

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – APRIL 10, 2017

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, April 10, 2017 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

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

Mayor Vezina called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m..

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: none

1. Moved by Chantal Alkins
Seconded by B. J. Loan

THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 27, 2017 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.

Carried

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

Mr. Johnson, Leadhand, was welcomed to the table. A Road Department update and roadwork in general was discussed. Bump signs have been put out on several roads. Half loads have been put on the Township roads including Highway 595 and 588. Roads are being graded, equipment is being washed and necessary repairs are being done.

When the Township receives notice from the Clean Water and Wastewater Fund as to whether or not we will receive funding to change out the mass of culverts, Mr. Johnson will be going out for quotes for their installation.

The sale of the 2002 CAT backhoe was discussed and it was

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

COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR HEREBY DECLARES THE 2002 420 CAT DIT 4 WHEEL DRIVE LOADER BACKHOE S/Z CAT 420DLBLN02499 SURPLUS AND AGREE TO THE SALE OF THIS ITEM TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER AS IS, WHERE IS.

Carried

The Workplace Inspection Report for January 2017 was read.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry – Notice regarding the proposed changes to fees and royalties for pits and quarries was read. The Township's annual permit fee and price per tonne from the Ministry pit will increase and will come into effect as of July 1, 2017, if these changes are approved.

A Township inspection was discussed and it was agreed to wait until the fall to have Council do their annual inspection of the Township road system and properties.

Mr. Johnson was thanked for attending and he left the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

The Administration and Roads voucher for March 2017 was reviewed and it was

3. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by Chantal Alkins

THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR MARCH 2017 TOTTALLING \$129,947.66 BE APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – APRIL 10, 2017

The voucher for Kevin's Tire Service was reviewed and it was

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

THAT THE ROADS VOUCHER FOR KEVIN'S TIRE SERVICE FOR MARCH 2017 TOTTALLING \$253.12 BE APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

The Statement of Revenue and Expenditure reports were not available.

By-laws were reviewed as follows:

- a) The Township of O'Connor's Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Prevention Plan was once again reviewed. Changes were made as per Council direction at the last meeting and it was

5. Moved by Chantal Alkins
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2017-12 BEING A BY-LAW TO ACCEPT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR'S POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER PREVENTION ACTION PLAN BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

The Plan will be forwarded to the Ministry of Labour by the deadline.

- b) The Emergency Measures Organization was discussed. As Mr. Coupland, the Emergency Planning Officer, has retired and the Municipalities are all appointing their own Community Emergency Management Coordinator (CEMC) the organization will no longer be required. It was

6. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by Chantal Alkins

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2017-13 BEING A BY-LAW TO RESCIND BY-LAW NUMBER 677, BEING A BY-LAW TO ESTABLISH AN EMERGENCY MEASURES ORGANIZATION BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

The O'Connor Community Centre renovations, with funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation, for the furnace replacement and the addition of air conditioning, and the washroom and storage room renovations were discussed. The Clerk-Treasurer asked Council for their opinion with regard to equipment that will be removed. The successful contractor will be asked to remove the old furnaces and fuel tanks but they will remain the property of the Township and they will be put up for sale by the Township. The propane source was also discussed. The propane kitchen appliances in the Community Centre are currently being sourced from the tank behind the municipal office. The Clerk-Treasurer will contact the propane company to see whether or not a new larger tank will have to be installed or whether the centre will require its own tank. The contractor will be responsible to do the hard pipe to the outside wall with the propane company doing the hookup. The washroom partitions and shelving in the storage room were also discussed. The Clerk-Treasurer will work on the request for quote.

A resolution for endorsement was read from the Municipality of Port Hope requesting that the Ontario Ministry of Environment and Climate Change revise existing legislation, to explicitly ban construction of incinerators, and phase out the use of existing incinerators was filed.

DSSAB issues were discussed as follows:

- a) A report with the historical Thunder Bay District Social Services Administration Board (TBDSSAB) Area One representation seats from 1997 to current was read.

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – APRIL 10, 2017

- b) Lakehead Rural Municipal Coalition (LRMC) – request for two resolutions from Council, one asking the TBDSSAB for figures for the usage of assistance provided for the residents of our Township and the second asking the Minister of Community and Social Services to start their province-wide review of Social Service Administration Boards. It was

7. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by Chantal Alkins

WHEREAS IT THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR IS A MEMBER MUNICIPALITY OF "AREA ONE" FOR THE THUNDER BAY DISTRICT SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BOARD ("TBDSSAB");

AND WHEREAS AREA ONE MUNICIPALITIES HAVE BEEN CONCERNED FOR SOME TIME OVER THE SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE AMOUNT OF MONEY PAID IN LEVIES TO THE TBDSSAB, AND THE VALUE OF THE SERVICES DELIVERED TO OUR CONSTITUENTS;

AND WHEREAS HISTORIC REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION FROM THE TBDSSAB OFFICE ON THIS SUBJECT MATTER HAVE BEEN MET WITH RESISTANCE, AND INFORMATION HAS NOT BEEN PROVIDED SINCE 2013;

AND WHEREAS THE BOARD IMPLEMENTED A NEW SOFTWARE PROGRAM WHICH, IF IS RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED, SHOULD BE ABLE TO GENERATE THE DATA REQUIRED TO RESPOND TO THIS REQUEST;

AND WHEREAS THE PROVISION OF GENERAL STATISTICAL AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION IS NOT A BREACH OF ANY CONFIDENCE;

AND WHEREAS THE RESIDENTS AND RATEPAYERS OF OUR COMMUNITY HAVE REQUESTED THAT THIS INFORMATION BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THEM;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR RESPECTFULLY REQUESTS THAT THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE THUNDER BAY DISTRICT SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BOARD PROVIDE TO THE COUNCIL A BREAKDOWN OF THE SERVICES DELIVERED WITHIN OUR MUNICIPALITY, AND THE VALUE OF THOSE SERVICES;

AND WHEREAS IN THE EVENT THAT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO COMPILE THIS INFORMATION, COUNCIL FOR THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR REQUESTS THAT THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE THUNDER BAY DISTRICT SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BOARD PROVIDE TO THE COUNCIL A BREAKDOWN OF THE SERVICES DELIVERED WITHIN ALL OF THE AREA ONE MUNICIPALITIES, COLLECTIVELY, AND THE VALUE OF THOSE SERVICES; AND

THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR CONSENTS TO THE TBDSSAB RELEASING INFORMATION PERTAINING TO THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR TO OTHER AREA ONE MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES WHO ARE MAKING THIS SAME REQUEST OF THE TBDSSAB.

Carried

8. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by Chantal Alkins

WHEREAS IT THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR IS ONE OF SIX MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES COMPRISING 'AREA ONE' FOR THE THUNDER BAY DISTRICT SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BOARD ("TBDSSAB");

AND WHEREAS THESE SAME SIX MUNICIPALITIES WORK TOGETHER ON A VARIETY OF ISSUES AND FORMED AN ORGANIZATION CALLED THE “LAKEHEAD RURAL MUNICIPAL COALITION: (“LRMC”);

AND WHEREAS THE LRMC MEMBERS HAVE BEEN CONCERNED FOR SOME TIME OVER THE FINANCING, OPERATION AND SERVICE DELIVERY OF THE TBDSSAB, AND HAVE BEEN BRINGING THEIR CONCERNS TO THE MINISTRY’S ATTENTION FOR SEVERAL YEARS;

AND WHEREAS THE LRMC MEMBERS, IN PURSUING THEIR ISSUES WITH THE THUNDER BAY DISTRICT SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BOARD, HAVE DISCOVERED THAT THERE ARE MANY OTHER MUNICIPALITIES ACROSS ONTARIO WITH SIGNIFICANT CONCERNS ABOUT THE OPERATIONS OF SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BOARDS THAT THEY BELONG TO;

AND WHEREAS, AT THE CONFERENCE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPALITIES OF ONTARIO HELD IN TORONTO IN AUGUST OF 2016, THE MINISTER OF COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES, DR. HELENA JACZEK, ANNOUNCED THAT THE MINISTRY WOULD EMBARK ON A PROVINCE-WIDE REVIEW OF SOCIAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATION BOARDS IN 2017;

AND WHEREAS THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES, JANET MENARD, SPOKE TO THE LRMC AT A MEETING ON OCTOBER 21, 2016, AND AT THAT MEETING, RE-ITERATED THAT THIS REVIEW WOULD BE UNDERTAKEN, THAT IT WOULD BE “COMPREHENSIVE” AND IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT FOR OUR MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROCESS;

AND WHEREAS THE LRMC MEMBERS PROVIDED A COMPENDIUM OF ISSUES TO VARIOUS MINISTRIES AT THE RURAL ONTARIO MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE HELD IN TORONTO AT THE END OF JANUARY, 2017, WHICH CONTAINED, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO THE MINISTER OF COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES;

THE LAKEHEAD RURAL MUNICIPAL COALITION IS PLEASED THAT THE PROVINCE HAS DECIDED TO OPEN A PROVINCE-WIDE REVIEW OF SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BOARDS. WE CAN ONLY HOPE THAT THIS REVIEW IS UNDERTAKEN WITH TRANSPARENCY. UNFORTUNATELY, BASED ON OUR EXPERIENCE OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS, OUR MUNICIPALITIES MAINTAIN A HEALTHY DOSE OF SCEPTICISM THAT THIS REVIEW WILL ACCOMPLISH, FOR US, OUR GOALS IN ACHIEVING EQUITABLE FINANCIAL TREATMENT.

RECOMMENDATION: BEGIN THE REVIEW IMMEDIATELY AND UNDERTAKE IT THOROUGHLY AND EXPEDITIOUSLY. IN THE REVIEW MEET WITH MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BOARDS INDIVIDUALLY, RATHER THAN ONLY WITH THE SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BOARDS THEMSELVES.

RECOMMENDATION: LISTEN TO THE MUNICIPALITIES WITH WHOM YOU CONSULT ON THIS REVIEW AND UNDERSTAND THE IMPACT OF THE EXISTING LEGISLATION, REGULATORY AND BOARD FRAMEWORK. WHEN YOU HAVE HEARD AND UNDERSTOOD – TAKE STEPS TO SOLVE THE SIGNIFICANT INEQUITY.

AND WHEREAS THERE HAS BEEN NO COMMUNICATION TO ANY OF OUR MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES ABOUT THIS REVIEW, NO TIMELINE ESTABLISHED, NO INFORMATION POSTED ON THE MINISTRY’S WEBSITE AND NO APPARENT ACTION TAKEN;

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – APRIL 10, 2017

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR RESPECTFULLY REQUESTS THAT THE PROMISED REVIEW:

- (A) COMMENCE IMMEDIATELY;**
- (B) BE COMPREHENSIVE;**
- (C) INVOLVE DIRECT DIALOGUE WITH, AND INPUT FROM, INDIVIDUAL MUNICIPALITIES WHO ARE REQUIRED BY LAW TO FUND SOCIAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATION BOARDS;**
- (D) BE COMPLETED PROMPTLY; AND**
- (E) BE ACTED UPON SWIFTLY;**

AND FURTHER, THAT THIS RESOLUTION BE SENT TO THE HONOURABLE DR. HELENA JACZEK, WITH A REQUEST FOR A WRITTEN REPLY;

AND FURTHER, THAT THE LETTER TO THE HONOUR DR. JACZEK BE COPIES TO THE HONOURABLE PREMIER WYNNE, AND THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS, BILL MAURO.

Carried

- c) Lakehead Rural Municipal Coalition (LRMC) - LRMC representative selection for three seats for Area One should the Ministry approve the two new seats within this term of Council. Ms. Evans provided a report and Mayor Vezina reported on the discussion held at the recent special meeting with the LRMC in this regard. It was

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

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR SUPPORT THE APPOINTMENTS TO THE THUNDER BAY DISTRICT SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BOARD WHEN THE MINISTRY IMPLEMENTS THE REGULATION TO ADD THE ADDITIONAL TWO SEATS FROM AREA ONE AS MAYOR LUCY KLOOSTERHUIS AND MAYOR KEVIN HOLLAND.

Carried

Mayor Vezina notified Council that he will be unable to attend the next LRMC meeting and asked for the Acting Mayor, Councillor Racicot, to attend in his absence. He will be available to attend.

Correspondence was read as follows:

- a) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) President – regarding the Federal Gas Tax Legacy Fund Payment. The Township of O'Connor will receive an addition \$737.00 as a result of this fund.
- b) Ministry of Municipal Affairs – regarding the Township of O'Connor's 2017 Annual Repayment Limit (ARL) respecting long-term debt and financial obligations.
- c) Stewardship Ontario – regarding the Industry Funding for Municipal Blue Box Recycling for the quarter of the 2016 Program Year.
- d) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – i) Watch File – March 30, 2017.
ii) Watch File – April 6, 2017.
iii) AMO Communications – AMO Policy Update – Bill 68 Submission and 1/3 Tax Exemption.
- e) The Premier of Ontario – reply letter to Council's resolution regarding accommodation reviews.
- f) Office of the Minister of National Revenue – reply letter to Council's resolution with regard to campground industry.

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) Joint Police Services Board – Calling of a Special Meeting to hear a presentation from the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) and to pass a by-law to authorize the agreement to constitute a joint board. It was

10. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by Chantal Alkins

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – APRIL 10, 2017

THAT A SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL BE CALLED FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2017 AT 7 P.M. AT THE NEEBING MUNICIPAL OFFICE, 4766 HIGHWAY 61. AT THIS MEETING COUNCIL WILL HEAR A PRESENTATION FROM THE ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE (OPP) WITH REGARD TO CREATING A JOINT POLICE SERVICES BOARD WITH THE MUNICIPALITY OF NEEBING, THE TOWNSHIP OF GILLIES, TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR AND TOWNSHIP OF CONMEE.

Carried

Council discussed the attendance at this meeting to insure there would be quorum. Councillor Alkins will not be able to attend and Mayor Vezina may be out of town.

Council agreed to move item 15b), the continuation of the review of comments from the Ministry for the Township of O'Connor's draft Official Plan to last item on the agenda.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Bill 68, Modernizing Ontario's Municipal Legislation Act, 2017 - Council will submit a written submission with regard to the Bill similar to the LRMC's submission.
- b) House of Commons – Ensuring access to justice in both of Canada's official languages requesting Council pass a resolution in support of Bill C-203 and to notify local Member of Parliament. Council filed this request.
- c) Ministry of Community, Safety and Correctional Services – Emergency Preparedness Week. The Clerk-Treasurer noted that she has forwarded this information to the Fire Department and suggested that they include this in their May 6th Wildfire Awareness presentation and BBQ.

Under further new business, Councillor Alkins informed Council of a complaint she received from a resident with regard to excessive shooting in the Cronk and Pool road area. The Township does not have any by-laws against this, however the person is responsible for their bullets and ensuring they are not endangering anyone. They must also follow the Ministry regulations with regard to usage of fire arms. The Township's noise by-law would come into effect if this was happening after 11 p.m. but it is not. It was suggested that notice be included in the next newsletter asking for people to respect their neighbours.

Canada 150 was also discussed. Mayor Vezina asked if Council would like to participate in any way with a Canada 150 event. The Clerk-Treasurer noted that the O'Connor Community Club and the O'Connor Volunteer Fire Department and Auxiliary have plans set for July 8th. The Annual Strawberry Festival has been expanded to add a BBQ and they will incorporate the Canada 150 theme to the day. Council discussed this and would like to add a Horseshoe Tournament to the afternoon, starting with registration at 3:30 and games starting at 4:00, which will lead into the BBQ at 5 p.m. Further details will be arranged and notice will be included in the newsletter.

For information purposes, no building permits have been approved since the last meeting.

Item 15b) the continuation of the review of the draft Official Plan comments was started. The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and the Ministry of Housing's response with regard to Council's concern to the Ministry of Natural Resources comments about the requirements for Species at Risk (SAR) was read. Council were satisfied with the response. Council completed the review of the Comments on Provincial Interests and the Provincial Policy Statement, 2014 and will continue with the Technical or Recommended Comments at the next meeting. It was

- 11. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL TO BE HELD AT THE MUNICIPALITY OF NEEBING MUNICIPAL OFFICE ON TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2017 AT 7:00 P.M
TIME BEING: 10:12 P.M.**

Carried