

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – NOVEMBER 22, 2010

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

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

Visitors: Fire Chief Henry Mattas
Kip Miller and Jonathon Scott of the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR)

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: Councillor Garbutt declared an interest in item 10 as the property is her own and Councillor Racicot declared an interest in item 15 c) and 15 g) as his spouse is an employee of the Township.

1. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by J. Vezina

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

Carried.

Mr. Kip Miller and Mr. Jonathon Scott MNR were welcomed to the table. A power point presentation was presented to Council which included aerial pictures of the fire in the Township on April 23, 2010, Thunder Bay Fire #32. MNR reported the fire at 15:45 hrs at which time the fire size was one hectore. Mr. Miller recapped what had transpired during the day. The Township will be receiving an invoice from the MNR for their services. MNR's protocol for billing individuals for fires on crown land and private land was discussed. Mr. Miller will e-mail the Clerk-Treasurer the power point presentation. Mr. Miller was also asked about the MNR's summer student program. Information will be forwarded to the Township on how area students can apply for summer jobs through MNR.

Mr. Miller and Mr. Scott were thanked for attending.

Fire Chief Henry Mattas was welcomed to the table. The Fire Department report was reviewed. Two member of the department have completed the Auto Extrication course offered in Conmee. The letter from former Deputy Fire Chief Vern Groop regarding his resignation from the Fire Department was read. A plaque will be ordered thanking him for his twelve years of service on the department.

The letter to Mr. Bill Mauro, MPP, Thunder Bay-Atikoka from Mr. Tim Beebe of the Upsala Volunteer Fire Department was read. The letter was a result of the meeting held with Mr. Mauro and the Thunder Bay Zone One Mutual Aid Association where the changes facing volunteer fire services in Northwestern were discussed. A major concern is the lack for funding to meeting legislated requirements and the issue of fire related dispatch calls. The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) do not want the liability of dispatching calls that are not being received by area departments. Oliver Paipoonge has stepped forward to steer head the JEPP application for grant money for a new paging system and Mr. Stuart Mooney of MOHLTC is willing to assist with the application. Cost for a new system have not been determined at this time.

The memo from Clerk-Treasurer Buob regarding her meeting with Mr. Brad Welyki, Fire Protection Advisor, Fire Protection Services of the Office of the Ontario Fire Marshall (OFM) was read. The Township must file an Annual Compliance Report with the OFM, which has not been done yet this year. Mr. Welyki will be invited to attend a January meeting of Council to discuss this issue further. Fire Chief Mattas will have the report ready in December. The Fire Department Policy was also discussed. The policy will be reviewed at a January 2011 Council meeting.

A letter from the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services regarding Emergency Management Ontario's organizational chart was reviewed.

Fire Chief Mattas reported that the Ministry of Transportation's rates for emergency vehicles responding to accidents on provincial highways have increased. Chief Mattas

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also informed Council that according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Fire Department turnout gear must be replaced after 10 years in service. Council asked that Mr. Brad Welyki of the OFM be contacted via e-mail and asked to provide information on what legislation does it make it mandatory that turnout gear be retired after 10 years.

Item 13c) iii) AMO responds to Release of Office of the Fire Marshall Risk document and Fire Communiqué PFSG 04-08-10 was moved forward on the agenda to review with Fire Chief Mattas.

The progress of work on the new fire truck was discussed. The portable pond has been mounted on top of the new truck in the same manner it had been mounted on the old truck.

Fire Chief Mattas was thanked for attending.

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

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

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

CK#9797	TBAYTEL (TELEPHONE)	\$ 373.24
CK#9798	HYDRO ONE	\$ 532.38
CK#9799	PITNEY BOWES (POSTAGE METER)	\$ 81.19
CK#9800	THUNDER BAY DSSAB	<u>\$ 8,087.00</u>
		\$ 9,073.81

Carried

By-laws were reviewed and it was

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

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2010-27 BEING A BY-LAW TO AMEND BY-LAW 2004-15, THE BY-LAW TO PROVIDE FOR THE PURCHASE OF GOODS, SERVICES AND CONSTRUCTION FOR THE OPERATIONS OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried.

Councillor Garbutt left the room.

The decision from the Lakehead Rural Planning Board with regard to application 1B/10/10 and 1B/11/10 was read.

Councillor Garbutt returned to the room.

Resolutions for endorsement were read as follows:

- a) NOMA regarding the Public Consultation on Caribou Habitat Regulation was filed.
- b) The Township of Alberton regarding Emergency Management Ontario not replacing the current local area Field Officer position upon the retirement of Mr. Dale Smyk and it was

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

THAT THE RESOLUTION FROM THE TOWNSHIP OF ALBERTON REQUESTING CONTINUATION OF THE AMETHYST SECTOR FIELD OFFICER POSITION TO SERVE NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO EXCLUSIVELY FOLLOWING THE RETIREMENT OF DALE SMYK FROM THE POSITION BE ENDORSED.

Carried.

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- c) The County of Lambton resolution endorsing the resolution and supporting the City of Sarnia concerning the HST on hydro bills and its impact on residents was filed.
- d) The Township of East Ferris requesting consideration from the Minister of Transportation for municipalities to operate under the AZ with restriction license was filed.

An e-mail from Sandra Legros, Executive Assistant to the CAO, Thunder Bay DSSAB was read. The agenda for the upcoming November 18, 2010 meeting for Thunder Bay DSSAB has been posted on their website.

Correspondence was read as follows:

- a) The Monthly Workplace Inspection report for the garage dated on October 25, 2010 was reviewed. Mr. Ross Chessell the Health and Safety Representative will be asked when an inspection will be done at the Fire Hall. An administrative inspection report has been done the report will be made available at the next meeting of Council.
- b) Letter from Superior North Emergency Medical Services regarding the 3rd Quarter Levy for 2010 was read. The 3rd quarter levy for O'Connor Township will be \$6,765.00, an increase of \$219.00 from what was originally stated due to the change in the 2010 weighted assessment, wage adjustments and adjustments to Ministry of Health revenues.
- c) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) - i) Watch File for November 10, 2010
ii) Watch File for November 18, 2010
iii) AMO responds to Release of Office of the Fire Marshal Risk Document and Fire Communiqué PFSG 04-08-10. This item was brought forward on the agenda to review with Fire Chief Mattas.
iv) AMO Breaking News regarding the Fall Economic Statement Preserves Upload Schedule for Municipalities
- d) Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA) Heads Up Alert regarding OGRA to take key issues to Queen's Park
- e) Premier Dalton McGuinty's reply letter to Council's resolution endorsing funding for firefighter training in Northwestern Ontario

The balance of correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) The signage notifying drivers that the use of compression brakes is prohibited in the Township of O'Connor, that is currently located under the "Welcome to O'Connor Township" sign, will be moved and relocated on Strom Road where it will be more visible to trucks hauling on Strom Road. Leadhand Kelly Johnson will decide where on the road the sign should be erected. New signage for Highway 590 will be looked into next year since By-Law 2009-09, a by-law to prohibit and regulate noise in the Township, does apply to the entire Township.
- b) Mayor Ron Nelson reported on his meeting with Staff Sergeant Dan Peters with regard to the concerns of traffic on Strom Road. Staff Sergeant Peters will be invited to attend a January 2011 Council meeting to discuss this issue and also to discuss Community Policing.
- c) A memo from Clerk-Treasurer Buob regarding the resolution from United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry was read. The resolution which had been previously endorsed by Council was with regard to Farmland and Managed Forest properties being taxed at 25% of the residential rate as a result of the Farmland Tax Program and the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program which has been downloaded to municipalities. The memo also indicated the amount of tax dollars the Township lost for 2010.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) The memo from Clerk-Treasurer Buob regarding the Thunder Bay District Health Unit's cancellation of the rural flu vaccine clinics was read. The Health Unit has since stated that a Flu Clinic will be held at the Kakabeka Legion with the date still to be announced.
- b) The Copy of the letter from the Township of Conmee to Maria Harding, Chair of the Thunder Bay District Health Unit was read
- c) Freedom of Information training to be held in Thunder Bay in December was read and it was

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

**THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY TRAINING TO BE HELD IN THUNDER BAY. REGISTRATION: FREE
DEPUTY CLERK-TREASURER RACICOT – TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2010
AND CLERK-TREASURER BUOB – WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2010**

Carried.

- d) The Post-Election Accessibility Report prepared by Clerk-Treasurer Buob was presented to Council.
- e) The Ministry's pit on Strom Road was discussed. Mr. Ian Smith, Regional Director for the Ministry of Transportation will be asked to attend a January meeting to discuss possible cooperation with regard to Strom Pit.
- f) An invitation to the Ministry of the Environment's Public Consultation on their draft "Environmental Noise Guidelines, Publication NPC-300 was read. No one will attend.
- g) Council discussed the office hours during the Christmas holidays and it was
6. Moved by J. Vezina
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE MUNICIPAL OFFICE BE CLOSED DECEMBER 27, 2010 TO JANUARY 4TH, 2011 DURING THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS. NOTICE OF THE CLOSURE WILL BE IN THE CORNERSTONE.

Carried.

- h) Council discussed the possibility of a Christmas party for the Township' Council, staff and Fire Department members. The Clerk-Treasurer's memo outlining what surrounding municipalities do for this was read. Council agreed that a Christmas dinner could be held in the Community Centre. Menu ideas were looked at and more information regarding pricing for catering and the number of people who would attend will be looked into and it will be brought back to the Council meeting scheduled for Monday, December 6, 2010 during the regular meeting.
- i) Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) is now taking applications for the Ontario Municipal Internship Program. The Township will not be submitting an application.
- j) An invitation to the Thunder Bay District Stewardship Council's Annual General Meeting and Open House was read. No one from Council will be attending.
- k) University of Waterloo's invitation to participate in a brief survey with the University was read. Council will not be participating in the survey.

Issues brought forward or letters received after agenda was mailed

- a) E-mail from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) regarding training sessions for new council was read. Council would be interested in the following sessions: Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Who We Are & What We Do, Conflict of Interest, Open and Closed Meetings, Council/Staff Relations and Roles of Council and Staff, Intro to Municipal Finance (Very High Level). Heather Brown, Municipal Advisor, MMAH will be notified.
- b) A letter from Rock Solid Holdings was read regarding their access on Highway 590. Council would like a reply letter sent to Rock Solid Holdings letting them know that Council is well aware of the issues and will continue to work with them as this Arrangement progresses and that they look forward to the Ministry's approval on the Entrance permit and the new road.
- c) i) OGRA Heads Up Alert regarding the success of their Inaugural Day at Queen's Park was read.
ii) Letter from Mr. J. W. Teirney, Executive Director, Ontario Good Roads Association regarding the Minimum Maintenance Standards Litigation Status Report was read.
- d) A letter from Trow Associates Inc. offering to develop Waste Recycling Strategies for municipalities using funding through the Continuous Improvement Fund was read. The Township of O'Connor is already currently involved in a project to develop a Communication and Public Engagement Plan with the surrounding municipalities.

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7. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE TABLE TOP EXERCISE TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2010 AT 7:00 P.M.

TIME BEING: 10:00 P.M.

Carried.

Mayor

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer