

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – NOVEMBER 8, 2010

Minutes of the meeting held on November 8, 2010 at 7 p.m. in the municipal building.

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

Visitors: Fire Chief Henry Mattas
Leadhand Kelly Johnson
Councillor elect – Jerry Loan
Brian Wiese, Robin McCabe arrived at 7:45 p.m.

Acting Mayor Racicot called the meeting to order at 7:04 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 TUESDAY,
OCTOBER 26, 2010 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.**

Carried

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

THAT MAYOR NELSON BE MARKED ABSENT DUE TO WORK.

Carried

Acting Mayor Racicot asked the visitors if they wished to address Council. They replied no.

Mr. Manol and Mr. Miller from the Ministry of Natural Resource did not attend the meeting as scheduled. The Clerk-Treasurer will contact their office to find out why and reschedule.

Fire Chief Mattas was welcomed to the table. A copy of Mr. Stuart Mooney's notes and an email confirming some points from the notes with regard to the upcoming changes in the fire department paging system were read. The Ministry of Health (MOH) has provided this service for the last eighteen years with no formal agreement. In 2000 the Ministry passed this responsibility on to The City of Thunder Bay and Superior North EMS still using their frequencies and infrastructure. Last year the Ministry of Health's Central Ambulance Communications Centre started charging a fee for service for dispatching the fire related calls only. There have been concerns from some fire departments that the current system is unsafe and unreliable. The Ministry has now stated that their position is that the paging system was designed and maintained for EMS use and the current system meets their requirements and they no longer want the responsibility of paging the fire related calls. The Fire Departments will now have to move off of the MOH frequencies. This will cost the municipalities a significant amount of money. Mr. Mooney has agreed to assist the municipalities by working with Industry Canada towards resolving the two key issues that will dictate the direction and timeline of the move off of the MOH frequencies. The Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge has agreed in principle to represent the municipalities with this matter.

Fire Chief Mattas reported that a group of Fire Chiefs from Zone 1 will be meeting with Bill Mauro, MPP on November 9th to discuss this and other issues with regard to fire departments.

Fire Chief Mattas also reported the Ministry of Transportation has increased the fees for calls on King's Highways as of November 8, 2010 from \$350.00 to \$410.00 per vehicle.

Mr. Vern Groop has submitted a letter to Fire Chief Mattas tendering his resignation as Deputy Fire Chief. A thank you letter to Mr. Groop for his years of service will be forwarded.

Fire Chief Mattas was thanked for attending.

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – NOVEMBER 8, 2010

Mr. Kelly Johnson, Leadhand was welcomed to the table. Timesheet reports for October 3 to 16 and October 17 to 30, 2010 were read. Roadwork in general was discussed. The road department has been tidying up jobs before winter, grading the roads and getting equipment ready for winter, making arrangements for winter sand. Mr. Hacquoil has again asked if the Township will purchase salt for him as the Township is his main sand and salt customer. Council did not have a problem doing so again this year.

The 2010 equipment report was read. All equipment is currently in good condition. There is currently no air conditioning in the backhoe. For health & safety reasons this will be looked into further for next year.

Mr. Johnson reported that two of the surplus grader tires have been sold.

Mr. Johnson was thanked for attending.

The vouchers for October 2010 were reviewed and it was

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

THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR OCTOBER 31, 2010 TALLING \$132,650.15 BE APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

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

THAT THE STATE OF EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING THROUGH THE ONTARIO DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR OCTOBER 31, 2010 TALLING \$7,883.74 BE APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

The Statement and Revenue and Expenditures to October 31, 2010 were reviewed.

By-laws were reviewed and it was

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

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2010-25 BEING A BY-LAW AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF GILLIES FOR JOINT MAINTENANCE OF COMMON BOUNDARY ROADS BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

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

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2010-26 BEING A BY-LAW AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CONMEE FOR JOINT MAINTENANCE OF COMMON BOUNDARY ROADS BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

Resolutions for endorsement were read as follows:

- a) Councillor Nygard has sold her property and moved out of the Township of O'Connor and is therefore no longer eligible to hold her seat on Council for the balance of her term. It was

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – NOVEMBER 8, 2010

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

WHEREAS A VACANCY ON COUNCIL HAS OCCURRED AS PER SECTION 258(2)(B) OF THE MUNICIPAL ACT;

AND WHEREAS THE VACANCY HAS OCCURRED AFTER THE MUNICIPAL ELECTION HAS BEEN HELD;

AND WHEREAS THE REMAINING MEMBERS ARE A MAJORITY OF THE NUMBERS OF MEMBERS COMPRISING OF COUNCIL;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE MUNICIPALITY WILL NOT FILL THE VACANCY.

Carried

- b) United Counties of Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry regarding OMPF funding for farmland and managed forest properties and it was

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

THAT THE RESOLUTION FROM THE UNITED COUNTIES OF STORMONT, DUNDAS & GLENGARRY ASKING THAT THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO CALCULATE THE FARMLAND AND MANAGED FOREST COMPONENT OF THE ONTARIO MUNICIPAL PARTNERSHIP FUND (OMPF) SO THAT ALL MUNICIPALITIES RECEIVE FULL PROVINCIAL REIMBURSEMENT OF THEIR LOST PROPERTY TAX REVENUE ON FARMLAND AND MANAGED FOREST PROPERTIES, WHILE LAND-OWNERS MAINTAIN THE STREAMLINED PROCESS AND THE 25% RATIO CURRENTLY IN PLACE BE ENDORSED.

Carried

- c) and d) - Municipal Taxpayer Advocacy Group regarding Hydro rates were both filed.

