

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – JULY 11, 2011

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, July 11, 2011 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

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

Visitors: Kelly Johnson, Leadhand
Ms. Agata Doucette, Community Development Coordinator, HAGI –
Community Services for Independence arrived at 7:45 p.m.

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: None

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

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON JUNE 27, 2011, THE NOTES OF THE COMMUNITY POLICING SOLVING PROBLEM EXERCISE HELD ON JULY 4, 2011 AND THE NOTES OF THE O'CONNOR DAY PLANNING MEETING HELD ON JULY 5, 2011 BE ACCEPTED AS AMENDED.

Carried

2. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by G. Garbutt

THAT COUNCILLOR RACICOT BE MARKED ABSENT FOR WORK.

Carried

Mr. Johnson, Leadhand was welcomed to the table. Timesheets for May 30 to June 11, 2011 and June 13 to June 25, 2011 were read. Roadwork in general was discussed. The department has been busy grading roads. Calcium has been applied on most roads including Earl Road, Connolly Road, Cronk Road, Garbutt Road and Blaikie Road. The Federal Gas Tax projects, which were the gravel resurfacing of 1.6km of Broome Road and 2.8km of the Harstone Road, have been completed. The summer students have cut the grass at the cemetery as well as the municipal yards and the Free Methodist Church cemetery. Cutting of the weeds on the sides of the roads, which is to be completed by Daniel Vanlenthe Mechanical, will start shortly.

The hand pump for the well at the cemetery needs to be replaced. Mr. Johnson will look into a replacement.

The situation on Mayo Road was discussed. Pictures of the access roads into the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) property and the new road built by Taranis Contracting Group were examined. At the meeting held on July 4, 2011 it was requested that the Township look into the possibility of blocking the access to the new road off of Mayo Road, to prevent vehicles from using the road and accessing Taranis property. As per information provided by Clerk-Treasurer Buob outlining the requirement of closing a road, the road in question abuts Crown land and has had previous public access therefore there would be an issue with closing the road. Council discussed the matter and it was decided that the Township would not pursue closure of the road. Mr. Darren Henderson of Taranis Contracting will be contacted to let him know their decision and to possibly suggest the option of placing boulders at the access points which would deter vehicle traffic and still permit ATV's access to the adventure trails. This option would need to be discussed with the MNR.

The Public Services Health and Safety Association's "Learn about the Ministry of Labour Industrial Sector Plan" webinar that is scheduled for July 19, 2011 was discussed. No one will participate in the webinar.

Council asked Mr. Johnson how the students were working out. Mr. Johnson replied that he has no issues or concerns and that so far they are doing a good job.

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Mr. Johnson was thanked for attending.

The road and administration voucher for June 30, 2011 was reviewed and it was

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

**THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR JUNE 30, 2011
TOTALLING \$104,030.77 BE APPROVED AND PAID.**

Carried

The Statement of Revenue and Expenditures to June 30, 2011 were reviewed.

By-law and Policies were discussed as follows:

A draft policy for substance abuse was reviewed. The policy would include all employees, fire department and first response members and Council members. It was commented that a progressive discipline policy would still need to be developed in order to provide a course of action when and if a situation should arise.

The current Code of Conduct By-laws will be revisited to ensure that all issues in the policy are addressed. Ms. Lorna Ruder of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) will be contacted for advise on how these types of policies are enforced and also Ms. Heather Brown of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing will be contacted for advice. It was noted by Council that there should be a separate Code of Conduct policy for Council, employees and Fire and First Response members.

Council also discussed an Employee Assistance Program for Township Employees, Fire Department and First Response members and Council members. Deputy Clerk-Treasurer has already looked into the cost of a program for the Township. Pricing would range from \$42 to \$50 per employee per year. More information on the program will be gathered for Council as well as information for what is already available to Fire and First Response members.

The Decision of the Lakehead Rural Planning Board with respect to application number 1B/06/11 for Mr. William Mazurkewich and Ms. Mary Mazurkewich was read.

Resolutions for endorsement were read as follows:

- a) Lupus Foundation of Ontario regarding asking Council to declare October as Lupus Awareness Month was filed.
- b) The request from Ms. Christine Heffer regarding endorsing the Lyme disease petition set forth by MPP Bob Bailey of Sarnia Lambton was filed.

Correspondence was read as follows:

- a) AMCTO i) Legislative Express regarding Significant Changes to the Livestock Damage Program. Changes effective July 1, 2011. Training sessions will be made available through webinars and it was

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

**THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S PARTICIPATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND RURAL AFFAIRS' NEW ONTARIO WILDLIFE
DAMAGE COMPENSATION PROGRAM TRAINING SESSION EBINAR TO BE
HELD ON JULY 22, 2011**

REGISTRATION: NIL

**DEPUTY CLERK-TREASURER RACICOT
LIVESTOCK VALUER RICHARD NOY**

Carried.

- ii) Legislative Express – A Round up of Information and Advice to Help You Manage Your Municipal Operations and Advise Your Council
- b) E-mail from Mr. Rudy Buitenhuis informing Council that the Livestock Poultry and Honey Bee Protection Act becomes the Livestock Protection from Dogs Act and damage from predation becomes the Wildlife Damage Compensation Program.

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- c) Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario (MFOA) regarding the release of Ontario's 10 Year Capital Plan
- d) Environmental Registry regarding proposed regulations and Municipalities responsibilities
- e) AMO – i) Watch File June 30, 2011
 - ii) Watch File July 7, 2011
 - iii) Communicate regarding Waste Diversion Needs Support from All Political Parties
 - iv) Communicate regarding AMO releases a Provincial Election Check List to Ontario Municipal Leaders
 - v) Letter regarding the upcoming Provincial election and list of AMO's Top 12 Asks

Time being 8:00 p.m. Ms. Agata Doucette, Community Development Coordinator, HAGI - Community Services for Independence was welcomed to the table and introductions were made. Ms. Doucette presented Council with a PowerPoint presentation outlining the history of HAGI – Community Services for Independence and what services they offer to persons with disabilities. The main focus was on transit services and the Wilderness Discovery Family Resort and Conference Centre that is owned by HAGI and is used as a means of fundraising for the organization.

Ms. Doucette was asked what the waiting list was like for people applying for housing in the organizations two apartment units. There is limited space and the current waiting list is 4 to 8 years. Council also asked if the services provided by HAGI would be considered public transit and if Federal Gas Tax funding could help offset the cost of transportation service for residents. Ms. Doucette did not know for sure and would look into it further.

Ms. Doucette also inquired as to whether the service could be provided to residents of O'Connor, Gillies and Conmee as a group. This issue will be brought up at the Shared Services meeting that Councillor Loan and Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Racicot will be attending on July 19th. Costs for the taxi services were discussed. Pricing would be different for rural residents than what is currently charged for city residents. Ms. Doucette will look into what the pricing would be for rural residents.

The Wilderness Discovery Family Resort and Conference Centre was discussed. The lodge can accommodate up to 150 people and is open to the public for bookings. Cabins, which can accommodate up to 40 people, can also be booked and travel time to the Resort is about one and a half hours from the Airline Travelodge. Mayor Nelson will bring this information to the next North Advisory Council and discuss the possibility of holding their fall meeting at the lodge.

Council asked Ms. Doucette to look into the cost of providing residents in all three Townships with a busing service that would include travel to and from both Kakabeka Falls area for shopping and to and from the monthly clinic that is provided by the Northwest Community Health Unit in the O'Connor Community Centre.

Council invited HAGI to setup a static display at the Township's O'Connor Day scheduled for August 27th and Ms. Doucette thought it was a good idea and would look into what type of display they can put up. Ms. Doucette was also invited to advertise HAGI services in the Township's month newsletter.

Ms. Doucette was thanked for attending.

The remaining correspondence was read as follows:

- f) E-mail from Mr. Norm Gale, Chief of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) regarding Issues Management, Media Attention to Superior North EMS Strategic Planning and the possibility of Re-Locating District Stations.
- g) OMERS Employer Update regarding 2012 Contribution Rates and Plan Changes
- h) Stewardship Ontario letter regarding Industry funding for Municipal Blue Box Recycling for 2011-program year. The Township's first quarter funding is \$823.00.
- i) Ontario Power Generation Update regarding the Atikokan Generating Station Biomass Repowering Project.
- j) Immigration Portal – Follow up to training June 8th in Thunder Bay.

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

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Under Old Business, Council discussed

Council discussed the upcoming Rural Health Fair that is scheduled for August 17, 2011. Councillor Garbutt informed Council that there are few spaces available and that the Township still needs to submit their application for a booth. Food will be sold at the event and the proceed will be donated to the Rural Food Bank. Also volunteers are needed to help with the Fair.

Under New Business, Council discussed

The Thunder Bay District Social Services Administration Board (DSSAB') renovation for homeowner program. Council discussed the program and will wait for further developments.

Issues brought forward or letters received after agenda was mailed were discussed as follows:

- a) MFOA i) Conference Bulletin regarding the 2011 Annual Conference to be held in September. No one will be attending.
- ii) eCommunique regarding nominations for election of the Board of Directors.
- b) Regional Economic Development Planning Zones Pilot Project, Northwest Ontario Joint Task Force's issue #4 newsletter
- d) Statistics Canada requesting the Council promote the National Household Survey. The information will be included in the next issue of the Cornerstone and will be made available on the website.

For information purposes it was reported that a building permit has been approved for a new garage at 423 Earl Road and for a new garage at 40 Pool Road.

- 14. Moved by G. Garbutt
Seconded by B.J. Loan

THAT THE COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 8, 2011 AT 7:00 P.M.

TIME BEING: 9:20 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer