

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES BUDGET MEETING – APRIL 25, 2016

Minutes of the Fire Department budget meeting held on Monday, April 25, 2016 at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Present: Mayor Vezina
Councillors: Alkins, Foekens, Racicot
Clerk-Treasurer Buob

Visitors: Fire Chief Henry Mattas

Absent: Councillor Loan

Mayor Vezina called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Fire Chief Henry Mattas was welcomed to the table. The draft #1 Fire Department budget was reviewed. Items were discussed line by line. The Fire Department revenue was discussed. Fire Chief Mattas will be declaring some items as surplus after the fire season, including the 4 x 4 truck, a couple of compressors, a generator, a pump and possible a water tank. At this point in time we do not know how much they will be sold for or if they will sell. It was agreed to put a low amount in this line item for budgeting purposes. Fire Chief Mattas noted that they will pull out the surplus equipment to have on display at the Fire Department's Open House to be held on June 25, 2016. Under Capital purchases one set of turnout gear has been budgeted for. Loan payments on the pumper will remain the same as 2015 as this line only includes the principal on the loan and the interest is included in the administration budget.

The Honourarium for the Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief were discussed. Council previously discussed the possibility of paying the Deputy Fire Chief a honourarium for his/her services in 2016 and asked that it be discussed further at budget. Council feel that this position also has a lot of responsibilities and they would like to offer a monthly honourarium. It was suggested that \$300/month be proposed. It was also suggested that the Fire Chief's honourarium increase by \$10/month.

Under Fire Department training, Fire Chief Mattas noted that he would like to have two members take the driver training course at Taranis this year. The program did work out well a couple of years ago and he would like to use the program again. The drivers will also be required to have medicals and do the test. The Township would cover all of these costs. It was also estimated that four members will attend the Fire Con conference to be held in the fall.

It was noted that the new accounting program was used for the 2015 accounting and new accounts were setup for the Fire Department vehicles, breaking up the maintenance and operating expenses, after the budget was set. The variances between the budget and the actuals in 2015 were explained to help Council understand why the variances occurred and to help understand the comparisons with the new budget numbers for 2016. At this time Fire Chief Mattas is not aware of any major issues with any of the equipment. A pump test will be required on the pumper. The Fire Department Auxiliary has just purchased a quad for the department and the maintenance on the quad will be the Township's responsibility. Fire Chief Mattas is also prefabricating a trailer to tow behind the quad for grass fires.

The purchase of two new pagers and two new radios will be budgeted for. Flow tests on the SCBA equipment was already done this year, as well as an air test. Another air test will be required later in the year. The fire hall maintenance was discussed. Heating system repairs were required this year already. The training room in the fire hall has been painted.

Fixed costs were briefly discussed. Internet services were installed in the fire hall this year for training purposes. If the line can be shared with the road department the monthly service costs will be shared between the two departments.

The budget will be discussed further at the full budget meeting to be held on Wednesday, May 18, 2016 at 7 p.m.

Council thanked Fire Chief Mattas for presenting his budget and it was

1. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by K. Foekens

**THAT THE FIRE DEPARTMENT MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL
MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2016 AT 7:00 P.M.**

TIME BEING: 6:55 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer