

## TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – FEBRUARY 27, 2012

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, February 27, 2012 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

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

Visitors: Fire Chief Henry Mattas  
Mr. Eric Olson

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 15 a), 16 a) and 19 c) 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 FEBRUARY 13, 2012 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.**

Carried

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

**THAT MAYOR NELSON BE MARKED ABSENT DUE TO HIS ATTENDANCE AT THE ONTARIO GOOD ROADS CONFERENCE.**

Carried

Mr. Eric Olson was welcomed to the table. Introductions were made. The driver training program that Mr. Olson is offering for the volunteer fire department was discussed. A copy of a sample contract was reviewed. The Township's own vehicle would have to be used for training. The question was asked, if some drivers have some experience do they need to do the full hours or can they challenge the hours. Mr. Olson will be able to do the test with the driver but only if he has trained them to the minimum requirements set out in his training requirements. If a driver wants to challenge the test they will have to go into the Ministry. Proper training through his course will cover the Township with regard to due diligence. Council asked if he would offer a defensive driving refresher course if needed for those who already have their DZ licence. He would be willing to look into this if needed. There is no time limit for the course, however the driver has one year between writing for the "Z" Endorsement and doing their practical test for your "Z" Endorsement. The idea of proper training is to stop bad driving before anything happens.

Council informed Mr. Olson that this will have to be a budget item and it will be discussed further at that time. Mr. Olson was thanked for attending and providing further information on his program.

Fire Chief Mattas was welcomed to the table. The Fire Department report was read. There was one fire related call and one first response call since the last report. Four members of the department will be attending the Ontario Fire Marshal (OFM) course 401 to be held on the weekend of March 2nd and 25<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Three members of the team have written their "Z" endorsement test. Fire Chief Mattas in waiting on the others to get theirs to rent a truck for one day and have as many as possible do the practical test at once. Fire Chief Mattas has spoken with the Ministry of Transportation licencing supervisor about this and they are willing to make it work all in one day. It was also noted that the drivers will require a medical prior to getting their "D" licence. The training evolution record from the February meetings were also read.

It was noted that the fire related call was an electrical fire. It was suggested that possibly a Standard Operational Guideline (SOG) should be drafted outlining what the department requires from the homeowner with regard to an electrical fire to ensure that the problem is solved. The Clerk-Treasurer will look into this further.

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Fire Chief Mattas reported that the pumper was in for a safety and servicing. There were some leaking valves, due to hard water build up and a broken seal and it was taken to Holland Enterprise for these repairs. The tanker will be due for its safety in May. Fire Chief Mattas is continuing to look into prices for a replacement for this vehicle.

The Thunder Bay Area Zone 1 Mutual Aid Association, through the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge has put out a Request for Proposals for Provision of Emergency Services Paging. Zone 1 represents 14 member fire teams in the Thunder Bay area. The reason for this change is that the Ministry of Health is canceling the paging services to the Fire Departments for fire related calls. The proposal opening will be held March 15, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. in the Oliver Paipoonge Council Chambers.

The driver training was discussed. The Ministry of Transportation representative will be meeting with Fire Chief Mattas and Mr. Olson with regard to the driver training program in April. The Clerk-Treasurer noted that Mr. Leiterman from RAL Equipment Training Services was in the office with regard to the driver training and the new requirements for Fire Departments with regard to pre-trip inspections. The Deputy Clerk-Treasurer will be asked to look into this further.

The Policy for the Fire Department was reviewed. Each item was discussed and clarified with Fire Chief Mattas. Amendments will be made and brought back to Council for final approval.

Fire Chief Mattas was thanked for attending.

Consent application 1B/04/12 for Wayne and Lorna Blaikie, ML F17, N pt MR 13, Concession 1 was reviewed and it was

3. Moved by G. Garbutt  
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**THAT THE CONSENT APPLICATION 1B/04/12 FOR WAYNE AND LORNA BLAIKIE ML F17, N PT MR 13, CONCESSION 1, CONCERNING A PROPOSED LOT ADDITION BE APPROVED UNDER THE CONDITION THAT THE SURVEY DETERMINES ACTUAL LOT SIZE AND DIMENSIONS.**

Carried

A resolution for endorsement was read from the Ontario Urban Forest Council and was filed.

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

- a) Cost comparison of apportionment methods for North Shore communities and the District.
- b) A resolution from the Township of Conmee resolving to explore options for the provision of mandatory social programs within their Township.
- c) Minutes of the DSSAB meetings held on December 8, 2011 and January 19, 2012 were reviewed.

Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) – i) Statement of remuneration and/or travel expenses paid to Mayor Nelson. Council would like clarification on the honourarium noted.
  - ii) Concerns regarding Bill 8, an Act respecting Ontario One Call Ltd. and opposition to the legislation
  - iii) NOMA responds to the Drummond Report
- b) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – i) Drummond Commission Offers Opportunities to solve shared fiscal challenges
  - ii) Drummond Recommendations
  - iii) Watch File – February 16, 2012
  - iv) Watch File – February 23, 2012

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- c) Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) – regarding the recent opposition to the Green Energy Act and the request for delegates to walk-out on Premier McGuinty at 2012 ROMA OGRA conference
- d) Thunder Bay Veterinary Services Committee – regarding the Veterinary Assistance Program. Council would like to see a copy of the financial statements for the committee. Councillor Vezina will request a copy.
- e) Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing – regarding the Long-standing Service Program. No members of the current Council are eligible at this time.
- f) Ministry of the Environment – regarding preparing for Implementation & Compliance Under Part IV the Clean Water Act
- g) Thunder Bay District Women's Institute – regarding the 115<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Feb. 19, 2012

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

Councillor Racicot left the room.

- a) Essentials of Municipal Fire Protection – A Decision Makers' Guide – date change from April 17, 2012 to May 2, 2012. Due to the date change Councillor Loan will not be able to attend as per resolution #10 at the February 13, 2012 meeting and it was

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

**THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE ESSENTIALS OF MUNICIPAL FIRE PROTECTION – A DECISION MAKERS' GUIDE TO BE HELD WEDNESDAY, MAY 2, 2012 IN THUNDER BAY.**

**REGISTRATION: N/C**

**DEPUTY CLERK-TREASURER RACICOT WILL ATTEND IN PLACE OF COUNCILLOR LOAN DUE TO DATE CHANGE.**

Carried

Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting.

Councillor Loan informed Council that he will be starting a new job in May and he will miss some Council meetings between May and October. He will get his schedule in the near future and will have more detail at that time.

- b) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Planning Conference draft agenda. The conference includes Data Sensitivity Training in the afternoon of the conference.
- c) Discussion with regard to Chief Building Official (CBO) – i) request for payment of radiant heat course. The Clerk-Treasurer reported on what decision the other Township's have come to and it was

- 5. Moved by J. Vezina  
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**THAT CHERYL MAKI, CHIEF BUILDING OFFICIAL, ATTEND THE RADIANT HYDRONICS DESIGN COURSE TO BE HELD IN TORONTO FEBRUARY 21 – 24, 2012.**

**THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR IS WILLING TO PAY ¼ OF THE TOTAL EXPENSES OF THIS TRAINING.**

Defeated

- ii) Discussion with regard to CBO attending regular Council meetings. At the last meeting it was briefly discussed that Council would like to meet with the CBO on a regular basis. It was decided that Ms. Maki will be asked to attend Council meetings quarterly and if possible at the first meeting of the month.

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Under further old business the Clerk-Treasurer reported that the Farm Credit Canada funding application is due in May 2012 with announcement be made in November or December 2012. Council agreed that if the kitchen repairs were to be done this would be too long to wait.

Under New Business, Council discussed

Councillor Racicot left the room.

a) The Township of O'Connor mileage rate. A comparison of the surrounding municipalities was discussed and it was

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

**THAT THE MILEAGE RATE BE SET AT .50 CENTS A KM. FOR ALL TOWNSHIP MILEAGE. EFFECTIVE DATE MARCH 5, 2012.**

Carried

Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting.

- b) City of Thunder Bay Court Services Office – 2012 POA Budget was reviewed. The Clerk-Treasurer informed Council that the population, households and assessment data is taken from the last election year and will remain the same for the four year Council term.
- c) Thunder Bay District Municipal League – Nominating Committee request for members. This will be discussed at the league meeting.
- d) Waste Diversion Ontario – regarding the Minister of the Environment's announcement for new Action Plan for increasing the volume of waste diverted from landfills
- e) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – Town Hall Sessions – In Thunder Bay on April 12, 2012. No one will attend.

7. Moved by Bishop Racicot  
Seconded by J. Vezina

**TIME BEING: 10:30 P.M. THAT THE BALANCE OF THE AGENDA BE DEFERRED TO THE MARCH 12, 2012 MEETING.**

Carried

8. Moved by J. Vezina  
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2012 AT 7:00 P.M.**

**TIME BEING: 10:30 P.M.**

Carried

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Mayor

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Clerk-Treasurer