

## TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – FEBRUARY 7, 2011

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

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

Visitors: Kelly Johnson, Leadhand arrived at 7:20 p.m.

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m..

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: Councillor Racicot declared an interest in items 15d) and 16 f) ii) as his spouse is an employee of the Township.

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

**THAT THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 2011 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.**

Carried

Staff Sergeant Dan Peters of the Ontario Provincial Police was scheduled to be on the agenda at 7 p.m. but was not present so Council agreed to move forward on the agenda to item #8.

The voucher for January 2011 was reviewed and it was

2. Moved by Bishop Racicot  
Seconded by G. Garbutt

**THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR JANUARY 31, 2011 TOTTALLING \$77,143.96 BE APPROVED AND PAID.**

Carried

The draft Statement of Revenue and Expenditures to December 31, 2011 was reviewed.

Resolutions for endorsement were read as follows:

- a) Zone One Mutual Aid Association regarding the Northern Coordinator position be reestablished in Thunder Bay. It was

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

**THAT THE RESOLUTION FROM THE THUNDER BAY DISTRICT ZONE ONE MUTUAL AID ASSOCIATION REQUESTING THAT THE POSITION OF THE NORTHERN COORDINATOR FOR THE ONTARIO FIRE COLLEGE BE RETURNED TO THE NORTH AS ORIGINALLY PROMISED BE ENDORSED.**

Carried

- b) Zone One Mutual Aid Association regarding the cost of attending Ontario Fire College courses in Northwestern Ontario. It was

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

**THAT THE RESOLUTION FROM THE THUNDER BAY DISTRICT ZONE ONE MUTUAL AID ASSOCIATION REQUESTING THAT THE ONTARIO FIRE COLLEGE PROVIDE NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO FIRE DEPARTMENTS WITH MEALS, ACCOMMODATIONS AND A SUBSIDY FOR TRAVEL WHEN ATTENDING ONTARIO FIRE COLLEGE COURSES AT THE NORTHERN CAMPUS BE ENDORSED.**

Carried

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c) Municipality of Shuniah – encouraging the segregation of services at the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre. It was

5. Moved by Bishop Racicot  
Seconded by G. Garbutt

**THAT THE RESOLUTION FROM THE MUNICIPALITY OF SHUNIAH  
ENCOURAGING THE SEGREGATION OF SERVICES, TO STREAMLINE THE  
HEALTHCARE STRATEGY IN NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO BE ENDORSED.**

Carried

- d) City of Windsor – regarding the exemption of HST from electricity and heating was filed.  
e) Town of East Gwillimbury – with regard to allowing municipalities to transfer approved funding between approved projects was filed.

A letter from the Thunder Bay District Social Services Board announcing the appointment of the Chief Administrative Officer was read. Ms. Melissa Harrison was appointed to this position and will commence her employment on February 14, 2011.

The Clerk-Treasurer reported that Reeve Kevin Holland was appointed as the Zone 1 representative on the DSSAB board.

Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) – Media Release regarding key issues that NOMA would like to see addressed in the upcoming Provincial budget.  
b) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) - i) Watch File – January 27, 2011  
ii) Watch File – February 3, 2011  
iii) AMO's 2011 Pre-Budget Submission calls for Increased Infrastructure Investment  
iv) Municipal Employer Pension Centre of Ontario (MEPCO) – regarding the 2009 MEPCO Annual Report and municipal contribution  
c) Ministry of Natural Resources – i) letter regarding the review of Forest Fire Management Agreement  
ii) regarding the Forest Fire Management Agreement Review – detail letter  
d) Service Canada – Anna Marie Nowitski, Director, Northwest Sector – introductory letter.

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Mr. Paul Roche of Solar Logix was scheduled to be on the agenda at 7:30 and he also was not in attendance so Mr. Johnson, Leadhand was welcomed to the table. Timesheet reports from December 10, 2010 to January 7, 2011 and January 10 to 21, 2011 were read.

Roadwork in general was discussed. The road department has been scratching the roads and have done the hills a couple of times. They have also done some brushing on the corner of Connolly road and will be winging back some brush with the grader on some of other roads in the near future.

The maintenance of Highway 595 was discussed. It was agreed that maintenance of the road has improved since Council's meeting with the Regional Director of the Ministry of Transportation.

Mr. Johnson reported that the compactor at the disposal site was having problems with the valves freezing up but it is working again. The garbage had to be thrown directly into the hole on these days. Brushing at the entrance of the disposal site was again discussed and it was suggested that it be cut back a little more.

The Ass'n of Ontario Road Supervisors (A.O.R.S.) gravel road school was discussed. It was

6. Moved by G. Garbutt  
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

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**THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE ASS'N OF ONTARIO ROAD SUPERVISORS GRAVEL ROAD SCHOOL TO BE HELD IN DRYDEN APRIL 4 – 5, 2011.**

**REGISTRATION: \$595.00 + HST**

**LEADHAND KELLY JOHNSON  
EQUIPMENT OPERATOR #1 BRENT DENNHARDT**  
Carried

The Workplace Safety & Prevention Services Networking and Knowledge Exchange entitled "Don't let this happen to you or your supervisors" was discussed and it was

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

**THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE WORKPLACE SAFETY & PREVENTION SERVICES – NETWORKING & KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE TO BE HELD IN THUNDER BAY ON FEBRUARY 24, 2011.**

**REGISTRATION: \$11.00 PLUS TAX.**

**KELLY JOHNSON, LEADHAND  
BRENT DENNHARDT, EQUIPMENT OPERATOR #1  
LORNA BUOB, CLERK-TREASURER**  
Carried

Mr. Johnson was thanked for attending.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) Update on a Health & Safety Committee. A memo was read from the Clerk-Treasurer. After speaking with Mr. Allan Gardiner from the Ministry of Labour it appears that the Township only needs a committee for the Fire Department. Each department should continue to have monthly inspections but the road department and the administration department do not need to be a part of the committee. Mr. Randy Turk, firefighter does have his basic certification and is willing to be a part of the committee as the worker member. The department members do however have to agree to appoint Mr. Turk as their representative. Either the Fire Chief or the Deputy Fire Chief will also need to be certified as the management member. The Clerk-Treasurer will continue to look into the requirement.
- b) The new building's one year warranty and a date for a Building Committee meeting was discussed. It was agreed that the Council members of the committee should meet ahead of the meeting to be held with the Contractor, to do an inspection and discuss any issues that they would like addressed with the contractor. It was
8. Moved by J. Vezina  
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**THAT THE FOLLOWING DATE BE SET FOR A BUILDING COMMITTEE MEETING – WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2011 AT 3 P.M.  
THE MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS.**  
Carried

- c) Continuous Improvement Fund – i) Reply comments from the other municipalities involved in the study were read with regard to Council's concerns of the current project.  
ii) Expression of Interest in special Blue Box program funding. No application will be submitted for this funding.

Councillor Racicot left the room.

- d) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Planning Workshop 2011 – tentative agenda and registration. It was

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

**THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE MINISTRY OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS AND HOUSING PLANNING WORKSHOP 2011 TO BE HELD IN THUNDER BAY ON MARCH 23 & 24, 2011.**

**REGISTRATION: \$60.00 + HST**

**COUNCILLOR GARBUTT  
CLERK-TREASURER BUOB**

Carried

Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting.

- e) Update on the second batch of bunker gear sent for testing. Again one jacket failed the moisture barrier test and minor repairs were needed for the other gear. Fire Chief Mattas has given the approval for them to be repaired and it should be back in the Township on February 8<sup>th</sup>.

Councillor Racicot announced that he has resigned from the Fire Department.

Under further old business, Council discussed the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association presidency for the next term. Council support Mayor Nelson's involvement and would like to nominate him for the position of President in the upcoming term. Mayor Nelson is willing to run for this position.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Oliver Paipoonge Library – 2011 contract for service. Council agreed to continue with the use of the library for the Township residents and it was

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

**THAT THE LIBRARY CONTRACT FOR THE YEAR 2011 WITH THE MUNICIPALITY OF OLIVER PAIPOONGE LIBRARY BOARD FOR THE LIBRARY SERVICES BE SIGNED.**

Carried

- b) Hymers Agriculture Society – regarding advertisement in prize book and donations. It was

11. Moved by Bishop Racicot  
Seconded by G. Garbutt

**THAT A HALF PAGE ADVERTISEMENT IN THE HYMERS AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY PRIZE LIST BOOK BE PURCHASED AT A COST OF \$55.00. A HISTORY BOOK WILL ALSO BE GIVEN AS A DONATION.**

Carried

- c) Canada Summer Jobs 2011 was discussed and it was

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

**THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR ASK FOR 2 STUDENT/S UNDER THE CANADA SUMMER JOBS 2011 SUMMER WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM, FOR A PERIOD OF EIGHT WEEKS.**

**START DATE FOR THE PROGRAM WOULD BE JULY 4, 2011 RUNNING UNTIL AUGUST 26, 2011.**

Carried

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- d) Ecosuperior Environmental Programs requesting that the Township pass a by-law to prohibit the burning of noxious materials in the Township. Council filed this request. It was suggested that a notice be put in the cornerstone asking residents to be courteous of their neighbours and ask them not to burn garbage in their outdoor wood stoves and in the spring during fire season promote not burning garbage in their incinerator barrels.
- e) Ministry of Community and Social Services – regarding the Proposed Integrated Accessibility Regulation under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005. The information is available on their website and comments can be made until March 18, 2011.
- f) AMCTO - i) Special Legislative Express: Accessibility Update. Draft regulation on accessibility standards released.

Councillor Racicot left the room

- ii) Express – Upcoming Workshops. No one will attend these workshops.

Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting.

- g) Petition regarding changes to internet to a pay per byte charge. Council have heard that this issue is currently being taken care of by the Province.
- h) InfraCycle – Financial Sustainability Webinar. No one will participate.
- i) Request for Insurance quotes for the upcoming policy term was discussed. It was agreed that the Township will not go for quotes this year.

Under further new business, Council discussed:

Councillor Loan informed Council that he would like to assist the Fire Department by getting his DZ licence so that if needed he could be called upon to drive the fire vehicles in an emergency. He currently has his "B" licence and would only need to get the Z endorsement to be properly licenced.

Councillor Racicot reported on the Lakehead Rural Planning Board meeting. The Board has made a few small changes. They are considering paying the municipalities an honourarium per meeting as some meetings are only dealing with the unorganized municipalities. They are also a couple of new members on the Board.

Councillor Loan left the meeting at 9:36 p.m.

Issues brought forward or letters received after agenda was mailed

- a) Cheryl Maki, Chief Building Official – requesting approval to attend the OBOA Course - Building Officials & the Law March 7 to 11, 2011 in Huntsville. It was

- 13. Moved by Bishop Racicot  
Seconded by G. Garbutt

**THAT CHERYL MAKI, CHIEF BUILDING OFFICIAL, ATTEND THE BUILDING OFFICIALS & THE LAW TRAINING COURSES TO BE HELD IN HUNTSVILLE FROM MARCH 7 TO 11, 2011.**

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

- j) Ontario Power Generation – regarding Union Gas Begins Studies for a pipeline to Thunder Bay Generating Station.

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

**THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2011 AT 7:00 P.M.  
TIME BEING: 9:46 P.M.** Carried