

## TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – JUNE 9, 2011

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, June 9, 2011 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

Present: Mayor Nelson  
Councillors: Loan, Racicot, Vezina  
Clerk-Treasurer Buob  
Councillor Garbutt arrived at 7:30 p.m.

Visitors: Leadhand Kelly Johnson  
Ian Robson, Municipal Enforcement/POA Officer

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: Councillor Vezina declared an interest in item 20 a) as his son is applying for the summer student position.

1. Moved by J. Vezina  
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**THAT THE MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING HELD ON MAY 24, 2011 REGARDING THE ZONING AMENDMENT FOR APPLICATION 2011-01, THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MAY 24, 2011 AND THE NOTES FROM THE O'CONNOR DAY PLANNING MEETING HELD ON MAY 18, 2011 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.**

Carried

Mr. Johnson was asked if he wished to address Council for any personal matters and he replied no.

Mr. Ian Robson, the Township's Municipal Enforcement/POA Officer was moved forward, ahead of Mr. Johnson, Leadhand, on the agenda to speak with Council. Introductions were made. Mr. Robson thanked Council for the invitation to attend the meeting and informed Council that the Township has been very quiet with respect to his calls.

Council informed Mr. Robson of the concerns on Strom road regarding the current truck traffic. Council informed Mr. Robson of the community policing problem solving steps that have recently been taken by the Township and the Ontario Provincial Police with regard to the residents concerns. A follow up meeting is scheduled for July 4 at 7 p.m. and Council ask Mr. Robson to attend.

Mr. Robson explained how he would deal with an issue. The process starts slow with education, official warnings are then given out and then if it continues Council will then direct someone to enforce the matter. At this point Mr. Robson would be contacted to deal with the matter. If physical evidence of a violation is provided by an individual then that individual would be required to stand up in court as a professional witness and present the evidence. Mr. Robson explained the process of how the fine amount would be determined.

It was noted that Mr. Robson should have proper identification when issues arise. An official ID card will be made up, including a photo and signatures authorizing his authority.

A copy of the Township's current noise by-law will be forwarded to Mr. Robson for review and comments, along with a copy of the recent pamphlet outlining offences and fines handed out to the drivers on Strom road from the Ontario Provincial Police.

Mayor Nelson asked Mr. Robson if he would be willing to assist the neighbouring townships with their enforcement needs, if required. Mr. Robson would not be opposed to Mayor Nelson providing his name to the Township of Gillies and Conmee.

Mr. Robson was thanked for attending.

## TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – JUNE 9, 2011

Mr. Johnson, Leadhand was welcomed to the table. Timesheets from May 1 to 14, 2011 and May 16 to 28, 2011 were read. Roadwork in general was discussed. The roads are being graded. One load of calcium has been put down on Strom, Loghrin, Winslow and Luckens roads as well as Cardiff Drive. They are waiting for the soft spots on the roads to settle before putting down anymore. The contractor has installed the guiderail systems. A culvert installation was also done. Mr. Johnson has received two compliments on the condition of the Township roads from two different outside sources this week.

The road department did put gravel from Taranis Contracting Group's pit on Strom road as per the road agreement with them before the calcium was put on.

It was noted that the Ministry of Transportation does have a gravel pit in our Township and the Township does not receive any royalties from it. Council would like the Clerk-Treasurer to look into this further.

The roads and administration voucher for May 31, 2011 was reviewed and it was

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

**THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR MAY 31, 2011  
TOTALLING \$81,849.04 BE APPROVED AND PAID.**

Carried

The revenue and expenditures for May 31, 2011 were not available.

By-law and Policies were discussed as follows:

- a) By-law Number 2011-12 – Being a By-law to adopt Optional Tools for property classes was reviewed and it was

3. Moved by Bishop Racicot  
Seconded by G. Garbutt

**THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2011-12 BEING A BY-LAW TO ADOPT OPTIONAL  
TOOLS FOR THE PURPOSES OF ADMINISTERING LIMITS FOR THE  
COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL AND MULTI-RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY  
CLASSES FOR THE YEAR 2011 BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE  
BY-LAW BOOK.**

Carried

The decision from the Lakehead Rural Planning board with regard to application 1B/06/11 was read. The application for severance for the creation of a new lot was approved with the regular conditions.

Quotes for cutting of the weeds on the Township of O'Connor roads were opened. There was only one quote received and it was

4. Moved by G. Garbutt  
Seconded by B. Jerry Loan

**THAT THE QUOTE OF DANIEL VANLENTH MECHANICAL TO CUT THE  
WEEDS ON THE SIDES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR ROADS AT A  
COST OF \$2,200.00 + HST BE ACCEPTED.**

**WORK TO BE DONE BY JULY 31, 2011.**

Carried

Resolutions for endorsed were read as follows:

- a) United Counties of Leeds and Grenville – regarding a call to amend the Municipal Elections Act was filed.
- b) United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria – regarding Municipal Elections Act, Section 80 was filed.

## TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – JUNE 9, 2011

Thunder Bay District Social Services Administration Board (DSSAB) Area One meeting previous scheduled for June 22, 2011 has been cancelled as the area representative, Reeve Holland of the Township of Conmee, will not be available. This meeting will be rescheduled at a later date.

An invitation to attend a presentation on final amendments to the Housing Strategy along with updates on Bill 140 was read. No one from Council will attend.

A copy of the Thunder Bay DSSAB 2010 Audited Consolidated Financial Statements was reviewed.

Correspondence was read as follows:

- a) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – i) Watch File May 26, 2011  
ii) Watch File June 2, 2011  
iii) Ontario's PCs Pledge \$60 million to Municipalities Not Receiving Provincial Gas Tax for Transit  
iv) Ontario Progressive Conservative "Changebook" Platform Released – Highlights of Municipal Related Policies  
v) Bill 181 Passes Third Reading Mandatory Retirement at age 60 for Ontario's Salaried Firefighters  
vi) 2011 Federal Budget  
vii) Watch File – June 9, 2011
- b) Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA) – regarding Minimum Maintenance Standards Litigation – Status Report
- c) Community Schools Alliance – regarding Community Schools Alliance Executive Membership
- d) Ministry of Tourism and Culture – regarding draft guide for the conservation and protection of heritage places of worship in Ontario

The balance of correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old business, Council discussed

- a) Canada Summer Jobs – Application approval for one student for road department
- b) Ministry of Northern Development, Mines and Forestry – Growth Plan for Northern Ontario, 2011, June 2011 Update. Mayor Nelson explained the format of the upcoming Summit.
- c) Regional Economic Development Planning Zones Pilot Project – Northwestern Ontario Joint Task Force – Issue 2 – June 2, 2011
- d) Northern Life, Brandi Ransom – registration for workshops in concurrent sessions. The workshops were discussed and the Clerk-Treasurer will forward the registration for each member of Council.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) O'Connor Free Methodist Church – Mr. Ray Montgomery - requesting that the Township's summer students cut the grass at the Free Methodist Church Cemetery. Council agreed that the summer students will again to do the grass maintenance at the O'Connor Free Methodist Church cemetery.
- b) EarthWise Thunder Bay – Invitation to the 2011 EarthWise Spring Open House – June 16, 2011 at the Lakehead University. No one will attend.
- c) Township of North Stormont – regarding a resolution on the wildfires that ravaged the community of Slave Lake, Alberta – requesting a donation to help compensate the town was discussed. No donation will be provided.
- d) Neil Roberts – Infrastructure Solutions – regarding Capital Expenditure Planning. Mr. Roberts will not be contacted regarding his services.
- e) Minister Responsible for Seniors – regarding June is Seniors' Month.

Under further new business, Councillor Racicot informed Council that he has a new position within the company he is employed with and he may be out of town more. He will not be available for the next Council meeting.

The maintenance of Highway 595 was discussed. It was suggested that a letter be sent to the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) expressing Council's concerns with regard to the brush and trees that are growing on the Highway right-of-way and ask that it be considered for their 2012 road maintenance schedule. Mr. Johnson will be asked to

## TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – JUNE 9, 2011

take some photos of the problem areas and they will also be forwarded to the MTO. Also, as per our meeting with Mr. Ian Smith of the Ministry in January, he mentioned that the Highway classification was determined by traffic count. Council would like to know if a traffic counter will be placed on Highway 595 this year so that an update of classification could be considered.

Also under new business it was suggested that the road department, after the current year projects are complete, possibly start working on a road between Broome and Holomego for access if the bridge on Broome road was to be replaced in the near future.

A storage container for O'Connor Day supplies was discussed. A possible steel container or storage van could be used. Councillor Vezina will look into possible costs.

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

- a) A new date for meeting with Mr. Murray Armstrong of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing with regard to the Official Plan was discussed. It was

5. Moved by Bishop Racicot  
Seconded by G. Garbutt

**THAT THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL WITH MR. MURRAY ARMSTRONG, MINISTRY OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS AND HOUSING TO DISCUSS LEGISLATIVE CHANGES AFFECTING OFFICIAL PLANS BE RESCHEDULED FROM TUESDAY, JUNE 14 TO SEPTEMBER 13, 2011 AT 7 P.M.**

**THE MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS.**

Carried

- b) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Invitation to attend “Partners in Planning” training workshop/web cast – June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011. – No one will attend  
c) Municipal Employer Pension Centre of Ontario – regarding OMERS Update: June 8, 2011. Impacts of Key 2011 OMERS Specified Plan Change Proposals and Status Update.  
c) Grant Thornton – regarding a Federal Budget summary was read.

For information purposes building permits have been approved for a new residence at 184 Holomego road and a new storage building at 423 Earl road.

Councillor Vezina left the meeting.

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

**BE IS 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, 2011.**

**TIME BEING: 9:28 P.M.**

Carried

Applications for the summer student positions were reviewed. In total four applications were received. Two students are willing to work for either department.

7. Moved by Bishop Racicot  
Seconded by G. Garbutt

**TIME BEING: 9:35 P.M.  
THAT WE NOW MOVE TO OPEN MEETING.**

Carried

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – JUNE 9, 2011

- 8. Moved by B. Jerry Loan  
Seconded by G. Garbutt

**THAT THE FOLLOWING STUDENT BE HIRED UNDER THE MINISTRY OF NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT AND MINES SUMMER JOBS SERVICE 2011 FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT:**

**KATE-LYNN KRAMER.**

**START DATE WILL BE JULY 4, 2011.**

**THE STUDENT WILL BE ASKED TO ATTEND THE MONDAY, JUNE 27, 2011 COUNCIL MEETING.**

Carried

- 9. Moved by Bishop Racicot  
Seconded by B. Jerry Loan

**THAT THE FOLLOWING STUDENT BE HIRED UNDER THE MINISTRY OF NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT AND MINES SUMMER JOBS SERVICE 2011 FOR THE ROADS DEPARTMENT:**

**NICK RUSNICK**

**START DATE WILL BE JULY 4, 2011.**

**THE STUDENT WILL BE ASKED TO ATTEND THE MONDAY, JUNE 27, 2011 COUNCIL MEETING.**

Carried

- 10. Moved by Bishop Racicot  
Seconded by G. Garbutt

**THAT THE FOLLOWING STUDENT BE HIRED FOR THE CANADA SUMMER JOBS PROGRAM FOR THE ROADS DEPARTMENT:**

**KATIE CODERRE**

**START DATE WILL BE JULY 4, 2011.**

**THE STUDENT WILL BE ASKED TO ATTEND THE JUNE 27, 2011 COUNCIL MEETING.**

Carried

- 11. Moved by B. Jerry Loan  
Seconded by G. Garbutt

**THAT THE COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, JUNE 27, 2011 AT 7:00 P.M.**

**TIME BEING: 9:40 P.M.**

Carried

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Mayor

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Clerk-Treasurer