

## TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – NOVEMBER 26, 2012

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, November 26, 2012 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

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

Visitors: Fire Chief Henry Mattas, Deputy Fire Chief Ian Hamilton  
OPP Staff Sergeant Jim Graham and Sergeant John Reppard arrived at 7:40 p.m.

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: none

1. Moved by Bishop Racicot  
Seconded by J. Vezina

**THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2012 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.**

Carried

Mayor Nelson asked Mr. Hamilton if he wished to address Council on any personal matters as a resident of the Township and he replied no.

Fire Chief Henry Mattas and Deputy Fire Chief Ian Hamilton were welcomed to the table. The Fire Department report was read. There has been one first response call and one motor vehicle collision since the last report. The pumper truck was taken in for its annual pump test and it did meet the required flow rates. A safety check was also done on the first response van. Two of the Fire Department members participated in the Thunder Bay Santa Claus parade held on November 17 with the First Response vehicle. The 2012 CACC statistics to October were reviewed.

An acknowledgment letter from the Ministry of Transportation Driver Program Office for the application to the Driver Certification Program on behalf of the O'Connor Fire Department was read. Everything is coming together, the lesson plans are very good. There are five departments in the Zone 1 area that will be included in this program.

The Emergency Management Ontario Status update #8 dated November 5, 2012 was read.

A letter from Stantec Consulting Ltd with regard to the Highway 11/17 Route Planning Study, between Kakabeka Falls and Shabaqua Corners, GWP 6054-03-00 Notice of Transportation Environment Study Report (TESR) Public Review Period was read. This report will be available for public review from November 28, 2012 to January 11, 2013 in various locations, including the Township of Conmee and Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge's municipal offices and libraries. Council did not have any comment on this matter at this time.

Fire Department issues were discussed. Fire Chief Mattas reported that currently the participation of the membership of the fire team is down. Deputy Fire Chief Styles is working out of town on a rotating schedule and has other commitments when he is in town and has attended minimal calls and meetings in the latter part of 2012. As Mr. Styles has not been able to fulfill the duties of Deputy Fire Chief, Council would like a letter sent via email to Mr. Styles requesting that he step down from the position effective the first meeting in January 2013, however they would still like him to continue on as a valuable member of the fire team when he is available.

Fire Chief Mattas reported on the recent Motor Vehicle Collision within the Township and the response to the call.

Fire Chief Mattas and Deputy Chief Hamilton will remain at the meeting to meet the new OPP Staff Sergeant.

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

1. Moved by Bishop Racicot  
Seconded by J. Vezina

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

CK#11176	CENTRAL 1 (PROPERTY TAX REIMBURSEMENT)	\$660.00
CK#11177	HYDRO ONE	573.40
CK#11178	LAKEHEAD CONSERVATION FOUNDATION	100.00
CK#11179	UPS (DUTY, TAXES & BROKER FEE - BIN LIDS)	67.42
CK#11180	MINISTER OF FINANCE (SIGN PERMIT FEE)	179.00
CK#11181	HYDRO ONE (STREET LIGHTING)	37.60
CK#11182	STAPLES (OFFICE SUPPLIES)	180.44
CK#11183	LOCAL AUTHORITY SERVICES LTD.	<u>326.24</u>
		<b>\$2,124.10</b>

Carried

By-laws and Policies were discussed as follows:

The Ontario Trillium Foundation grant approval information and agreement were read. The Foundation has approved the Township of O'Connor's funding application in the amount of \$27,200 for the O'Connor Community Centres kitchen renovation for a new kitchen exhaust hood and fan, fire suppression system, direct make-up air system and freezer and cooler equipment and it was

3. Moved by J. Vezina  
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2012-27 BEING A BY-LAW AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH THE ONTARIO TRILLIUM FOUNDATION BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.**

Carried

Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) Ontario Power Generation – i) Media report November 1, 2012 regarding Thunder Bay Generating Station natural gas conversion  
ii) 2012 Atikokan Generating Station Fuel Contracts
- b) Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) – regarding the Lakehead University's Board of Directors of the new Northern Policy Institute. The deadline for nominations was November 23, 2012. Mayor Nelson had a NOMA meeting earlier today to discuss this board and he informed Council that he did not put his name forward.
- c) Ministry of Infrastructure, Ministry of Transportation and Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing regarding the Launch of next phase of the Municipal Infrastructure Investment Initiative (MIII)
- d) Association of Municipalities of Ontario – i) Watch File November 15, 2012  
ii) Watch File November 22, 2012  
iii) 2013 OMPF Allocations Announced  
iv) Ontario Launches Municipal Infrastructure Strategy, Phase 2 - \$51 Million for Municipal Infrastructure
- e) Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario – "eBulletin"
- f) Ontario Good Roads Association – i) Ontario Introduces Next Step to Strengthen Municipal Infrastructure  
ii) Constitutional Amendment
- g) Ombudsman Ontario – regarding the 2012 Annual Report on Investigations of Closed Municipal Meetings. A tips for closed meetings card was also provided to Council.
- h) Glen Murray – News Release regarding Northern Ontario Mayors endorsing Glen Murray for Leadership of the Provincial Liberal party. This release shows four Northern Mayors supporting Mr. Murray in his leadership campaign.
- i) North West Local Health Integration Network – Annual open house invitation. No one will be attending from the Township.

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The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

The Thunder Bay Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Staff Sergeant Jim Graham and Sergeant John Reppard were welcomed to the meeting. Introductions were made. Sergeant Reppard went over the Township of O'Connor's 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter report for July 1 to September 30, 2012. During that time the Thunder Bay Detachment Officers attended to 16 calls for service with a working total of 72.5 hours. The types of calls received were discussed. There was nothing of major concern.

The OPP will be introducing two new programs at the detachment. One will be a 24 hours/365 days of the year ATV/Snowmachines trespassing program and the second being a shift briefing so that members will have the same lines of communication. This will include a community initiative or "think abouts" as they are travelling around the municipalities. The department does already have zone officers for four shifts which will regularly be responsible for the different municipalities. If the Council has any issues at certain times that they would like addressed, the information will be forwarded to these officers.

Council asked that regular Community Policing Advisory Committee (CPAC) meetings be scheduled again. They have not been held regularly over the past few years.

Council again offered the use of the old Township office to the OPP officers if they would like to use the building to do paperwork or make telephone calls while in the area. This would also show their presence in the Township. Council was informed that most work is done on the computer now and an extra field desk would not be required but they will keep it in mind.

The OPP Officers asked Fire Chief Mattas if they have had any concerns with First Response calls not getting cancelled if it is discovered by the OPP that they are not needed, which was mentioned as a concern in another municipality they had met with. Fire Chief Mattas did not recall having any calls of this nature.

Fire Chief Mattas asked the OPP if they would be available for Fire Department meetings to do some training on legislation related to attending an emergency call. They did say that this could be possible. The Clerk-Treasurer will ask Councillor Loan to bring this up at the next CPAC meeting.

Communication articles from the OPP for our monthly newsletter were discussed. Staff Sergeant Graham noted that this has come up with other municipalities also and they will be speaking with P/C Diana Cole about putting some information together for the newsletters, including local, regional and Provincial items. It was also suggested that possibly a question and answer section could be included, if someone had a question about a situation that others may also want to know about.

Council invited the OPP to participate in the 2013 O'Connor Day celebrations, as well as their Officer's family and friends. A letter with the date of the event will be forwarded to the detachment.

Staff Sergeant Graham and Sergeant Reppard were thanked for attending and introducing themselves to Council and staff and they left the meeting at 8:27 p.m. Fire Chief Mattas and Deputy Chief Hamilton also left the meeting.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) Provincial Policy Statement Review – a copy of the comments submitted to the Province by the Area 1 municipalities was reviewed. Councillor Vezina also provided information from the meeting held on November 22, 2012 with the Area One Heads of Council and Mr. Don Manahan's comments on the report. This information will also be forwarded to other smaller, rural municipalities in the Province. It was noted that the Northern Growth Plan will take precedence over the Provincial Policy Statement should an issue arise.
- b) Farm Credit Canada – Announcement regarding the Township of O'Connor's funding application for renovations to the O'Connor Community Centres kitchen area. The Township's application was not successful.

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Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Grant Thornton – Letter outlining the mutual understanding of the terms of the Engagement of the 2012 Township of O'Connor audit was read and signed.
- b) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – regarding the MIII Expression of Interest for first round of funding – applications due January 9, 2013. It was agreed that an application will be submitted for the replacement of the Broome Road Bridge. Mr. Johnson will be asked to bring information regarding this crossing and information on the options of replacement to the next meeting.
- c) The Disposal Site scrap metal pile was discussed. Mr. DeCorte has not been out to pickup the materials and the pile is building up. Council asked the Clerk-Treasurer to contact Mr. DeCorte to see if he is still able and interested in picking up the metal and if not he will be asked to return the key for the site. The Clerk-Treasurer will again check with the Township of Gillies to see if their current program is still working out with Lakehead Scrap and this information will be brought to the next meeting for further discussion.
- d) North of Superior Travel Association – regarding the 2013 Festivals and Events in the Ontario Guide. Council do not want to place any advertisement for any of our events in the magazine as they are more community oriented.
- e) City of Thunder Bay Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee – looking for 4 citizens in certain areas. No names will be put forward.
- f) Ministry of Finance – i) update with respect to the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) and program allocations for 2013.  
ii) Details with respect to 2013 OMPF funding.  
The Township of O'Connor will receive only 95% of their 2012 OMPF funding in 2013 which is equivalent to a \$2,300.00 drop in funding.

Issues brought forward or letters received after agenda was mailed

- a) Ministry of Transportation - New highway sign permit and installation. Ms. Rachel Hansen, Corridor Management Officer has submitted a letter informing the Township that she has found a new permit option for the Township's Highway sign. There is no renewal required and the permit fee is lower than originally discussed. Construction of this project must commence within six months of the date of the permit, which was issued on November 16, 2012. The sign has been made and is ready for pickup, however the Road Department have not had time to pick it up and get it installed due to other commitments. Council was asked if it would be okay to wait for the installation until the spring now that the snow has arrived. Council did not have a problem waiting until spring if the Road Department do not have time to do it this year.
- b) A letter from Mr. Jesse Buob requesting a key for the O'Connor Community Centre for the duration of his O'Connor Fitness Classes was discussed. Council agreed to allow Mr. Buob to hold a key for this purpose. He will be asked to sign an agreement with the Township.
- c) Federation of Canadian Municipalities – invitation to become a member. Council discussed the letter and decided not to join at this time.

4. Moved by J. Vezina  
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2012 AT 7:00 P.M.**

**TIME BEING: 9:15 P.M.**

Carried

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Mayor

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Clerk-Treasurer