

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 10, 2012

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, September 10, 2012 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

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

Visitors: Kelly Johnson, Leadhand
Evan Fiorito, Karson Holland, Mathew Franklin, Rowan Roddick, Zach Pajamaki, Chris Fiorito

Absent: Councillor Garbutt

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: Councillor Racicot declared an interest in items 16 c) and d) as his spouse is an employee of the Township.

1. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 13, 2012 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.

Carried

Mayor Nelson asked the visitors if they wished to address Council on any others matter other than what was already on the agenda and they replied no.

Evan Fiorito and friends were welcomed to the meeting. Introductions were made. The group is looking for support for a skateboard park in the village of Kakabeka Falls. A slide presentation was presented explaining the reasons they would like this park built, plans of what they would like to do and the possible funding opportunities they would like to apply for. They would like to put this park on the Lions club property in Kakabeka Falls, which is maintained by the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge. Council was asked if they would be willing to come to an Oliver Paipoonge meeting with the young gentlemen showing the Council's support for the project.

Council each asked questions about the project and gave suggestions on what the group could add to their presentation. Council asked them to consider adding some safety information, the wearing of helmets, elbow and knee pads etc. Other locations were suggested if the Lions Club did not work out. Council also suggested a couple of other possible sponsors or funding opportunities they could try and they recommended that they take their presentation to the Township's of Conmee and Gillies as well. Council congratulated them on a good presentation and wished them the best of luck with their project and stated that they are in favour of their project and will support them at the meeting with Oliver Paipoonge if possible. They were all thanked for attending.

Mr. Johnson was welcomed to the table. The monthly road department report was read. Roadwork in general was discussed. The road department has some culverts to install, one of the trucks has been safetied and the other is scheduled to go in soon. Ditching will be started once the quotes have been approved. The truck box will be changed once it has arrived.

Mr. Johnson discussed the summer students and how they worked out this year.

Mr. Johnson asked about the old dog trap that is still located behind the garage. Someone had inquired about it and Council agreed that it was of no use to the Township at this time and they would be willing to get rid of it for a fee, as is, where is as scrap metal. Mr. Johnson will negotiate with the purchaser on a price as discussed by Council.

The Roads and Administration voucher for August 31, 2012 was reviewed and it was

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2. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by B. J. Loan

THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR AUGUST 31, 2012 TOTTALLING \$52,368.40 BE APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

The Statement of Revenue and Expenditures to July 31, 2012 were presented to Council.

By-laws were discussed as follows:

- a) A By-law with regard to a new agreement with Ornge, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and the helipad located in the Township of O'Connor. It was

3. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by B. J. Loan

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2012-18 BEING A BY-LAW AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH ORNGE, THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND LONG-TERM CARE AS IT RELATES TO THE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF THE HELIPAD BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

- b) By-law to clarify the honourarium paid for travel to Council. The draft By-law was discussed and it was agreed that clarification on air travel should be included. This By-law will be redrafted and returned to the next meeting.

- c) By-law to authorize the execution of an agreement with regard to the Class DZ license upgrades. It was

4. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2012-19 BEING A BY-LAW AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH ERIC OLSON AS IT RELATES TO THE CLASS DZ LICENCE UPGRADES BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

Quotes of the ditching project on Smith road were opened. Four quotes were received. It was

5. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE QUOTE OF BAY CITY CONTRACTORS INC. TO PERFORM DITCHING WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR AT AN HOURLY RATE OF \$85.00/HR INCLUDING FLOATING BE ACCEPTED.

Carried

Mr. Johnson was thanked for attending and left the meeting.

Resolutions for endorsement were read as follows:

- a) Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association – regarding the Development of a new long-term federal plan for municipal infrastructure funding was filed.
b) Association of Municipalities of Ontario – regarding Federal Long-Term Infrastructure Plan. It was

6. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by B. J. Loan

FEDERAL LONG-TERM INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN

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WHEREAS MUNICIPALITIES IN ONTARIO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MAJORITY OF INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE PROVINCE AND THAT INFRASTRUCTURE IS AN INVESTMENT IN THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OF OUR COMMUNITIES; AND

WHEREAS THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA IS DEVELOPING A NEW LONG-TERM INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN FOR FEDERAL SUPPORT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE IN CANADA; AND

WHEREAS DESPITE INCREASED INVESTMENT IN MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE BY MUNICIPAL, PROVINCIAL AND FEDERAL ORDERS OF GOVERNMENT IN RECENT YEARS, ONTARIO'S MUNICIPALITIES STILL HAVE A SIGNIFICANT INFRASTRUCTURE DEFICIT;

NOW THEREFORE THE BOARD OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPALITIES OF ONTARIO RESOLVES THAT:

ANY NEW FEDERAL INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT PROGRAM MUST BE LONG-TERM IN ITS SCOPE AND HORIZON, IDEALLY AT LEAST TEN YEARS, TO HELP INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT PARTNERS TACKLE OUR SIGNIFICANT INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS; AND

THAT ONTARIO, AS CANADA'S MOST POPULOUS PROVINCE, SHOULD BE ALLOCATED INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT UNDER ANY NEW FEDERAL INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT COMMENSURATE WITH ITS POPULATION AND ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE; AND

THAT ANY NEW FEDERAL INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT PROGRAM MUST RECOGNIZE THE NUMBER AND VARIETY OF INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEMS OWNED, MANAGED AND OPERATED BY MUNICIPALITIES IN ONTARIO AND THE CRITICAL SUPPORTS THESE PROVIDE TO LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND ECONOMIES BY PROVIDING FOR AN EXCLUSIVE MUNICIPAL ALLOCATION IN ANY NEW FEDERAL INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT PROGRAM; AND

THAT THE PRIORITIES OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN ONTARIO, AS DEFINED BY THEIR LONG-TERM MUNICIPAL ASSET MANAGEMENT PLANS, MUST BE RECOGNIZED AND ELIGIBLE FOR DIRECT FEDERAL SUPPORT UNDER ANY NEW FEDERAL INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT PROGRAM; AND

THAT THOSE MUNICIPALITIES THAT HAVE OR WILL HAVE COMPREHENSIVE ASSET MANAGEMENT PLANS IN PLACE AT THE TIME THE FEDERAL PROGRAM IS IN EFFECT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED IMMEDIATELY ELIGIBLE FOR ANY NEW INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM FUNDING FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

Carried

- c) Municipality of Central Huron regarding School Crossing Guards and requesting that the responsibility for these guards be changed from the municipality to the Ministry of Education was filed.
- d) Municipality of Arran-Elderslie requesting the Premier and his government impose an immediate moratorium on the Industrial Wind Turbines until the Federal Health study is complete was filed.
- e) Township of Sioux Lookout requesting that the municipalities not support the "Regional Economic Development Agency (REDA)" was filed.

A letter was read from the District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board with regard to caseworker visits to the Area One offices. Council were in favour of a caseworker attending the municipalities. A reply letter will be sent to their office informing them of this and offering our municipalities facilities for these visits.

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Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) – i) Media Release - NOMA welcomes New Provincial infrastructure support for small northern municipalities
ii) Media Release - NOMA wants Province to lead plans for Mining Infrastructure
iii) Media Release – NOMA Welcomes Launch of Northern Policy Institute
- b) Thunder Bay Area EMO Quarterly Newsletter April – June 2012. It was noted that Mayor Nelson was referred to as Reeve Nelson in the newsletter. Mr. Coupland and Ms. Maxwell will be notified of this.
- c) Municipal Property Assessment Corporation – Subject: MPAC Update on activities for the first and second quarters of 2012.
- d) Bill Mauro, MPP – Press Release – Ontario Helping Thunder Bay-Atikokan Communities Plan Infrastructure Needs
- e) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – i) Watch File – August 16, 2012
ii) Watch File – August 23, 2012
iii) Watch File – August 30, 2012
iv) Watch File – September 6, 2012
v) AMO Makes Submission to the Bill 206 Mandatory Review (OMERS)
vi) AMO Breaking News – Ontario Launches First Phase of Municipal Infrastructure Strategy
vii) AMO/AMCTO/MMAH – Fifth Annual Local Government Week – October 14 – 20, 2012
viii) AMO Report to Members – Highlights of the August 2012 Board Meeting.
- f) Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA) – Heads Up Alert – i) regarding Minister of Infrastructure Rolls out Asset Management Funding Program
ii) Heads Up Alert – Minister of Transportation Agrees to “Open up” MMS Regulations
- g) Ontario One Call – regarding Ontario Underground Infrastructure Notification System Act 2012 – What it means to infrastructure owners. Council would like the road department staff to sign a document stating that they are aware of the new Ontario One Call program and that they will not dig until they have made that call. Council would also like the call that is made to One Call recorded with a full description of the call, including date, time, who they spoke to, when the person responded and when an inspection was completed, if required. It was also noted that the Township has a cable under Highway 595 between our municipal garage and community centre for our emergency generator. Councillor Racicot will check with Hydro One to see if that is part of their inventory and if not the Township will have to register this.
- h) Ontario Tire Stewardship – i) Funding Opportunity
ii) Community Grant Program
- i) Accessibility Directorate of Ontario – Proposed Amendment to the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 – Design of Public Spaces (Accessibility Standards for the Built Environment)

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) Additional information on Ruling on the Occupational Health & Safety Act Charges against the Meaford and District Fire Department – Article “Meaford Trial to proceed on single charge”. Council would like to defer this item until the next meeting to discuss with Fire Chief Mattas.
- b) Northwestern Ontario Regional Conference – Draft Agenda and request for donation. It was

7. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR PROVIDE A DONATION OF A HISTORY BOOK FOR THE NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION FALL CONFERENCE.

Carried

- c) The Premier of Ontario – reply letter to Council's endorsed resolution regarding the conversion at the Thunder Bay Generating Station.
- d) Welcome to O'Connor sign proof options were discussed. It was suggested that the “Welcome to” be removed and put the motto on top, with the logo in the centre and

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website at the bottom. The sign company will be asked for a new proof. The nonuse of compression brakes finger bar originally requested at the bottom of the sign was also discussed and it was decided to remove it and if required individual signs could be posted where a problem exists. Council also agreed to have a new sign made up for the community centre as the current one needs replacing.

- e) Weiler, Maloney, Nelson and Ms. Rosalie Evans – letters regarding Zoning of Solid Wood Lumber property, Con 7 S PT Lot 2. Two letters were read from Ms. Evans asking if a Minor Variance or Zoning By-law amendment would be required for this property to have the restoration of the prior existing property lines restored. Council's decision on this matter was that both a minor variance application and a Zoning By-law amendment application would have to be submitted to the Township prior to approval of the severance application.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Cheryl Maki, Chief Building Official – resignation letter effective September 6, 2012. It was

8. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT COUNCIL ACCEPT MS. CHERYL MAKI'S RESIGNATION AS CHIEF BUILDING OFFICIAL EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 6, 2012.

Carried

A thank you letter will be sent to Ms. Maki thanking her for her dedicated service to the Township.

Council discussed a temporary solution to replace Ms. Maki as the Chief Building Official due to her resignation. The Municipality of Shuniah or Oliver Paipoonge's Chief Building Officials could be approached. The Clerk-Treasurer has received information from both municipalities on who they use and how they work. The Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge hires a City of Thunder Bay inspector and Shuniah has their own Chief Building Official employee, who also contracts to the Township of Dorion.

- b) Municipality of Shuniah – copy of Agreement with the Township of Dorion for Chief Building Official & Building Inspection Services. If the Township of Shuniah is willing, Council would like to request that Mr. Cooke become the Township of O'Connor's Chief Building Official on a temporary basis until someone else is found. Councillor Vezina will contact Shuniah and speak to both the Municipality and the Chief Building Official on this matter. Mayor Nelson will also speak with Mr. Robson, the Township's POA/By-law Enforcement Officer to see if he might be interested in being trained for this position.

Councillor Racicot left the room.

- c) The Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) regarding the AMCTO Zone 9 Fall meeting and Conference to be held September 25 and 26, 2012 in Thunder Bay was discussed and it was

9. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE AMCTO ZONE 9 FALL MEETING AND CONFERENCE TO BE HELD SEPTEMBER 25 AND 26, 2012 IN THUNDER BAY.

REGISTRATION: \$100.00

CLERK-TREASURER BUOB

Carried

- d) Health & Safety Ontario – Safety Training Sessions in Thunder Bay October 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2012 was discussed. It was decided that no one will attend.

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Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting.

- e) Human Resources and Skills Development Canada – Enabling Accessibility Fund – Small Project Component information was read. Council would like to have Shoppers Home Health Care come out the to community centre and see what the best options would be to address the buildings accessibility needs. An application for funding will then be forwarded with this information.
- f) Thunder Bay & Area Disaster Relief Fund – request for financial support to assist those affected by flooding this past spring. Council would like this information included in the next issue of the Cornerstone.

Under Further new business, Councillor Racicot informed Council of surplus ATV's from Hydro One. Councillor Racicot has requested one of these ATV's for the Fire Department and has been told that Hydro One has declared them unsafe and they will all be shipped to Southern Ontario for an auction. Council feel that this is a waste of Hydro One's monies and that they should consider having an auction in Northwest Ontario.

The Slate River Plowing Match held on September 8, 2012 was discussed. Councillor Racicot represented the Township of O'Connor in the celebrity's class.

Mayor Nelson reported that he received a phone call from an Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Officer who is applying for the Staff Sergeant position in the Thunder Bay Detachment. He asked him how things are going within our Township and what the Township would like to see from the OPP. Mayor Nelson informed him that Council would like to see more regular CPAC meetings. He also informed him that the Township has offered the old municipal office as a satellite office for their officers if they would like to make phone calls or do paperwork there.

Issues brought forward or letters received after agenda was mailed:

- a) Grant Thornton – Annual Audit Questionnaire for the Township of O'Connor for year ended December 31, 2011 was reviewed.
- b) Mr. Norm Gale – Superior North Emergency Medical Services – regarding an update on deployment. Mr. Gale will be recommending to City Council that there be no further consideration to the closure of any District EMS Station. He also noted that they are progressing on resolving non-urgent transportation demands.
- c) Lakehead Region Conservation Authority – 2011 Audited Financial Statements were reviewed.
- d) Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario – letter recognizing Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Racicot's – 10 year award. Council would like to congratulate Ms. Racicot.
- e) Ms. Linda Braun, Northern Development Officer – Ministry of Northern Development and Mines will be coming to the Township office in October to address any of Council's concerns or issues. Mayor Nelson expressed some concerns he has come across as NOMA President with the time it takes for decision to be made by this Ministry and then the lack of consideration for any suggestion provided to them.
- f) AREA 1 Meeting Minutes – August 30, 2012 were read. The meeting was moved to the O'Connor municipal Council chambers from the Township of Gillies due to a scheduled power outage at the Gillies Municipal office. Ms. Caren, Clerk-Treasurer, was still the minute taker.

- 10. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE EMERGENCY TABLE TOP
EXERCISE TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2012 AT 7:00 P.M.**

TIME BEING: 10:30 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer