

## TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – JUNE 28, 2010

Minutes of the meeting held on June 28, 2010 at 7 p.m. in the municipal building.

Present: Mayor Nelson arrived at 7:07 p.m.  
Councillors: Garbutt, Racicot, Vezina  
Clerk-Treasurer Buob

Visitors: Summer Students – Danielle Muloin, Nick Vaillant, Ashley Gunn  
Fire Chief Henry Mattas  
Robin McCabe and Brian Wiese  
Gary Lafreniere, Bruce Broughton, Dino Bruni – equipment dealers  
Leadhand Kelly Johnson arrived at 7:40 p.m.

Acting Mayor Racicot called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m..

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: none

1. Moved by J. Vezina  
Seconded by G. Garbutt

**THAT THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, JUNE 14, 2010, THE BUDGET MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 2010 AND THE O'CONNOR DAY PLANNING MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, JUNE 21, 2010 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.**

Carried

2. Moved by G. Garbutt  
Seconded by J. Vezina

**THAT COUNCILLOR NYGARD BE MARKED ABSENT FOR PERSONAL REASONS.**

Carried

Mayor Nelson arrived at 7:07 p.m. and invited the summer students to the table. Introductions were made and they were congratulated on their employment.

Each Council member took a turn speaking to the students and addressed issues of safety and work habits. It was stressed to the students that safety always comes first and when in doubt about an assignment that they should always ask questions. If they still do not feel comfortable performing the job at hand to discuss it with their supervisor. If anything should happen while on duty they were informed that they must report it to their supervisor. It was also emphasized that the students are working for the Township and are therefore accountable to the ratepayers. Their work ethics and performance can also effect the future employment opportunities for other students in the Township.

Council explained the employee municipal structure. They were also informed of the confidentiality issues with working in the Township.

The students were then asked if they had any questions. They did ask about their work attire and how to dress. The work hours and pay schedule was also discussed.

The students were thanked for attending.

Mr. Brian Wiese and Ms. Robin McCabe were welcomed to the table to discuss issues with regard to Taranis Contracting. They requested a copy of the road agreement between the Township and Taranis. The Clerk-Treasurer will forward them a copy. They inquired into the results of the meeting held between the Ministry of Transportation and the Mayor and Clerk-Treasurer and asked what the holdup was with the new road that Taranis would like to build. They were informed that the results of the meeting were not favourable for the new road and for the traffic getting rerouted off of Strom road at this time. The Ministry want Taranis to use Mayo road as their entrance into their pit rather than directly onto Highway 590. Council do not want them using Mayo road and having to enter into another agreement with them. Another meeting will be setup with other individuals from the Ministry of Transportation.

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Council was informed that the Taranis trucks have been following the time restrictions, however a private contractor has gone up early on occasion. Mr. Wiese and Ms. McCabe were asked to contact Mr. Henderson of Taranis if they have any concerns.

Mayor Nelson apologized for the time marching on with this issue and he informed them that Council has not given up on this matter and they were thanked for attending.

Fire Chief Henry Mattas was welcomed to the table. The Fire Department report was read. There was only one first response call since the last report.

Fire Chief Mattas reported on the driver training for the department members. There are only three members who are eligible and would be interested in driver training to get their DZ license at this time. Two of these members are new to the department. Fire Chief Mattas has spoken to Eric Olsen to see what he could do as far as training. He would take between twenty and thirty hours of driving time with each driver and one and a half days training for the Z endorsement. It would cost approximately \$2,500.00 per driver. Another option would be to put something together in house and have one of our department members with their license drive with the members and then challenge the exam. For the amount of time required Fire Chief Mattas was asked to speak with the qualified drivers to see what they would want for an hourly rate to ride with the members.

Council asked Fire Chief Mattas to put together a document showing who has their license already, who is interested in getting it and when they will be eligible to get it.

The 1999 Freightliner Fire Truck was discussed. Fire Chief Mattas was able to negotiate with owner and a price of \$95,000.00 was accepted by them. The truck will need adaptors to convert the threads to Canadian, ladders racks built, it will need a winter pan and a safety check to be put into service. Council was informed that the company that built our current pump is out of business so we may not be able to get parts and a new pump for the current truck would cost between \$40 and \$50 thousand dollars. Council will discuss the purchase of the truck later in the meeting during the budget.

Fire Chief Mattas reported that we will not be able to get scaffolding or a stage from Mr. Kruger this year for O'Connor Day as some of it is out on job sites and Mr. Kruger will be out of town at that time. Fire Chief Mattas offered the use of his float for a stage if needed. Councillor Racicot may have some scaffolding available. Councillor Garbutt will also check out a possible source for scaffolding. Fire Chief Mattas left the meeting to attend the Fire Department meeting and will return for budget discussion.

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

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

**THAT THE FOLLOWING BILLS FOR JUNE 2010 BE PAID – THESE BILLS WILL BE INCLUDED ON THE JUNE 2010 ROAD AND ADMINISTRATION VOUCHER.**

<b>CK#9521 LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD</b>	<b>\$32,214.59</b>
<b>CK#9522 THUNDER BAY CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BD</b>	<b>3,842.97</b>
<b>CK#9523 CSDC DES AURORES BOREALES</b>	<b>221.75</b>
<b>CK#9524 SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA</b>	<b>893.60</b>
<b>CK#9525 TBAYTEL (MOBILITY)</b>	<b>9.84</b>
<b>CK#9526 HYDRO ONE (STREETLIGHTING)</b>	<b><u>34.85</u></b>
	<b>\$37,217.60</b>

Carried

Requests for Proposal for a Motor Grader were opened at 8:00 p.m. Quotes from three dealers were received and opened. Nortrax provided quotes for two graders, Strongco provided quotes for four graders and Toromont provided quotes for two graders. Council thanked the dealers for their bids and informed them that Mr. Johnson will be looking through the quotes carefully and looking closer at the graders that might fit the

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needs of the Township. They were informed that we are currently looking at a fire truck and grader and will need to look further into our financial situation before we can commit to any purchase at this time. Council also asked the dealers to inform Mr. Johnson if any of the graders, that they have provided a quote for, sell in the meantime. The next Council meeting is July 12 and a final decision will be made at that meeting. The dealers were thanked for attending.

The loan options for the upcoming purchases were discussed. The Clerk-Treasurer has confirmed with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing that with a new loan we are still within our annual repayment limit. The purchase of equipment does not fit into the Infrastructure loan program through CMHC. The Township could apply for a loan or debenture through our bank or OSIFA (Infrastructure Ontario loan program).

Fire Chief Mattas returned to the meeting.

The purchase of both pieces of equipment, the need and the prices were discussed. The required loan amount and the term of a loan were discussed. Amortization tables were reviewed. Council agreed that both a fire truck and grader could be purchased this year with a ten year loan using financing through the bank. Fire Chief Mattas will contact the owners of the fire truck in the morning to inform them that we will purchase their truck and to get the required paperwork started. Mr. Johnson will take all the quotes received for the graders and look them over and bring back a written report justifying his choice.

The current fire truck was discussed. It was decided to ask other municipalities if they would be interested in purchasing it. It was also suggested that the Township of Gillies be approached to see if our truck will help them until they can purchase a new one.

Mr. Johnson and Fire Chief Mattas were thanked for attending.

The draft budget was discussed. The Clerk-Treasurer added estimated capital, loan and interest amounts to the budget and did adjustments as required. The final budget was set and will be reprinted and presented to Council at the next meeting.

The Tax Rate By-law was reviewed and it was

4. Moved by Bishop Racicot  
Seconded by G. Garbutt

**THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2010-15 BEING A BY-LAW TO ADOPT THE ESTIMATES OF ALL SUMS REQUIRED DURING THE YEAR FOR THE GENERAL PURPOSES OF THE MUNICIPALITY, AND TO STRIKE THE LEVY FOR THE YEAR AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADOPTION OF TAX RATES AND TO FURTHER PROVIDE FOR PENALTY AND INTEREST IN DEFAULT OF PAYMENT THEREOF FOR 2010 BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.**

Carried

The draft policy for Workplace Harassment and Violence was reviewed. It was

5. Moved by G. Garbutt  
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2010-16 BEING A BY-LAW TO ADOPT A POLICY FOR WORKPLACE HARASSMENT/VIOLENCE FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.**

Carried

6. Moved by J. Vezina  
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**TIME BEING: 10:30 P.M. THAT THE BUSINESS OF THIS MEETING CONTINUE.**

Carried

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Resolutions for endorsement were read as follows:

- a) Township of Essa regarding the length of the Municipal Election Nomination Period was filed.
- b) Township of Springwater regarding Bill 13 Sustainable Water and Waste Water System Improvement and Maintenance Act, 2010 was filed.

The Thunder Bay DSSAB report from the Zone 1 representative on the board was discussed. The last report received from Councillor Schmidt was in February, 2010. Council would like a letter sent to Councillor Schmidt and her Council asking for a report. Council would also like to ask Mr. Taniwa, Secretary-Treasurer of the Thunder Bay District Municipal League to setup a meeting with the Heads of Council or a representative at the upcoming fall meeting to discuss the reporting issue.

Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) Ontario Provincial Police report regarding the 2009 Municipal Affairs and Housing Performance Measures Program Crime rates in O'Connor.
- b) Kevin and Jodi Belluz – regarding the Thunder Bay's first on-line local food store. Council asked that the Clerk-Treasurer to contact them to see if they would be interested in advertising this in our Cornerstone.
- c) AMO – i) Watch File – June 17, 2010  
ii) Watch File – June 24, 2010
- d) Playworks regarding Youth Friendly Community Program. This information will be forwarded to church youth groups to see if they would be interested in the program. The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) Lakehead Region Conservation Authority letter with the revised 2010 Lakehead Region Conservation Authority levy request to reflect the change to the office building levy. The Township new levy amount is \$4,763.79.
- b) A letter from the Township of Gillies asking Council to reconsider the Township's decision to not participate in the Continuous Improvement Fund (CIF) through Waste Diversion Ontario (WDO). The Township of Gillies has been successful in securing funding for a project entitled Development of a Cooperative and Integrated Communication and Public Education Program. The intent of this program is for the six municipalities surrounding the City of Thunder Bay to develop, test and implement a joint integrated communication and education program. Council would like the Clerk-Treasurer to inform the Township of Gillies that at this time they are still considering participating however the budget has already been passed. The Clerk-Treasurer will look into the program further and Council will make a decision at the July 12, 2010 meeting.
- e) O'Connor Day information. The BBQ has been booked. Information from Party Pro Inflatables with regard to purchasing and testing of BBQ's was discussed. A problem with the deep fryer was discussed. Councillor Racicot will look into getting it looked at before O'Connor Day. The stage for the band and scaffolding for the cooking and concession area was discussed. The purchase of canopy will be looked into. The band Quest has been booked and will be sponsored by John and Yvonne Smart.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) A copy of a letter from the Township of Gillies to Bill Mauro, MPP, regarding specialty tax classes and the impact on municipal tax rates. Council was in total agreement with the information in the letter and would like the Clerk-Treasurer to send a letter to Mr. Mauro showing our support for this matter.
- b) Superior North EMS requesting consent to display the Township's municipal logo on the front of their new building. Council were in agreement and it was

7. Moved by Bishop Racicot  
Seconded by J. Vezina

**THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR GIVES CONSENT TO DISPLAY THE TOWNSHIP LOGO ON THE FRONT OF THE SUPERIOR NORTH EMS BUILDING.**

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- c) Ontario Good Roads letter regarding the Minimum Maintenance Standards and a recent application filed with the Superior Court of Justice to have these standards declared null and void. A single municipality is attempting to defend the action and are requesting contribution towards court costs. Council were in agreement not to contribute to the costs at this time.

Under further new business, Councillor Vezina informed Council that he may be missing the meetings during the summer months due to work. He will inform the Clerk-Treasurer if he will not be attending.

Issues brought forward or letters received after agenda was mailed

- a) Ontario Provincial Police – regarding a new semi-annual policing costs reconciliation process issued in the fall of 2010. This process will assist municipalities with financial planning and cash management.
- b) Ken Taniwa, Secretary-Treasurer of the Thunder Bay District Municipal League regarding the upcoming Fall meeting and a list of suggested program topics. Mr. Taniwa will be away and is looking for any other suggestions now for the meeting.

8. Moved by G. Garbutt  
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**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 MUNIICIPAL ACT, 2001.**

**TIME BEING: 11:15 P.M.**

Carried

The application for the Audit Compliance Committee was reviewed.

9. Moved by Bishop Racicot  
Seconded by G. Garbutt

**TIME BEING: 11:17 P.M.**

**THAT WE NOW MOVE TO OPEN MEETING.**

Carried

10. Moved by J. Vezina  
Seconded by G. Garbutt

**THAT GAYLE POOHACHOFF BE APPOINTED AS THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR REPRESENTATIVE ON THE AUDIT COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE.**

Carried

11. Moved by G. Garbutt  
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, JULY 12, 2010 AT 7:00 P.M.**

**TIME BEING: 11:20 P.M.**

Carried

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Mayor

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Clerk-Treasurer