

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – DECEMBER 19, 2016

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, December 19, 2016 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

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

Visitors: Fire Chief Henry Mattas

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 item 6 c) as his spouse is an employee of the Township.

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

THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2016 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.

Carried

Fire Chief Henry Mattas was welcomed to the table. The Fire Department report was read. There was one first response call and one fire related call since the last report.

There are currently no issues with regard to the Fire Department. It has been fairly quiet with regard to calls in the Township. Council asked Fire Chief Mattas if it is also quiet in the district and he replied overall yes, however there have been a couple serious calls.

Councillor Racicot left the room.

The position of Community Emergency Management Coordinator (CEMC) was discussed. Due to the retirement of John Coupland, the Township must now appoint a new CEMC. Deputy Clerk-Treasurer, Linda Racicot, is willing to take on the position for the Township of O'Connor. The Alternates will remain the same. Training for this position is required and will be available locally in 2017. Council were in agreement and it was

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

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSONS BE APPOINTED AS THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR'S DESIGNATED COMMUNITY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATORS (CEMC) AS REQUIRED BY THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND CIVIL PROTECTION ACT.

**CEMC – LINDA RACICOT
ALTERNATE CEMC - HENRY MATTAS
- MORRIS DOUGLAS
- MONICA BUDISELIC**

AND THAT RESOLUTION #2 OF THE JUNE 24, 2015 COUNCIL MEETING BE RESCINDED.

Carried

New Members to the O'Connor Fire Department were discussed and Fire Chief Mattas would like to officially add them to the roster. The Clerk-Treasurer also reviewed the current roster and noted that two active members have never been officially added by Council resolution and it was

3. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by K. Foekens

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THAT THE COUNCIL APPROVE THE FOLLOWING PERSONS AS MEMBERS OF THE O'CONNOR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AND/OR FIRST RESPONSE TEAM:

1. JESSE BUOB
2. TOM GRATZ
3. JUSTIN GROCHOWSKI
4. KAI KWASA
5. JARRYD PARKER
6. PAUL PHILLIPS

Carried

With the Clerk-Treasurer's review of active members to the Fire Department and First Response Team it was noted that the following members are no longer active and it was

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

THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE REMOVAL OF THE FOLLOWING NAMES FROM THE ACTIVE ROSTER OF THE O'CONNOR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AND/OR FIRST RESPONSE TEAM:

**CAYDEN BOUCHER
EDWARD CHARETTE
THOMAS GRATZ
IAN HAMILTON
JOSH TURK
SHERI ZAPORZAN**

Carried

Fire Chief Mattas informed Council that at a recent Zone meeting a Lakehead University Research Study titled "Enhancing Capacity for Mental Health with Rural, Volunteer Emergency First Responders" was discussed. The O'Connor Fire Department will be hosting the first study session on Tuesday, January 3, 2017 at 7 p.m. in the O'Connor Community Centre. The Departments from Gillies, Nolalu, Conmee and O'Connor will be participating. He would also like to invite O'Connor's Council and staff to attend. If Council or staff would like to participate it would be on their own with no compensation.

Fire Chief Mattas noted that there will be no Fire Department/ First Response meeting or training on December 20th. Fire Chief Mattas will try to start flooding the rink this week in hopes to have it ready for skating over the holidays. He also noted that he will be out of service on December 24th.

Council thanked Fire Chief Mattas for attending and wished him a Merry Christmas and he left the meeting.

The Administration and Roads Voucher for the first part of December was reviewed and it was

5. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER #1 FOR DECEMBER 2016 TOTTALLING \$61,588.19 BE APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

The Revenue and Expenditure reports to November 30, 2016 were reviewed.

By-laws and polices were discussed as follows:

- a) A By-law to establish an Emergency Management Programme was discussed and a draft new Emergency Plan reviewed. Mr. Coupland, current CEMC and Emergency Measures Organization, Emergency Planning Officer, assisted with the revised plan. Council suggested a couple minor changes, which will be changed and it was

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6. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by K. Foekens

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2016-15 BEING A BY-LAW TO ESTABLISH AN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME FOR THE PROTECTION OF PUBLIC SAFETY, HEALTH, THE ENVIRONMENT, THE CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND PROPERTY, AND TO PROMOTE ECONOMIC STABILITY AND A DISASTER-RESILIENT COMMUNITY BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

- b) A By-law to accept a Multi-Year Accessibility Plan and the draft plan for the Township of O'Connor was reviewed and it was

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

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2016-16 BEING A BY-LAW TO ACCEPT THE MULTI-YEAR ACCESSIBILITY PLAN FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

A resolution for endorsement was read from the Township of Hornepayne with regard to municipal fire service infrastructure and its inclusion in the Strategy to Move Ontario Forward and it was

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

THAT THE RESOLUTION FROM THE TOWNSHIP OF HORNEPAYNE REQUESTING THAT THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZES MUNICIPAL FIRE SERVICE AS A CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE BY INCLUDING FUNDING FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT INFRASTRUCTURE AS PART OF THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY TO MOVE ONTARIO FORWARD BE ENDORSED.

Carried

District Social Services Administration Board (DSSAB) issues were discussed. An update was provided on the recent meetings with the Area One municipalities, including a meeting with the Deputy Minister and the TBDSSAB board.

Correspondence was read as follows:

- a) Lakehead Region Conservation Authority (LRCA) – Copy of resolution adopted by the LRCA Board of Directors regarding the Waukesha Water Diversion. The resolution affirming its commitment to the protection of the water resources and calling on the Governors of the United States and their representatives to reconsider their final decision to approve the Waukesha application.
 - b) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – i) AMO Watchfile – December 8, 2016
ii) AMO Watchfile – December 15, 2016
iii) AMO Communications – AMO Policy Update – Members' Legislative Update
iv) AMO Office of the President – Thank you letter for Council's resolution regarding Schedule 5 of Bill 7, Promoting Affordable Housing Act, 2016.
 - c) Municipal Property Assessment Corporation – regarding the 2017 Budget and Municipal Levy. The province wide municipal levy increase will be 2.65%.
 - d) Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) – Quarterly report. The billable calls for the Township of O'Connor are down slightly from 2015.
 - e) Ontario Power Generation (OPG) – regarding Pickering nuclear power station background information.
 - f) Sylvia Jones, MPP – Dufferin-Calendon's December newsletter.
- The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) A donation towards a retirement gift for Mr. John Coupland, Emergency Planning

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Officer and the Township of O'Connor's CEMC was again discussed and it was

9. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by K. Foekens

THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR MAKE A CASH DONATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50.00 TOWARDS THE RETIREMENT GIFT FOR MR. JOHN COUPLAND, EMERGENCY MEASURES ORGANIZATION AND CEMC FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR.

Carried

Attendance at Mr. Coupland's retirement dinner was also confirmed.

The Township of O'Connor's 2016 Christmas party date was confirmed and it was

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

THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR HOLD A 2016 CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR COUNCIL, STAFF, FIRE DEPARTMENT AND FIRST RESPONSE VOLUNTEERS AT THE KAKABEKA HOTEL ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2017.

SPOUSES AND GUESTS WILL PAY FOR THEIR OWN DINNER.

Carried

- c) Thunder Bay District Municipal League (TBDML) – regarding the 2nd Vice-President position. Councillor Loan has stepped down from this position and Councillor Wendy Wright from the Township of Gillies will take on the executive position.
- d) Municipality of Neebing – Rosalie Evans, Solicitor-Clerk – A memorandum regarding the Joint Police Services Board/Contract with OPP and update on the progress was read. On February 22, 2016 Council passed a resolution agreeing to pursue entering into a Section 10 Police Services Agreement with the OPP and were willing to enter into a Joint Services Board with the surrounding municipalities. Ms. Evans has been receiving conflicting information and has confirmed that the representation on the Board would not permit as many seats as was originally planned. The Police Services Board would be comprised of three persons – one appointed by the Province, one appointed as a member of the council of one of the communities participating and one appointed as a member of one of the communities. Ms. Evans is circulating this memorandum to the Councils to see whether, in these circumstances, there is still an interest to proceed. Council discussed the new information and as the municipalities must be adjoining in order to have such a Board, the Clerk-Treasurer will contact the Township of Gillies to see if they are interested before making a decision. This will be discussed further at the next Council meeting to be held in January.
- e) Tbaytel – regarding the Proposed New Cell Tower in O'Connor Township. Information with regard to the construction of a new tower, located near the existing Tbaytel Central Office on Highway 595 was read. Representatives from Tbaytel will be attending the January 9, 2017 Council meeting to discuss their proposal in person.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) TBT Engineering Consulting Group – regarding Highway 590 and Highway 588 Highway Improvements – Project Step-Down Notice. Council did not have any concerns with the project being stepped down from a Group B to a Group C project.
- b) Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario – 2017 Membership Renewal. Council agreed to continue with a membership of the MFOA in 2017 and the dues will be paid and included in the January Voucher.
- c) Ontario Provincial Police – Municipal Policing Bureau – participation at the ROMA conference.

Under further new business, Councillor Foekens noted that he received a phone call with regard to a road in the Township not being plowed. At the time of the call he ensured the resident that it would be plowed in the near future. The Clerk-Treasurer will

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follow up with Mr. Johnson to see if there was a delay for some reason on this particular road.

Issues brought forward or letters received after the agenda was mailed out were read as follows:

- a) Lakehead Rural Municipal Coalition – draft minutes – i) November 17, 2016 meeting
ii) December 15, 2016 meeting.
- b) Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) – i) regarding the Rural and Regional Business Support Integration and Program Review. Councillor Iain Angus from the City of Thunder Bay participated in an online consultation about the future of the Rural Economic Development (RED) Fund for businesses and provided issues identified. The Ministry is currently looking for feedback on the program. Council did not have any comments at this time.
ii) Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Report to Council – November Board meeting highlights and comments from Councillor Linda Rydholm, FCM Board Member.
- c) MPAC News – Assessment Update 2016
- d) Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change – regarding the Proposed Strategy for a Waste-Free Ontario: Building the Circular Economy

For information purposes no building permits were issued since the last meeting.

- 11. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE NEXT PORTION OF THE MEEITNG 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: 8:37 P.M.

Carried

The Administrative Assistant position and the estimated costs to extend the position were reviewed.

- 12. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by K. Foekens

**TIME BEING: 8:55 P.M.
THAT WE NOW MOVE TO OPEN MEETING.**

Carried

- 13. Moved by Chantal Alkins
Seconded by B. J. Loan

THAT ERIN LAFOREST'S POSITION OF PART-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT FOR THE PERIOD OF SEPTEMBER 28 TO DECEMBER 23, 2016 BE EXTENDED INTO 2017 AND CONTINUE AS REQUIRED.

RATE OF PAY EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2017 WILL BE \$.

Carried

- 14. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2017 AT 7:00 P.M.
TIME BEING: 9:02 P.M.**

Carried