall come in effect as of February 22, 2011.

Carried

Council would like the Clerk-Treasurer to look into what would have to be done to name the new road, which was surveyed in 2005 in Concession 5 between lots 2 and 3.

The policy for attendance at meeting was reviewed. Council would like to rescind this policy and have a new, reworded, one drafted for next meeting.

Correspondence was read as follows:

- a) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – i) Watch File February 10, 2011
ii) Watch File February 17, 2011
iii) AMO Breaking News – Gas Tax Fund – Eligible Categories
iv) Government will introduce new Ontario Works Funding Model for Administration
v) AMO Report to Members on January 2011 Board Meeting
- b) Rita Syache – A/Emergency Management Assistant, Emergency Management Ontario regarding OnTrace Pilot Project
- c) Municipality of Shuniah – Police Services Board – copy of letter sent to the Hon. Kathleen Wynne, Minister of Transportation regarding Highway 11/17 winter maintenance.
- d) Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario (MFOA) regarding 2011 membership.
- e) Karen Honan, Development Officer, Community Economic Development Commission & Stephanie Ash, President/CEO Firedog Communications Inc. regarding Immigration Portal short film.
- f) Ombudsman Ontario regarding Open Municipal Meetings in Ontario. A copy of the Sunshine Law Handbook was distributed to Council.

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) The relocation of the “Welcome to O'Connor sign” was discussed. Information from the Ministry of Transportation with regard to the required permit and location was read. A possible new location and the sign itself will be looked at during the spring Township inspection.
- b) An email from the Township of Alberton regarding fire department's training funding was read. At this point the Township of Alberton has not made comment to the Township of O'Connor's draft reply letter to the Honourable Jim Bradley, Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services as requested. It was agreed that the letter will be sent as is.

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Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Ontario Power Generation – Kaministiquia River System Dam Safety EPRP 2011 Meeting – to be held March 21, 2011

7. Moved by J. Vezina
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE ONTARIO POWER GENERATION KAMINISTIQUIA RIVER SYSTEM DAM SAFETY EPRP 2011 MEETING TO BE HELD IN KAKABEKA FALLS ON MARCH 21, 2011.

MAYOR NELSON, FIRE CHIEF MATTAS AND CLERK-TREASURER BUOB
Carried

- b) Superior North EMS offering to attend an upcoming Council meeting to discuss the organizations future and requesting input for their plans. Council would like Mr. Norm Gale, Chief of EMS, to attend an upcoming meeting. The Clerk-Treasurer will make the necessary arrangements.
- c) An email from the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge regarding a Trail Partnership was read. The municipality is applying to the Ontario Government under their Healthy Community Fund to complete a master Trail Strategy. They are looking for community partners to provide input and resources for drafting the study. Currently Council was not interested in sitting on the committee, however the Clerk-Treasurer will contact the Municipality to see if a resident would be eligible. If so this information will be advertised in the Cornerstone.
- d) Ministry of Natural Resources regarding Consultation Sessions on Proposed approach to a Regulation for Woodland Caribou Habitat . This sessions is being held on the same date as Thunder Bay District Municipal League and no one would be available to attend.

Councillor Racicot left the room.

- e) AMO – i) Media & Communications Training – Thunder Bay May 4, 2011. No one will attend.
ii) Town Hall Sessions – regarding existing and new program/service offerings from AMO and LAS - Thunder Bay April 27, 2011. This will be reviewed further and if the Clerk-Treasurer would like someone to attend it will be brought back to the next meeting for approval.

Item g) was brought forward on the agenda to discuss while Councillor Racicot was out of the room.

- g) The Northwestern Ontario Development Network – Economic Development Practitioners Conference – March 9, 2011. No one will attend.

Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting.

- f) Thunder Bay Agricultural Research Station requesting a financial donation. It was decided that no donation will be made.
- h) Tony Dowling, Gravel Watch Ontario Executive – regarding aggregate issues in your community. Urging municipalities to express their concerns at the upcoming Rural Ontario Municipal Association conference starting February 27, 2011 in Toronto.
- i) Clinton Shane Ekdahl, Founder of “Day of the Honey Bee” requesting the Proclamation of the second annual Day on May 29, 2011. Council did not make this proclamation.

Under further new business Council discussed the upcoming O'Connor Winter Carnival scheduled for Saturday, February 26, 2011 and hosted by the Volunteer Fire Department.

Issues brought forward or letters received after the agenda was mailed.

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- a) Thunder Bay Veterinary Services Committee – regarding the Veterinary Assistance Program and the Township of O'Connor's enrollment fee for 2011. Council would like to see a copy of their financials statements. Councillor Vezina also announced that he is now the Vice-Chair of this committee.
 - b) Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association – Membership survey. The survey will be completed and submitted as requested.
8. Moved by G. Garbutt
Seconded by J. Vezina

**THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD
ON MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2011 AT 7:00 P.M.
TIME BEING: 10:13 P.M.**

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer