

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – AUGUST 8, 2016

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, August 8, 2016 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

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

Visitors: Kelly Johnson, Leadhand
Richard Racicot

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: Councillor Racicot declared an interest in items 15 g)i) & ii), 15 j) and 18 a) as his spouse is an employee of the Township.

1. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

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

Carried

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

Mr. Johnson, Leadhand, was welcomed to the table. The Monthly Road Report was read. No questions were asked with regard to the report, however Council did suggest that changes be made to Mr. Johnson's reporting. Council would like Mr. Johnson to just highlight any due diligence issues/concerns or Council need to know items rather than the employees daily duties.

Roadwork in general was discussed. The culvert for Tin Pail Creek on Smith Road arrived today and is on site. LHNorth has reported to Mr. Johnson that Highway 595 culvert replacement will be completed on Thursday of this week and the detour signage will be removed. The detour is currently dusty but it does not sound like they will be applying any additional calcium as the detour is over. It was suggested that Mr. Johnson speak with Michelle Welch further and request a regrade to bring the road back to good condition with an application of dust control.

It was noted that the Ministry of Transportation have not responded to Council's letter dated July 8, 2016 as of today, with regard to the Highway 590 Road Closure at Cedar Creek #3. Mr. Johnson currently has KAK Contracting brushing Fleming road in anticipation of more traffic travelling this route and again confirmed with Council that the road department want no part of the maintenance of Cronk road should a detour be approved on the Township roads.

An email had been received from Michelle Welch of LHNorth on July 12, 2016 requesting an extension to the maintenance agreement for the detour during the Highway 595 road closure. As there has been no meeting since that date Mr. Johnson did not see any issues with regard to this and Council was made aware. It was

2. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by K. Foekens

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2016-11 BEING AN AGREEMENT WITH LHNORTH FOR A SERVICE AGREEMENT FOR A DETOUR FOR THE CLOSURE OF HIGHWAY 595 BE EXTENDED FOR AN ADDITIONAL PERIOD UP TO POSSIBLY AUGUST 23, 2016.

Carried

Copies of the letters from Taranis Contracting Group and Firesteel Contractors to the Township with regard to Highway 590 closure at Cedar Creek #3 were read. These letters were both forwarded to the Ministry of Transportation. It was suggested that

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other Green Mantle and Lakehead Forest contractors be made aware of the closure. The school bus companies should also be notified. Mayor Vezina noted that the possible starting date of the closure will be around September 13 – 25, 2016 depending when the culvert can be supplied.

An email from the Township of Gillies was read with regard to Main Street and their recent public meeting with regard to the road's closure. The road will remain closed and the Gillies Council will take note of the effect of the closure on Prouty road, especially during the Hymers Fair. They will continue to look for funding opportunities and the entire issue will be brought back in the spring.

A date for the Township Inspection was discussed and it was

3. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**THAT THE FOLLOWING DATE BE SET FOR A TOWNSHIP INSPECTION –
OCTOBER 4, 2016 AT 8:30 A.M.**

Carried

The Administration and Roads Voucher for July 2016 was reviewed and it was

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

**THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR JULY 2016
TOTTALLING \$143,548.23 BE APPROVED AND PAID.**

Carried

The Statement of Revenue and Expenditures were not available.

A Consent Application Number 1B/21/16 for O'Loughlin, Pt Mining Lot 145T and Y1, Concession 1 was reviewed. A copy of the Ministry of Transportation's comments letter was also read and it was

5. Moved by Chantal Alkins
Seconded by K. Foekens

**THAT THE CONSENT APPLICATION 1B/21/16 FOR RICHARD O'LOUGHLIN
FOR THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED AS PART OF MINING LOCATION Y1
AND 145T FOR A SEVERANCE OF 18.229 HECTARES BE APPROVED.**

Carried

Resolutions for endorsement were read as follows:

- a) City of Quinte West – regarding Taxation – Impact on Campgrounds. It was

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

**THAT THE RESOLUTION FROM THE CITY OF QUINTE WEST WITH
REGARD TO TAXATION – IMPACT ON CAMPGROUNDS BE ENDORSED.**

Carried

- b) Township of West Lincoln – regarding Mandatory Municipal Consent for Future Renewable Energy Projects was filed.
- c) The Premier of Ontario reply letter to Council's endorsed resolution with regard to fuel prices.

Thunder Bay District Social Services Administration Board – a) A letter was read from the TBDSSAB requesting support for the continuation of the Community Social Reinvestment Fund (CSRF). Council discussed the information provided and it was

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7. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by K. Foekens

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR OBJECTS TO THE THUNDER BAY DISTRICT SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BOARD'S REQUEST FOR THE CONTINUATION OF THE COMMUNITY SOCIAL REINVESTMENT FUND (CSRF) PROGRAM FOR 2016.

Carried

- b) Copy of TBDSSAB 2015 Annual Report was reviewed.

Correspondence was read as follows:

- a) Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) – i) Thunder Bay OPP – August Newsletter. The back to school bus safety information will be included in the September issue of the Cornerstone.
ii) Municipal Policing Bureau – The OPP will be participating in the AMO Conference.
- b) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – i) Watch File July 14, 2016.
ii) Watch File July 21, 2016.
iii) Watch File July 28, 2016.
iv) Watch File August 4, 2016.
v) AMO Communications – regarding Infrastructure Canada – July 12, Phase 1 Infrastructure Funding Agreements Cross Country Status.
vi) AMO Communications – regarding Infrastructure Canada – July 26, Phase 1 Infrastructure Funding Agreements Updated Cross Country Status.
- c) Ministry of the Environmental and Climate Change – i) regarding Proposed Regulations Under the Waste Diversion Transition Act.
ii) Advertising position on Public Appointment for Board members and chair for an initial board of the Authority. No will on Council was interested in applying at this time.
- d) Community School Alliance regarding Nominations – deadline was July 22, 2016. Mayor Lucy Kloosterhuis of the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge was previously on the Alliance but is stepping down.
- e) Mayor Bill Vrebosch, Municipality of East Ferris, AMO Rural Caucus and ROMA email regarding a meeting he had with Minister Glen Murray with regard to the expansion of natural gas into rural areas.
- f) Northern Policy Institute – i) regarding the Northern Ontario Infrastructure Map launch
ii) Northern Policy Institute announces Basic Income Guarantee (BIG) conference. The conference will be held in Sudbury on October 5-6th. Council would like to send a reply to this announcement, recommending that they move this Conference around to three or four different locations in the North.
- g) Eleanor McMahon, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport – regarding the Launch of Ontario's First Culture Strategy.
- h) Ontario Trillium Foundation – regarding Changes to the Registration and Application Process – August 2016.

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) Changing of the date of scheduled Union Negotiation meeting. It was

8. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by K. Foekens

THAT THE DATE OF MONDAY, AUGUST 22, 2016 AT 7 P.M. ORIGINALLY SET TO MEET WITH THE CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES LOCAL 87 TO NEGOTIATE A NEW UNION AGREEMENT BE CHANGED TO WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10, 2016 AT 7 P.M.

THE MEETING TO BE HELD IN THE O'CONNOR COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

Carried

- b) Fotenn – Mr. Paul Hicks, Project Manager will be transferring the Township of O'Connor's file for the Official Plan and Zoning By-law Review to Carl Furney as he is leaving the company.

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- c) Lakehead Region Conservation Authority (LRCA) – Draft Official Plan and Zoning By-law comments. The Clerk-Treasurer reported to Council that she has spoken with Mr. Posen from Fotenn with regard to the comments. He does agree with some of the them but would like to speak with Ms. Cook, CAO, for clarification on others. Council did not have addition comments with regard to the LRCA's comments at this time.
- d) Grant Thornton LLP – Township of O'Connor's 2015 Financial Statements were reviewed.

Under further old business Council enquired with the Clerk-Treasurer as to the status of the air conditioner for the Municipal office and Council chambers. Unfortunately the Clerk-Treasurer has not had time to get a request for quote out yet. It was recommended that a site visit be held and suppliers be invited to look at the building to see what type of system would work best.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Michael Gravelle, M.P.P. / Bill Mauro, M.P.P. Press Release – Local Ridings to see Major Funding Increase for Infrastructure- Formula Based Funding to Rise. Councillor Loan attended the press release in Thunder Bay. The Township of O'Connor will be receiving \$50,000 in 2017, 2018 and 2019 through the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF).
- b) Larry Bockus – Invitation to participate in the Slate River Plowing Match to be held on September 10th. Mayor Vezina will try to attend and if he is unavailable Councillor Racicot will.
- c) Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs – regarding Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF). The Clerk-Treasurer will look further into the top-up component of the funding.
- d) Eco Superior i) letter regarding the Open Burning and requesting that the Township of O'Connor change By-law Number 2004-09 regarding open air burning.
ii) Copy of the Township of O'Connor's By-law Number 2004-09.
Council discussed the request and at this time decided to not change the Township's By-law Number 2004-09.
- e) Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) – regarding Northwestern Ontario Regional Conference – September 22 & 23, 2016. The Conference format has been changed this year with NOMA conducting one-day of the conference and Common Voice Northwest managing the agenda for the second day. It was

- 9. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by B. J. Loan

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE REGIONAL CONFERENCE AND COMMON VOICE NORTHWEST FALL CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN THUNDER BAY ON SEPTEMBER 22 & 23, 2016.

**MAYOR VEZINA – SEPTEMBER 22, 2016
COUNCILLOR LOAN – BOTH DAYS AND LUNCHEON FOR \$15.00
COUNCILLOR RACICOT – BOTH DAYS
COUNCILLOR ALKINS – BOTH DAYS AND LUNCHEON FOR \$15.00
DEPUTY CLERK-TREASURER RACICOT – SEPTEMBER 22, 2016**

REGISTRATION: \$125.00 PER DAY.

Carried

- f) Thunder Bay District Municipal League (TBDML) – Minutes of the June 4, 2016 meeting and request for any issues Council would like to see added to their agenda. Councillor Loan noted that they are hoping to set the dates for the 100th Anniversary of the League in 2017. They may also be moving the location to a larger venue. Council did not have any other suggestions to move forward.

Councillor Racicot requested that items 15. k) further new business be moved forward on the agenda to discuss prior to upcoming items in which he has declared a pecuniary interest. Council agreed to move the item forward.

Councillor Racicot suggested a fundraising idea for the Township which would also support the local community pasture. He would like to suggest purchasing a few calves

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in the spring, raise them in the Community Pasture and then sell them off in the fall. The Clerk-Treasurer will look into whether or not this could be done with municipal funds.

Councillor Racicot then left the meeting.

- g) Deputy Clerk-Treasurer's report to Council i) regarding Asset Management Planning. The Deputy Clerk-Treasurer is recommending to Council the purchase of the CityWide Asset Management software due to the increase in reporting requirements for funding and the demand on administrative staff. A quote for the programs was reviewed.
ii) The Public Sector Digest Inc. – City Wide Asset Management Software Package was reviewed..

Council discussed the quote and due to the cost of the program and it not being currently in the budget, it was recommended that the additional 2017 OCIF funding be used and the program be purchased in January 2017. As there are different programs available more inquiry will be made to see what the other local municipalities are using and if they feel the programs are worth the cost associated.

- h) North of Superior Travel Association – invitation to become a member. Council decided to not become a member at this time.
i) Ministry of Municipal Affairs – Review of the scope and effectiveness of the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) – requesting comment. No comment will be made
j) Fred Dean' Fall 2016 Webinars – Codes of Conduct and Integrity Commissioners: What staff should know and Taking the Mysteries out of Reports to Council – no one will attend.

For information purposes no new building permits have been approved.

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

**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: 8:50 P.M.**

Carried

Council discussed the Township of O'Connor's Management submission for the upcoming union negotiations for the road department employees.

11. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by K. Foekens

**TIME BEING: 9:17 P.M.
THAT WE NOW MOVE TO OPEN MEETING.**

Carried

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

**THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2016 AT 7:00 P.M.
TIME BEING: 9:18 P.M.**

Carried