

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – FEBRUARY 9, 2015

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, February 9, 2015 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

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

Visitors: Leadhand Kelly Johnson

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m..

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

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

THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2015 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.

Carried

Mr. Johnson was asked if he wished to address Council on any personal matters and he replied no.

Mr. Johnson, Leadhand, was welcomed to the table. The monthly road report from January 12 to February 9, 2015 was read. Roadwork in general was discussed. The road employees were planning on doing some brushing on the sides of the roads last week but equipment breakdowns prevented that. The equipment has been repaired and they will try again this week if we don't get too much snow. Mr. Johnson will also be working on his roads budget. Mr. Johnson was thanked for attending and left the meeting.

The roads and administration voucher was reviewed and it was

2. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR JANUARY 31, 2015 TOTTALLING \$71,741.89 BE APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

A resolution from the Village of Merrickville-Wolford with regard to Industrial Wind Turbines was filed.

Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) Councillor Bob MacMaster – Thunder Bay District Health Unit Board Meeting Report – January 18, 2015 was read.
- b) Association of Municipalities of Ontario - i) Watchfile – January 29, 2015.
ii) Watchfile February 5, 2015.
iii) AMO Report to Member Municipalities Highlights of the January 2015 Board Meeting.
iv) AMO Board Vacancies Filled.
v) Audits and Federal Gas Tax.
vi) 2015 Town Hall Sessions – in Thunder Bay on April 22, 2015. This item will be brought back to Council closer to the date to see who would like to attend.
- c) Ontario Good Roads Association – i) Heads Up Alert – February 5, 2015 - Appeal not possible in Steadman v. County of Lambton.
- d) AMCTO The Municipal Experts – AMCTO Legislative Express February 2, 2015.
- e) 2015 BDC Young Entrepreneur Award – Deadline for applications March 18, 2015.
- f) Thunder Bay District Health Unit – regarding Smoke-Free Ontario Act changes effective January 1, 2015. Mandated signage will be posted in the outdoor rink area and during O'Connor Day in the children's play area.

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

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Copies of the minutes of the Thunder Bay District Municipal League board meeting and other boards were available included in the balance of correspondence. The Clerk-Treasurer asked if Council would like these minutes included on the agenda. Council agreed that they would like the minutes from outside boards and organizations forwarded to them via email and if they would like to discuss anything from these minutes they will bring them forward onto the agenda.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) – i) Councillor Loan's report with regard to the CPAC Meeting held on January 28, 2015 and information with regard to CN/CP Policing option was read. Councillor Loan reported that the internal policy for the railway police would have to change in order for them to be able to police areas outside of the railway right of ways. Mayor Nelson has also asked the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) to see if there is anything prohibiting the Township from contracting with the railway police.
- ii) A date for a public meeting for our ratepayers with the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) regarding the new billing model. The dates of Wednesday, May 20, 27 or June 3 at 7 p.m. will be suggested as possible dates for such a meeting in a letter to the Sergeant Ford of the Municipal Policing Bureau. Council will discuss the agenda for this meeting further at a later meeting and a flyer will go out to the Township ratepayers inviting them to attend and hear the reasoning for the increase in policing costs.
- iii) Business Management Bureau – regarding reporting transparency. The reporting framework and supporting infrastructure are being upgraded. The intention to implement the reporting framework was scheduled for the fall of 2014 however changes to the reporting infrastructure between the OPP the Ministry of Transportation(MTO) are still ongoing. They are hoping that the new reports will be a more effective and less complex way to provide information on public safety trends in the communities.

Under further old business, Councillor Vezina reported that he will be unable to attend the upcoming Veterinary committee meeting to be held on February 26, 2015, however he still would be willing to put his name forward for the executive of this committee. Councillor Foekens will be in attendance and will pass this on at the meeting.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Township computers upgrade were discussed. The main Township computer has been acting up and will need to be upgraded or replaced in the near future. Quotes were provided for different options from our service provider and programming was discussed. Council agreed to have the staff purchase the required computer upgrades.
- b) Paul S. Heayn - regarding the Closed Meeting Investigator position. It was agreed to continue to retain Mr. Heayn in this position for the Township and a By-law will be passed at the next meeting.

Councillor Racicot left the room.

- c) AMCTO Zone 9 – i) Spring Meeting and Conference – April 21 & 22, 2015 in Thunder Bay. It was

- 3. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by K. Foekens

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE AMCTO ZONE 9 SPRING MEETING AND CONFERENCE TO BE HELD ON APRIL 21 & 22, 2015 IN THUNDER BAY.

REGISTRATION: \$100.00

**CLERK-TREASURER BUOB
DEPUTY CLERK-TREASURER RACICOT
Carried**

The office will be closed on these two days.

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- ii) AMCTO's 77th Annual Conference – June 7 to 10, 2015 in Thunder Bay was discussed. Attendance will be discussed further at a meeting closer to the conference.
 - d) Continuous Improvement Fund – AMO/CIF 2015 Blue Box Outreach Sessions – April 8, 2015 in Oliver Paipoonge. It was
4. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE AMO/CIF 2015 BLUE BOX OUTREACH SESSION TO BE HELD ON APRIL 8, 2015 IN OLIVER PAIPOONGE.

REGISTRATION: NO CHARGE

DEPUTY CLERK-TREASURER RACICOT
Carried

Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting.

- e) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) – i) Township of O'Connor's 2015 Annual Repayment Limit (ARL) was reviewed.
 - ii) Review of the Ontario Disaster Relief Assistance Program (ODRAP) – deadline for comments March 4, 2015. Mayor Nelson reported on a presentation made by Jessica Vail, from MMAH to the Lakehead Rural Municipal Committee (LRMC) on this topic at the committees last meeting. The Township of Conmee expressed their concern with the time it takes to get money from the Ministry and the need to borrow money to pay their contractors and the interest on that loan is not an eligible expense. Council agreed not to make any comments at this time as these concerns have been addressed by the Committee and the Township of Conmee.
 - f) Ministry of Transportation (MTO) – regarding Consultation on Ontario's Default Speed Limit. The MTO is seeking stakeholder input on whether to consider changing the default speed limit for local roads within urban areas. Council have no comment on this issue as it does not pertain to the Township of O'Connor.
 - g) Thunder Bay District Municipal League (TBDML) - Larry Hebert – i) regarding a Memorial Wall in Thunder Bay and ii) a sketch of suggested location were reviewed. Council are in favour of this wall and it will be discussed further at the upcoming TBDML meeting.
 - h) NorWest Community Health Centres – regarding 2015 Rural Health Fair. The Fair will be held on May 7, 2015 at the Norwest arena to coincide with the Emergency Preparedness Week. The Township will participate in the event and Fire Chief Mattas will be contacted to see what the Township might be able to contribute to the Emergency Preparedness Kit during that day from the Township's booth.
 - i) Francis Gallo, Nipissing University – regarding consultation sessions for the Northern Ontario Bioeconomy Strategy in Thunder Bay on March 11, 2015 – Information and Community Profile Survey were reviewed. It was agreed to file this item.
 - j) Autism Ontario – Invitation to participate in Autism Ontario's "Raise the Flag" campaign on April 2, 2015. It was
5. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by B. J. Loan

I, MAYOR RON NELSON OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR DO HEREBY PROCLAIM APRIL 2 AS WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY.

WHEREAS WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY WILL BE RECOGNIZED ON APRIL 2, 2015, IN CANADA THANKS TO LIBERAL SENATOR JIM MUNSON'S BILL S-206, AN ACT RESPECTING WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY; AND

WHEREAS AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER (ASD) AFFECTS MORE THAN 100,000 ONTARIANS. AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER IS NOW RECOGNIZED AT THE MOST COMMON NEUROLOGICAL DISORDER

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AFFECTING 1 IN EVERY 94 CHILDREN, AS WELL AS THEIR FRIENDS, FAMILY AND COMMUNITY; AND

WHEREAS ASD IS A SPECTRUM DISORDER, WHICH MEANS IT NOT ONLY MANIFESTS ITSELF DIFFERENTLY IN EVERY INDIVIDUAL IN WHOM IT APPEARS, BUT ITS CHARACTERISTICS WILL CHANGE OVER THE LIFE OF EACH INDIVIDUAL AS WELL. A CHILD WITH ASD WILL BECOME AN ADULT WITH ASD; AND

WHEREAS AUTISM ONTARIO (FORMERLY AUTISM SOCIETY ONTARIO) IS THE LEADING SOURCE OF INFORMATION AND REFERRAL ON AUTISM AND ONE OF THE LARGEST COLLECTIVE VOICES REPRESENTING THE AUTISM COMMUNITY. SINCE 1973 AUTISM ONTARIO HAS BEEN PROVIDING SUPPORT, INFORMATION AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR THOUSANDS OF FAMILIES ACROSS THE PROVINCE; AND

WHEREAS AUTISM ONTARIO IS DEDICATED TO INCREASING PUBLIC AWARENESS ABOUT AUTISM AND THE DAY-TO-DAY ISSUES FACED BY INDIVIDUALS WITH AUTISM, THEIR FAMILIES, AND THE PROFESSIONALS WITH WHOM THEY INTERACT. THE ASSOCIATION AND ITS CHAPTERS SHARE COMMON GOALS OF PROVIDING INFORMATION AND EDUCATION, SUPPORTING RESEARCH, AND ADVOCATING FOR PROGRAMS AND SERVICES FOR THE AUTISM COMMUNITY; AND

THEREFORE I MAYOR RON NELSON, DO HEREBY DECLARE APRIL 2ND AS WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY.

DATED AT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR, ONTARIO THIS 9TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2015.

Carried

Issues brought forward or letter received after the agenda was mailed

- a) John Coupland, Emergency Measures Organization, regarding the possibility of having an education/emergency exercise with Alex Lawless, Field Officer at Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management with the surrounding municipalities outside and near Thunder Bay. Council feel that this would be a good idea but would prefer not to have it in May as it is too busy with other meetings and they would like to suggest a date in mid-June or September.
- b) Ontario Libraries Capacity Fund regarding Seniors Community Grant program. Deadline for application is March 27, 2015. No applications will be made at this time.
- c) Ombudsman Ontario regarding the Annual Report on Investigations of Closed Municipal meetings. A copy of the 3rd edition of the Sunshine Law Handbook was also handed out to Council.

- 6. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2015 AT 7:00 P.M.

TIME BEING: 9:25 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer