

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

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, April 25, 2016 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

Present: Mayor Vezina
Councillors: Alkins, Foekens, Racicot
Clerk-Treasurer Buob
Visitors: Fire Chief Mattas
Absent: Councillor Loan

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: none

1. Moved by Chantal Alkins
Seconded by K. Foekens

THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE ROADS BUDGET MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2016 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.

Carried

2. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2016 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.

Carried

Fire Chief Mattas was welcomed to the table. The Fire Department report from March 24, 2016 to April 21, 2016 was read. There was one fire/CO alarm call, one first response call and one motor vehicle collision since the last report.

The Essentials of Municipal Fire Protection and Emergency Management session which was held on March 30, 2016 was briefly discussed. Fire Chief Mattas, Deputy Chief Budiselic, Moe Douglas and Councillor Alkins all attended. Councillor Alkins found it to be excellent training.

The O'Connor Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary minutes from the meeting held on April 12, 2016 were read. As well, a list of the items purchased for the Fire Department in 2015 by the auxiliary was also reviewed. The Auxiliary are currently looking into putting a bin to recycle pop cans at the fire hall and would like to place one at the Disposal site as well. Council did not have any issues with this. It was noted that the auxiliary does excellent work for the Fire Department.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry 2016-2017 Fire Smart Community Grant Program draft application was reviewed. The application will be submitted as presented. If approved a by-law to enter into an agreement will be brought back to Council.

Fire Chief Mattas noted that after speaking with Mr. Lemieux from the Ministry of Natural Resources, to date there have been no fires in the Thunder Bay District and by May they will have the full composite of staff hired.

Council thanked Fire Chief Mattas for attending and he left the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Resolutions for endorsement were reviewed as follows:

- a) Municipality of Dutton Dunwich requesting changes to IESO Process was filed.
- b) Township of North Stormont regarding expanding natural gas services in Eastern Ontario was filed.
- c) Township of North Frontenac regarding the Independent Electrical System Operator - Review of Request for Proposal Process for the Award of Renewable Energy Contracts was filed.
- d) Township of South Frontenac regarding large renewable procurement initiatives was filed.

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- e) Town of Tillsonburg encouraging the Province and other private and public sector partners to ensure waste generated is minimized and stays within the municipal area where it is generated was filed.

The District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board requesting that the Township of O'Connor rescind the prior resolution to pay the DSSAB levy to an escrow agent. Until mediation is settled Council will continue to make the levy payments to the escrow agent.

Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) – i) Conference Update
ii) request for door prizes.

3. Moved by Chantal Alkins
Seconded by K. Foekens

THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR DONATE 1 HISTORY BOOK AND 1 COMMUNITY CLUB SWEATSHIRT TO THE NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE TO BE HELD ON APRIL 28 & 29TH, 2016 IN THUNDER BAY.

Carried

- b) Lakehead Rural Municipal Coalition – Minutes March 17, 2016 meeting
c) Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) – i) May Newsletter.
ii) Police Services Board Report - Jan to March 2016.
d) Ministry of Transportation – reply to council's endorsing resolution regarding intercity bus transportation in Northern Ontario.
e) Minister of Labour – Message from the Minister of Labour regarding Bill 163, the Supporting Ontario's First Responders Act, 2016.
f) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – i) AMO Watchfile April 14, 2016
ii) AMO Watchfile April 21, 2016.
iii) MEPCO Update – Government Introduces Bill 186 to Implement the Proposed ORPP.
iv) AMO Policy Update – Bill 151 Waste-Free Ontario now sent to Standing Committee.
g) AMCTO The Municipal Experts – AMCTO Legislative Express April 4, 2016 issue.
h) Municipality of Neebing – regarding Individual re-Zonings being considered in the context of the Municipality's Review of its Comprehensive Zoning By-law (860-2010).
The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) Township of Conmee – regarding shared Thunder Bay District Municipal League (TBDML) sponsorship. As the Township of Gillies has decided to not share the sponsorship of a breakfast at the upcoming fall conference with O'Connor and Conmee, but will sponsor their own break, the Township of Conmee has decided that they will sponsor the full cost of the breakfast themselves rather than sharing the costs with O'Connor. The Clerk-Treasurer reported that she has spoken with the Executive Director and they will still accept our sponsorship of \$300 for other expenses associated with the conference.
b) Draft Agreement for the use of the O'Connor Community Centre for office space by Ambashi Engineering was read. Council were satisfied with the agreement and it will be forwarded to the renter to see if they have any concerns. If everything is satisfactory to them it will be brought back to Council for approval at the next meeting for the rental to begin May 30, 2016. It was noted that they will have to get their own internet hooked up in the office.
c) Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge - Draft agenda Annual Exercise and Training – June 22, 2016 was reviewed.

Under further old business, Council discussed the recent Community Policing Advisory Committee (CPAC) meeting held on April 21, 2016. Mayor Vezina was in attendance and the group further discussed the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Section 10 contract and the joining of a services board. At this meeting it was confirmed that by entering into a Section 10 contract it will not cost the municipalities any additional monies, they would not have to meet more often than the current CPAC does and no additional training costs for the board would be required. It would allow for more input regarding OPP

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decisions for our area and grant funding would be available for certain OPP programs. The Municipalities of Neebing, Gillies, O'Connor and Conmee were previously looking into a joint police services board but O'Connor at our last Council meeting decided to not enter the Section 10 Agreement. After further discussion with the group and Staff Sergeant Graham, Mayor Vezina has requested that Council reconsider entering into the Section 10 contract and joining the Joint Police Service Board with the other municipalities. It was also noted that in Southern Ontario the Ministry is reviewing the Police Service Boards and maybe amalgamating some of them together and if they start to look at the Northern Ontario Municipalities we may be forced to join forces anyway.

Council discussed Mayor Vezina's comments and agreed that if there were no additional costs to the Township of O'Connor they would consider entering into a Section 10 contract with the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) and join the Joint Services Board with the Municipality of Neebing and the Townships of Gillies and Conmee. The Clerk-Treasurer will inform the municipalities of their decision and await further information from the OPP with regard to the contract.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Update on missing Helipad cones. The Clerk-Treasurer reported that a resident had called her at home on Saturday, April 16th to let her know that, what looked to be two helipad cones were poking out of the snow on Cronk Road in Marks Township. The Clerk-Treasurer did go and check them out and informed Mr. Johnson, Leadhand on Monday of the location. He did go and pick them up and they were still in good condition with the lights still attached. They will now be put in storage for spares.
- b) Motorcycle Ride for Dad – requesting permission to use the O'Connor Community Centre as a card stop. Council discussed the event and it was

4. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by Chantal Alkins

THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR WAIVE THE HALL RENTAL FEE ON SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 2016, AS REQUESTED, FOR THE THUNDER BAY REGIONAL HEALTH SCIENCES FOUNDATION MOTORCYCLE RIDE FOR DAD – FIGHTING PROSTATE CANCER.

THE COMMUNITY CENTRE WOULD BE USED FOR A PITSTOP IN THEIR ANNUAL POKER RUN.

Carried

- c) Rural Cupboard Food Bank – Sponsorship Package was reviewed. The Food bank has outgrown its current location and is in the process of building an addition onto the Conmee Municipal Complex. They are currently looking for financial support and assistance with their promotion for their current needs. Council will discuss the possibility of a donation during budget discussions at the May 18th budget meeting. Information will also be included in the Township's newsletter, the Cornerstone.
- d) Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs – regarding a Focus Group meeting to discuss the development of a strategy for the Northern Ontario Agriculture, Aquaculture and Food Processing in Northern Ontario invitation to the sector session – May 4, 2016. It was

5. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE FOOD AND RURAL AFFAIRS FOCUS GROUP MEETING REGARDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A STRATEGY FOR NORTHERN ONTARIO AGRICULTURE, AQUACULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING TO BE HELD ON MAY 4, 2016 IN THUNDER BAY.

COUNCILLOR ALKINS

Carried

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- e) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – Media Relations & Communications Workshop – no one will attend.
- f) Continuous Improvement Fund – 2016 Request for Expressions of Interest (REOI) – the program supports transitional support in response to new legislation – Bill 151, Waste-Free Ontario Act and BB Harmonization projects – No application will be made at this time.
- g) Trans Canada Trail – invitation to become a Champion for Trans Canada Trail. It was agreed to not become a champion at this time.
- h) Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services – regarding extension of closing date for written submissions on the Strategy for a Safer Ontario. No comments will be submitted.

Under further new business the Clerk-Treasurer noted that a resident has requested that “Children at Play” signs be posted on Pool Road during the detour starting this June. They are concerned about the safety of their children with the extra traffic that will be using the road. Council would like Mr. Johnson to see if one of the other municipalities may have some spare signs the Township could borrow for this short period of time.

Issues brought forward or letters received after agenda was mailed

- a) LHnorth – regarding Highway 595 road closure scheduled for this summer. LHnorth is proposing June 13, 2016 as the closure date. They have contacted the Lakehead District School Board and they have okayed the closure prior to the school year ending. Council did not have any concerns with the earlier start date of the detour.
- b) Superior North Emergency Medical Service (SNEMS) – i) First Quarter Levy for 2016 ii) District Operations – paramedics in position to go on strike April 28, 2016.
- c) Chris and Jane Montgomery – copy of complaint regarding low flying airplanes was read. Council would like to defer this item to the next meeting to discuss further with Councillor Loan, who with his previous employment was involved in the College training and would know more about the flight training and flight paths.
- d) Lakehead Region Conservation Authority (LRCA) – Municipal Newsletter – May Edition was read.
- e) Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport – regarding an Update on Ontario’s Culture Strategy. The next steps are to review the feedback and finalize the strategy and release it in June.
- f) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – regarding Proclamation, on May 1, 2016, of the Infrastructure for Jobs & Prosperity Act, 2015.

For information purposes the Clerk-Treasurer reported that two building permits were approved today, one for a shed and one for a new home.

- 6. Moved by Chantal Alkins
Seconded by K. Foekens

THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 9, 2016 AT 7:00 P.M.

TIME BEING: 8:44 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer