

## TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – JANUARY 12, 2015

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, January 12, 2015 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

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

Visitors: Leadhand Kelly Johnson  
Mr. Ian Robson, By-law Enforcement/POA Officer arrived at 7:15 p.m.  
Mr. Jesse Buob arrived at 7:15 p.m.

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m..

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof:  
Mayor Nelson declared an interest in item 16f) as he is a consultant for ON1Call.  
Councillor Racicot declared an interest in items 14i), 17c) and 19a) as his spouse is an employee of the Township.  
Councillor Foekens declared an interest in item 7b) as he is the owner of Kevin's Tire Service.

1. Moved by B. J. Loan  
Seconded by K. Foekens

**THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2014 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 Department report for Council was read. Roadwork in general was discussed. Mr. Johnson has started working on his budget. Mr. Johnson was thanked for attending and left the meeting.

Mr. Jesse Buob was welcomed to the table. Mr. Buob requested a key for the Township of O'Connor's Disposal Site for his garbage business. He would not be using it every week however his schedule is getting busier and at times he is finding it hard to make it to the site by closing. The key agreement for the disposal site, which was used by Mr. Garbutt, for the same service previously, was reviewed. It was noted that the garbage would have to be placed in the hole and not in the compacting truck when the site is closed. It was

2. Moved by Bishop Racicot  
Seconded by K. Foekens

**THAT MR. JESSE BUOB SIGN AN AGREEMENT FOR A SPECIAL KEYED ACCESS TO THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR DISPOSAL SITE. THIS AGREEMENT WILL BE VALID FOR ONE YEAR FROM THE DATE OF SIGNING.**

**MR. BUOB WILL ALSO BE REQUIRED TO SIGN A WAIVER CONCERNING LIABILITY FOR ACCIDENT OR INJURY WHILE AT THE DISPOSAL SITE.**

Carried

Mr. Buob thanked Council and left the meeting.

Mr. Ian Robson, By-law Enforcement/POA Officer was welcomed to the table. Councillor Foekens and Mr. Robson were introduced. Council asked Mr. Robson to give a brief background on himself to inform Councillor Foekens of his qualifications for this position. Mr. Robson is also in this position for the Townships of Conmee and Gillies and is currently being pursued by the Municipality of Neebing.

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Mr. Robson would like to speak to Council with regard to the perspective of enforcement and review of the dog running at large By-law #2006-04 and the By-law #2006-13 governing fences and the control and keeping of livestock. Mr. Robson noted that he, in all situations, will try to get compliance before considering court. Currently the Township's By-laws do not specifically state what the fines would be for non-compliance. Mr. Robson has also spoken to Ms. Kathy Dallaire from the Provincial Offences Office in Thunder Bay and she does see issues with the way the By-laws are worded with regard to reimbursement, enforcement and payment for an offense. Council asked Mr. Robson if he would be willing to work with the Clerk-Treasurer and Deputy Clerk-Treasurer to amend the wording and set specific fine amounts within the By-laws. He agreed and they will work together on amending the By-laws and bring them back to Council for debate and approval.

Council also informed Mr. Robson of the new OPP Billing Model and let him know that he may be called upon more often for different situations within the Township to avoid OPP costs where possible. Council would like Mr. Robson to be present at the public meeting which Council and the OPP will be holding for the Township of O'Connor residents and ratepayers to inform them of the changes.

Mr. Robson was thanked for attending and he left the meeting.

The bills to be paid were reviewed and it was

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

**THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR DECEMBER 31, 2014 TOTTALLING \$35,508.95 BE APPROVED AND PAID.**

Carried

- 4. Moved by B. J. Loan  
Seconded by J. Vezina

**THAT THE ROADS VOUCHER FOR KEVIN'S TIRE SERVICE FOR DECEMBER 2014 TOTALING \$2,592.31 BE APPROVED AND PAID.**

Carried

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

**THAT THE FOLLOWING BILLS FOR JANUARY 2015 BE PAID. THESE BILLS WILL BE INCLUDED ON THE JANUARY 2015 ROAD AND ADMINISTRATION VOUCHER.**

<b>CK#12715</b>	<b>AMCTO (MEMBERSHIPS)</b>	<b>\$836.20</b>
<b>CK#12716</b>	<b>AMO (2015 MEMBERSHIP)</b>	<b>\$649.75</b>
<b>CK#12717</b>	<b>MFOA (2015 MEMBERSHIP)</b>	<b>\$282.50</b>
<b>CK#12718</b>	<b>ONT ASSOC OF FIRE CHIEFS (MEMBERSHIP)</b>	<b>\$276.85</b>
		<b>\$2,045.30</b>

Carried

By-laws were discussed as follows and it was

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

**THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2015-01 BEING A BY-LAW TO IMPOSE LATE PAYMENT CHARGES FOR THE NON-PAYMENT OF TAXES OR ANY INSTALLMENT BY THE DUE DATE BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.**

Carried

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

**THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2015-02 BEING A BY-LAW TO PROVIDE FOR AN INTERIM LEVYING AMOUNT BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.**

Carried

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

**THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2015-03 BEING A BY-LAW TO AUTHORIZE THE BORROWING OF MONIES BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.**

Carried

The paperwork for the bank account and signing authority for cheques were also signed by Council.

The By-laws Number 2006-13 and 2006-04 were previously reviewed during discussions with Mr. Robson.

A resolution for endorsement for the Township of Algonquin Highlands with regard to the OPP Billing model and properties in unorganized townships was filed as Council have previous endorsed similar resolutions.

Correspondence was read as follows:

- a) Treasurer's Itemized Statement of Remunerations & Expenses paid to Council in 2014 was reviewed.
  - b) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – i) December 18, 2014 Watchfile  
ii) January 8, 2015 Watchfile  
iii) AMO Communications – 2015 Pre-Budget Submission outline  
iv) AMO Communications – Detailed 2014 Blue Box payments information now Online
  - c) Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) – Ontario Energy Board – Summary of Thunder Bay and Kenora Hearings into the Energy East Project. Councillor Vezina reported that the Common Voice Northwest Committee has received intervener status with regard to the study for the east/west gas pipeline and has created a new task force. They are currently looking for new members for this task force with an expertise in the pipeline field.
  - d) Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA) – regarding the Candidates for the 2015-16 OGRA Board. Currently the Northern Zone has three nominations, including Councillor Vezina, and three seats are required, however additional nominations can still be made at the conference from the floor.
  - e) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) - i) Municipal Delegation Request submitted by Pat Maxwell for the Lakehead Rural Municipal Committee to the Ministry of Community and Social Services, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and the Ministry of Education at the Ontario Good Roads Conference.  
ii) Annual Repayment Limit  
iii) Investing Municipal Dollars  
iv) 2014 Northern Treasurer's Forum Information
- These items were for information purposes from the 2014 Northern Treasurer's Forum.
- v) Ted McMeekin, Minister – Congratulation letter from Minister McMeekin and an invitation to work with him on any issues.
  - f) Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) – i) 2014 - 4th Quarter Report for the Township  
ii) Thunder Bay OPP – January Newsletter. Council would like the information with regard to trespassing and possibly safe snowmobiling in the next issue of the Cornerstone if nothing has been put in for this season yet.
  - g) Stewardship Ontario – regarding the December Payment for Municipal Blue Box Recycling for the 2014 Program Year
  - h) Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) – regarding the Municipal Payment for Services Update & 2015 Invoice Estimate. The Board of Directors has approved an increase of 0.95% for 2015.

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Councillor Racicot left the room.

- i) Mosey & Mosey – regarding Employee Group Benefit Plan Renewal Projection for June 1, 2015 was discussed. Sun Life is expecting a proposed renewal rate increase and they expect to provide the finalized renewal rate adjustments by the end of April, 2015.

Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting.

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) OGRA – Annual Conference – approval for Councillor Vezina to attend

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

**THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE ONTARIO GOOD ROADS ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE TO BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 22 TO 25, 2015 IN TORONTO.**

**REGISTRATION: \$635.00 PLUS HST**

**COUNCILLOR JIM VEZINA**

Carried

- b) AMO – Heads of Council Training and Councillor Training 101. It was

- 10. Moved by Bishop Racicot  
Seconded by B. J. Loan

**THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE AMO COUNCILLOR TRAINING 101 TO BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 13, 2015 IN THUNDER BAY.**

**REGISTRATION: \$420.00 PLUS HST**

**COUNCILLOR FOEKENS**

Carried

- c) Discussion with regard to any further questions for OPP during their attendance at the January 26, 2015 meeting. Council did have one more question with regard to the description of the call or what is considered a call which will be forwarded to Staff Sergeant Graham for the next meeting.
- d) Ministry of Citizenship, Immigration and International Trade – regarding the Ontario Volunteer Service Awards – deadline for nominations January 25, 2015. The years of service for all the Fire Department and First Response members were reviewed and discussed and it was agreed to submit a nomination for Fire Chief Henry Mattas for his 40 years of service as a volunteer Firefighter.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Multi-Year Operating Budget Process – Council reviewed information from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Treasurer's Forum in this regard. Council agreed that we do have the five year road plan which does provide information with regard to the Township major assets and do not feel that it is necessary to do multi-year budgeting at this time. The Clerk-Treasurer did point out that Rosy Brizi of Grant Thornton did do the presentation on this subject at the Forum and they can ask her any questions they might have when she attends the Council meeting in February.
- b) Federation of Canadian Municipalities – Invitation to become a member. Council agreed to not become a member at this time.
- c) Hymers Agricultural Society requesting support for 2015 Hymers Fall Fair. It was

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

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**THAT A HALF PAGE ADVERTISEMENT IN THE HYMERS AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY PRIZE LIST BOOK BE PURCHASED AT A COST OF \$60.00 AND A DONATION OF ONE HISTORY BOOK BE PROVIDED.**

Carried

- d) AMCTO – regarding the Municipal Management Internship Program. The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing has decided against continued funding for this program. AMCTO will continue to offer it for 2015-16 but the host will have to self-fund the intern. The Township will not be applying.
- e) Minister Responsible for Seniors Affairs - Ontario Senior's Secretariat – regarding the Age-Friendly Community Planning Grants Program – deadline January 30, 2015 and Improving Community Transportation for Seniors, Persons Living with Disabilities Program – Community Grant Program – deadline January 30, 2015. Council has decided not to apply for funding under these programs at this time.

Mayor Nelson left the room and Councillor Foekens took over chairing the meeting.

- f) ON1CALL – regarding the Consultation on ON1Call Board Policy – Composition of Sector Membership on Board. The Board is considering modifications to the Board policy which describes the composition of Board Membership within each sector. The item was filed.

Mayor Nelson returned to the meeting and resumed the chair position.

- g) Ontario Heritage Trust – regarding 2015 Ontario Heritage Week which runs from February 16 to February 22. The Township of O'Connor will not participate.

Under further new business, Mayor Nelson informed Council of a meeting with the Lakehead Rural Municipal Committee (LRMC) and the City of Thunder Bay Police Board which has been scheduled for Tuesday, January 20, 2015. Mayor Nelson will not be able to attend on that date as he will be out of town. It was agreed that Councillor Racicot will go in his place. Clerk-Treasurer Buob will also attend.

Mayor Nelson and Councillor Racicot attended the Thunder Bay District Municipal League (TBDML) meeting held on Saturday, January 10, 2015. It was noted that Councillor Racicot is currently acting as Past-President of the League due to the results of the recent Municipal Election and former Presidents not being re-elected. This was to last only until the next League election in February however it was noted at the meeting on Saturday that the current President may be running for re-election which would have Councillor Racicot remain on the Board for another two years.

Also Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Racicot had made note last year that she might be interested in running for the Administrative Representative position on the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) as a municipal employee for the TBDML. With the election upcoming the Clerk-Treasurer will confirm with Ms. Racicot to see if she is still interested, and if she is, it will be brought back to Council for the next meeting for their discussion and possible nomination.

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

- a) Lakehead Rural Municipal Committee (LRMC) – ORION Eco Solutions meeting for all of Council to be held on Thursday, January 15, 2015 at 6 p.m. at the Murillo Community Centre. This meeting was called in order to have full Councils hear the company's plans and what they are offering to the municipalities with regard to possible solid waste diversion and potential extension of the life expectancy of their disposal sites. It was

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

**THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE LAKEHEAD RURAL MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE MEETING WITH REGARD TO A PRESENTATION FROM ORION ECO SOLUTIONS WITH REGARD TO DISPOSAL OF GARBAGE TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 2015 IN MURILLO.**

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**MAYOR NELSON  
COUNCILLOR LOAN, VEZINA, RACICOT  
CLERK-TREASURER BUOB**

Carried

- b) Thunder Bay District Veterinary Services Committee – Annual Meeting February 26, 2015. Councillor Foekens and Councillor Vezina will attend the meeting as the committee representatives.

Councillor Racicot left the room.

- c) AMCTO Upcoming Workshops and webinars. It was

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

**THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S PARTICIPATE IN THE AMCTO  
WEBINAR WITH REGARD TO FUNERAL, BURIAL AND CREMATION  
LEGISLATION TO BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 4, 2015.**

**REGISTRATION: \$109.00**

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

Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting.

- d) Lakehead Region Conservation Authority – regarding the Lakehead Conservation Foundation Fundraising Dinner. It was

14. Moved by B. J. Loan  
Seconded by K. Foekens

**THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE LAKEHEAD  
CONSERVATION FOUNDATION FUNDRAISING DINNER AND AUCTION TO  
BE HELD FEBRUARY 5, 2015 IN THUNDER BAY.**

**TICKETS: \$50.00 EACH**

**COUNCILLOR VEZINA**

Carried

- e) Service Canada - Canada Summer Jobs 2015 Program – Deadline to apply January 30, 2015. It was decided not to apply for summer students through this program this year. If students will be hired we will go with YES Employment Services once again.
- f) Ministry of Energy – committed to building a cleaner energy system and overview of the initiatives Ontario's government is taking to give municipalities more information and control around local energy planning. Councillor Vezina reported that the Energy Task Force will be meeting with the President of the Ontario Power Authority in February with regard to this.
- g) Northern Policy Institute – Introduction and information regarding a project to create a Federal Economic Agenda for Ontario for the upcoming federal Election in 2015. It was agreed to let NOMA make comment on the Township's behalf.

Councillor Racicot left the meeting.

The review of the Administration wages and discussion with regard to the occasional Disposal Site Caretaker position was next on the agenda and it was

15. Moved by B. J. Loan  
Seconded by K. Foekens

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**BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE NEXT PORTION OF THE MEETING BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC IN ORDER TO DISCUSS LABOUR RELATIONS OR EMPLOYEE NEGOTIATIONS; PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION 239(2)(D) OF THE MUNICIPAL ACT, 2001.**

**TIME BEING: 10:18 P.M.**

Carried

The wages of the Disposal Site Caretaker, Janitor, Dog Control Officer, Groundskeeper, Fence Viewer, Livestock Valuer and Weed Inspector were discussed.

The position of occasional Disposal Site Caretaker was also discussed. As the advertisement in the newsletter, the Cornerstone, had a misprint with regard to the due date for the applications to be submitted, it was agreed to leave the review of the application until the next meeting.

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

**TIME BEING: 10:29 P.M.**

**THAT WE NOW MOVE TO OPEN MEETING.**

Carried

17. Moved by K. Foekens  
Seconded by B. J. Loan

**THAT THE SALARY AND WAGE SCHEDULE FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR NON-UNION STAFF COMPRISING OF THE DISPOSAL SITE CARETAKER, JANITOR, DOG CONTROL OFFICER, FENCE VIEWER, LIVESTOCK VALUATOR, WEED INSPECTOR AND GROUNDS KEEPER WILL RECEIVE AN INCREASE AS FOLLOWS: EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2015 INCREASED BY 1.5 PERCENT.**

**THE DOG CONTROL OFFICER'S WAGE WILL BE IN PARITY WITH THE DISPOSAL SITE CARETAKER, JANITOR AND GROUNDSKEEPER.**

Carried

18. Moved by K. Foekens  
Seconded by B. J. Loan

**THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2015 AT 7:00 P.M.**

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

Carried

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Mayor

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Clerk-Treasurer