

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 26, 2011

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, September 26, 2011 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

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

Visitors: Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Racicot
Fire Chief Henry Mattas and Deputy Fire Chief Mike Styles

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: Councillor Racicot declared an interest in items 15 b) iii) & iv) as his spouse is an employee of the Township.

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

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 12, 2011 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.

Carried

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

THAT MAYOR NELSON BE MARKED ABSENT DUE TO WORK AND COUNCILLOR GARBUTT BE MARKED ABSENT FOR PERSONAL REASONS.

Carried

Acting Mayor Vezina asked the visitors if they wished to address Council on any personal matters and they replied no.

Fire Chief Mattas, Deputy Fire Chief Styles and Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Racicot were welcomed to the table.

The Fire Department report was read from June 25 to September 22, 2011. In that time period the team responded to one fire related call, one alarm call and five first response calls. Two department members attended a pumper course and four members attended Fire Con. A fire ban was also on in the Township for a time period starting on August 2nd.

Fire Chief Mattas reported on his meetings with a couple of fabricating businesses with regard to putting baffles in the tank of the Township's tanker truck. The dealers would not give a quote as it was not feasible.

Overall it was a quiet summer for the department.

An email was read from Stuart Mooney with regard to the progress on the fire/first response paging system and securing a municipal owned fire/first response paging system. The Municipality of Shuniah is using a different frequency and have agreed in principle to permit an amendment to the Industry Canada licence which would allow this frequency to be used for paging on Gillies, Hazelwood, Loon and Mount McKay. The next steps would be to do a study to determine if the paging system would interfere with existing traffic on these towers and determine what equipment is required at the Central Ambulance Communication Centre to trigger the pagers. The Ministry of Health Field Office and the group of Zone One representatives will be meeting with Spectrum on October 17, 2011 to discuss the progress.

Item 7 f) was moved forward on the agenda. Fire Chief Mattas reported that the enhancement of the existing paging system was discussed at the Thunder Bay Zone One Mutual Aid Association meeting. The system requires scanners be setup in different areas. Each scanner would be connected to a computer that would have a DSL connection. The department pages would be picked up by the scanner and then

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sent to a company through the internet, which will then automatically call out over cell or land lines to each individual and will come in the form of a text message or actual voice call as per individual preference. The approximate cost of the system would be \$300.00 per year. There would also be a one-time fee for equipment. This system will not replace the paging system but will enhance the existing service.

The Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services Joint Emergency Preparedness Program (JEPP) funding application deadline was discussed. As the new office is not currently connected to the emergency generator and the Council Chambers will be the Township's Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) in the case of an emergency, it was

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

THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE JOINT EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM (JEPP) FOR A TRANSFER SWITCH AND THE REQUIRED INSTALLATION SERVICES TO ADD THE NEW MUNICIPAL OFFICE AND COUNCIL CHAMBERS TO THE EXISTING EMERGENCY GENERATOR SERVICE.

Carried

Councillor Vezina will speak with an electrical contractor to get more information on what would be required for this project.

Time being 7:25 p.m. a review of the Fire Department Standard Operational Guidelines (SOG) began. S.O.G. 101 to S.O.G. 505 were reviewed. Amendments will be made as discussed. S.O.G. 302, which establishes a policy for training and recruit training will be further looked into with regard to the identification of a rookie member at a call. Council suggested that this matter be discussed with surrounding municipalities to see if there could be a standard form of identification for them. This would then easily identify any rookie department member who is on a call. The Fire Department will continue to review the balance of the S.O.G. and will bring the next batch to Council for review upon their completion.

Fire Chief Mattas, Deputy Fire Chief Styles and Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Racicot were thanked for attending and left the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Bills to be paid were passed around the table. It was

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

THAT THE FOLLOWING BILLS FOR SEPTEMBER 2011 BE PAID – THESE BILLS WILL BE INCLUDED ON THE SEPTEMBER 2011 ROAD AND ADMINISTRATION VOUCHER.

CK#10389	NOMA-CONFERENCE REGISTRATION	\$	555.00
CK#10390	G. GARBUTT (HONOURARIUM)	\$	110.00
CK#10391	AMCTO – ZONE 9 – CONFERENCE REGISTRATION	\$	100.00
CK#10392	THUNDER BAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	\$	141.25
CK#10393	GREG BILOSKI – REIMBURSEMENT	\$	60.59
CK#10394	WORKPLACE SAFETY & PREVENTION SERVICES	\$	24.86
CK#10395	G. GARBUTT (HONOURARIUM)	\$	405.71
CK#10396	G. GARBUTT (HONOURARIUM)	\$	658.00
CK#10397	TBAYTEL (TELEPHONE)	\$	373.92
CK#10398	HYDRO ONE	\$	250.77
CK#10399	A & L AUTO	\$	82.04
CK#10400	LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD	\$	21,327.04
CK#10401	THUNDER BAY CATHOLIC DIST SCHOOL BOARD	\$	2,637.06
CK#10402	CSDC des AURORES BOREALES	\$	148.07
CK#10403	B. DAVIS (DOG BOARDING & MILEAGE)	\$	297.90
			<u>\$27,172.21</u>

Carried

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The Statement of Revenue & Expenditures to August 31, 2011 were reviewed.

Consent application 1B/11/11 for Susan and Clifford McLean was reviewed and it was

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

THAT THE CONSENT APPLICATION 1B/11/11 FOR SUSAN AND CLIFFORD MCLEAN FOR THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED AS LOCATION F18, MR 381 RP55R3767 PART 4 TO 6, FOR ONE 3.12 HA SEVERANCE BE APPROVED.

Carried

Time being 9:15 p.m. the quotes for ditching were opened. Two quotes were received. It was

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

THAT THE QUOTE OF KAK CONTRACTING TO PERFORM DITCHING WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR AT AN HOURLY RATE OF \$100.00 – NO FLOAT CHARGES BE ACCEPTED.

Carried

Thunder Bay District Social Services Administration Board Position Papers with respect to the Provincial Election was read.

Correspondence was read as follows:

- a) Road Department – Time sheet report – i) August 21 – September 3, 2011
ii) September 4 to 17, 2011
b) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – i) Watch File – September 15, 2011
ii) Watch File – September 22, 2011

Councillor Racicot left the room.

- iii) Provincial Election 2011 – Municipal Forums. AMO has information on their website as to how to organize a Municipal Forum as well as questions for provincial candidates based on AMO's top 12 Asks.
iv) AMO's Fall & Winter Workshops. No one will be attending.

Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting.

- v) AMO's 2011 Ontario Election Weekly Roundup – News from the Hustings for Municipalities and Party Commitments to AMO's Top 12 Asks.
c) Provincial Offences Act – i) 2011 Budget Summary and notice of partial payment.
ii) 2010 Financial Statements and 2010 Final Payment – Court Services. The amount received is less than estimated and budgeted in 2010 by \$456.00.

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) Update on information with regard to keeping Emergency numbers clear. The Clerk-Treasurer reported to Council that the Township's By-law Number 98-25 clearly states that every person being the owner or occupant of any property, shall at all times display the number assigned to the property and that it must be clearly visible from the road at all times. There is also a penalty for any person who violates this provision.

Council would like a notice to be included in the upcoming Cornerstone asking residents to please make sure that their emergency number is clear and visible from the road for their safety. Council would also like mentioned that the Township will be doing an inspection of these signs in the near future. If signs are still not clear at time of inspection individual letters will be sent to those residents. In the letter it will also inform the resident of the possible fine.

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- b) Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge - Invitation to a meeting September 29th to discuss the possibility of forming a Rural Economic Development Committee. The meeting was discussed and it was
7. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE MEETING WITH THE TOWNSHIPS OF CONMEE AND GILLIES AND THE MUNICIPALITIES OF NEEBING AND OLIVER PAIPOONGE TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF FORMING A RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, TO BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 29, 2011. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE CONMEE COMMUNITY CENTRE.

AS MAYOR NELSON IS UNABLE TO ATTEND THE ACTING MAYOR WILL ATTEND.

Carried

- c) An update with regard to brush on Highway 595 right-of-ways and delays on Highway 11/17 from the Clerk-Treasurer was read. The Ministry of Transportation has sent out their maintenance department to do an inspection and confirm what areas Council are concerned with. They did speak directly with Mr. Johnson about this. Mr. Johnson also expressed Council's other concerns with regard to the winter maintenance of Highway 595. With regard to Highway 11/17 delays, the Clerk-Treasurer was informed that the contractor can hold traffic for up to fifteen minutes however with the long lineups it may take longer for the traffic to get through. The contractor on this project is now working 24/7 if the weather permits and they are planning on have the job complete within a couple of weeks.
- d) Reschedule meeting with Mr. Murray Armstrong – unavailable on October 3, 2011 as was previously scheduled. Council decided that due to two members of Council being absent from this meeting, they will wait for the next meeting to set a date.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Thunder Bay District Municipal League – Fall meeting & Conference - October 28 & 29, 2011 registration. It was

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

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE THUNDER BAY DISTRICT MUNICIPAL LEAGUE FALL MEETING AND CONFERENCE TO BE HELD ON OCTOBER 28 & 29, 2011 IN THUNDER BAY.

REGISTRATION: \$100.00

**MAYOR NELSON
COUNCILLOR GARBUTT, LOAN, RACICOT, VEZINA
CLERK-TREASURER BUOB**

Carried

Under further new business Council discussed the Commercial/Industry property on Loghrin road which has gone bankrupt. Council asked the Clerk-Treasurer to check with other municipalities who have had mills close down and find out what potential hazards there might be on the property if it is not reopened.

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

- a) Request from Hacquoil Construction to again purchase salt for the sand and salt mix. Council agreed to again purchase the salt on their behalf.
- b) Rural Cupboard Food Bank – looking for a representative from each municipality to sit at an upcoming food drive. In the past the food bank provided hampers to 30 to 40 families and it has now increased to 70 to 90 families. It was discussed and it was

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

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON, COUNCILLOR RACICOT, VOLUNTEER HIS TIME TO PROMOTE THE RURAL CUPBOARD FOOD BANK AT THE SUPERSTORE ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2011.

Carried

- c) Lakehead Region Conservation Authority (LRCA) – 2010 Audited Financial Statements were reviewed. Councillor Vezina also reported that the first stage of stairs on the bottom part of the trail at Cedar Falls are complete.

For information purposes a building permit was approved for 1502 Harstone Road for an addition and a demolition permit was approved for 146 Broome Road.

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

THAT THE COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2011 AT 7:00 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer