

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR - MINUTES – JANUARY 26, 2009

Minutes of the meeting held on January 26, 2009 at 7 p.m. in the municipal building.

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

Visitors: Fire Chief Henry Mattas
Robin McCabe

Acting Mayor Garbutt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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

1. Moved by J. Vezina
Seconded by Lee Ann Nygard

**THAT THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY,
JANUARY 12, 2009 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.**

Carried

2. Moved by Lee Ann Nygard
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT MAYOR NELSON BE MARKED ABSENT DUE TO WORK.

Carried

Acting Mayor Garbutt invited Ms. McCabe to the table. Ms. McCabe wanted to inform Council that the Gravel Doctor has been plowing and sanding Strom road right to their gate all winter. She also mentioned that she does not have a problem with the wood cutter using this road to haul wood out of Strom road as it is their livelihood. McCabe asked if there was anymore information with regard to the Gravel Doctor moving their own road to Mayo road. Acting Mayor Garbutt informed Ms. McCabe that this issue has now become a legal issue and they cannot discuss it at an open meeting. Ms. McCabe then asked if the speed limit reduction was passed by By-law and she was informed that it was. Ms. McCabe asked if the Sunday hauling issue had been addressed. She was informed that it was looked into. It would have to be an issue for the whole township but we have to be fair to all residents in the township who do work on weekends. Ms. McCabe noted that she is worried that there will be another summer of excessive noise from all the trucks hauling on Strom road. Council informed her that they are doing everything they can to see that the issue is settled as soon as possible.

Ms. McCabe was thanked for attending.

Fire Chief Mattas was welcomed to the table. The Fire Department report was read. The total calls for 2008 were reviewed. According to the CACC Responder activity report the Township of O'Connor had 28 calls, 19 being medical calls and 9 fire related calls.

Fire Chief Mattas informed Council that Chris Lawrence has officially resigned from the team and Joe Lunn will be dropping off an official letter announcing his retiring from the team after 30 years of service. It was agreed that a presentation will be made to Joe during our O'Connor Day celebration. Another member has joined the team from Oliver Paipoonge. The O'Connor Fire Department is currently down in numbers and new volunteers are needed.

The Fire Chief reported that after his meeting with the Clerk-Treasurer he did go out and purchase some of the required equipment. He does have concerns with the fact the equipment is still in good shape but it just does not have proper tagging. Anyone who needed boots was bought boots. Fire Chief Mattas brought a new pair of fire gloves and a balaclava to the meeting for Council to see. The balaclava's have an approval tag inside that must not be removed, however it is large and uncomfortable. Mike Styles is doing an excellent job of keeping track of the equipment, he is reading a

lot and trying to keep up with regulations. Fire Chief Mattas asked Council what they would like to do with the used equipment that is still good just not tagged. The question was asked what does the City of Thunder Bay do with their stuff. Fire Chief Mattas will look into this and get back to Council. It was agreed that the fire department members not take them home for liability purposes.

The quote from Stuart Mooney, Operations Manager, CACC regarding the radio replacement estimate from Bell Mobility was reviewed. The total estimate is \$35,654.50. Funding has been applied for through the JEPP funding, which if approved will cover 45% of the costs with the municipalities being responsible for the balance. The Ministry of Health has paid all previous expenses. Bell has now taken over and there will be a charge. An annual fee will also be charged to each municipality based on a per capita formula with a minimum payment of \$500.00. There will also be a \$15.00 fee charged per fire call to the municipality with emergency calls still being covered by the Ministry of Health. If a mutual aid call is made, the municipality asking for the assistance will be charged. CACC will allow for audits and will be sending out quarterly billings so each municipality can verify the calls that are being charged to them.

Fire Chief Mattas reported to Council that he will be out of the area on February 3 & 4, 2009. Fire Chief Mattas was thanked for attending.

The draft statement of revenue and expenses to December 31, 2008 was reviewed. Most journal entries have been made for year end. The possible reserve transfers were discussed and it was

3. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by Lee Ann Nygard

FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2008 THE FOLLOWING AMOUNTS BE TRANSFERRED INTO THE FOLLOWING RESERVES.

ONTARIO FIRE SERVICE TRAINING	\$ 2,635.00
FEDERAL GAS TAX	\$ 6,950.31
MUNICIPAL BUILDING	\$18,700.00
DISPOSAL SITE	\$ 5,205.00

Carried

A resolution for endorsed was read from Tay Valley Township seeking confirmation that the tenets and covenants of the Waste Diversion Act 2002 will not be jeopardized by the current state of affairs in the recycling industry. This resolution was filed.

A copy of the letter to the Honourable Jim Watson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing from the District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board regarding Poverty Reduction Strategy - \$100 M for Capital Repairs for Social Housing Units was read.

Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – The Township of O’Connor’s Annual Repayment Limit
- b) Ontario Provincial Police regarding updated municipal policing Cost Recovery Formula implementation January 1, 2009.
- c) Iain Angus email - announcing that the City of Kenora is rejoining KDMA and NOMA
- d) Ken Taniwa, Thunder Bay District Municipal League – Linda Turk’s information regarding two meetings planned on Rural Economic Development for Northern Ontario
- e) AMO
 - i) AMO’s Pre-Budget Submission calls for Increased Infrastructure Investment
 - ii) Minister Extends Consultation Period on the Waste Diversion Act Review to April 1, 2009
 - iii) February 6, 2009 Deadline to Respond the Government’s Initial Proposed AODA Information and Communications Standard

The balance of correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) Shirley Hunt, Township of Conmee Councillor and Representative for the Thunder Bay District Health Unit - highlights of the board during the past year. Council would like to continue to receive a report from Councillor Hunt.
- b) Thunder Bay District Health Unit – Minutes of the December 16, 2008 meeting

Councillor Racicot left the room

- c) Mosey & Mosey – Bound copy of Quotation for Employee Group Benefit Plan was reviewed. The Clerk-Treasurer reported on the questions she had asked Ms. Crunkelton, Senior Consultant with regard to the policy. It was

- 4. Moved by J. Vezina
Seconded by Lee Ann Nygard

THAT THE QUOTE FOR EMPLOYEE GROUP BENEFIT PLAN FROM MOSEY AND MOSEY BE ACCEPTED. THE PLAN WILL COME INTO EFFECT MARCH 1, 2009 OR UPON CESSATION OF MANULIFE AND CO-OPERATORS COVERAGE.

Carried

Council also discussed an outstanding balanced owed to the Township of O'Connor from Davlor Insurance for an insurance claim. Council would like a letter sent stating that payment will be expected by February 28th or Council will pursue legal action.

Councillor Racicot returned to the table.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) TBT Engineering's report and map for the Township of O'Connor's Landfill Site were reviewed. The recommendations included in the report will be discussed further during budget meetings.
- b) N.O.M.A. – request for Nomination for President and Executive Vice President. No nominations were put forward at this time.
- c) Oliver Paipoonge Public Library – 2009 contract for service with the Library. It was

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

THAT THE LIBRARY CONTRACT FOR THE YEAR 2009 WITH THE MUNICIPALITY OF OLIVER PAIPOONGE LIBRARY BOARD FOR THE LIBRARY SERVICES BE SIGNED.

Carried

- d) Rural 60 Plus request for funding in the amount of \$10,000.00 to help offset the costs to add an extension to their existing building. Council agreed that the Township of O'Connor would be unable to consider their request at this time.
- e) The O'Connor Women's Institute's will be celebrating their 100th Anniversary on June 15, 2009. The O'Connor Community Club will be hosting a tea in their honour on June 13th. Council would like to do something for them and agreed to present a plaque to the institute and will look into an anniversary gift for the members.
- f) Ken Taniwa, TBDML – regarding Evergreen and the MNR – accepting applications for the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources – Evergreen Community Tree Planting Grant Program – deadline for applications is March 27, 2009. Council will not make and application at this time.
- g) AMO – 2009 Council training workshops. No one will be attending this training.

Under further new business, Council discussed the purchase of a replacement truck for the Leadhand. Prices are currently good for trucks and there seem to be a lot available. It was recommended that the Leadhand start looking to see what might be available.

Issues brought forward or letters received after agenda was mailed

- a) Ministry of the Environment regarding update on the Waste Diversion Act, 2002 (WDA) review.

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- b) Waste Diversion Ontario, Stewardship Ontario and AMO regarding Blue Box

Material Commodity Markets

- c) Taranis Contracting Group – The Gravel Doctor corporate name change effective January 23, 2009.
 - d) Ministry of Finance regarding OMPF 2009 Technical Guide. The guide is available online if Council wish to review how the OMPF funding formula is determined.
6. Moved by Lee Ann Nygard
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE NEXT PORTION OF THE MEETING BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC IN ORDER TO DISCUSS LITIGATION OR POTENTIAL LITIGATION INCLUDING MATTERS BEFORE ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNALS, AFFECTING THE MUNICIPALITY OR LOCAL BOARD; PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION 239(2)(E) OF THE MUNICIPAL ACT, 2001.

TIME BEING: 8:59 P.M.

Carried

A legal issue regarding a township road was discussed.

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

TIME BEING: 9:15 P.M.

THAT WE NOW MOVE TO OPEN MEETING.

Carried

Council would like a representative from the Ministry of Natural Resources to attend our next Council meeting to explain what action has been taken to resolve the official complaints with regard to the excessive tonnage which has been removed from the Gravel Doctor’s pit on Strom Road. The Clerk-Treasurer will contact the Ministry in this regard.

- 8. Moved by Lee Ann Nygard
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2009 AT 7:00 P.M.

TIME BEING: 9:16 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer