

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – NOVEMBER 12, 2012

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, November 12, 2012 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

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

Visitors: Kelly Johnson, Leadhand

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: none

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

THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE PUBLIC MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2012 AND THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2012 BE APPROVED AS PRINTED.

Carried

Mayor Nelson asked Mr. Johnson if he wished to address Council and he replied no.

Mr. Johnson, Leadhand, was welcomed to the table. The Monthly Road Department report from October 11 to November 12, 2012 was read. Roadwork in general was discussed. Mr. Johnson reported that they are currently grading the roads, they have mixed up some winter sand and the new box for truck #7 arrived today. As the hinge is not welded on the bottom of the box they will have to hire a welder to do some of the installation. They are hoping to get the old box off tomorrow. The new highway road sign is ready for pickup but the truck box is priority right now.

The 2012 Township of O'Connor Equipment report, which includes the current condition and information on all of the Township's road equipment was read. All the equipment is currently in good condition.

The information from the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge with regard to their brushing equipment was discussed. They have purchased their own equipment to do this work in their municipality. Brushing of the sides of the O'Connor roads will be looked at further in the new year during budget discussions.

Mr. Johnson was thanked for attending.

The Administration and Roads Voucher was reviewed and it was

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

THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR OCTOBER 31, 2012 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$78,850.49 BE APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

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

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

CK#11171	O'CONNOR WOMEN'S INSTITUTE	\$100.00
CK#11173	TBAYTEL (TELEPHONE)	375.34
CK#11174	K. JOHNSON (MEDICAL/DENTAL)	53.00
CK#11175	L. BUOB (MILEAGE, EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT)	<u>208.18</u>
		\$736.52

Carried

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The Statement of Revenue and Expenditure to October 31, 2012 were reviewed.

By-laws and Policies were reviewed as follows:

a) By-law Number 2012-24 - Being a by-law to establish rates for disposal of refuse. It was

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

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2012-24 BEING A BY-LAW TO ESTABLISH RATES FOR DISPOSAL OF REFUSE AT THE O'CONNOR LANDFILL SITE AND TO RESCIND BY-LAW NUMBER 2000-14 BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

b) By-law Number 2012-25 – Being a by-law to establish miscellaneous fees and charges. It was

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

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2012-25 BEING A BY-LAW TO ESTABLISH MISCELLANEOUS FEES AND CHARGES AND TO REPEAL BY-LAW NUMBER 2002-17 AS AMENDED BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

c) By-law Number 2012-26 – Being a by-law to authorize the execution of an agreement for fire communication services. It was

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

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2012-26 BEING A BY-LAW AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN IN THE RIGHT OF THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO AS REPRESENTED BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND LONG-TERM CARE AS IT RELATES TO THE PROVISION OF FIRE COMMUNICATION SERVICES BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

d) The Policy for Sending Flowers and Fruit Baskets was read as amended and it was

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

THAT THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS BE MADE TO THE POLICY FOR SENDING FLOWERS OR FRUIT BASKETS. UNDER THE HEADING OF HOSPITALIZATION/BIRTH OF A CHILD THE POLICY SHALL READ:

“AN ARRANGEMENT MAY BE SENT TO AN EMPLOYEE OR RETIRED EMPLOYEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OR COUNCIL MEMBER, FOR A SERIOUS ILLNESS OR ACCIDENT CAUSING HOSPITALIZATION OR THE BIRTH OF A CHILD.”

UNDER THE HEADING OF FUNERAL THE POLICY SHALL READ:

“AN ARRANGEMENT WILL BE SENT TO AN EMPLOYEE OR RETIRED EMPLOYEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR OR COUNCIL MEMBER FOR THE LOSS OF A SPOUSE, CHILD, PARENT, GRANDPARENT, BROTHER, SISTER OR IN-LAW.”

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IN THE CASE OF THE DEATH OF AN EMPLOYEE, RETIRED EMPLOYEE OR COUNCIL MEMBER, AN ARRANGEMENT WILL BE SENT TO THEIR FAMILY”

UNDER THE HEADING PRICE RANGE THE POLICY SHALL READ:

“THE COST OF SUCH ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE BETWEEN \$50.00 AND \$75.00.”

Carried

- e) The Draft Policy for the Interment of Council members and employees was read and discussed. This has been the previous practice as it was previous passed by resolution but was never in a policy format. It was
- 8. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by J. Vezina

POLICY FOR THE INTERMENT OF COUNCIL MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES

PURPOSE: TO ESTABLISH A POLICY FOR THE INTERMENT OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR COUNCIL MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES.

POLICY STATEMENT: THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR WILL INCUR THE COST OF THE INTERMENT IN THE O'CONNOR CEMETERY OR THE O'CONNOR FREE METHODIST CEMETERY OF THE MAYOR, COUNCILLORS, FORMER MAYORS/REEVES AND COUNCILLORS, ALL FULL-TIME OR RETIRED EMPLOYEES OR ANY OTHER POSITION AT COUNCIL'S DISCRETION.

EFFECTIVE DATE: THIS POLICY SHALL COME INTO EFFECT AS OF NOVEMBER 12, 2012.

Carried

Resolutions for endorsement were read as follows:

- a) City of Thunder Bay regarding the suspension of the Thunder Bay Generating Station's conversion to natural gas. It was
- 9. Moved by B. Jerry Loan
Seconded by J. Vezina

WITH RESPECT TO THE DECISION BY THE MINISTER OF ENERGY ON NOVEMBER 1, 2012 TO SUSPEND THE CONVERSION TO NATURAL GAS OF THE THUNDER BAY GENERATING STATION (TBGS), THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR EXPRESSES ITS PROFOUND DISAPPOINTMENT IN THE ONTARIO POWER AUTHORITY'S (OPA) PUBLICLY STATED COMMENTS PERTAINING TO DECOMMISSIONING OR "MOTHBALLING" THE THUNDER BAY GENERATING STATION, WHICH ARE CONTRADICTORY TO THE MINISTER'S DIRECTIVE TO THE OPA ON THIS MATTER;

AND THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR FORMALLY CHALLENGES THE ONTARIO POWER AUTHORITY'S PUBLIC STATEMENT IN THEIR MEDIA RELEASE DATED NOVEMBER 1, 2012 AS FOLLOWS: "WORK TO DATE HAD FOUND THAT CONVERTING THE ATIKOKAN GENERATING STATION TO BIOMASS ALONG WITH THE EXPANSION OF THE EAST-WEST TIE – A NEW 400 KM TRANSMISSION LINE BETWEEN THUNDER BAY AND WAWA – WILL MEET THE ELECTRICITY NEEDS FOR THUNDER BAY AND THE NORTHWEST OVER THE LONG-TERM";

AND THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR CONFIRMS ITS POSITION THAT THE CONVERSION OF THE THUNDER BAY GENERATING STATION PROVIDING 300 MEGAWATTS OF ELECTRICAL POWER TO THE CITY AND REGION, IS CRITICAL FOR BOTH MEETING THE CURRENT AND

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FORECASTED REGIONAL ENERGY NEEDS OF THE REQUIRED EXTRA 622 MEGAWATTS FOR NEW MINING PRODUCTION ANTICIPATED BY 2017, AS WELL AS INSURING THE STABILITY AND SECURITY OF THE NORTHWESTERN ELECTRICAL ENERGY GRID;

AND THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR CONSIDERS THE RECENT DECISIONS AND STATEMENTS OF THE ONTARIO POWER AUTHORITY AS CONTRARY TO THE STATEMENTS AS MADE IN THE IPSP, AS WELL AS THEIR MANDATE TO PROVIDE CERTAINTY AND STABILITY WITH RESPECT TO LONG TERM PROVINCIAL ENERGY PLANNING FOR THUNDER BAY AND NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO;

AND THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR SUPPORTS THE NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION (NOMA) IN THAT THE UNCERTAINTY CREATED BY THE ONTARIO POWER AUTHORITY HAS PLACE IN JEOPARDY THE ABILITY OF THUNDER BAY AND NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO TO FULLY REALIZE THE SIGNIFICANT OPPORTUNITIES THAT EXIST FOR FUTURE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND PROSPERITY IN THE REGION;

AND THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR ENDORSES AN IMMEDIATE MEETING WITH THE MINISTER OF ENERGY, M.P.P.'S MICHAEL GRAVELLE AND BILL MAURO AND MEMBERS OF THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL LIAISON COMMITTEE, ENERGY TASK FORCE AND NOMA;

AND THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR SUPPORTS NOMA TO RECEIVE AN IMMEDIATE MEETING WITH THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND SENIOR OFFICIALS OF THE ONTARIO POWER AUTHORITY TO CONFIRM AND VERIFY THAT THE DATA OPA HAS FORWARDED IS CORRECT AND ACCURATE.

Carried

- b) Township of Uxbridge – regarding the Equal Access to High-Bandwidth Broadband resolution – Spectrum Licence Rules – was filed
 - c) Township of West Lincoln – requesting the expansion of scope of Health Canada Study relating to Wind Turbines – was filed
 - d) Township of West Lincoln – requesting for Moratorium on Industrial Wind Turbines until studies have been undertaken with regard to impacts of livestock and agricultural industry and impact on turbines on water sources and ground fault issues – was filed
 - e) Township of West Lincoln – requesting for Moratorium on Industrial Wind Turbines until a Health Canada Study is completed and recommendations implemented and further that the Provincial Government provide a release from contractual obligations to all applicants with a FIT Contract but no REA approval – was filed
 - f) Township of Sioux Narrows – Nestor Falls – petitioning the Legislative Assembly of Ontario to immediately suspend plans to cancel overnight camping at ten provincial parks in Northern Ontario and requesting that they consult with local municipalities, stakeholders and regional economic development organizations. It was
10. Moved by B. Jerry Loan
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT THE RESOLUTION FROM THE TOWNSHIP OF SIOUX NARROWS – NESTOR FALLS PETITIONING THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO TO IMMEDIATELY SUSPEND PLANS TO CANCEL OVERNIGHT CAMPING AT TEN PROVINCIAL PARKS IN NORTHERN ONTARIO AND REQUESTING THAT THEY CONSULT WITH LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES, STAKEHOLDERS AND REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS REGARDING THE LONG-TERM VIABILITY OF PRESERVING NORTHERN ONTARIO'S PROVINCIAL PARKS BE ENDORSED.

Carried

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The Thunder Bay District Social Services Administration Board has responded to Council's request to have client services in our community. Their staff will be in O'Connor to discuss Ontario Works, employment resources, housing registry, children's services and property management from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon on January 15, May 14, September 10 and December 10, 2013. The residents from the Township of Gillies will also be invited to attend on these dates. This information will be forwarded to our residents in the monthly newsletter, the Cornerstone, as well as on our Township website.

Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) – i) Media Release regarding NOMA circulates petition opposing park closures in the North
ii) Media Release regarding OPA decision puts mining growth at risk
- b) Ontario Power Generation (OPG) – regarding Thunder Bay natural gas conversion project
- c) The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) – regarding FONOM takes to social media to gain support for ONTC and Ontario Parks
- d) Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) – Township of O'Connor's quarterly report – July 1 to September 30, 2012. The new Detachment Commander, Jim Graham, will be attending the next Council meeting to introduce himself and review the report.
- e) Superior North Emergency Medical Services – i) Report #2012-160 regarding Costs of increasing stand-by hours along the northshore of Lake Superior.
ii) EMS Budget – Deployment Enhancement.
iii) 3rd Quarter Municipal Levy. The Townships levy for 2012 will be increasing by \$552.00.
- f) Statistics Canada - Township of O'Connor Census Profile for 2011. This numbers are randomly rounded to the nearest 5.
- g) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – i) Watch File October 25, 2012.
ii) Watch File November 1, 2012.
iii) Watch File November 8, 2012.
iv) AMO Breaking News – The Commission for the Review of Social Assistance in Ontario Releases its Report "Brighter Prospects: Transforming Social Assistance in Ontario".
v) AMO Breaking News – Ontario Releases First Ever Immigration Strategy.
- h) AMCTO the Municipal Experts – Apply for 2013-2014 Ontario Municipal Management Internship Program. The Township will not be applying at this time.
- i) Thunder Bay Vet Committee – Annual General meeting – Budget and Financials. Councillor Vezina reported on his recent teleconference meeting held on November 2, 2012.
- j) Waste Diversion Ontario – regarding WDO Progress Report November 1, 2012. The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) Lakehead Region Conservation Authority – Addendum to the 2010 Cedar Creek Watershed Assessment Update: Site 11 on Garbutt road. The results of the resampling which were conducted in 2012 demonstrated significant improvement over the 2010 results.
- b) Shared Services Committee Meeting Notes – i) September 17, 2012 as approved were read.
ii) Draft October 24, 2012 meeting notes were read. Mayor Nelson reported on the meeting and informed Council that the Request for Proposal for a tandem truck came in too high and he recommended that the Township not pursue the purchase.
iii) An upcoming meeting to be held November 14, 2012 with Council and Fire Departments from the Township's of Conmee, Gillies and O'Connor has now been cancelled due to Mayor Nelson and Reeve Holland having other commitments on that date. A new date for this meeting will be scheduled. This meeting will explain the process discussed to date by the Shared Services Committee for a Director of Emergency Services position. The Heads of Council will be looking for the Fire Department and Council's input on the creation of this position.
- c) The Comfort Zone newsletter subscription is coming due. The Clerk-Treasurer reported that she has polled the employees and the fire department to see if they would be interested in continuing to receive this document and the concusses was no. Council agreed not to renew the subscription.

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Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Mayor Lucy Kloosterhuis, Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge, emails regarding the Provincial Policy Statement Review, November 3, 4, 6 and 7, 2012. Mayor Kloosterhuis would like to call a meeting of the Area One municipalities to submit comment on behalf of the six municipalities surrounding the City of Thunder Bay on November 15, 2012. Mayor Nelson will not be able to attend the meeting. Council also discussed whether or not the Township would contribute financially to have a planner prepare a report to express the municipalities concerns with regard to the Provincial Policy Statement. It was

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

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE PROVINCIAL POLICY STATEMENT REVIEW MEETING WITH AREA ONE MUNICIPALITIES TO DISCUSS AND PREPARE COMMENT ON THIS DRAFT DOCUMENT. THE MEETING IS TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 15, 2012 IN SHUNIAH.

COUNCILLOR VEZINA

Carried

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

THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR CONTRIBUTE TO THE COST OF HIRING MR. DON MANAHAN TO DO A REPORT OF THE PROVINCIAL POLICY STATEMENT REVIEW AND PREPARE COMMENT OF THE REVIEW FOR THE PARTICIPATING AREA ONE MUNICIPALITIES. THE TOTAL COST OF THE REVIEW AND THE PREPARING OF THE REPORT BY MR. MANAHAN IS \$1,875.00 PLUS TAX.

Carried

- b) Ontario Good Roads Association – regarding delegation requests for the 2013 ROMA/OGRA Combined Conference. At this time the Township will not be making a request.
c) Discuss as to whether or not to hold a 2012 Christmas Party for staff, fire department and first response volunteers and Council. It was

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

THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR HOLD A 2012 CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR COUNCIL, STAFF, FIRE DEPARTMENT AND FIRST RESPONSE VOLUNTEERS AT THE KAKABEKA HOTEL ON FEBRUARY 9, 2013. SPOUSES AND GUESTS WILL PAY FOR THEIR OWN DINNER.

Carried

- d) Lakehead Conservation Foundation 2013 Fundraising Dinner & Auction February 7, 2013. As Councillor Vezina is the Township's representative on the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority Board it was

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

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE LAKEHEAD CONSERVATION FOUNDATION 2013 FUNDRAISING DINNER AND AUCTION TO BE HELD FEBRUARY 7, 2013 IN THUNDER BAY.

TICKETS: \$50.00 EACH

COUNCILLOR VEZINA

Carried

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- e) Ministry of Infrastructure – regarding consultation on the creation of a proposed new comprehensive framework for managing forfeited properties. Council will submit no comments in this regard.
- f) Ministry of Community and Social Services – Recruitment for Committee to Review the Customer Service Standard. No names will be put forward.
- g) The Municipal Engineers Association (MEA) – Municipal Class Environmental Assessment: Notice of Availability – Five Year Review Report. The report will be available on their website for review for comment.

Issues brought forward or letters received after agenda was mailed

- a) Ontario Trillium Foundation – Funding approval. The Clerk-Treasurer reported that Mr. Bill Mauro, MPP, called to inform the Township that our application for funding for the Community Centre kitchen renovations has been approved. Further detail will follow.
- b) Norwest Community Health – 2012 Rural Health Fair wrap up – report was read. The Norwest representative would like to change the format for next years event with regard to the planning and work load, as well as taking out the business side of the event.

For information purposes building permits were approved as follows: 20 Flint Road – (Conditional) – Modular home, 8 Smart Road – Modular home.

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

THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2012 AT 7:00 P.M.

TIME BEING: 9:35 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer