

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 14, 2015

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, September 14, 2015 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

Present: Mayor Nelson
 Councillors: Foekens Racicot, Vezina
 Clerk-Treasurer Buob
 Visitors: Leadhand Kelly Johnson
 Absent: Councillor Loan

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m..

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: Councillor Racicot declared an interest in item 16 a) b) and c) as his spouse is an employee of the Township. Councillor Foekens declared an interest in item 10 b) as he is the recipient of the property for the lot addition and Mayor Nelson declared an interest in items 10 a) and b) as he is the property owner for the applications.

1. Moved by Bishop Racicot
 Seconded by J. Vezina

**THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY,
 AUGUST 10, 2015 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 Report from August 10 to September 11, 2015 was read and questions with regard to the report were answered.

Roadwork in general was discussed. A new hole has been dug at the disposal site. The culvert project on Whittaker Road still has to be done as well as the one mile of Blaikie Road gravel resurfacing. The Road employees are working on equipment repairs and Mr. Johnson still needs to purchase a wing for the truck as per the budget. There is an auction coming to the area on October 8 and he will check there. Mr. Hacquoil has once again asked to purchase salt through the Township and Council agreed to allow him to do so.

The draft by-law and boundary road agreement with the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge for Luckens road was read and discussed. As the southerly portion of Luckens road does not actually border the Township of O'Connor, in this new agreement the Township of O'Connor is proposing changes to the current agreement. O'Connor is asking Oliver Paipoonge to do the winter maintenance on the entire Luckens road from Highway 590 southerly into Oliver Paipoonge and the Township of O'Connor would do the summer maintenance to the current turnaround area with Oliver Paipoonge doing the summer maintenance on the balance of the road. The length of the agreement has also been set for a longer term of ten years with an automatic renewal for another five years up to a maximum of ten renewal years. The Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge will be reviewing the by-law at their September 28, 2015 meeting. Council do not have any concerns with the changes and will await Oliver Paipoonge's response to pass the By-law and sign the agreement.

Mr. Johnson and Clerk-Treasurer Buob reported that the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund application was submitted by the September 11, 2015 deadline. The project selected was a three culvert crossing with one mile of gravel resurfacing on Sitch Road.

The 2015 Township inspection was discussed and it was

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 14, 2015

2. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**THAT THE FOLLOWING DATE BE SET FOR A TOWNSHIP INSPECTION.
OCTOBER 16, 2015 AT 8:30 A.M.**

Carried

The Lakehead Region Conservation Authority report summarizing the July 13, 2015 Whitefish River Flooding Event was read. The report outlines the details of the weather systems during the event and the magnitude of the event and recommendations related to potential additional data collection, enhanced communications between residents and partners, and potential studies to further assess the flood conditions in the Township of Gillies.

The City of Thunder Bay surplus equipment auction to be held on September 22, 2015 was discussed. Mr. Johnson was asked to attend the viewing to see if there is anything of interest to the Township.

The Administration and Roads Voucher was reviewed and it was

3. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by J. Vezina

**THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR AUGUST, 2015
TOTALLING \$74,433.44 BE APPROVED AND PAID.**

Carried

The Statement of Revenue and Expenditure and Balance Sheet to July 31, 2015 were reviewed. The new format was discussed.

Mayor Nelson left the room.

The Consent application 1B/19/15 for a lot addition for Concession 3, Pt N ½ lot 10 was reviewed and it was

4. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by K. Foekens

**THAT THE CONSENT APPLICATION 1B/19/15 FOR RON & KARIN NELSON,
PT N ½ LOT 10, CONCESSION 3, CONCERNING A PROPOSED LOT
ADDITION BE APPROVED.**

Carried

Councillor Foekens left the room.

The Consent application 1B/20/15 for a lot addition for Concession 3, Pt N ½ Lot 10 was reviewed and it was

5. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by J. Vezina

**THAT THE CONSENT APPLICATION 1B/20/15 FOR RON & KARIN NELSON,
PT N ½ LOT 10, CONCESSION 3, CONCERNING A PROPOSED LOT
ADDITION BE APPROVED.**

Carried

Mayor Nelson and Councillor Foekens returned to the meeting.

Quotes were opened from the Engineering/Consulting firms to conduct a complete Structural Inspection of six large culverts within the Township of O'Connor. Four quotes were received. It was

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 14, 2015

6. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT THE QUOTE OF WSP CANADA INC. TO CONDUCT A COMPLETE STRUCTURAL INSPECTION FOR TWO CONCRETE BOX CULVERTS, TWO LARGE GALVANIZED STEEL CULVERTS, ONE CORRUGATED STEEL ARCH CULVERT AND ONE CORRUGATED STEEL BOX CULVERT IN THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR AT A COST OF \$4,300.00 + HST BE ACCEPTED.

Carried

Resolutions for endorsement were read as follows:

- a) Township of Springwater with regard to Agricultural Land Use and it was

7. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT THE RESOLUTION FROM THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGWATER REQUESTING THAT AS A PART OF THE TOWNSHIP'S OFFICIAL PLAN REVIEW PROCESS, STAFF BE DIRECTED TO GIVE PARTICULAR CONSIDERATION TO THE NEED FOR NEW OR ADDITIONAL POLICIES WITH CLEAR AND SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES WITH REGARD TO PRIME AGRICULTURAL LAND BE ENDORSED.

Carried

- b) Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) regarding the Intercity Bus Transportation and it was

8. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by K. Foekens

WHEREAS THE ONTARIO MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION IS EXAMINING HOW PEOPLE TRAVEL BETWEEN COMMUNITIES BY INTERCITY BUS, AND

WHEREAS THIS REVIEW MAY RESULT IN CHANGES TO THE REGULATIONS THAT GOVERN THE OPERATION OF INTERCITY BUS SERVICES ACROSS THE PROVINCE AND IN PARTICULAR NORTHERN ONTARIO, AND

WHEREAS ALTHOUGH INTERCITY BUS SERVICE IS AN ESSENTIAL SERVICE FOR MANY RESIDENTS OF NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO, SUCCESSIVE GOVERNMENTS HAVE ALLOWED THE SERVICE TO BE REDUCED AND IN SOME AREAS ELIMINATED AS THE REGULATIONS MOVED AWAY FROM A CONCEPT OF CROSS SUBSIDIZATION WHEREBY OPERATORS ON A PARTICULAR ROUTE USED THE PROFITS FROM THE MORE LUCRATIVE ROUTES TO SUBSIDIZE THE SERVICE TO THE MORE REMOTE PARTS OF THE PROVINCE, AND

WHEREAS ONLY MINAKI, SIOUX LOOKOUT, COLLINS, ARMSTRONG, NAKINA, LONGLAC AND HORNEPAYNE HAVE SCHEDULED VIA RAIL PASSENGER SERVICE, AND

WHEREAS ONLY FORT FRANCES, KENORA, DRYDEN, SIOUX LOOKOUT, NAKINA AND THUNDER BAY HAVE SCHEDULED AIR PASSENGER SERVICE (OTHER THAN THE REMOTE FIRST NATION COMMUNITIES), AND

WHEREAS RESIDENTS WITHOUT A PERSONAL VEHICLE MUST RELY ON FAMILY, FRIENDS OR IN MANY CASES NON-URGENT TRANSPORTATION BY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE PARAMEDICS FOR TRANSPORTATION TO MAJOR CENTRES PARTICULARLY FOR HEALTH REASONS AS INTERCITY BUS SERVICE IS EITHER INADEQUATE OR NONE EXISTENT, AND

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 14, 2015

WHEREAS THE SAME MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION HAS BEEN CONDUCTING AN ANALYSIS OF THE MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION NEEDS OF NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO FOR THE PAST THREE YEARS AND IS APPROXIMATELY ONE YEAR AWAY FROM COMPLETING THE STUDY AND RECOMMENDING A PLAN FOR NORTHERN ONTARIO, AND

WHEREAS THE NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION HAS REQUESTED THAT THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT SET ASIDE FUTURE INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDS FOR THE IMPLANTATION OF THE MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION STUDY, AND

WHEREAS IT WOULD BE PRUDENT FOR THE NORTHERN ONTARIO PORTION OF THE CURRENT STUDY OF INTERCITY BUS SERVICE TO BE SUSPENDED AND REFERRED TO THE MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION STUDY FOR INCORPORATION INTO THE LONG TERM PLAN

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR CALL ON THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION TO REFER ALL MATTERS RELATED TO ANY REFORM OF THE INTERCITY BUS TRANSPORTATION REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO NORTHERN ONTARIO TO THE NORTHERN ONTARIO MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION STUDY, AND

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION STUDY PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE MANNER IN WHICH ALL MODES OF PASSENGER TRANSPORTATION CAN BE ENHANCED THROUGHOUT NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO, AND

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT COPIES OF THIS RESOLUTION BE FILED WITH THE EBR, AND COPIED TO THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION FOR ONTARIO, THE MINISTER OF NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT AND MINES, THE MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES, THE MPP FOR KENORA-RAINY RIVER, NOMA, NOACC AND THE COMMON VOICE NORTHWEST TRANSPORTATION TASK FORCE.

Carried

DSSAB issues were discussed as follows:

a) The District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board regarding the Weighted Assessment Calculation Policy. It was

9. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR OBJECTS TO THE THUNDER BAY DISTRICT SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BOARD IN SEEKING A DOUBLE MAJORITY CONSENT TO CHANGE FROM USING THE CURRENT YEAR TAX RATIOS TO USING THE PREVIOUS YEAR'S TAX RATIOS IN THE CURRENT YEAR'S WEIGHTED ASSESSMENT CALCULATION.

Carried

Mayor Nelson reported on the new Superior Regional Social Services Board and the current search for a CAO on a contract basis. The contract would be for six months with the option to renew at the Board's discretion. The successful applicant will help to setup the program delivery and will also be required to assist in intake and case management functions when necessary. The Board has informed the Ministry of Community and Social Services of their plans and informed them that the Area one Municipalities are leaving the Thunder Bay District Social Services Board as of December 31, 2015.

Correspondence was read as follows:

- a) Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) – September Newsletter.
b) Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation – Motorcycle Ride for Dad – Thank you letter for the use of the community centre yard for this year annual ride.

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 14, 2015

- c) Ministry of Energy – regarding the 2015 Renewable Energy Development in Ontario: A Guide for Municipalities.
- d) Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) – copy of letter to Minister McMeekin with regard to the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund's distribution.
- e) Ministry of Municipal Affairs – Jessica Vail – Feedback from the Legislative Review Consultation held on July 15, 2015. Council would like the Clerk-Treasurer to keep a separate file for easy reference for any correspondence with regard to the Legislative changes. They would also like to request that these comments be discussed at the upcoming NOMA board meeting and that NOMA request the copies of comments from other consultation meetings held.
- f) Association of Municipalities of Ontario – i) Watch File – August 13, 2015.
ii) Watch File – August 27, 2015.
iii) Watch File – September 3, 2015.
iv) Watch File – September 10, 2015.
v) MEPCO Update: August 11, 2015 – Comparable Pension Plan Exemptions for the ORPP Announced. Council discussed their concerns for small business with regard to this new pension.
vi) 2014 AMO Annual Report available online.
vii) Policing Update: Minister Announces Consultations on a New Legislative Framework.
viii) AMO Policy Update – Municipal POA Courts Cost Recovery – Ministry of the Attorney General Announces 50% Increases.
ix) Member Communication - What's Next Ontario Update.
x) AMO Communications – Policy Update - Government Announces New Disaster Recovery Assistance Programs.
xi) AMO Communications – Policy Update – AMO Report to Member - Municipalities Highlights of the August 2015 Board Meeting.
xii) AMO Communications – AMO Policy Update – Health Funding Review Report and Funding Allocation Announcement.
xiii) AMO Communications – AMO Breaking News – AMO Support for the Syrian Refugee Crisis – Call to Action.
- g) AMCTO – ODRAP Announcement Points to Successful Advocacy.
- h) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Minister McMeekin – Thank you letter for providing input to the Premier's Special Advisor and Advisory Group.
- i) Ontario Energy Board – regarding the OESP Regional Meetings – Thank you for participation in regional meetings. Mayor Nelson and Councillor Loan attended.
- j) Consulting Engineers of Ontario – regarding Conflict of Interest Guidelines for Consulting Engineering Services in Ontario.
- k) Resolute Forest Products – regarding “Share Your Voice” Postcards for Dissemination. These cards are available in the office for residents to sign if they wish.
- l) ON1Call Board of Directors – Call for Nominations.

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) Information from Ministry of Health and Long Term Care meeting with Zone One municipalities and Mr. Stuart Mooney, Field Manager, Emergency Health Services with regard to paging out of emergency calls and the Tiered Response Agreement requirements was read. Mayor Nelson, Clerk-Treasurer Buob and Fire Chief Mattas attended the meeting. Currently there is no formal agreement in place for the paging out of emergency calls to our First Response teams. The Ministry is asking that each municipality submit a letter to Chief Norm Gale at Superior North EMS and make a formal request for a tiered service agreement. A sample letter was provide and Council agreed to send a letter to Chief Gale to get the process started.
- b) Gayle Poohachoff – Thank you letter for Senior of the Year Award. Mrs. Poohachoff was presented with the award at O'Connor Day.
- c) The day's events of O'Connor Day 2015 were discussed. A draft Revenue and Expenses report was presented. It was agreed that 2015 was the last year that O'Connor Day will run as a Township organized event. The Clerk-Treasurer reported that residents have come forward stating that they would like to see it continue and that they would like to help. At this time Council are not be willing to hold another one through the Township.

Councilor Racicot left the room.

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 14, 2015

Under New Business, Council discussed

a) AMCTO – Zone 9 Fall meeting & Conference in Thunder Bay – September 22 & 23, 2015 registration. It was

10. Moved by J. Vezina
Seconded by K. Foekens

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE AMCTO ZONE 9 FALL MEETING AND CONFERENCE TO BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 22 & 23, 2015 IN THUNDER BAY.

CLERK-TREASURER BUOB & DEPUTY CLERK-TREASURER RACICOT

REGISTRATION: \$100.00.

Carried

b) Northwestern Ontario Regional Fall Conference 2015 in Thunder Bay - draft agenda and registration were read and it was

11. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO REGIONAL CONFERENCE 2015 TO BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 24 & 25, 2015 IN THUNDER BAY.

**COUNCILLOR VEZINA, COUNCILLOR LOAN,
DEPUTY CLERK-TREASURER RACICOT**

REGISTRATION: \$200.00

Carried

c) 2015 Northwest Treasurers' Forum – November 12 & 13, 2015 in Thunder Bay and it was

12. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE 2015 NORTHWEST TREASURER'S FORUM TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 12 & 13, 2015 IN THUNDER BAY.

CLERK-TREASURER BUOB & DEPUTY CLERK-TREASURER RACICOT.

REGISTRATION: N/C

Carried

Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting.

- d) Office of the Integrity Commissioner regarding the 2015 Fall OIC Meeting in Ottawa on September 23rd and comments from Ian Robson, Township of O'Connor's Integrity Commissioner were read. Mr. Robson will not attend due to the cost and will request that they forward him information via email.
- e) Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management – Staff Change. Ms. Alexandra Lawless, Thunder Bay Field Officer, will be transferring to Cobourg as of November 1, 2015.
- f) Local Services Board of Nolalu – regarding the use of the O'Connor Community Centre as an optional evacuation centre in the case of an emergency in their area. It was

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 14, 2015

13. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE USE OF THE O'CONNOR COMMUNITY CENTRE AS AN OPTIONAL EVACUATION CENTRE FOR THE NOLALU EMERGENCY SERVICES TEAM IN AN EMERGENCY SITUATION.

Carried

- g) Suspicious activities to municipal property and the O'Connor Community Centre were discussed. The Clerk-Treasurer reported on two false alarms at the office at the end of July and in the middle of August, two helipad cones were stolen from the helipad, vehicles have been hanging around the back of the community centre and a vehicle has been burrowing around the yard spraying gravel around and leaving ruts in the driveway. Most recently the community centre door was spray foamed shut. The Clerk-Treasurer reported that she cannot confirm that any of these incidents are related in any way. Security cameras were discussed and the purchase and installation will be looked into to see what the cost would be. It was noted that the Township of Conmee does have cameras installed and they do have a policy in place for video surveillance. The OPP will be contacted to see what they could do with information caught on camera if something were to happen.
- h) The sale of surplus tables from the Community Centre were discussed. As the new, lighter tables have arrived and are now in use in the hall the Township does have a small supply of surplus tables. Residents have inquired into whether or not they are for sale. Council discussed whether or not to keep these tables for lending out or selling them off. It was agreed that some of the tables will be sold off at a cost of \$20.00 for residents and \$25.00 for non-residents. The Clerk-Treasurer will confirm the number of surplus and contact those who have inquired and if there are more available they will be advertised in the October Cornerstone.
- i) Great Lakes Guardian Community Fund – Announcing 2015 fund. The Township will not apply for funding through this program.
- j) Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) are looking for nominations for a local advisory committee. Councillor Racicot may be interested in this position.

Under Further New Business, Council discussed the O'Connor Fire Department Auxiliary's two-bit auction fundraiser to be held on October 24. The funds raised at this fundraiser will be used for Fire Department equipment and training. Suggestions were made as to what type of prize should be purchased. The Clerk-Treasurer will contact the organizers to see what will be needed the most. It was

14. Moved by J. Vezina
Seconded by K. Foekens

THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR MAKE A DONATION TO THE O'CONNOR FIRE DEPARTMENT AUXILIARY FOR THEIR 2-BIT AUCTION TO BE HELD ON OCTOBER 24, 2015 NOT TO EXCEED \$250.00.

Carried

Councillor Loan had requested that the Clerk-Treasurer, in his absence, ask Council if they had any agenda items for the upcoming Thunder Bay District Municipal League (TBDML) meeting to be held on September 19th or for the Community Policing Advisory Committee (CPAC) meeting to be held on September 24th. Council did not have items for the TBDML but suggested that the recent suspicious activities at the community centre be mentioned and have Councillor Loan inquiry about the security cameras. This information will be forwarded to Councillor Loan.

For information purposed a building permit for a garage at 1058 Highway 588 and a demolition permit for 818 Highway 595 were approved.

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 14, 2015

- 15. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by K. Foekens

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE NEXT PORTION OF THE MEETING BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC IN ORDER TO DISCUSS LABOUR RELATIONS OR EMPLOYEE NEGOTIATIONS; PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION 239(2)(D) OF THE MUNICIPAL ACT, 2001.

TIME BEING: 9:44 P.M.

Carried

A letter was read from an employee of the Township with regard to retirement.

No applications for the Dog Control Officer position were received.

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

TIME BEING: 9:54 P.M.

THAT WE NOW MOVE TO OPEN MEETING.

Carried

The Clerk-Treasurer will continue to try to find someone to be the Township's Dog Control Officer.

- 17. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2015 AT 7:00 P.M.

TIME BEING: 9:55 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer