

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR - MINUTES – OCTOBER 13, 2009

Minutes of the meeting held on October 13, 2009 at 7 p.m. in the municipal building.

Present: Councillors: Garbutt, Racicot, Vezina
Clerk-Treasurer Buob
Mayor Nelson arrived at 9:37 p.m.

Visitors: Kelly Johnson, Leadhand
Jeremiah Gammond arrived at 7:20 p.m.

Acting Mayor Garbutt called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: none

1. Moved by J. Vezina
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2009 AND THE NOTES OF THE TABLE TOP EXERCISE HELD ON OCTOBER 5, 2009 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.

Carried

2. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT MAYOR NELSON AND COUNCILLOR NYGARD BE MARKED ABSENT FOR PERSONAL REASONS.

Carried

Acting Mayor Garbutt asked Mr. Johnson if he wished to address Council on any personal issues. He replied no.

Mr. Johnson. Leadhand, was welcomed to the table. Timesheet reports for September 6 to 19, 2009 and September 20 to October 3, 2009 were read.

Roadwork in general was discussed. The road department is trying to get all the jobs finished up. They have been putting culverts in the ground. KAK contracting is coming in next week to dig a new hole at the disposal site. They will be doing some maintenance on the equipment and getting them ready for snowplowing.

A letter from Leona Tarini, Thunder Bay South Area Supervisor with the Ministry of Natural Resources with regard to beavers was read. This letter was in reply to a Council concerns with regard to the number of beavers trapped in the Township of O'Connor and the current quota the trapper has. Only a portion of the township is in a registered trapline. Personal information about the trapline or the quota cannot be divulged and the number of beavers coming out of the township alone cannot be determined.

Council would like another letter sent to the Ministry explaining the financial burden these nuisance beavers are putting on the Township and asking for the quota to be increased and possibly the trapline area expanded.

The trapping season began October 5, 2009 and when the beavers are caught in the trapping season it does not cost the township. Council would like to see the costs covered year round.

The North of Superior Public Works Association meeting was discussed and it was

3. Moved by J. Vezina
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT LEADHAND KELLY JOHNSON ATTEND THE NORTH OF SUPERIOR PUBLIC WORKS ASSOCIATION MEETING TO BE HELD IN THUNDER BAY ON OCTOBER 21, 2009.

Carried

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Mr. Johnson informed Council that Hacquoil Construction has asked if they could purchase their winter salt through the Township of O'Connor. The township does purchase their sand and salt mix from Hacquoil and agreed to do this for them.

The Forumnorth Conference agenda was reviewed and discussed. It was

4. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE FORUMNORTH 2009 TO BE HELD IN THUNDER BAY ON NOVEMBER 3, 4 & 5, 2009.

KELLY JOHNSON

Carried

A township inspection was discussed. It was

5. Moved by J. Vezina
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT A TOWNSHIP INSPECTION BE SET FOR SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2009 AT 8:30 A.M.

Carried

Mr. Johnson was thanked for attending.

Mr. Jeremiah Gammond was welcomed to the table. The electrical drawings for the new municipal building were reviewed. Some concerns were addressed with regard to the power being distributed between the two buildings. Also a few changes will be made with regard to light switches and fixtures shown on the drawings. The mechanical drawings will not be available until Friday, October 16, 2009 so an allowance for the mechanical costs will have to be given to the contractors. The features for the mechanical include the HRV, plumbing and the in floor heating. An allowance amount of \$40,000.00 will be used for this figure. Mr. Gammond will send out an addendum to all the contractors informing them of the changes discussed as well as the allowance.

The tenders will be opened on Tuesday, October 20, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. in the O'Connor Municipal Building. Mr. Gammond will then review the tenders and give a comparison and opinion as to whether or not he feels the lowest tender is compliant. Council will then have to review the tenders and, if within budget, approve the tender and award the project to the contractor.

Mr. Gammond was thanked for attending.

The bills to be paid were passed around the table and it was

6. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR SEPTEMBER 30, 2009 TALLING \$120,280.24 BE APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

7. Moved by J. Vezina
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE STATE OF EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING THROUGH THE ONTARIO DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR SEPTEMBER, 2009 TALLING \$236,438.11 BE APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

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The Statement of Revenue and Expenditure reports to September 30, 2009 were reviewed. The current financial position of the Township was discussed.

The tender closing date for the new municipal office and council chambers originally scheduled for October 8, 2009 had to be extended due to the electrical and mechanical drawings not being available in an adequate amount of time. As discussed earlier the tender date had to be extended to October 20, 2009.

Resolutions for endorsement were read as follows:

- a) City of Dryden regarding the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care redesign of Ontario's Underserved Area Program was filed.
- b) Ontario Federation of Labour requesting endorsement of Community Social Service Workers Appreciation Day – November 6, 2009 was filed.

A report from Councillor Maureen Schmidt, Municipality of Neebing, Area one DSSAB representative dated October 10, 2009 was read.

Mayor Nelson arrived at the meeting at 9:37 p.m.

The 2009 Cost apportionment for the Thunder Bay DSSAB was also reviewed. The variance in the nine month levy to the township for 2009 has increased from the original estimate by \$792.00.

Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) Municipality of Neebing – Notice of Public Meeting Concerning a Proposed Comprehensive Zoning By-law. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 28, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. in their municipal office.
- b) Township of Gillies – Notice of Public Meetings Concerning Proposed Official Plan Amendments. A copy of the Official Plan amendment is available on their Township website for review. An open house will be held on October 26, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. and the Public meeting will be held on November 9, 2009 at 6:30 p.m.
- c) Stewardship Ontario/Waste Diversion Ontario – regarding Industry funding for the Municipal Blue Box Recycling for 2009 Program Year. The township has received its second quarterly payment.
- d) AMO –
 - i) Green Energy Regulations Strongly Reflect AMO Input
 - ii) AMO's Message to the Province: Accessibility and Municipalities at Risk with Initial Proposed Built Environment Standard. The public review deadline is October 16, 2009.
 - iii) AMO's 2008 GTF & PTF Annual Expenditure Report
 - iv) AMO Reports Significant Benefits from Federal Funds
 - v) 2009 Ontario West Municipal Conference – no one will attend
- e) Lakehead Region Conservation Authority – Ontario Low Water Response Report. This report was commissioned by the Ministry of Natural Resources to assist Provincial Water Directors during the review if a level III Low Water Condition decision was required for the LRCA jurisdiction.
- f) Lakehead Region Conservation Authority – Neebing-McIntyre Floodway – Anniversary Reception – October 27, 2009.
- g) NOMA – seeking Executive Director. Applications are to be submitted by October 19, 2009.
- h) AMCTO Express – Local Government Week – October 19 to 25, 2009.
- i) Waste Reduction Week – October 19th to 25th.

The balance of the correspondence was passed around table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) Lisa Moretti, Project Analyst – OMAFRA - reply to Township's request to lower bonding percentages for new municipal office. They have agreed to lower the percentages for the Performance Bond to 50% of the contract price for any construction contract related to the project and which is for an amount greater than \$150,000 and the Labour and Material payment bond to 0% as per the Township's request.

The Clerk-Treasurer will contact Mr. Gammond and remind him to include this information in his addendum for the new municipal building.

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- b) Discuss municipal building tendering progress. Most of the discussion has already taken place with Mr. Gammond. The awarding of the tender was discussed and it was decided that a special meeting of Council would be called for October 21, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. to review the tenders and if within budget award the contract to the contractor.
- c) Community Schools Alliance looking for a letter to be sent to the local MPP in support of a "Smart Moratorium". Council did not agree to submit a letter.
- d) A memo from the Clerk-Treasurer with regard to a conversation with Mr. Hovi, Ministry of Natural Resources, with regard to Taranis Contracting's "A" licence and the new road through crown land was read. The "A" licence approval has been sent to the Minister for signing. Taranis Contracting has applied for a permit to construct a road through crown land but their application is being held up by the Ministry of Transportation. The Ministry is currently not allowing an entrance permit into Taranis' property in Marks Township and would like them to use Mayo road as their entrance. Council would like a letter sent to the Ministry of Transportation informing them that the Township of O'Connor is in support of Taranis Construction receiving an entrance permit for their pit off of Highway 590. Mayo road is currently a non-maintained road and we do not wish to enter into an agreement or maintain this road at this time.

Under further old business, Council discussed the drive tire on the tanker. Council would like the Clerk-Treasurer to look into what the direction was following our last discussion and follow up with the Fire Chief to see what is happening with it.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Grant Thornton – Internal control findings from the 2008 audit was read. This letter describes the auditors findings with regard to certain weaknesses and deficiencies in the township's internal controls and advisory comments.
- b) Immigration Portal Meeting and Forum – to be held November 9 and 10, 2009 in Thunder Bay. It was

- 8. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by Ron Nelson

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSONS ATTEND THE IMMIGRATION PORTAL MEETING TO BE HELD IN THUNDER BAY ON NOVEMBER 9, 2009.

COUNCILLOR GARBUTT

Carried

- c) Ministry of Tourism regarding Celebrate Ontario 2010 applications now being accepted. Council would like the Clerk-Treasurer to submit an application for O'Connor Day funding, similar to last year's application.
- d) Northwestern Ontario Associated Chambers of Commerce – Michael Ignatieff, Leader of the Opposition to address NOACC Luncheon. No one from the Township will attend.

Issues brought forward or letters received after agenda was mailed were discussed as follows:

- a) Thunder Bay District Municipal League Fall Meeting. The agenda, financial items and information with regard to Greyhound Bus service and the proposal from North Country Travel were reviewed. This information will be discussed at the meeting.

- 9. Moved by Ron Nelson
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT COUNCILLOR VEZINA ATTEND THE THUNDER BAY DISTRICT MUNICIPAL LEAGUE FALL MEETING TO BE HELD IN THUNDER BAY ON OCTOBER 16 & 17, 2009.

LATE REGISTRATION: \$125.00 PER PERSON

Carried

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For information purposes three building permits were approved since the last meeting. One for a carport, one for a storage building and one for an addition.

- 10. Moved by J. Vezina
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE NEXT PORTION OF THE MEETING BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC IN ORDER TO DISCUSS PERSONAL MATTERS ABOUT AN IDENTIFIABLE INDIVIDUAL, INCLUDING MUNICIPAL OR LOCAL BOARD EMPLOYEES, PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION 239(2)(B) OF THE MUNICIPAL ACT, 2001

TIME BEING: 9:58 P.M.

Carried

A email received by Fire Chief Mattas with regard to a fire department member was discussed.

- 11. Moved by J. Vezina
Seconded by Ron Nelson

TIME BEING: 10:10 P.M.

THAT WE NOW MOVE TO OPEN MEETING.

Carried

- 12. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE SPECIAL MEETING TO AWARD CONTRACT FOR THE NEW MUNICIPAL BUILDING TO BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2009 AT 6:00 P.M.

TIME BEING: 10:11 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer