

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR - MINUTES – NOVEMBER 24, 2008

Minutes of the meeting held on at 7 p.m. in the municipal building.

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

Visitors: Fire Chief Henry Mattas

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: Councillor Racicot declared an interest in item 15a) and 19a) as his spouse is an employee of the township.

1. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by G. Garbutt

**THAT THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY,
NOVEMBER 10, 2008 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.**

Carried

Fire Chief Mattas was welcomed to the table. The fire department report from June 22nd to November 19th, 2008 was read. To date, in 2008 the team has had 26 to 27 calls. This is approximately the same as in the past.

The fire truck, Pumper 44's pump test was discussed. The test results were brought to Council previously. Council would like the valve work required done this year. Chief Mattas will make arrangements to have it done.

A training calendar for the fire department has been set up and has been distributed to all members so they are aware ahead of time what is happening each week.

Mr. Turgeon, the fire department's former driver-training instructor required copies of all driving records from our department. Fire Chief Mattas has provided him with the information.

The O'Connor Fire Department was not a part of the Trillium Response 2008 exercise recently held in Thunder Bay. Fire Chief Mattas, as Zone one coordinator, did take part from home. Fire Chief Mattas felt that we actually experienced a real emergency in June and felt we did not need to take part in this exercise.

Fire Chief Mattas was thanked for attending.

The statement of revenue and expenditures to October 31, 2008 were reviewed.

The bank credit and loan agreement was reviewed. The loan administration monthly fee will be removed. Council would also like to have the amendment fee removed. The Clerk-Treasurer will speak with the banks Senior Business Advisor on this. It was

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

**THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2008-16 BEING A BY-LAW TO ENTER INTO AN
AGREEMENT TO CARRY AN EXISTING LOAN, AUTHORIZED BY BY-LAW
#2004-12 AND FOR THE BORROWING OF MONEY BY WAY OF
TEMPORARY ADVANCES TO MEET EXPENDITURES AND TO ESTABLISH
A REVOLVING DEMAND CREDIT FOR GENERAL PURPOSES BE PASSED
AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.**

Carried

Consent applications 1B/20/08 and 1B/21/08 for the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge were reviewed. The property is located on Luckens road, the boundary road between O'Connor and Oliver Paipoonge. The Leadhand has reviewed the application and did not have any concerns. Council also do not have concerns with these severances.

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Councillor Garbutt informed Council that her term on the Thunder Bay District Social Services Administrative Board expires December 31st and Councillor Maureen Schmidt from the Municipality of Neebing will be our new representative.

Council would like the Clerk-Treasurer to contact the Township of Conmee and ask that our representative for the Thunder Bay District Health Unit provide a report on the happenings of that board.

Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services – invitation for Mayor Nelson to attend a full VIP and media tour of the exercise activities in and around Thunder Bay for the full scale EMO exercise, Trillium Response 2008. Mayor Nelson did not attend.
- b) Ministry of Transportation – i) Larry Lambert, Regional Director, Northwestern Region regarding Ministry of Transportation's Winter Readiness
ii) Email from Maureen Fenlon, Ministry of Transportation replying to questions from the November 15, 2008 TBDML Meeting
- c) AMO – i) Seeking Comment of Draft Joint AMO and OMSSA Paper on Poverty Reduction
ii) Municipal Collection of Federal Payments in Lieu of Taxes – FCM Update
iii) We Need Your Participation at the Waste Diversion Act Review Consultation Sessions
iv) Issuing of 2009 Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund Allocation Notices
v) Canadian Sport Tourism Alliance Announces Partnering To Compete Workshop
vi) Survey on Municipal Cultural Plans and Policies
vii) Municipal Support of Climate Station Data Needed
viii) AMO-Ontario First Joint Annual Memorandum Of Understanding Statement
- d) Minister of Finance – follow up on Provincial-Municipal Fiscal and Service Delivery Review
- e) MFOA – regarding Provincial Municipal Fiscal and Service Delivery update - Net Benefit Over March 2007 OMPF for the Township of O'Connor is \$00.
- f) Minister of Finance – announcing the Combined Benefit Stable Funding Guarantee for the 2009 OMPF.
- g) MPAC – i) Immediate Release - Thunder Bay area – Property Assessment notices mailed out. Includes list of municipality's average increases or decreases.
ii) The New Property Assessment Notice – Background Information
iii) MPAC News – fall edition 2008. Council would not like to have residents come to the office to access Aboutmyproperty information on the township computer as requested by MPAC.
- h) Lakehead Region Conservation Authority – 2009 Drinking Water Source Protection Calendar
- i) Minister of Industry – Tony Clement – letter informing Council of his position
The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

Councillor Racicot left the room

- a) A date for Union Negotiations has been agreed upon and it

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

THAT THE FOLLOWING DATE BE SET TO MEET WITH THE CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES LOCAL 87 TO NEGOTIATING A NEW UNION AGREEMENT. THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2008 AT 7:00 P.M. THE MEETING TO BE HELD AT THE O'CONNOR MUNICIPAL BUILDING.

Carried

Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting.

- b) An update from the Clerk-Treasurer on the Ministry of Natural Resources property and Rock Solid Holdings pit and road issue was read. As a part of the objections to the pit license change from a "B" to an "A", the Ministry of Natural Resources are

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currently looking into the different options that are available. The situation is currently in the Ministry of Natural Resources hands, for both the pit's permit change and road access. As the hauling season is almost done for this season, it was agreed to put a hold on an agreement with the Gravel Doctor until the Ministry responds to these issues.

- c) A letter from the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Revenue regarding Investing in Ontario Act additional capital grant was read. The Township of O'Connor has received \$68,507.00. The money has to be spent on capital and it was

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

THAT THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDING FROM THE INVESTING IN ONTARIO ACT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$68,507.00 BE TRANSFERRED INTO THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING RESERVE TO BE USED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW OFFICE BUILDING.

Carried

- d) The Policies for Snowplowing and Sanding were discussed. Dates for when winter maintenance is in effect should have been added to the policy and were missed in the final draft. It was agreed that a statement will be added at the top of these policies. It was

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

THAT THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT BE ADDED TO THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR'S POLICIES FOR SNOWPLOWING AND SANDING:

"WINTER MAINTENANCE (IS IN EFFECT) (WILL TAKE EFFECT) NOVEMBER 1 AND (WILL) RUN UNTIL APRIL 30TH".

Carried

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Thunder Bay District Municipal League – 2009 Budget and apportionment for the league. Council do not have any concerns with the budget.
b) Ministry of Tourism Celebrate Ontario 2009 funding information, funding for festivals and events. Eligible expenses were discussed and it was

6. Moved by G. Garbutt
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR APPLY TO CELEBRATE ONTARIO 2009 FOR TIER 1 FUNDING TO ASSIST WITH EXPENSES FOR O'CONNOR DAY 2009. THE AMOUNT TO BE REQUESTED WILL BE DECIDED ONCE AN ESTIMATE OF EXPENSES IS DETERMINED.

APPLICATION TO BE SUBMITTED BY JANUARY 16, 2009.

Carried

- c) OGRA/ROMA i) 2009 Combined Conference – February 22-25, 2009 in Toronto. Attendance at the conference was discussed and it was

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

**THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE OGRA/ROMA 2009 COMBINED CONFERENCE TO BE HELD FEBRUARY 22 – 25, 2009 IN TORONTO.
EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION: \$475.00**

**CLERK-TREASURER BUOB
LEADHAND K. JOHNSON**

Carried

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- c) ii) Report of the OGRA Nominating Committee. Council did not wish to nominate anyone for the committee.
- d) Ministry of Culture – Asking for Nominations for Premier's Awards for Excellence in the Arts – deadline December 1, 2008. No nominations will be made.
- e) Mike Milinkovich, Mayor, Township of Black River-Matheson – regarding Head of Councils Association of Ontario. Council did not have any suggestions.
- f) The Clerk-Treasurer reported that a request for a curve sign on Connolly road was made by a resident in the area of the corner. Mr. Johnson agrees with the idea and suggested that a recommended speed tab also be installed. It was also noted that two school buses do turn around in the area as well. Council were in agreement to put up the sign and suggested contacting the board of education to see if they would put up an school bus turnaround sign in the area as well.

Issues brought forward or letters received after the agenda was mailed.

- a) Thunder Bay Ventures program information was read. They are inviting Council to get together with them to provide an update of their programs. Council do not wish to have a presentation at this time.
- b) A letter from Derek Nardone, Public Affairs Officer, Egg Farmers of Ontario regarding egg farming practices and a letter from the Humane Society International Canada was read.

Councillor Racicot left the meeting.

- 8. Moved by G. Garbutt
Seconded by Lee Ann Nygard

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: 8:10 P.M.

Carried

A final review of the Management Submission for the upcoming 2008 union negotiations was held.

- 9. Moved by J. Vezina
Seconded by Lee Ann Nygard

TIME BEING: 8:37 P.M.

THAT WE NOW MOVE TO OPEN MEETING.

Carried

- 10. Moved by G. Garbutt
Seconded by Lee Ann Nygard

THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2008 AT 7:00 P.M.

TIME BEING: 8:39 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer