

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – JANUARY 24, 2011

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, January 24, 2011 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

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

Visitors: Fire Chief Henry Mattas, Deputy Fire Chief Mike Styles

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: Councillor Racicot declared an interest in item 15b) as his spouse is an employee of the Township.

1. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by J. Vezina

**THAT THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY,
JANUARY 10, 2011 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.**

Carried

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

THAT MAYOR NELSON BE MARKED ABSENT DUE TO WORK.

Carried

Acting Mayor Garbutt asked Mr. Styles if he wished to address Council and he replied no.

Fire Chief Mattas and Deputy Fire Chief Styles were welcomed to the table. The Fire Department's report for December 19, 2010 to January 20, 2011 was read. There were four first response calls in that time. The total number of calls for the year 2010 were also available. The current number of members on the O'Connor team are: 15 Firefighters, 13 First Response, 8 of which are both and 3 Auxiliary members for a total of 23 members.

Fire Chief Mattas asked for an explanation of item 14 a), the reply letter from Mr. Gale, Chief of Superior North EMS as he was unaware of Council's concern with regard to the response time of the ambulance in a recent emergency call. Council informed Fire Chief Mattas of their concern. Fire Chief Mattas explained the situation with the ambulance and the availability of it and the reasons for possible delays.

Five sets of bunker gear have been sent away for testing as per Council's request at the last meeting. One jacket needed moisture barrier replacement and minor repairs were required on the other suits. The work was completed and Fire Chief Mattas has spoken with Sani Gear and the suits were shipped back on Friday and should be here anytime. Fire Chief Mattas asked Council what they want to do next in this regard. It was agreed to again try to match up the members with suits from upstairs and send another five suits away for testing.

Health and Safety Certification was discussed. Councillor Racicot, also a member of the Fire Department, is certified. It was suggested that Randy Turk may also be certified however Deputy Fire Chief Styles has not been able to speak to him on this matter. At the last meeting it was suggested that one employee take the on-line training if a fire department member was certified and willing to sit on the committee. This issue was discussed further and it was agreed that hands on training with other members who have different experiences is more beneficial. The in-class course in Thunder Bay is scheduled for January 25 and 26 which is too late to send anyone. Fire Chief Mattas mentioned that he will check with Mr. John Venasky to see if he would be qualified to certify members and if he is, the Township of O'Connor could possibly host a certification training course and invite the other municipalities, if they require the certification for anyone. If this is not an option, the Clerk-Treasurer will look into when the next training will be available as well as how the Health and Safety committee is to be structured.

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Fire Chief Mattas asked Council if the firefighters were going to continue to be paid for attending training sessions, as the training funding that was received from Province has run out, and courses are coming up that members may be attending. Council confirmed that a policy was passed stating that members will be paid to attend mandatory core training. The different firefighter training course options and the record keeping of these courses was discussed.

Councillor Loan was invited to the fire hall to meet with Fire Chief Mattas to see how the operation is run and how things are setup.

Fire Chief Mattas updated Council on the upcoming issue of dispatching of fire calls. At the recent Zone One meeting the departments discussed the issue of the Ministry of Health – Central Ambulance Communications Centre (CACC) no longer dispatching the fire related calls. The Ministry does not want the liability if for some reason a department does not get a call. The Municipalities will be responsible for finding another option, which will cost a substantial amount more than our current \$15.00 a call, which we currently pay to the Ministry, since 2010. Prior to this there was no charge. The new towers were installed in 2009 and can still be used by the departments. The possibility of using a security company for dispatching was suggested and is an option that will be looked into further. The Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge is willing to work on all the municipalities behalf to apply for another JEPP grant to help offset the setup costs.

Councillor Garbutt informed the Fire Department that the Thunder Bay District Municipal League has appointed a new Emergency Medical Services (EMS) governance committee. The members are Councillors Bev Dale, Shuniah, Gino Leblanc, Terrace Bay and Terry Fox, Marathon. She also noted that Superior North EMS are the only ambulance service in the Province that is mandated by a City and are not a stand alone company.

Fire Chief Mattas reported that he attended the Confederation College media event with regard to their new fire fighter course being offered in September 2011. The course is one year of theory and it does not guarantee the students a job when they graduate. They would still have to go through the departments training.

Fire Chief Mattas reported that after he submitted his report to Council on Friday morning the department received a mutual aid call to Marks Township. Due to the extremely cold temperatures he contacted the Nolalu department to see what they needed. They were not on scene at the time and did not know the extent of the fire. Fire Chief Mattas asked that they contact him when they arrived at the scene. When Nolalu arrived at the scene the fire was already out and they cancelled the call.

Council asked Fire Chief Mattas the status of the DZ licence training. They were informed that there is currently no action on this matter. No members were eligible. Fire Chief Mattas was asked to inquire to whether or not any members would be eligible in 2011.

Councillor Vezina reported to Council that he attended the Fire Hall on Tuesday, January 11, 2011 to look at the concerns brought to Council's attention at the January 10, 2011 meeting. Councillor Vezina did not see an issue with the self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) gear on top of the truck bouncing out, he also did not see any new options with regard to a lifting apparatus for the pond.

Fire Chief Mattas reported that both himself and Deputy Chief Styles will be attending a propane course on Wednesday, January 26th.

Item 14b) the draft reply letter to Minister Bradley, Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services was briefly discussed with Fire Chief Mattas. The Communiqué 2010-04 was reviewed. The Clerk-Treasurer reported that Fire Chief Mattas had requested that the letter be forwarded to the Township of Alberton for clarification, as it was there original resolution that was endorsed by Council. Council agreed to wait for their response to this letter before submitting it to Minister Bradley.

Fire Chief Mattas and Deputy Chief Styles were thanked for attending.

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The draft Statement of Revenue and Expenditures report for December 31, 2010 was reviewed. The transfer of monies to reserve funds was discussed and it was

3. Moved by J. Vezina
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2010 THE FOLLOWING AMOUNTS BE TRANSFERRED INTO THE FOLLOWING RESERVE/S.

FEDERAL GAS TAX - \$19,758.79
FIRE DEPARTMENT - \$16,000.00
DISPOSAL SITE - \$5,000.00
INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM - \$15,000.00
 Carried

Bills to be paid were passed around the table and it was

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

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

CK#9940	B. DENNHARDT – DENTAL/MEDICAL	\$ 105.00
CK#9941	CERTIFIED GENERAL ACCOUNTANTS OF ONTARIO	100.00
CK#9942	O'CONNOR FREE METHODIST CHURCH	49.99
CK#9943	G. GARBUTT – HONOURARIUM/MILEAGE/MEAL	411.00
CK#9944	CANADA POST – POSTAGE	644.10
CK#9945	HYDRO ONE	727.86
CK#9946	TBAYTEL	373.16
CK#9947	NORTH OF SUPERIOR PUBLIC WORKS ASSOCIATION	70.00
CK#9948	THUNDER BAY DISTRICT SOCIAL SERVICES	
	ADMINISTRATION BOARD	8,087.00
CK#9949	TOWNSHIP OF GILLIES (CIF PROJECT)	610.56
CK#9950	AMCTO (WEBINAR – LEGISLATIVE OVERVIEW-DOGS	57.46
CK#9951	TARANIS (GRAVEL – NOVEMBER 2010)	284.05
CK#9952	MINISTER OF FINANCE (DISPATCH CALLS)	15.00
CK#9953	STAPLES BUSINESS DEPOT	83.79
CK#9954	GRANT THORNTON	1,210.00
CK#9955	RICHARD NOY (FENCE VIEWER	
	& LIVESTOCK VALUER)	62.19
CK#9956	RECOOL CANADA INC.	<u>339.00</u>
		\$13,230.16

Carried

The Clerk-Treasurer reported that Mr. Cronk and Mr. Poohachoff were both willing to continue on the Committee of Adjustments for the next term and it was

5. Moved by B. Jerry Loan
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2011-04 BEING A BY-LAW TO APPOINT A COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENTS BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

Resolutions for endorsement were read as follows:

- Township of Emo – regarding the Continuation of Amethyst Sector Field Officer Position – Northwestern Ontario was filed
- Municipality of North Perth – regarding implementing a moratorium on industrial wind turbines was filed.

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- c) Town of Ingersoll – regarding the making of carbon monoxide alarms mandatory in all residential buildings was filed.
- d) Township of Pickle Lake – supporting the Town of Fort Frances' resolution regarding Ontario Provincial Police Contract Policing Costs was filed.
- e) Township of Ignace – regarding increased costs for Policing for the Ontario Provincial Police was filed.

Council asked that the Clerk-Treasurer contact the Township of Conmee to see who was appointed as the Zone 1 representative on the Thunder Bay District Social Services Administration Board.

Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) – i) Notice regarding NOMA interim President appointed and Energy issues discussed. Mayor Ron Nelson was appointed to the position of Interim President and Mayor David Canfield (Kenora) was appointed as Interim Vice President.
 - ii) First Call for Nominations – Offices of President and Executive Vice President. Council will await Mayor Nelson attendance at the next meeting to confirm his interest in this position for the upcoming term.
- b) Ministry of Northern Development, Mines and Forestry – News Release - Transforming Ontario's Forestry Sector.
- c) Bill Mauro, MPP – reply letter to NOMA Members with regard to recruiting and retaining physicians in Northern and rural Ontario.
- d) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing –i) 2011 Annual Repayment Limit based on 25 percent of the 2009 net source revenues. The Township did obtain additional loans in 2010 which may affect the repayment limit if another loan was applied for in 2011.
 - ii) letter regarding Long-standing Service Program. This award is presented to locally elected municipal officials who have served their communities for 25 or more. Currently Mayor Nelson is the longest standing member in O'Connor with 20 years.
 - iii) Minister Rick Bartolucci regarding Land Use Planning Guide for Businesses.
 - iv) Announcing new Senior Housing/Planning Advisor of Municipal Service Office- Northwest Audrey Anderson.
- e) Township of Shuniah – copy of letter and resolution to the Minister of Transportation regarding recent highway maintenance.
- f) Association of Municipalities of Ontario – i) Watch File – January 13, 2011.
 - ii) Watch File – January 20, 2011.
- g) Ministry of the Environment – i) Source Protection Programs Branch regarding update on Clean Water Act, 2006 – Completion of assessment reports.
 - ii) Minister John Gerretsen – regarding Integration of Planning and Environmental Requirements for Infrastructure Projects.
- h) CanWEA – regarding Enhancing local communities on Wind Energy.
- i) Continuous Improvement Fund – regarding Blue Box program funding for 2011 Priority Projects. The deadline for this application is March 11, 2011. The Clerk-Treasurer will inquire into this further.
- j) Canadian Shield Consultants – regarding Green Municipal Funding Project Balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old business, Council discussed

- a) Norm Gale, Chief of EMS – reply letter to Council's concern regard response time to a recent emergency call was moved forward on the agenda and previously discussed with the Fire Chief.
- b) Draft reply letter to Minister Bradley regarding resolution from the Township of Alberton and the cost of fire fighter training was also moved forward and discussed with the Fire Chief.
- c) Update on Christmas Party. The Clerk-Treasurer reported on the number attending. There will be no live band but if Council would like a DJ it will be provided. It was discussed and agreed not to have any music.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Continuous Improvement Fund update i) Memo from the Clerk-Treasurer regarding project to date.
 - ii) Trow – Draft Waste Recycling Communications Plan for Conmee, Gillies, Oliver Paipoonge, O'Connor and Shuniah and telephone survey results
 - iii) Township of O'Connor's telephone survey results to questions 7, 8 & 9.

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Only a portion of the full project is completed and will be expensed in 2010. The balance will be a 2011 expense. Council are not satisfied with the draft report and would like to know what the other municipalities think. The Clerk-Treasurer will look into this further with the Municipalities.

Councillor Racicot left the room

b) Thunder Bay District Municipal League – i) 94th Annual Meeting and Conference and the Councillor Orientation were discussed. It was

6. Moved by B. Jerry Loan
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE THUNDER BAY DISTRICT MUNICIPAL LEAGUE ANNUAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN THUNDER BAY ON MARCH 4 & 5, 2011.

REGISTRATION: \$100.00

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

Carried

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

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE THUNDER BAY DISTRICT MUNICIPAL LEAGUE COUNCILLOR ORIENTATION SESSION TO BE HELD IN THUNDER BAY ON MARCH 3, 2011.

REGISTRATION: \$20.00

**COUNCILLOR GARBUTT, RACICOT
CLERK-TREASURER BUOB**

Carried

Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting.

ii) Thunder Bay District Municipal League – 2011 revised Budget including NOMA's levy was reviewed. The Township's levy for 2011 will be \$249.64.

c) Lakehead Region Conservation Authority (LRCA) – regarding an information session for the LRCA office building to be held Thursday, February 3, 2011 in Murillo. Councillor Vezina gave a brief update on the new office situation and explained why this information session was called. It was

8. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by B. Jerry Loan

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE LAKEHEAD REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY INFORMATION SESSION REGARDING THE LRCA OFFICE BUILDING TO BE HELD IN MURILLO ON FEBRUARY 3, 2011.

**COUNCILLOR VEZINA, GARBUTT, RACICOT
MAYOR NELSON**

Carried

d) Council discussed changing the February Council meeting dates as Mayor Nelson will be attending the Ontario Good Roads Conference at the end of the month and would like to be here for the guests who will be attending that meeting. It was

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9. Moved by J. Vezina
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE COUNCIL MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2011 AND MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2011 AT 7 P.M. BE RESCHEDULED TO MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2011 AND TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2011 AT 7 P.M.

Carried

Under further new business Councillor Loan reported on the Effective Municipal Councillor Program, which he attended on January 21. The program was excellent and he would like to attend part two when it becomes available. The Clerk-Treasurer will inquire into when it will be held again in Thunder Bay.

Issues brought forward or letters received after the agenda was mailed

- a) Jeremiah Gammond – email regarding the expiry of the one year contractor warranty for the new office and Council Chambers. Any defects or deficiencies observed in the work as a result of the contractor workmanship must be documented. If any are found the contractor must receive written notice on these items. Council would like to have a building committee meeting to go through the building. The Clerk-Treasurer will find a suitable date for everyone and bring it back to Council.
- b) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – requesting information on concerns with Land Division for the upcoming workshop. Council did not have any comment at this time.
- c) Northwestern Ontario Development Network (NODN) – update January 21, 2011.
- d) Committee on the Status of Species at Risk in Ontario – regarding a meeting February 15 - 16, 2011 in Thunder Bay. Councillor Garbutt will look into this further and bring it back to the next meeting if she would like to attend.

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

THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2011 AT 7:00 P.M.

TIME BEING: 9:55 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer