

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR - MINUTES – MARCH 22, 2010

Minutes of the meeting held on March 22, 2010 at 7 p.m. in the municipal building.

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

Visitors: Fire Chief Henry Mattas
Robert Dean

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: none

1. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by J. Vezina

**THAT THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY,
MARCH 8, 2010 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.**

Carried

Mayor Nelson asked the visitors if they wished to address Council. They replied no.

Fire Chief Mattas was welcomed to the table. The Fire Department report from February 21 to March 18, 2010 was read. The Department has responded to one first response call and one mutual aid call since the last report. The mutual aid call was called off before they arrived at the scene. Fire Chief Mattas provided two quotes for bodywork for the tanker truck. There is a hole in the floor of the tanker and Council would like it fixed as soon as possible. The work will be discussed further at budget.

Fire Chief Mattas asked for clarification as to what Council would like to see with regard to a new fire truck. There are a lot of trucks out there it just depends on the size, type, price and year that Council were thinking of. Council informed Fire Chief Mattas that the truck should be in the 2000's and he was asked to look around the \$150,000 mark to see what he can find.

Fire Chief Mattas reported that Mike Styles, Greg Biloski and himself attended the Essentials of Municipal Fire Protection seminar in Thunder Bay on March 13th. Fire Chief Mattas informed Council that at this training he was informed that if there is a problem or concern with anything in the department he is to let Council know and then it becomes their responsibility. There is wildfire training with the Ministry of Natural Resources coming up in Conmee on April 30 and May 1. He also presented the Ontario Fire College Northern Ontario training schedule to be held in the Thunder Bay area this year. He has created sign up sheets, which he will post in the fire hall for the members to sign up on if they are interested and able to attend.

Fire Permits will start on April 1st and Fire Chief Mattas is concerned that it could be a bad fire year. He will keep an eye on the conditions.

Fire Chief Mattas reported to Council that at one of their last meetings when the probation period for members of the department was discussed, Council set the probation at six months. Upon reviewing the operating guidelines and the Township By-law it states one year. Council agreed that these documents will be changed to lower the probation period to six months.

The resolution appointing the O'Connor Volunteer Fire Department and First Response Team volunteers was discussed. The Fire Chief, the Deputy Fire Chief and Acting Deputy Fire Chief have already been appointed by By-law and are not included in this resolution. As members join or leave the department they will be included or removed in a new resolution. It was

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

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THAT THE COUNCIL APPROVE THE FOLLOWING PERSONS AS MEMBERS OF THE O'CONNOR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AND/OR FIRST RESPONSE TEAM:

1. GREG BILOSKI
2. MIKE BILOSKI
3. BRENDAN BYERS
4. SARAH CLASEN-BYCE
5. JENNA CODERRE
6. KATIE CODERRE
7. LEANNE CODERRE
8. WILLY CODERRE
9. STEFAN DERECH
10. THOMAS GRATZ
11. IAN HAMILTON
12. HEATHER NOWAK
13. LEONARD LUCKY
14. BISHOP RACICOT
15. AARON RUTLAND
16. JOSH TURK
17. RANDY TURK

Carried

Fire Chief Mattas was thanked for attending.

Bills to be paid were passed around the table. It was

3. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by G. Garbutt

THAT THE FOLLOWING BILLS FOR MARCH 2010 BE PAID – THESE BILLS WILL BE INCLUDED ON THE MARCH 2010 ROAD AND ADMINISTRATION VOUCHER.

CK#9341	ROSS CHESSELL (SMOKE DETECTOR)	\$ 93.64
CK#9342	TBAYTEL (TELEPHONE)	\$ 371.92
CK#9343	R.C. MOFFAT SUPPLY LTD	\$ 2,321.85
CK#9344	HYDRO ONE	\$ 544.21
CK#9345	LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD	\$22,469.77
CK#9346	THUNDER BAY CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BD	\$ 2,830.58
CK#9347	CSDC DES AURORES BOREALES	\$ 158.86
		<u>\$28,790.83</u>

Carried

By-laws were reviewed and it was

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

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2010-07 BEING A BY-LAW TO AMEND BY-LAW NUMBER 2006-04 FOR THE CONTROL OF DOGS RUNNING AT LARGE BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

5. Moved by G. Garbutt
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2010-08 BEING A BY-LAW TO APPOINT BECKY DAVIS AS THE DOG CONTROL OFFICER BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

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6. Moved by Lee Ann Nygard
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2010-09 BEING A BY-LAW TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH TARANIS CONTRACTING GROUP FOR THE USE AND MAINTENANCE OF STROM ROAD BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

7. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by G. Garbutt

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2010-10 BEING A BY-LAW TO APPOINT IAN ROBSON AS THE MUNICIPAL ENFORCEMENT/PROVINCIAL OFFENCES OFFICER BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

Quotes for insurance for the upcoming term were reviewed. It was

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

THAT THE QUOTE FOR INSURANCE RENEWAL FROM NORTHWEST INSURANCE TO COVER THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR INSURANCE NEEDS EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2010 AT A PREMIUM OF \$28,711.00 PLUS TAX BE ACCEPTED.

Carried

Resolutions for endorsement were read as follows:

- a) County of Huron requesting an application be made to the Provincial Government for assistance for residential repair or replacement of rural septic systems for the mandatory septic system maintenance inspection program for Huron County was filed.
- b) County of Huron regarding the Ontario Agriculture Sustainability Coalition's request for immediate adjustments to the Agri-Stability Program was filed.

An email from the Municipality of Shuniah to Councillor Maureen Schmidt, Thunder Bay DSSAB Area 1 representative, was read informing her that their Council do not require a report from her and that the minutes will suffice. The Clerk-Treasurer will forward the information from the Area one members meeting and the Thunder Bay District Municipal League meeting to Mayor Nelson with regard to this matter.

Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) AMO – i) Watch File March 11, 2010
ii) AMO receiving July 2010 Gas Tax Payment Early
iii) Watch File March 18, 2010
iv) Gas Tax Reporting Deadline is on March 31, 2010. The questions regarding the plans were discussed. The Township of O'Connor does have an Official Plan and a Five-year road plan.
v) Government Responds to AMO and Municipalities and Announces 2008 Reconciliation. The Township of O'Connor will not receive any further funding for 2008.
 - b) Ontario Good Roads Association – regarding Municipal Dataworks project
 - c) Ontario Power Generation – News – OPG Calls for supply of Wood-Based Fuel for Atikokan Coal-Fired Generating Station
 - d) Ontario Public Service Employees Union regarding service quality issues at the MPAC
 - e) MPAC – regarding Negotiations with OPSEU
- The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) The Township's new job description for the Dog Control Officer. Council approved the description as presented. The Clerk-Treasurer will present this information along with the by-laws, policies and other pertinent information to Ms. Davis, the new Dog Control Officer.

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- b) Ministry of Tourism and Culture regarding the Celebrate Ontario application for O'Connor Day funding. The Township's project was not approved for 2010.
- c) Update on new building – The staff have moved into the new building. There are still minor details to be completed. The interior doors still have to be installed, temporary doors have been put on the rooms that must have doors for occupancy. There are still cover plates to be put on, the pots lights in the front are not in, they still have material laying around, inside and out. The peg board and table are not done. The heating system went down on the weekend. Clow Darling has come out and fixed it. They have not provided any manuals as of yet for the mechanical devices. The flags and stands for the Council chambers were discussed. It was agreed to order the stands from Global Flags and Banners. The flags are being donated by Bill Mauro, M.P.P.'s office. The Clerk-Treasurer also has to find a picture of the Queen. A sample chair for the Council chambers was tried out. Council did not like this particular chair and others will be looked for. The chairs for the front office were discussed, the Clerk-Treasurer will ask Mr. Chessell to clean up four of the best armed chairs from the hall and bring them over temporarily. A building committee meeting will be held when Mr. Gammond is back in Thunder Bay.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Hydro One Networks Inc. letter regarding the damage claim for the broken pole incident February 13, 2009 on Blaikie Road involving the snowplow. The letter states that the Township will be responsible for the damage. Council would like a letter sent to Hydro One Networks asking them to relocate this pole at their cost, as it is a safety issue being so close to the edge of the road and there is the potential of this incident happening again. The pole is located on the corner and in order for the township equipment to avoid the pole they do have to swing wider. It is also in the way when the township has to push back the snow banks when there is a significant amount of snow. The Township's auditors will also be notified to include the repair costs in the 2009 fiscal year financial statements.
 - b) Township of Gillies' letters of interest regarding the purchase of the SCBA Air Compressor. They would like to repair this equipment and use it for their SCBA equipment for their department. It was
9. Moved by G. Garbutt
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR HEREBY DECLARES THE FIRE DEPARTMENT SCBA AIR COMPRESSOR AS SURPLUS AND AGREE TO THE SALE OF THIS ITEM TO THE TOWNSHIP OF GILLIES FOR \$500.00 AS IS, WHERE IS.

Carried

- c) Municipality of Shuniah - copy of the letter to the Thunder Bay Area Emergency Measures Organization regarding the Municipalities six month notice of the withdrawal of its membership from the Emergency Measures Organization.
 - d) IAPA – Networking & Knowledge Exchange regarding Violence & Harassment in the Workplace. It was
10. Moved by Lee Ann Nygard
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE IAPA NETWORKING & KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE FOR VIOLENCE & HARASSMENT IN THE WORKPLACE TO BE HELD IN THUNDER BAY ON MARCH 31, 2010.

REGISTRATION: \$11.00

KELLY JOHNSON, LEADHAND

Carried

- e) IAPA – Spring Training schedule for Northwestern Region. At this time no one will attend these sessions.
- f) Superior North EMS regarding the 2010 Annual Operating Budget. There will be a 0.7% increase over 2009.

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- g) Lakehead Region Conservation Authority – regarding a presentation on March 23, 2010 entitled “Walkerton – The Cost of Getting it Wrong” – no one will attend.
- h) O'Connor Day – The Clerk-Treasurer received a suggestion from a resident to have a local car show at this years O'Connor Day. Jerry Cronk would be willing to be the contact to see if anyone would be interested in bringing their old cars out. Council agreed that it would be a good idea and some information will be put into the April issue of the Cornerstone to see if anyone would be interested.
- i) Chair of Cabinet Minister without Portfolio, Responsible for Seniors regarding 2010 Senior of the Year Award. An application for this award will not be made this year.
- j) Budget meetings dates were discussed. It was

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

**THAT THE BUDGET MEETING DATES BE SET AS FOLLOWS:
ROAD DEPARTMENT BUDGET APRIL 12TH FROM 6 – 7 P.M.
FIRE DEPARTMENT BUDGET APRIL 26TH FROM 6 – 7 P.M.
BOTH FOLLOWED BY REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING.
A FULL BUDGET MEETING WILL BE HELD MAY 11 AT 7 P.M.**

Carried

- k) A discussion was held with regard to the use of the old office space. It was suggested that possibly it could be used as a small meeting room, perhaps TOPS could meet in there rather than in the big hall. It was suggested that the Norwest Community Health could use this area for their nurse practitioner for more privacy. The Fire Department could possibly use it as an office. It was also suggested that since the Community Policing Office in Gillies is no longer there, the OPP could use it as a community policing office. The Clerk-Treasurer will contact them to see if they would be interested. No storage would be left in the office so all groups could use it when needed. It was also suggested that a small space heater, with a timer, could be used in the room so when the big hall is not in use the heat can be kept down low.

Issues brought forward or letters received after agenda was mailed

- a) Ministry of Natural Resources, Ross Johnston regarding Bear Wise Community Funding. The Township will not submit an application this year.
- b) Thunder Bay District Health Unit – announcement that Dr. Henry Kurban commenced his duties as the Acting Medical Officer of Health on March 15, 2010.
- c) NOMA – draft agenda for the Annual General Meeting April 21 – 24, 2010. Council feel that this agenda is very tight and Mayor Nelson has already contacted the executive director about this.
- d) Common Voice Northwest newsletter March 2010 was read.
- e) The auditors have asked the Clerk-Treasurer for more information with regard to the use of the Working Capital reserve funds for 2009 and have asked for a resolution to approve the change in use. It was

12. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by G. Garbutt

THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE USE OF \$5,000.00 WORKING CAPITAL RESERVE MONIES FOR A SHARE OF THE COST TO PURCHASE THE LEADHAND VEHICLE RATHER THAN FOR THE REPAIR OF THE EAVES ON THE GARAGE AS WAS ORIGINALLY BUDGETED FOR IN THE 2009 BUDGET.

Carried

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

**THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE BUDGET MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY APRIL 12, 2010 AT 6:00 P.M.
TIME BEING: 9:00 P.M.**

Carried