

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – OCTOBER 14, 2014

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, October 14, 2014 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

Present: Mayor Nelson
Councillors: Garbutt, Loan
Clerk-Treasurer Buob

Visitors: Leadhand, Kelly Johnson

Absent: Councillor Racicot, Councillor Vezina

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m..

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: none

1. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by G. Garbutt

THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2014 AND THE NOTES FROM THE TOWNSHIP INSPECTION HELD ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2014 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.

Carried

Mr. Johnson was asked if he wished to address Council on any personal matters and he replied no.

Mr. Johnson, Leadhand, was welcomed to the table. The Monthly Road Department report from September 7 to October 11, 2014 was reviewed. Roadwork in general was discussed. The Road Department have been preparing for winter, a new culvert will be installed on Thursday on Luckens Road, the grader was brought into Thunder Bay today for the work on the valves, and the drainage project is underway on Earl and Sitch roads. They have also been doing some contract jobs for the Township residents.

The Township Inspection held on September 19, 2014 was discussed. It was commented that the bus that was used was too noisy. It was noted that the new detour for the Broome Road bridge replacement project should be added to the Township's road inventory however it will not be maintained in the winter and will remain a one lane summer access road only. The guide rails on this project were being installed the day of the inspection. The trees that Council were concerned with on Connolly road have been cut down by the road department. KAK Contracting and K & S Contracting both did some brushing on the sides of the roads for the Township this fall. Gravel has been placed on Smart Road as a result of a complaint from one of the residents on that road. The Disposal site looked in good condition at the time of the inspection. There were no major concerns of Council on the inspection.

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

2. Moved by G. Garbutt
Seconded by B. J. Loan

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE NORTH OF SUPERIOR PUBLIC WORKS ASSOCIATION MEETING TO BE HELD ON OCTOBER 22, 2014 IN THUNDER BAY.

KELLY JOHNSON, LEADHAND.

Carried

Mr. Johnson was thanked for attending and left the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

The Administration and Roads voucher for September 2014 was reviewed and it was

3. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by G. Garbutt

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THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR SEPTEMBER 30, 2014 TOTTALLING \$222,099.75 BE APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

The Statements of Revenue and Expenditure for September 30, 2014 were unavailable.

By-law Number 2014-19 with regard to the setting of the honourarium for the next term of Council was discussed and it was

4. Moved by G. Garbutt
Seconded by B. J. Loan

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2014-19 BEING A BY-LAW FOR THE PURPOSE OF SETTING THE HONOURARIUM FOR THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS FOR THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

A Resolution for Endorsement was read from the City of Kenora with regard to Trans Canada Pipelines – Energy East Project Intervener Status and was filed.

A reply letter from the Attorney General, Madeleine Meilleur with regard to Council's endorsed resolution with regard to Bill 83, the Protection of Public Participation Act, 2014 was read.

A letter was read from the District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board (TBDSSAB) with regard to the Township of O'Connor's 2014 Cost Apportionment. The Township levy owing to the TBDSSAB will be reduced by \$495.00 for 2014 as a result of the ratified 2014 Weighted Assessment calculation.

A copy of the reply email to Mayor Lucy Kloosterhuis, Chair of the Lakehead Rural Municipal Committee (LRMC) with regard to the meeting with each Council prior to the new Board being set in place was read. Council would still like to meet with the Board and the five surrounding municipalities as a group rather than individually.

Correspondence was read as follows:

- a) Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) – October Newsletter. Council would like the Hunter Safety Tips included in the next issue of the Cornerstone. Also if it will be delivered prior to Halloween some of the safety tips for trick or treater's could also be included. Council would like the Clerk-Treasurer to contact the OPP, P/C Diana Cole and ask if we could possibly receive some of the information in her newsletter sooner so as to also include it in the Township's newsletter for that month when the information is more current.
- b) The Lakehead Rural Municipal Committee – August 28, 2014 Meeting Minutes. Council discussed the Eco Solutions Inc. presentation notes and they would like to hear more of their plans as well as more information with regard to the transportation costs of the garbage to their site from the municipal landfill sites.
- c) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)–
 - i) Watch File September 25, 2014
 - ii) Watch File October 2, 2014
 - iii) Watch File October 9, 2014
 - iv) AMO Communications – Provincial Mandate Letters Released
 - v) AMO Communications – Highlights of the September 2014 Board Meeting
 - vi) AMO Communications - Rural Ontario Municipal Association – regarding Protecting Rural Broadband – Deadline for submission of comments October 8, 2014
 - vii) AMO Policy Update – Information you may be asked about
 - viii) AMO Heads of Council Training – December 4, 2014 in Thunder Bay. Mayor Nelson will not attend.
- d) Stewardship Ontario – regarding Interim Industry funding for Municipal Blue Box Recycling for the 2014 Program Year – 2nd quarter payment
- e) Kendal Donahue – Food Strategy Coordinator – with regard to the meeting October 20, 2014 regarding by-law changes to allow for backyard/urban chickens. No one from Council will attend.
- f) Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Ted McMeekin – Thank letter for meeting with him at the AMO Conference in London.

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

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Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) Insurance Policy – Critical Illness information. The Clerk-Treasurer reported to Council on Mr. Ryan Wallace of Northwest Insurance's information with regard to Critical Illness for Council members. Currently Council does not have this coverage and asked Mr. Wallace to look into it further for them. Upon clarification of the current option for this coverage Mr. Wallace determined that the benefit is \$5,000. He is now looking into the possibility of a Guaranteed Standard Issue with a \$75,000 coverage for Northwestern Ontario members of Council and possibly staff. To create such a policy it would require at least ten people enrolled and Mr. Wallace would like to contact the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) about this possible coverage to determine if it could provide the benefit to others in Northwestern Ontario as well. He would also like to be able to offer this coverage to retiring members of Council on their own as well. He will get back to the Clerk-Treasurer when he finds out more information on this possibility.
- b) Ontario Provincial Police (OPP)– i) 2015 Municipal Policing Billing Statement
ii) New OPP Billing Model – power point presentation

Council discussed the increase for the Township per household. There is a maximum of \$40.00 per household increase for 2015 however this is a phase-in adjustment and the increase will continue each year until the full costing is reached. This is the base amount used for all municipalities and the calls for service will be charged as an additional charge to this amount. It was suggested that once the new Council is in place that a public meeting be held informing our residents of these changes and the costs associated to the calls for service. Staff Sergeant Jim Graham would be willing to attend a meeting to help explain the new billing.

It was noted that within the Township there are six properties which are being double counted in the property counts due to the fact that they have more than one property class on their property.

- iii) Mayor Nelson's notes from the CPAC meeting held on October 1, 2014 were read. It was noted at this meeting that several of the Ministry answering services inform the caller to contact the OPP after hours.
- iv) Staff Sergeant Jim Graham - email regarding additional information with regard to changing existing OPP protection to Section 10 contracts to take advantage of some benefits that would be offered and, where possible, form a joint Police Services Board which the Act allows.
- v) Township of O'Connor – Policing costs for 2013 and 2014 were compared to the new estimates.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Thunder Bay District Municipal League Fall Conference to be held on December 5 & 6, 2014 in Thunder Bay. It was agreed to bring this item back to the next meeting after the upcoming election to confirm who the Council members will be and who is available to attend.
- b) 2014 Northwest Treasurer's Forum – November 13 & 14, 2014. It was

- 5. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by G. Garbutt

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE 2014 NORTHWEST TREASURERS' FORUM TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 13 & 14, 2014 IN THUNDER BAY.

**CLERK-TREASURER BUOB
DEPUTY CLERK-TREASURER RACICOT**
Carried

The office will be closed for these two days.

- c) Thunder Bay Police Service – regarding the official launch of the Text 911 Service. Council would like this information included in the next issue of the Cornerstone as the community member must register with their wireless service provider in order to access this service.

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- d) Thunder Bay & District Humane Society – a letter regarding their concern with the number of stray and feral animals coming in from the Township of O'Connor was read. Currently the Township of O'Connor does not deal with stray cats in the Township. Council would like the Clerk-Treasurer to contact the Humane Society to ask how they determine that these cats are coming from the Township of O'Connor. She will also contact the Thunder Bay Animal Services to see if they deal with cats if we were to consider entering into an agreement to control cats. The Humane Society will also be asked how they deal with stray animals from the unorganized Townships. Ms. Neudorf, the Township's Dog Control Officer will be contacted to see if she has been receiving any calls with regard to stray cats.
- e) Ms. Hannah Neudorf – Dog Control Officer – requesting information with regard to injured animals and what she should do if she receives a call about an injured dog and she doesn't know who it belongs to. Council would like the Clerk-Treasurer to look into this further to see if the Thunder Bay Animal Services have a veterinarian available 24/7 and if an injured dog was brought in what would they do with them. It was also recommended that a request be made in the Cornerstone to have people put their phone number and dogs name on their dog's collar for easy identification should it be found running at large, so that Ms. Neudorf can return it to them quickly when found.
- f) A request from Amy Boucher to have a compost area at the disposal site was discussed. It was agreed that there is a lot of room at the site that another area could be setup for compost.
- g) Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport regarding the 2014-15 Public Library Operating, Pay Equity, and First Nation Salary Supplement Grants. The Township has been once again approved for \$1,220 for our contract with the Oliver Paipoonge Public Library. A cheque will be forwarded to them for this grant.
- h) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – regarding a Land Use Planning New Online Course. At this time no one will be taking this course.
- i) AMCTO – Prepare your Elected Officials and Senior Leadership Team to Succeed. No one will attend.

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

- a) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing requesting feedback to determine what land use planning-related training Council would like to see. Council would like to suggest more training on the Provincial Policy Statement as it relates to the Official Plan amendments, however they would like to wait until the new year, possibly in February or March. It was suggested that possibly there could be basic planning included in the new Councillor training.
- b) Rural Cupboard Food Bank minutes from their October 7, 2014 meeting were read. It was noted in the minutes that Ontario Power Generation has expressed an interest in possibly funding a new building for the food bank.

For information purposes four building permits have been approved. One for a farm storage building, one for a mobile home, one for a modular home and one for an observation tower.

- 6. Moved by G. Garbutt
Seconded by B. J. Loan

**THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD
ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2014 AT 7:00 P.M.**

TIME BEING: 8:55 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer