

## TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – JULY 15, 2013

Minutes of the meeting held on July 15, 2013 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

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

Visitors: Leadhand Kelly Johnson  
Deputy Fire Chief Ian Hamilton arrived at 7:30 p.m.  
Dawn Ironside and Ken Ironside

Absent: Councillor Garbutt, Councillor Loan

Mayor Nelson 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 17 c) and d) as his spouse is an employee of the Township.

1. Moved by Bishop Racicot  
Seconded by J. Vezina

**THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, JUNE 24, 2013 AND THE NOTES FROM THE TOWNSHIP INSPECTION HELD ON FRIDAY, JUNE 28, 2013 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.**

Carried

The visitors were asked if they wished to address Council for any reason other than what was on the current agenda. They replied no.

Ken and Dawn Ironside were welcomed to the table. Ms. Ironside informed Council that she has an issue with a local cell phone service provider that has advertised that their coverage in O'Connor Township is good when in fact she has poor to no service on her property in the Township. Ms. Ironside provided copies of mapping depicting the cell service range and showing O'Connor Township as having good 4G service. Ms. Ironside provided contact numbers for her service provider and has asked that Council contact them and ask them to address this problem. Council agreed to discuss the matter under new business and thanked Mr. and Ms. Ironside for attending the meeting.

Leadhand Kelly Johnson was welcomed to the table. The Monthly Road Department Report was read. The Leadhand informed Council that three loads of calcium have been applied to roadways and a smaller fourth load has been ordered. Most of the Township roads have had the calcium applied to them and the Leadhand will monitor road conditions and apply calcium where he deems it necessary.

Roadwork in general was discussed. The summer students have started working and will start cutting grass, roads have been graded, fence posts will be installed on the east side of the O'Connor Cemetery and they will be installing the new Township sign this week.

The Township Inspection that was held on Friday, June 28, 2013 was discussed. Options for accessing property on the east side of the Broome Road Bridge during the bridge replacement had been discussed during the Township Inspection. Council decided that the Township property located between Lot 2 and Lot 3 in Concession 5 would be used as a temporary detour.

A response from Mr. Adam Ruberto, P. Eng., KGS Group Consulting Engineers, was received regarding the pre-design report drawings that were provided by his firm for the Broome Road Bridge replacement. He commented that the drawings provided in the pre-design were conceptual and that a detailed design and drawing package would need to be completed prior to ordering the culvert. Council directed the Deputy Clerk-Treasurer to contact Mr. Ruberto and inquire as to what will need to be done.

The cutting of weeds on the Township side roads was discussed. No quotes to cut the weeds were received by the Township. It was decided that Mr. Dale Cook would be

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contacted and asked if he would consider doing the job. Leadhand Johnson will make the arrangements with Mr. Cook.

HydroOne has some surplus chain link fencing and fence posts available and has been donated to the Township. The Leadhand will make arrangement with Councillor Racicot to have the items picked up this week.

Leadhand Johnson was asked to stay to discuss item 11 a) regarding the Change of Scope for the Asset Management Plan Request for Proposal.

Deputy Fire Chief Ian Hamilton was welcomed to the table. Fire Department signage for volunteer recruitment was discussed. Deputy Fire Chief Hamilton has been putting together a few ads that can be used to help with recruitment and wanted Council's input. Council liked what he presented and gave him a few suggestions that he may want to use. He has also been looking at adding a crest outline to the official Township logo that can be applied to the rescue truck. Deputy Fire Chief Hamilton will continue to work on the posters and crest and he was thanked for attending the meeting.

The Road and Administration bills for June 2013 were reviewed and it was

2. Moved by J. Vezina  
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR JUNE 30, 2013  
TOTALLING \$173,696.29 BE APPROVED AND PAID.**

Carried

The Change of Scope and renegotiated price for the development of an Asset Management Plan received from Genivar was discussed. After the meeting held on July 4, 2013 with Genivar, the administrative staff and the Leadhand to discuss work options to lower the original quoted price, Genivar resubmitted a quote and it was

3. Moved by J. Vezina  
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**THAT THE PROPOSAL RESUBMITTED BY GENIVAR FOR THE  
DEVELOPMENT OF A COMPREHENSIVE ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN AS  
OUTLINED IN THE MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE "GUIDE FOR  
MUNICIPAL ASSET MANAGEMENT PLANS" FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF  
O'CONNOR'S INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$24,993.00  
PLUS HST BE ACCEPTED.**

Carried

Resolutions for endorsement were read as follows:

- a) The Township of Gillies requesting that the Thunder Bay District Social Services Administration Board return the 2012 operating surplus to the member municipalities on the same proportionate basis that each of them contributed and that each member municipality consider passing and forwarding a similar resolution to the Board and it was

4. Moved by J. Vezina  
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**WHEREAS THE THUNDER BAY DISTRICT SOCIAL SERVICES  
ADMINISTRATION BOARD (DSSAB) ACHIEVED POSITIVE FINANCIAL  
RESULTS IN 2012, INCLUDING A SUBSTANTIAL OPERATIONAL SURPLUS  
IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,679,895.00 ACCORDING TO ITS CONSOLIDATED  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS;**

**AND WHEREAS IT'S PARTICIPATING MUNICIPALITIES AND  
UNORGANIZED TERRITORIES CONTRIBUTED FINANCIALLY TO THAT  
SUCCESS;**

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**AND WHEREAS THE THUNDER BAY DSSAB'S FINANCIAL STATEMENTS INDICATE IT HAS SIGNIFICANT RESERVE FUNDS ON HAND;**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT THE THUNDER BAY DSSAB FORMALLY ACKNOWLEDGE ITS OBLIGATIONS TO ITS PARTICIPATING MUNICIPALITIES AND UNORGANIZED TERRITORIES BY RETURNING THE 2012 OPERATING SURPLUS TO THEM ON THE SAME PROPORTIONATE BASIS THAT EACH OF THEM CONTRIBUTED, AND**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION BE FORWARDED TO THE THUNDER BAY DSSAB ALONG WITH A REQUEST FOR A FORMAL RESPONSE FROM THE BOARD.**

Carried

- b) Municipality of Morris-Turnberry regarding their support of the resolution from the Corporation of the Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards regarding the subsidizing of the Toronto Transit system. Council passed a resolution at their June 24, 2013 meeting supporting this same resolution.

An e-mail from Mayor Lucy Kloosterhuis regarding the upcoming meeting of the Area One Municipalities that is to be held on Thursday, July 18, 2013 was read. At this meeting they will be discussing the type of structure or format that can be used in the study to be conducted by MNP. They will also be conducting elections for the position of Chair and Vice Chair. Mayor Nelson and Deputy Clerk-Treasurer will attend the meeting. The office will be closed at 4:30 p.m. that day as the meeting is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. at the Shuniah office.

Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) OMERS regarding contributions rates and benefits in 2014. There will be no change in 2014.
- b) Stewardship Ontario letter regarding 2013 Industry funding for the Municipal Blue Box Recycling for 2013 Program Year. The first quarterly payment for 2013 made to the Township was \$986.22.
- c) Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) July Newsletter. Council would like the section regarding all-terrain vehicles put in the August issue of the Cornerstone.
- d) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
  - i) Watch File dated June 27, 2013
  - ii) Watch File dated July 4, 2013
  - iii) Watch File dated July 11, 2013
  - iv) Policy Update regarding AMO Report to Members, highlights of the June 2013 Board meeting
  - v) AMO e-mail regarding Federal Gas Tax Indexing. The Gas Tax Funding will be indexed starting in 2014 at 2% per year, however the Township of O'Connor may see a decline from the 2013 funding based on lower population according to the 2011 Census.
- e) Ontario Provincial Police letter regarding the recent Municipal Survey and the misunderstanding with its distribution. It was implied that the survey was distributed to all municipalities, however municipalities with their own police services did not receive the survey. Mayor Nelson did complete the on-line survey.
- f) Ministry of Natural Resource regarding the inspection of approved aerial herbicide spraying of selected stands of the Black Spruce, Dog River-Matawin and Lakehead Forests.
- g) Lakehead Region Conservation Authority's audited financial statements.
- h) Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC)
  - i) MPAC to present at AMO's 2013 Annual Conference.
  - ii) Update from MPAC on the work they are doing.
- i) Ministry of Tourism email sent by Jessie Oger on behalf of Minister Michael Chan regarding one-time funding in the amount of \$1 million to help strengthen our public library system.
- j) Southern Ontario Library Services regarding the Township's allocation of the \$1 million one-time funding. The Oliver Paipoonge Library will receive \$1,037.00 as it provides library services to the Township of O'Connor.

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- k) Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasures of Ontario (AMCTO) Municipal Election Express.
- l) Municipal Finance Officers' Association on Ontario (MFOA) e-bulletin for June 27, 2013.
- m) Emergency Management Ontario (EMO) regarding status updates and the new EMO site.

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under old business, Council discussed

- a) A reply letter from a taxpayer regarding a Notice of Demand and the Bills of Exchange Act and a second letter regarding the same issue. Council discussed the letters and suggested that when or if the ratepayer contacts the office that it be recommended he seek legal advice on the subject and that the Township will continue to act under the Ontario Municipal Act S.O. 2001, c. 25. and issue tax bills in accordance with this Act.
- b) A note provided by Clerk-Treasurer Buob regarding Mr. Donald Wiltshire's interest in purchasing Township property that is located adjacent to his property was discussed. In order to sell the piece of property Council would need to declare the property as surplus and it was,

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

**WHEREAS PURSUANT TO THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR'S BY-LAW 2007-21 WHICH SETS OUT THE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE SALE AND DISPOSITION OF MUNICIPAL LAND; AND**

**WHEREAS PURSUANT TO SECTION 5 (1) (A) STATES WHERE COUNCIL HAS DECLARED A SITE TO BE SURPLUS;**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR DECLARE THE PROPERTY HERETO REFERRED TO AS CON 2 N PT LOT 9, MR65, LOCATED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR SURPLUS TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE TOWNSHIP, AND**

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT ADMINISTRATION BE ALLOWED TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE SALE OF THE PROPERTY AS PRESCRIBED IN BY-LAW 2007-21.**

Carried.

The sale price of the land was briefly discussed and Council were in agreement that the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) assessed value would be used as an opinion of value as outlined in By-law number 2007-21

Under new business, Council discussed

- a) Ministry of Rural Affairs letter regarding an update to the 2013 Ontario budget that committed to provide \$100 million to help small, rural and northern municipalities. The Ministry is looking asking that the guide be reviewed and that feedback be given by municipalities. It was noted that Mayor Nelson sits on the AMO Committee with regard to this matter.
- b) Ministry of Natural Resources regarding changes to various licences, permits and authorization under the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act. Municipalities are no longer required authorization to hire a person to hunt or trap furbearing mammals within their municipal boundaries.

Councillor Racicot left the room.

- c) Heritage Resources Center and Community Heritage Ontario notice of an upcoming Heritage Planning Workshop. Cost of the workshop is \$113.00, including HST. No one from the Township will attend.
- d) E-mail from Mr. Jason Sherband, Coordinator – Solid Waste Diversion and Recycling for the City of Thunder Bay. The Province has recently tabled new Waste Reduction

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legislation to replace the existing Waste Reduction Act and as part of a regional consultation process the Province of Ontario has scheduled a number of sessions in various communities. A session is being held in Thunder Bay and it was

6. Moved by Ron Nelson  
Seconded by J. Vezina

**THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE WASTE REDUCTION STRATEGY REGIONAL CONSULTATION SESSION TO BE HELD IN THUNDER BAY ON TUESDAY, JULY 30, 2013.**

**REGISTRATION: NO FEE. DEPUTY CLERK-TREASURER RACICOT**  
Carried.

Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting.

- e) E-mail from the Creative Communities Prosperity Fund was read regarding the launch of the Culture Development Fund was read.

Under further new business Council discussed the concerns raised by Mr. and Ms. Ironside regarding cell phone service in the Township of O'Connor. Council would like the Deputy Clerk-Treasurer to send a letter to Ms. Laurie Pyle of Bell Mobility Cellular regarding the complaint by the Ironsides and request that new mapping be done to show actual mobility coverage. Council would also Bell Mobility Cellular to confirm receipt of letter and what actions will be taken.

Councillor Jim Vezina updated Council on the Ontario Power Authority (OPA) meeting that he attended on July 10, 2013.

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

- a) Minutes from the meeting of the Working Team for the Ontario Fire Marshal's Review Report on Fire Protection Services in the Townships of Conmee, Gillies and O'Connor. It was recommended in the report that it be brought to the next Shared Service's meeting. Council asked the Deputy Clerk-Treasurer to contact Kevin Holland, Mayor of Conmee Township, to inquire about setting a date for the next meeting.
- b) Minutes from the Area One meeting held on Thursday, June 6, 2013 were read.
- c) AMO Communications i) regarding a short summary of all energy related activities and consultation occurring this summer. It was noted that funding will be available to small and medium-sized municipalities to help develop Municipal Energy Plans. Council Instructed the Deputy Clerk-Treasurer to look further into this funding opportunity.
- ii) Local Authority Services regarding the upcoming workshop geared towards all municipal staff and elected officials for energy planning as required by Regulation 397/11 Energy conservation and Demand Management Plans. The cost of the workshop is \$400.00 plus HST. No one from Council or administrative staff will be attending the workshop.

For information purposes the following building permits were approved: 114 Highway 595 for an addition, 796 Highway 590 for a storage building, 40 Winslow Road for a garage and 46 Broome Road for an outbuilding.

7. Moved by Bishop Racicot  
Seconded by J. Vezina

**THAT COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 2013 AT 7:00 P.M.**

**TIME BEING: 9:04 P.M.**

Carried