The Clerk-Treasurer reported that she has contacted Mr. Bradica, Manager of the Finance Division of the Thunder Bay DSSAB office and enquired into whether or not the weighted assessment changes at all throughout the year because of the supplementary, omitted and writedowns of assessment. Mr. Bradica stated they use the numbers which are in the roll at the beginning of the year and any new changes do not affect the levy. Council will speak with some of the North Shore municipalities at Thunder Bay District Municipal League to see how they dealt with the shutdowns of their large mills and the lose of their assessment throughout the year and their DSSAB levy.

Mr. Brian Wiese and Ms. Robin McCabe were welcomed to the table. They expressed their concern with the continued use of compression brakes in the Township. They would like to see another larger sign posted on Strom road. They informed Council that they have contacted the Ontario Provincial Police several times with regard to this issue and the speed in which the trucks are traveling on Strom road. They informed Council that the trucks that were using the Ministry's pit on Strom road this summer showed no respect to the residents living on that road. Council will have Mr. Johnson speak to the contractors when they use the Ministry pit next.

Council asked the guests, if needed, if they could put a signpost on their property. Mr. Wiese stated that he would have no problem with a post on his property.

Mr. Wiese and Ms. McCabe also expressed their concern with the noise. They have contacted the Ministry of the Environment and were told that they will not come out in the evening to monitor the noise. They would like Council to see if they could pursue this further.

Staff Sergeant Peters will be asked to attend a Council meeting to discuss these problems.

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – NOVEMBER 8, 2010

Acting Mayor Racicot did inform the guests that they are living in an aggregate area where gravel companies will be working as long as the resources are there.

Mr. Wiese and Ms. McCabe were thanked for attending.

Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) Ms. Cheryl Maki – Chief Building Official – Ontario Building Official Association 2010 - Annual meeting and Training Sessions report
- b) AMO - i) Watch File – October 28, 2010
 - ii) Watch File – November 4, 2010
 - iii) AMI Head of Council and Councillor Training 2010-2011 – to be held in Thunder Bay. It was

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

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE AMO COUNCILLOR TRAINING 2010-2011 TO BE HELD ON JANUARY 21, 2011 IN THUNDER BAY.

REGISTRATION: \$395.50

COUNCIL ELECT JERRY LOAN

Carried

- c) MPAC regarding the 2010 Property Assessment Notice Mailing
- d) Ontario Forest Industries Association – Copy of letters to Minister Jeffrey, MNR and Minister Gravelle, MNDFM regarding the Caribou Habitat Regulation.
- e) Ministry of Tourism and Culture regarding Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists Implementation.

The balance of correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) Draft resolution supporting the Township of Conmee's letter to Bill Mauro regarding the LRCA was read and it was

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

WHEREAS THE PROVINCE HAS UNDER THE CONSERVATION AUTHORITIES ACT ALLOWED CONSERVATION AUTHORITIES UNLIMITED POWER TO DEMAND PAYMENT FROM THE TOWNSHIPS FOR WHATEVER PROJECT THEY DEEM IN THEIR BEST INTEREST;

AND WHEREAS THE LAKEHEAD REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY HAS DEVELOPED A PLAN TO BUILD A NEW OFFICE BUILDING;

AND WHEREAS THE INCREASE IN STAFFING LEVELS AND MANDATE OF THE LAKEHEAD REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY INCLUDES THE SOURCE WATER PROTECTION PROJECTS WHICH WAS MANDATED BY THE PROVINCE AND ONLY BENEFITS THE CITY OF THUNDER BAY AND THE MUNICIPALITY OF OLIVER PAIPOONGE;

AND WHEREAS THE LAKEHEAD REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY DID APPLY FOR FUNDING FOR A PORTION OF THE NEW OFFICE BUILDING BUT WERE INFORMED THAT THEY WERE INELIGIBLE UNDER THE CURRENT GRANT FUNDING GUIDELINES;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR REQUESTS THAT THE PROVINCIAL AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT TO AVOID HAVING UNAFFORDABLE INCREASES IN THE MUNICIPALITIES LEVY.

Carried

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – NOVEMBER 8, 2010

This resolution will be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the local MPP's, the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority and its member municipalities.

- b) Oliver Paipoonge Public Library – reply to Council's request with regard to library users from the Township of O'Connor. The Library currently has 73 members from the Township of O'Connor.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) NOMA President replacement discussion. An interim President will have to be appointed until April 2011 as Anne Krassilowsky, the current president, was not re-elected in Dryden. The possible replacements were discussed. It was suggested that this be discussed further at the upcoming Thunder Bay District Municipal League meeting.
- b) NOMA – regarding EMS – Non-Emergency Patient Transportation discussion paper July 2010. This item will be discussed at the upcoming Thunder Bay District Municipal League meeting.
- c) Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration – requesting nomination for the June Callwood Outstanding Achievement Award for Voluntarism in Ontario. No applications will be submitted.
- d) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing regarding new regulations for suite-metering under the Residential Tenancies Act, 2006. The Township does not have any suites.

Issues brought forward or letters received after agenda was mailed

- a) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Congratulations letter to Mayor Nelson for his success in the recent municipal election.
- b) National Defence, Lake Superior Scottish Regiment – Invitation to meet Land Force Western Area Command Team. Councillor Vezina will try to stop in.
- c) Fred Dean, Barrister and Solicitor - offering his services on an annual retainer. Council were not interested in this service at this time.

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

THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2010 AT 7:00 P.M.

TIME BEING: 9:10 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer