

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – MAY 12, 2014

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, May 12, 2014 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

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

Visitors: Leadhand Kelly Johnson
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Linda Racicot
Larry Bockus
Matt and Sarah Henny

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: Councillor Racicot declared an interest in items 15 b) and 18 a) as his spouse is an employee of the Township.

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

**THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY,
APRIL 28, 2014 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.**

Carried

Visitors were asked if they wished to address Council for anything other than what they were on the agenda for and they replied no.

Larry Bockus and Matt and Sarah Henny were welcomed to the meeting and invited to the table.

A memo was read from the Clerk-Treasurer with some background information with regard to two severance applications, one of which the Bockus' are the agent for and one that the Henny's are the agent for, as the potential purchasers, both for the same property owner.

Mr. Bockus presented a map of the properties to Council and explained the situation with the properties they are interested in purchasing. The properties they are currently looking at were joined in unity due to same person ownership. The lots each have their own deed, PIN and roll numbers. It has been confirmed that a severance is required to separate these lots and to sell them individually. As part of the severance conditions the retained and severed lots have to be adequately and safely serviced by private water supply and private sanitary sewage disposal systems. The concern for the Bockus' is that they are acting as the agent for the property owner as the potential purchaser but the severance cannot be approved until these conditions are met and they will have to invest money into the property that they don't own. It was originally thought that because the properties were previously deeded separately that they would not be required to prove the water. The Clerk-Treasurer contacted the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Planning Department and it was confirmed that this condition is still required. The Bockus' do plan on building a home on the property this year and will not have an issue with putting a well on the property at that time. It was confirmed that the property cannot be official severed until the conditions that are noted on the decision are met.

A second concern was that the road allowance for the severed property is to be turned over to the Township during the severance if it is not already completed. The road allowance for the lot off of Garbutt road does still require the road allowance be turned over. As the property already has its own deed a full survey is not required to create this lot and a separate survey would be required just to meet this condition. Mr. Bockus does plan on doing a frontal survey on the property to confirm the property lines in the near future but would like to wait until he is the owner of the property and not include it as a condition of severance, possibly next year. Council informed Mr. Bockus that they will discuss this matter further under new business.

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – MAY 12, 2014

Mr. & Mrs. Henny then explained their issues with the second severance. They have similar concerns with the property that they are interested in purchasing as it has been joined in unity by the joining and abutting rule. They are concerned with investing money into the land before they own it. They are also concerned with the fact that they are required to put a well on the property, creating a liability, when they do not plan on building for a few years. Also at this time they have not decided where they would build and would not know where to put such a well.

Council informed Mr. & Mrs. Henny that a full well would not have to be installed at this time, however an adequate water supply must be proven. The road allowance for the property they are interested in has already been turned over to the Township and would not be an issue for this lot creation.

Council thanked Mr. Bockus and Mr. & Mrs. Henny for attending the meeting and explaining their concerns and they left the meeting.

Mr. Johnson was welcomed to the table. The Road Department Monthly Report to Council for the time period of April 14 to May 9, 2014 was read. It was noted that the Road Department employees picked up excess tables from the Township of Conmee. These tables were borrowed annually for O'Connor Day and have been now donated to the Township. A thank you letter will be forwarded to the Township of Conmee.

Roadwork in general was discussed. The road employees have been grading the roads, equipment still needs to be cleaned up from winter, they have been burning brush that they have cut along the sides of the roads. There are a few more piles that will be burnt this week if the weather permits. Fire Chief Mattas has provided permission to burn during the day. Council also asked if the trees that have fallen during the last wind storms around the recreation area will be cleaned up. Mr. Johnson informed them that the area is very wet and he will be cleaning it up and cutting down additional dead trees from the area in the near future.

Mr. Johnson informed Council that there is a culvert on Garbutt Road which will have to be replaced. He was called out on the weekend to fix a hole in the road. This will required budget changes which he will discuss further at the budget meeting on May 14th, along with other mechanical expenses.

To date no one has been interested in the surplus grader parts that the Township is advertising to sell. Mr. Johnson will continue to advertise them.

Mr. Johnson was thanked for attending and left the meeting.

The Administration and Road Voucher for April 2014 was reviewed and it was

2. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by G. Garbutt

**THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR APRIL 30, 2014
TOTALLING \$54,044.74 BE APPROVED AND PAID.**

Carried

The Statement of Revenue and Expenditures to April 30, 2014 were reviewed by Council.

Consent applications 1B/14/14 and 1B/15/14 were reviewed and it was

3. Moved by G. Garbutt
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**THAT THE CONSENT APPLICATION 1B/14/14 FOR THE ESTATE OF
THOMAS POGUE FOR THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED AS CON 6 S PT LOT 4
FOR A SEVERANCE OF 10.57 HECTARES BE APPROVED.**

Carried

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – MAY 12, 2014

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

THAT THE CONSENT APPLICATION 1B/15/14 FOR THE ESTATE OF THOMAS POGUE FOR THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED AS CON 6 S PT LOT 4 FOR A SEVERANCE OF 12.31 HECTARES BE APPROVED.

Carried

Resolutions for endorsement were read as follows:

- a) Baldwin Township and Nairn & Hyman Township regarding the Proposed OPP billing model was filed.
- b) Reply letter from Minister Wynne regarding Council's resolution supporting the small town Ontario schools was read.
- c) Township of Hilliard regarding the Ontario Provincial Police new billing model was filed.

Thunder Bay District Social Services Administration Board (TBDSSAB) issues were discussed as follows:

- a) Ministry of Community and Social Services – reply letter from Minister McMeekin to the Lakehead Rural Municipal Committee (LRMC) with regard to a third party dispute resolution process. Minister McMeekin is asking that the LRMC approach the DSSAB to discuss the proposal and their concerns and if this is unsuccessful then the Board can embark on a third party dispute resolution process to help find an acceptable way forward. The Board would have to initiate this process.
- b) Lakehead Rural Municipal Committee (LRMC) – copy of the reply letter to Minister McMeekin dated May 1, 2014 was read. This letter expressed the Committee's concerns and issues with the TBDSSAB and the time that it is taking for the Minister to respond to these concerns. Also informing them that they have already brought their concerns to the Board and have accepted their offer of third party dispute resolution which has not come forth.
- c) District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board – 2013 Audited Consolidated Financial Statements were read.

Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) May Newsletter. Council would like the Safety Message for Motorists included in the next issue of the Cornerstone.
 - b) Superior North EMS – 2014 first quarter levy
 - c) Municipal Finance Officers Association of Ontario – Provincial Budget 2014: Municipal Implication. It was noted that the Provincial budget did not pass and a Provincial Election has been called for June 12, 2014.
 - d) Cement Association of Canada – regarding the proposed changes to the Ontario Building Code to permit the construction of six-storey wood frame buildings
 - e) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – i) Watch File - May 1, 2014
ii) Watch File – May 8, 2014
iii) New Presumptive Cancers for Firefighters Announced
iv) The 2014 Provincial Budget
v) Countdown to Conference – August 17 – 20, 2014. Mayor Nelson will be attending the AMO Conference as a Board Member.
vi) Ontario General Elections Called for June 12, 2014
vii) Request for Nominations to the 2014-2016 AMO Board of Directors
 - f) Ontario Good Roads Association – i) 2014 - 2015 Ontario Budget Unveiled – Significant Investments in Infrastructure
ii) Board Highlights - 2014- 2015 Board of Directors
 - g) AMCTO The Municipal Experts – Legislative Express April 29, 2014
 - h) Beer Store – Office of the President re: sale of beer in convenient store outlets
 - i) Frank Klees, MPP Newmarket-Aurora – Article Frankly Speaking May 7, 2014
- The balance of correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed:

- a) Investment in Affordable Housing for Ontario Program - Ontario Renovates – 2014/15 Allocation – The Clerk-Treasurer reported on Council's questions with regard to the program discussed at the previous meeting. The DSSAB office has kept all applications from the previous round of funding and they will be contacting the

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – MAY 12, 2014

applicants for updated information and to see if they are still interested in the program. The second concern Council expressed was what happens if the applicant passes away prior to the loan being paid off as 10% is forgivable each year. It was noted that the estate would assume the debt, however the purchaser can assume the debt if they also qualify and it will continue to be forgiven until it is paid off.

- b) Harstone Bridge Project in the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge – information from Public Information Centre/Open House – requesting comments. The Clerk-Treasurer and Councillor Vezina attended the Public Information session/open house which was held on May 5, 2014 with regard to this bridge. Comment sheets were distributed at the open house. Clerk-Treasurer Buob provided this sheet for Council to review. The Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge are looking at their options, to either replace, repair or close this bridge. Councillor Vezina met with the Engineering firm Sostratus Engineering Ltd. and informed them that this bridge also provides a gateway to other communities and is not only an Oliver Paipoonge concern. The closure of this bridge would not only impact the residents in this area and the commuters who use this road as a flow through but also emergency services, including fire, EMS and policing. He has requested that the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge prepare a resolution requesting support from the surrounding municipalities for funding applications for the repairs or replacement of this bridge. Council agreed to wait to hear from the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge on this matter.
- c) Ministry of Natural Resources – update regarding the Bear Management Pilot Program. A legal challenge was brought forward with regard to the proposed program. The Superior Court of Justice dismissed the judicial review and the program will continue as planned this spring to enhance public safety and reduce human-bear conflict issues in the north.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Household Hazardous and Special Waste Day on June 14, 2014 – The Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge is requesting a resolution of support from each Municipality that will be participating. It was

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

WHEREAS THE MUNICIPALITY OF OLIVER PAIPOONGE, THE MUNICIPALITY OF NEEBING, THE TOWNSHIP OF CONMEE, THE TOWNSHIP OF GILLIES AND THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR HAVE EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN HOLDING A HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS AND SPECIAL WASTE (MHSW) IN ORDER TO PROVIDE THEIR RESIDENTS WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISPOSE OF MHSW THAT THEY CANNOT BRING TO THEIR RESPECTIVE MUNICIPAL LANDFILL SITES;

AND WHEREAS THE MUNICIPALITY OF OLIVER PAIPOONGE HAS STATED A WILLINGNESS TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE ONTARIO STEWARDSHIP AND THE RECYCLING COUNCIL OF CANADA, ON BEHALF OF THE PARTICIPATING MUNICIPALITIES, TO RECOVER THE COST OF PHASE ONE AND PHASE TWO MHSW;

AND WHEREAS THERE WILL BE A COST TO THE MUNICIPALITIES FOR THE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF MHSW THAT WILL NOT BE COVERED UNDER THE ONTARIO STEWARDSHIP OR THE RECYCLING COUNCIL OF ONTARIO, MAINLY PHASE THREE MATERIALS;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR COUNCIL AGREE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MHSW EVENT TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 2014 AND THAT THE COST OF THE MHSW EVENT BE SHARED BY THE PARTICIPATING MUNICIPALITIES AND THAT THE COST ALLOCATED TO EACH MUNICIPALITY BE CALCULATED USING THE 2013 WEIGHTED ASSESSMENT.

Carried

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – MAY 12, 2014

Councillor Racicot left the room.

- b) Mosey & Mosey – regarding the Sun Life Employee Group Benefit Plan Renewal Report effective June 1, 2014. There will be a slight rate adjustment which will bring the Township total cost down slightly.

Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting.

- c) Workplace Safety & Insurance Board – regarding the volunteer firefighters coverage level. This will be discussed further at the budget meeting.
- d) Municipality of East Ferris – requesting support for Mayor Bill Vresbosch to represent under 5000 population municipal group on the Province's Future of Policing Advisory Committee (FPAC) was filed.
- e) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Municipal Budgeting Regulation Review – Next Steps / Formation Action Group. No one from Council will be putting their name forward for this group at this time.
- f) Municipality of Killarney – regarding Amending the Municipal Act S.O. 2001, c. 25 to Permit Electronic meetings. Council are not in favour of this suggestion and the item was filed.
- g) Central Algoma Joint Disaster Relief Committee – requesting donation was filed.

Under further New Business, Council discussed the possibility of putting in an underground water tank by the outdoor skating rink for flooding the rink during the winter instead of relying on the Fire Department. A tank, pump and hose would be required. This could be discussed further during budget.

Mayor Nelson informed Council that the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) is currently considering hosting a Provincial Election Leaders debate in Thunder Bay. Invitations have gone out with three possible dates and they are awaiting confirmation. It would be a joint event with NOACC, NOMA and FONOM. He will keep Council posted.

Council also asked Councillor Garbutt about the recent Thunder Bay District Municipal Board meeting. The Board will be doing a Councillor Orientation session at the upcoming fall meeting.

Mayor Nelson informed Council that he has been invited to the Confederation College 3rd Annual President's Breakfast and Report to the Community on Thursday, June 12, 2014 and asked for Council's approval to attend. The Clerk-Treasurer will RSVP his attendance.

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

- a) Thunder Bay District Health Unit – 2013 Audited Financial Statements.

Councillor Racicot and Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Racicot left the meeting.

It was

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

BE IT 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, 2001.

TIME BEING: 8:46 P.M.

Carried

A request from an employee for medical expense coverage was discussed. It was

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – MAY 12, 2014

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

TIME BEING: 8:55 P.M.

THAT WE NOW MOVE TO OPEN MEETING.

Carried

Council approved the payment of the medical expense for Mr. Dennhardt through the Township's self-insured dental/medical coverage for this expense. The total amount of coverage under this account will not change. It was

- 8. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE BUDGET MEETING TO BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2014 AT 7:00 P.M.

TIME BEING: 8:57 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer