

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR - MINUTES – MARCH 8, 2010

Minutes of the meeting held on March 8, 2010 at 7 p.m. in the municipal building.

Present: Councillors: Garbutt, Nygard, Racicot, Vezina
Clerk-Treasurer Buob
Leadhand Kelly Johnson

Acting Mayor Racicot called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m..

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: Councillor Garbutt declared an interest in item 8c) as her spouse was the By-law Enforcement Officer. Councillor Racicot declared an interest in item 16a) and 17e) as his spouse is an employee of the Township.

1. Moved by J. Vezina
Seconded by Lee Ann Nygard

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2010 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.

Carried

2. Moved by Lee Ann Nygard
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT MAYOR NELSON BE MARKED ABSENT FOR WORK.

Carried

Acting Mayor Racicot asked Mr. Johnson if he wished to address Council on any personal matters and he replied no.

Kelly Johnson, Leadhand, was welcomed to the table. Time sheets for February 8 to 18 and February 22 to March 5, 2010 were read. Roadwork in general was discussed. A culvert on Luckens road has recently been steamed. The road department has been using the CAT backhoe to brush Diana road while the ground is still frozen, as they did not get it done last year as planned. Upcoming half loads were discussed.

The draft road agreement with Taranis for Strom road was discussed. It will be forwarded for approval to Taranis and if they accept it, it will be signed by both parties.

Mr. Johnson was thanked for attending.

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

3. Moved by G. Garbutt
Seconded by Lee Ann Nygard

THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR FEBRUARY 28, 2010 TOTALLING \$68,477.27 BE APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

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

THAT THE INFRASTRUCTURE STIMULUS FUNDING VOUCHER FOR THE NEW MUNICIPAL BUILDING TO FEBRUARY 28, 2010 TOTALLING \$593.25 BE APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

Councillor Garbutt left the table.

5. Moved by Lee Ann Nygard
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT THE BY-LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER VOUCHER FOR FEBRUARY 22, 2010 TOTALLING \$318.56 BE APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

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Councillor Garbutt returned to the table.

The statement of revenue and expenditure will not be available until the auditors complete the 2009 year end.

Resolutions for endorsement were read as follows:

- a) Township of Madawaska Valley strongly urging immediate action from the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care to provide adequate financial assistance and quality care for respite care in their township and rural Ontario was filed.
- b) Township of Burpee and Mills requesting support from municipalities in their renegotiation of their Manitoulin Land Agreement of 1990 was filed.

Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) AMO – i) OMERS Deficit Grows Again
 - ii) AMO calls on Province to pay its bills. Premier McGuinty is not speaking of the future of the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund as they have in previous years. OMPF is the Province's main transfer payment to the municipalities.
 - iii) Watch File – February 25, 2010
 - iv) Watch File – March 4, 2010
 - v) Breaking News – Federal Budget – Maintains infrastructure spending and health and social transfer payments.
 - iv) Breaking News – McGuinty Government prorogues Legislature to prepare March throne speech
- b) City of Thunder Bay Court Services – 2009 Un-Audited Financial Statements. The Township of O'Connor will not be receiving \$1,648.00 for 2009 POA revenue as anticipated. The auditors will be notified.
- c) Lakehead Region Conservation Authority – Copy of letter to Ms. Susan Prince, Nor-Wester Mountain Escarpment Protection Committee regarding Big Thunder Wind Park.
- d) Ministry of Health Promotion regarding 2010 – 2011 Healthy Communities Fund Launch. No application will be submitted at this time.
- e) Grant Thornton – Tax Bulletin – regarding the Federal Budget March 4, 2010.
- f) MFOA Bulletin – 2010 Federal Budget. There are no major new announcements directly affecting municipalities.
- g) Ministry of Northern Development Mines and Forestry – State of Entrepreneurship in Canada 2010 report

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) Larry Garbutt - resignation letter from the position of By-law Enforcement Officer.

5. Moved by Lee Ann Nygard
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT COUNCIL ACCEPT MR. LARRY GARBUTT'S RESIGNATION AS BY-LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 22, 2010.

Carried

- b) Township of Gillies – sample job description for a Dog Control Officer was reviewed. Council liked the wording in the description and feel that it will work for O'Connor as well. The Clerk-Treasurer will change it slightly to meet the Township of O'Connor's requirements and needs.
- c) Celebrate Canada – Resolution authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer to submit an application for funding. It was

7. Moved by Lee Ann Nygard
Seconded by J. Vezina

DURING THE SESSION OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL HELD ON MARCH 8, 2010 IT WAS RESOLVED THAT LORNA BUOB, CLERK-TREASURER FROM THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR BE AUTHORIZED TO SUBMIT A FINANCIAL REQUEST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF CANADIAN HERITAGE IN RELATION TO THE "CELEBRATE CANADA!" PROGRAM FOR ORGANIZING ACTIVITIES TO CELEBRATE CANADA DAY.

Carried

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- d) Lakehead Region Conservation Authority – regarding the 2010 Levy request. Council agreed not to pay this levy amount until more information is provided with regard to the funding of their new building.
- e) Continuous Improvement Fund – regarding Council's request for the Clerk-Treasurer to make an application for funding for a cardboard compactor at the disposal site. Upon looking into the application process further and the detailed information required at this time it was agreed not to make an application this year.

Under New Business, Council discussed

Councillor Racicot left the table.

- a) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Planning Conference 2010 – Wednesday, March 24, 2010 in Thunder Bay. It was

- 8. Moved by G. Garbutt
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE MINISTRY OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS AND HOUSING PLANNING CONFERENCE 2010 TO BE HELD IN THUNDER BAY ON MARCH 24, 2010.

REGISTRATION: \$30.00

MAYOR NELSON, COUNCILLOR VEZINA, CLERK-TREASURER BUOB
Carried

Councillor Racicot returned to the table.

- b) Ministry of Northern Development, Mines and Forestry – Summer Job Service Program application. This program provides \$2.00 per hour to the Township for each hour worked by the student. The Township has applied for three student under the Canada Summer Jobs program which provides 50% of their wage, however the program does not always approve all positions. It was agreed that an application will also be submitted to this program for two students and if the other program approves all positions the Township will not use this program. It was

- 9. Moved by J. Vezina
Seconded by Lee Ann Nygard

THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR ASK FOR 2 STUDENTS UNDER THE MINISTRY OF NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT AND MINES SUMMER JOBS SERVICE 2010 FOR A PERIOD OF 8 WEEKS. ONE FOR THE ROADS DEPARTMENT AND ONE FOR ADMINISTRATION. START DATE FOR THE PROGRAM WOULD BE JULY 5, 2010.

Carried

- c) Thunder Bay Veterinary Services Committee regarding enrollment fee and requesting representative information. Councillor Vezina and Councillor Nygard will continue to be the Township's representatives.
- d) Infrastructure Ontario/Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure regarding a project management best practices guide and information session to be held on April 9, 2010 in Thunder Bay. No one will attend this session.
- e) Rural 60 Plus – Invitation to Grand Opening of new addition – April 7, 2010. Mayor Nelson will be asked to attend, if he is unavailable Councillor Garbutt will. It was

- 10. Moved by Lee Ann Nygard
Seconded by G. Garbutt

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE RURAL 60 PLUS GRAND OPENING OF THEIR NEW ADDITION TO BE HELD AT THE RURAL 60 (PINEVIEW CENTER) ON APRIL 7, 2010.

MAYOR NELSON

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COUNCILLOR GARBUTT WILL BE THE ALTERNATE IF HE IS UNABLE TO ATTEND.

AN O'CONNOR HISTORY BOOK WILL BE DONATED TO THEIR LIBRARY.

Carried

- f) Nolalu Community Centre – requesting permission to add the Township of O'Connor's website as a link to their own. Council agreed that the Township website could be added as a link and that if it was alright with them we would add their website as a link to the Township's as well.

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

- a) Thunder Bay District Health Unit – 2008 Annual Report. The report was delayed by extensive public health events in 2009.
- b) Operation Clean Sweep – regarding Pitch-In Canada Week April 19 – 25, 2010. This program would cost \$175.00 for a community of our size and it was agreed not to participate at this time.
- c) City of Thunder Bay regarding the required Compliance Audit Committee for the upcoming election. The City staff are currently preparing a report for their Council with regard to this committee and they would like to know if the surrounding municipalities would like to employ the same committee. Council discussed the opportunity and requested that the Clerk-Treasurer contact the Township's of Conmee and Gillies to see if they would like to share a committee rather than go with the City, possibly with one member from each municipality.
- d) Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association – membership survey with regard to the level of satisfaction with the organization. Council's comments will be forwarded.

Councillor Racicot left the table.

- e) AMCTO – Meeting the Requirements of Bill 168 in Thunder Bay. It was

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

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE AMCTO – MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS OF BILL 168: VIOLENCE AND HARASSMENT IN THE WORKPLACE SESSION TO BE HELD IN THUNDER BAY ON MAY 20, 2010.

REGISTRATION: \$231.00

CLERK-TREASURER BUOB

Carried

Councillor Racicot returned to the table.

- f) New flags, poles and Queen's photo for new Council Chambers was discussed. The Clerk-Treasurer has contacted Municipal World for some pricing and she will contact the local flag store to see what they can provide and at what price. The local MP and MPP will be contacted to see if a Canadian and Provincial flag can be donated.

12. Moved by Lee Ann Nygard
Seconded by J. Vezina

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: 8:28 P.M.

Carried

The applications for Animal Control Officer were reviewed.

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- 13. Moved by Lee Ann Nygard
Seconded by J. Vezina

TIME BEING: 8:33 P.M.

THAT WE NOW MOVE TO OPEN MEETING.

Carried

It was decided that to better reflect the position, the name would be again changed to Dog Control Officer. All necessary policies and by-laws will be changed to reflect this change.

- 14. Moved by Lee Ann Nygard
Seconded by G. Garbutt

THAT BECKY DAVIS BE HIRED AS THE DOG CONTROL OFFICER.

RATE OF PAY AS PER ADMINISTRATION BY-LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER POSITION SET IN JANUARY 2009, RESOLUTION #21.

Carried

The Clerk-Treasurer will contact all applicants and inform them of the results.

- 15. Moved by G. Garbutt
Seconded by Lee Ann Nygard

THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 22, 2010 AT 7:00 P.M.

TIME BEING: 8:36 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer