

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 22, 2014

Minutes of the meeting held on September 22, 2014 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

Present: Mayor Nelson
Councillors: Racicot, Vezina
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Racicot

Absent: Councillors: Garbutt, Loan

Visitors: Fire Chief Henry Mattas, Deputy Fire Chief Ian Hamilton. Mr. Ryan Wallace of Northwest Insurance arrived at 7:05 p.m.

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: none.

1. Moved by J. Vezina
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2014 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.

Carried

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

Mr. Ryan Wallace had contacted the office to let Council know he was running a few minutes late and as the Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief were already in attendance item 6 on the agenda was moved forward.

Fire Chief Henry Mattas and Deputy Fire Chief Ian Hamilton were welcomed to the table. The Fire Department Report from June 19, 2014 to September 18, 2014 was read. There was one (1) fire related call, which was a vehicle fire on private property, six (6) first response calls and one (1) Motor Vehicle Accident during this time period. There was also a call regarding someone burning which Chief Mattas responded to and spoke to the individual and issued a fire permit.

Fire Department issues were discussed. Chief Mattas informed Council Mr. John Mazur and Mr. Edward Charrette have joined the Department and that two new people attended the last meeting and will be signing up. Council commented that the Fire Hall looks good and they found no issues at the recent Township Inspection.

Fire Chief Mattas and Deputy Fire Chief Hamilton were thanked for attending and left the meeting.

Mr. Ryan Wallace, Northwest Insurance, was welcomed to the table. Mr. Wallace apologized to Council for missing the meeting on September 8th. Mr. Wallace had been asked to attend the last meeting in order to discuss the Township's current insurance policy, in particular what coverage council has under the Municipal Official's Accident Insurance included in the current policy.

Mr. Wallace informed Council that the current policy is a term life policy that covers the current members of Council that are in office. The coverage is for accident and sickness benefits and does not cover critical illness. The difference between the two types of coverage was explained to Council. It was also commented by Mr. Wallace that pilots, while piloting an aircraft were not covered under this policy. The cost of adding Critical Illness to the policy was discussed. Mr. Wallace commented that the cost would be approximately \$500.00 per year. Council agreed to discuss this further under new business.

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

Bills to be paid were passed around the table and it was

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2. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT THE FOLLOWING BILLS FOR SEPTEMBER 2014 BE PAID. THESE BILLS WILL BE INCLUDED ON THE SEPTEMBER 2014 ROAD AND ADMINISTRATION VOUCHER.

CK#12465	NOMA (CONFERENCE REGISTRATION)	\$	600.00
CK#12466	AMCTO (CONFERENCE REGISTRATION)	\$	100.00
CK#12467	R. NELSON (CANDIDATE FEE REIMBURSEMENT)	\$	200.00
CK#12468	PAULA HARI (PROPERTY TAX REPAYMENT)	\$	108.17
CK#12469	R. CHESSELL (REIMBURSEMENT)	\$	120.84
CK#12470	TBAYTEL	\$	374.95
CK#12471	HYDRO ONE	\$	642.68
CK#12472	G. GARBUTT	\$	165.29
CK#12473	RECOOL CANADA INC.	\$	372.90
CK#12474	A-1 SEWAGE SERVICES	\$	339.00
CK#12475	LOCAL AUTHORITY SERVICES	\$	800.72
CK#12476	KGS GROUP	\$	7,242.90
CK#12477	BAY CITY CONTRACTORS INC.	\$	91,602.22
CK#12478	LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD	\$	20,612.31
CK#12479	THUNDER BAY CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BD	\$	2,489.90
CK#12480	CONSEIL DE DIST DU GRAND NORD L'ONT	\$	8.20
CK#12481	CSDC DES AURORES BOREALES	\$	137.12
			\$125,917.20

Carried

The Statement of Revenue and Expenditures to August 31, 2014 were read.

By-law Number 2014-18 being a by-law to appoint a Joint Compliance Audit Committee was discussed and it was

3. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2014-18 BEING A BY-LAW TO APPOINT A JOINT COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

The Lakehead Rural Planning Board's decision for application 1B/34/14 for Richard O'Loughlin was read. The application has been approved.

A resolution from the Town of Halton Hills regarding "Buy American 2.0" was read and filed.

An e-mail from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) regarding the double hatter firefighter issue in the media was discussed. Currently in Ontario professional firefighters are forbidden by the International Association of Fire Fighters and its Ontario union to volunteer as firefighters during their free time. AMO is asking that municipalities adopt a resolution asking the Ontario government to provide job protection to double hatter firefighters and it was;

4. Moved by J. Vezina
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

WHEREAS the training and certification of professional firefighters is established and mandated by the Province of Ontario under the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997;

AND WHEREAS it is the responsibility of municipalities to establish fire departments and appoint fire chiefs to provide fire protection services as they determine may be necessary in accordance with their needs and circumstances;

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AND WHEREAS many Ontario municipalities rely on both full time and volunteer firefighters in order to provide fire protection;

AND WHEREAS the International Association of Fire Fighters ("IAFF") Constitution prohibits full time firefighters from volunteering as firefighters in another municipal jurisdiction (i.e. "Double Hatting");

AND WHEREAS the IAFF's stance on Double Hatting is specifically prohibited by legislation in almost all provinces in Canada and much of the United States;

AND WHEREAS a volunteer firefighter in the Innisfil Fire and Rescue Service is challenging the IAFF ban on Double Hatting and their expulsions from that union because of his desire to continue volunteering while being employed as a full-time firefighter in another jurisdiction;

AND WHEREAS the right of individuals to use their free time in service of their community is a fundamental right in a free, open and democratic society.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of O'Connor requests that the Province of Ontario amend the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997 with respect to salaried firefighters who also work as volunteer firefighters, such that if a person is denied membership in an association of firefighters, is expelled or disciplined by the association or engages in reasonable dissent within the association in connection with this kind of dual role, the association is not permitted to require the employer to refuse to employ the person as a salaried firefighter, terminate his or her employment as a salaried firefighter or refuse to assign the person to fire protection services.

AND THEREFORE FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT this resolution be sent to the Hon. Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario, Hon Madeline Meilleur, Attorney General, Hon. Kevin Flynn, Minister of Labour, Hon. Yasir Naqvi, Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services and the Hon. Ted McMeekin, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

Carried.

A copy of the letter to Mayor Lucy Kloosterhuis, Chair of the Lakehead Rural Municipal Committee (LRMC), from the Thunder Bay District Social Services Administration Board (DSSAB) was read. This letter was with regard to the meeting to discuss the LRMC concerns that had been scheduled in Oliver-Paipoonge on September 11, 2014. Mr. Robert Katajamaki, Chair of the Thunder Bay DSSAB advised Mayor Kloosterhuis that, due to the fact that this is an election year, he and Mr. William Bradica, CAO will not be attending the meeting.

Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – i) Watch File September 11, 2014
ii) Watch File September 18, 2014
iii) E-mail from Ms. Judy Dezell regarding the Federal Tax and Project Eligibility Update was read.
- b) i) Ministry of the Environment regarding the Solid Non-Hazardous Waste Disposal Site Inspection Report.
ii) Memorandum regarding the Class Environmental (EA) Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities - Notice of Completion asking if municipalities will be making a submission or requiring a hearing. No submission will be made.
- c) Lakehead Region Conservation Authority regarding the amendment to its Fee Schedule. As of September 1, 2014 member municipalities will be exempt from paying fees related to applications under the Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses, O. Reg. 180/06.
- d) Ministry of Labour congratulating Mayor Ron Nelson on being elected to the AMO Northern Caucus.

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

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Under Old Business Council discussed

- a) the update on the Accessible Platform Lift that was installed in the Community Centre in the spring. At the request of Council a chronology of the implementation of the lift was made available by Mr. Tom Thompson of Thompson Accessibility Solutions Inc., detailing the dates of when construction began, when it was finished and when the request to the Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA) was made.
- b) E-mail from Mr. Thompson stating that he has scheduled an inspection of the platform lift with the TSSA for the first week October 20th which is the earliest date available for the TSSA inspector.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) E-mail from Staff Sergeant Jim Graham, Detachment Commander, Thunder Bay Ontario Provincial Police(OPP) regarding attendance at the upcoming Community and Policing Advisory Committee (CPAC) that is scheduled for October 1, 2014. As Councillor Loan is not available to attend the meeting it was

5. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE COMMUNITY POLICING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CPAC) MEETING TO BE HELD ON OCTOBER 1, 2014 AT THE ARTHUR STREET DETACHMENT IN THUNDER BAY.

MAYOR RON NELSON

Carried

- b) Letter from the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority regarding the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network(CoCoRaHS). The network collects data on a daily basis and makes it available on-line. Council would like the information put in the next issue of the Cornerstone.
- c) E-mail from Mr. Colin Andersen, CEO, Ontario Power Authority regarding applications for Stream 3 of the Industrial Electrical Incentive program was read.
- d) E-mail from Celebrate Ontario regarding the Launch of Celebrate Ontario 2015 Festival and Event Program was read.
- e) E-mail from Ms. Marion Price, Manager, Play Works Secretariat, regarding the 2014 Youth Friendly Community Recognition Program. No submission will be made.
- f) The Ontario Power Authority invitation to a Northwest Ontario Electricity Planning Meeting. No one will be attending.
- g) Council Honourarium for the 2015-2019 term was discussed. The current rates and the rates of neighbouring municipalities were reviewed. A by-law will be presented to Council at their meeting to be held on October 14, 2014 with the new Honourarium rates for Mayor and Council members.
- h) Mayor Nelson commented that the grass at the O'Connor Free Methodist Church is Cemetery in need of cutting. The grass is cut by summer students, however it needs to be done again and the students program has ended. Council agreed that the Township will cut the grass for them one more time this year.
- i) Councillor Racicot asked Council if they would be interested in purchasing tables from the Prosvita Legion which is closing down. Council agreed that if extra table are needed that a lighter plastic table be purchased instead of the heavy wooden tables.

Under further new business the subject of Critical Illness Insurance, which was discussed with Mr. Wallace of Northwest Insurance earlier in the meeting, was discussed further. It was decided by Council that it should be added to the current policy and instructed the Deputy Clerk-Treasurer to contact Mr. Wallace and start the paperwork required.

Issues brought forward or letter received after the agenda was mailed

- a) Municipal Finance Officer Association (MFOA) regarding their approval of the ideas for improving the Provincial Land Tax was read.
- b) MFOA regarding the letter to the Minister of Finance, Hon. Charles Sousa, regarding the Provincial Land Tax Reform was read.
- c) Hon. Bill Mauro, MPP Thunder Bay-Atikokan invitation to attend a major announcement regarding changes to the Ontario Building Code that will positively impact Northern Ontario's economy. This announcement will be made in the Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce Office. Mayor Nelson will be going on behalf of NOMA and Councillor Vezina will also be attending.

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- d) A complaint from a resident regarding the condition of Smart Road was brought to Council. Council agreed that the road needs gravel applied to it and instructed the Deputy Clerk-Treasurer to discuss the matter with the Leadhand.

For information purposes no building permits were approved since the last Council meeting.

11. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by J. Vezina

**THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD
ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2014 AT 7:00 P.M.**

TIME BEING: 9:10 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer