

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – MAY 28, 2012

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, May 28, 2012 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

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

Visitors: Fire Chief Henry Mattas
Donald Wiltshire
Carl Scheuerman arrived at 7: 20 p.m.

Absent: Councillor Loan

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: none

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

**THAT THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MAY 14, 2012
BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.**

Carried

Mayor Nelson asked Mr. Wiltshire if he wished to address Council for any reason other than what he was already on the agenda for and he replied no.

Mr. Arlin Broome was scheduled to be on the agenda at 7 p.m. and was not in attendance. The Clerk-Treasurer informed Council that Mr. Broome had wanted to discuss the possibility of the Fire Department burning on private property for a fee. Council discussed this briefly with the Fire Chief and it was agreed that this decision would have to be on a case by case basis.

Mr. Donald Wiltshire was welcomed to the table. Introductions were made. Mr. Wiltshire was asked to attend the Council meeting to discuss his letter expressing his interest to purchase the .72 acre piece of Township property, which abuts his property, on Sitch Road. Council discussed the process involved in selling public land and informed Mr. Wiltshire of the expenses involved. A Request for Proposal (RFP) would have to be put out and others may put in a bid for the property. He was also informed that the property is zoned Open Space and if he was successful in his bid and was planning on building a home on the property it would have to be rezoned through a Zoning Amendment. He was also asked to contact his lawyer to see if this lot could legally be added to his to create one lot or if he would also have to do a lot addition through the Lakehead Rural Planning Board. If Mr. Wiltshire is still interested after speaking with his lawyer, Council will consider declaring this property surplus and put out the RFP. Mr. Wiltshire was thanked for attending.

Mr. Carl Scheuerman was welcomed to the table. Introductions were made. Mr. Scheuerman provided Council with drawings of the family's properties and explained his intentions for a lot addition and severances for these properties on Broome road. Mr. Scheuerman asked Council if they had any concerns with their plans before he made the applications to the Lakehead Rural Planning Board. Council do not have any concerns with the options as presented. Mr. Scheuerman was thanked for attending.

Fire Chief Mattas was welcomed to the table. The Fire Department report was read. There have been three first response calls, one motor vehicle accident call, and one grass & brush fire call since the last report. Fire Chief Mattas updated Council on the current State of Emergency situation in the Township of Conmee, Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge and the City of Thunder Bay as he is the Zone One coordinator. He informed Council that he has received several calls from the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) and Emergency Management Ontario (EMO) with regard to the situations.

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Fire Chief Mattas suggested that the three levels of government get together to deal with the issue of beavers and their dams as this is often the cause of the washouts on highways and roadways.

Fire Department driver training was discussed. Fire Chief Mattas asked who Mr. Turk is to report to with regard to the driver training and when the truck is out of the fire hall. He also asked if there is a set schedule to ensure the drivers are trained in a timely manner. Council informed Fire Chief Mattas that the driver training schedule is totally on Mr. Turk and the driver's schedule availability. There is no deadline for anyone to have their training completed. Mr. Turk will notify the Clerk-Treasurer and the Fire Chief when he feels a driver is ready to attempt their licence. Council asked if there is currently any protocol for the times the vehicles are on the move for non-emergency purposes. Fire Chief Mattas confirmed that currently there is not. Council would like the Fire Chief to work with the Deputy Clerk-Treasurer to draft a protocol so that the Fire Chief is aware when the trucks have left the hall for non-emergency events.

Fire Chief Mattas informed Council that he has two new members joining the Fire Department and he requested that a resolution be passed for this. One will be prepared for the next meeting. The members will be joining the team at the June 4, 2012 Fire Department meeting. Mr. Douglas will not be doing any physical fire fighting but will be assisting with the teams training.

A second Deputy Fire Chief for the O'Connor Fire Department was discussed. It was agreed that due to the fact that our currently Deputy Fire Chief currently has a job which takes him away from the area for two weeks at a time that a second Deputy would be appointed. A by-law appointing both Mr. Mike Styles and Mr. Ian Hamilton as Deputy Fire Chiefs will be passed later on the agenda.

The paging system for Zone One was discussed. The Zone is currently going with the CRC Communications bid, as they are able to provide the full package. Spectrum only supplies the equipment. With this new paging system and the higher frequency used all new pagers will have to be purchased for the Fire Department and First Response. The Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge has offered to enter into the contract with CRC Communications but will need a supporting resolution of each of the municipalities authorizing this. It was

2. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by G. Garbutt

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR AUTHORIZE THE MUNICIPALITY OF OLIVER PAIPOONGE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH CRC COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE PROVISION OF PAGING FOR EMERGENCY CALLS ON BEHALF OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR.

Carried

There will also be an additional monthly paging fee of \$115.00 per department.

There are two types of pagers they are currently looking at to purchase. The price would be over \$500 each if purchased by the individual municipalities. The Zone will order the pagers in bulk to get a cheaper price for the municipalities. The Township will need 20 pagers and the Fire Department auxiliary has been approached to see if they would purchase them with their fundraising monies. Maintenance on these pagers will have to be done out of town.

Council was asked if they would be interested in bulk purchasing and they agreed that this is the best option. The Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge will be notified of these decisions.

The scraping of the old tanker truck was discussed. Fire Chief Mattas has collected information with regard to the price we would get for it if he were to take it to the scrap yard. The current prices of metal and aluminum are currently down and we would not receive that much money for the truck. Fire Chief Mattas suggested that the water tank be taken off of the truck and placed in the Southwest area of the Township for a

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summer water source. He has spoken with Mr. Brent Byers about possibly placing it on his property. Council agreed with the idea and Fire Chief Mattas was asked to speak with Mr. Byers again and confirm that he would be interested and if he is an agreement to place this tank on his property for a term will be drafted.

A date for an emergency tabletop exercise was discussed. It was

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

THAT THE FOLLOWING DATE BE SET FOR A TABLE TOP EXERCISE TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2012 AT 7 P.M. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE O'CONNOR COMMUNITY CENTRE.

Carried

The purchase of the Fire Department tanker truck was discussed and a concern from a fire department member whether it is NFPA approved. When the truck was built as a fire truck it was NFPA approved and it remains approved. This was a stipulation with the purchase.

Fire Chief Mattas informed Council of the passing of one of their retired members, Bedford Lunn. Fire Chief Mattas contacted his spouse and the Fire Department will have an honour guard at the service.

Fire Chief Mattas was thanked for attending.

Bills to be paid were passed around the table and it was

- 4. Moved by G. Garbutt
Seconded J. Vezina

THAT THE FOLLOWING BILLS FOR MAY 2012 BE PAID – THESE BILLS WILL BE INCLUDED ON THE MAY 2012 ROAD AND ADMINISTRATION VOUCHER.

CK#10876	G. GARBUTT (HONOURARIUM)	\$296.84
CK#10877	R. CHESSELL (SUPPLIES)	98.11
CK#10878	G. GARBUTT (HONOURARIUM)	169.40
CK#10879	G. GARBUTT (HONOURARIUM)	92.40
CK#10880	FIRE SAFETY CANADA (SPRING INTO SUMMER KIT)	236.17
CK#10881	SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA	936.25
CK#10882	TBAYTEL (MOBILITY)	93.56
CK#10883	R. NELSON (HONOURARIUM)	632.65
		<u>\$2,555.38</u>

Carried

The Statement of Revenue and Expenditures to April 30, 2012 were reviewed.

By-laws were reviewed as follows and it was

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

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2012-10 BEING A BY-LAW TO ESTABLISH THE TAX RATIOS FOR THE YEAR 2012 BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

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

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2012-11 BEING A BY-LAW AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH LOCAL AUTHORITY SERVICES LIMITED FOR BULK FUEL AND LUBRICANT PURCHASES BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

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Council also discussed the number of fleet cards that will be required for this program. It was agreed that one card will be ordered for the roads department, one for the fire department and one extra to be kept in the municipal office.

As per discussed with the Fire Chief earlier in the meeting it was

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

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2012-12 BEING A BY-LAW TO APPOINT THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE O'CONNOR FIRE DEPARTMENT BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

Councillor Garbutt provided an update regarding the Thunder Bay District Social Services Administration Board (DSSAB). Reeve Holland, the Area One representative, informed Councillor Garbutt at a recent meeting that the DSSAB will be providing refunds to the municipalities for the 2011 levy overpayment rather than putting it into a reserve as was previously proposed. The Township of O'Connor will be receiving \$3,199.00.

Correspondence was read as follows:

- a) Environment and Land Tribunals Ontario – regarding amendments to the Assessment Review Board Rules of Practice and Procedure.
- b) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – i) Requesting nominations to the AMO Board of Directors. No nominations will be made.
ii) Watch File May 17, 2012.
iii) Watch File May 24, 2012.
- c) The Premier of Ontario – reply letter to Council's resolution regarding changes to the Ontario Building Code. Mayor Nelson informed Council that Mr. Mauro's resolution on this matter has died on the table, however a similar one has gone to second reading. The Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association has been invited to do a presentation to the Ontario Distribution Sector Review Panel on June 5 to provide them with the views of the Northwest on this matter.
- d) National Asset Recovery Specialists Ltd. – regarding Polystyrene collection systems and the concerns with regard to Stewardship Ontario and the closing of recyclers.
- e) Minister Kathleen Wynne – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – thank you letter to Mayor Nelson, President of the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association regarding a meet with her at the Ontario Good Roads Association Conference.

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old business, Council discussed

- a) Minister Kathleen Wynne – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing - reply letter with regard to Council's concerns with the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) funding formula for Farmland and Managed Forest Assessment component. Mayor Nelson also informed Council that the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Task Force is also looking into the funding formula of the OMPF.
- b) Canadian Blood Services support letter from Council was discussed. New information was provided with regard to Council's concerns. A copy of a news release from Canadian Blood Services and a Chronicle-Journal – statement regarding the original story printed in April being wrong has drawn concern to contents of the Council's drafted letter. Council would like further confirmation on the situation before sending a letter to the Prime Minister. Councillor Garbutt will talk to the Thunder Bay District Health Unit about this.

Under Further old business the community centre roof was discussed. With the recent rain the roof has again had a leak. Contractors will be contacted to see if someone might be able to come in and find the problem.

Under New business, Council discussed

- a) Area 1 Head of Council meeting – an email from Mayor Kloosterhuis regarding a meeting to be held on June 13, 2012 at the Shuniah municipal office was discussed. Mayor Nelson will be able to attend this meeting.

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Councillor Garbutt reported on topics they would like to discuss at the upcoming Heads of Council meeting June 13th as she attended the meeting where this suggestion came up. Some of the topics they would like to discuss are the Thunder Bay District Social Services Administration Board, Planning and the OMPF funding formula, Mayor Kloosterhuis is also requesting other topics that Council may wish to include on the agenda. Council would like to suggest that the Minister's be invited to Thunder Bay to meet with this group rather than everyone flying to Toronto as suggested in the email. It was also suggested that the question of why certain drugs are covered under the ODSP and others are not be addressed.

- b) Township handout suggestions and ideas were discussed. Information and prices on several different items were brought forward. Council would like to order credit card size magnifiers and microfiber lens cloth case with the Township logo on them.
- c) Memo from Deputy Clerk-Treasurer regarding a Household Hazardous Waste Event was read. It was agreed that this topic could be brought up with the Heads of Council at the June 13th meeting to see if any of the other municipalities would be interested. A second memo was read with regard to the Terrace Bay E-Waste Program. The Ontario Electronic Stewardship will pay per tonne for electronic waste that is collected. The Township would apply to participate and a field representative would come out and do an audit to see if it would be appropriate. Council agreed to have an audit done.
- d) Dave Pinner – 2012 Caribou Charity Ride – will be running through O'Connor September 9th. Council would like this information put into the Cornerstone.

Under further new business, Council discussed a possible funding opportunity through Coca-Cola for sports activities. The Clerk-Treasurer will look into this further to see if the Township would qualify for this funding.

The Rural Health Fair was discussed. They have approved the Township giving out popcorn at our booth during the event.

Council would like to offer the Township's services to the Township of Conmee and the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge if needed to assist with their State of Emergency and any road repairs close to our borders.

Issues brought forward or letters received after agenda was mailed

- a) An update on recent flooding and road conditions within the Township of O'Connor from Mr. Johnson, Leadhand, was read. Four of the Township roads were closed due to flooding on Friday, May 25th, Blaikie, Diana, Harstone and Broome. The road crew worked Friday and Saturday hauling material to these roads. No roads were closed on Monday, May 28th. Water was still running over in some areas but they were still passable. Monday road repairs continued with several roads receiving material.
- b) Emergency Management Ontario – JEPP Application Funding Approval – signing of mandatory sign-off. It was

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

THAT THE MAYOR AND CLERK-TREASURER BE AUTHORIZED TO SIGN THE UNDERTAKING FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR'S JEPP APPLICATION FUNDING APPROVAL FOR PROJECT ON-45-115.

Carried

- c) Thunder Bay District Health Unit – 2011 Audited Financial Statements were reviewed.
- d) Thunder Bay Cycling Club – regarding the cycling program for the 2012 season. The club will be traveling through the Township. Information notifying the residents will be put in the Cornerstone.

For information purposes building permits were approved for a garage and shed at 351 Hwy 590.

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9. Moved by G. Garbutt
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**THAT THE COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURN TO THE BUDGET MEETING TO
BE HELD ON MONDAY, JUNE 4, 2012 AT 7:00 P.M.**

TIME BEING: 10:30 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer