

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – DECEMBER 3, 2018

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, December 3, 2018 at 8 p.m. in the Council chambers.

Present: Mayor Vezina
Councillors: Crane, Handy, Loan, Racicot
Clerk-Treasurer Buob

Visitors: Kelly Johnson, Leadhand
Roman Pacion, Glenn Mitchell, Natasha DeMarco-Doyle, Ataur Rahman,
from the Ministry of Transportation (MTO)

Mayor Vezina called the meeting to order at 8:18 p.m.

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: none

1. Moved by A. Crane
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**THAT THE MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING HELD ON MONDAY,
NOVEMBER 26, 2018 AND THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY,
NOVEMBER 26, 2018 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED AND AMENDED.**

Carried

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

Council agreed to move item 6 c), a letter dated November 27, 2018 from the Ministry of Transportation, with regard to the proposed detour route for the replacement of Cedar Creek #2 culvert on Highway 590, forward on the agenda. Mr. Pacion, from the Ministry of Transportation, was welcomed to the table to discuss the letter. The letter outlined the Ministry's plans to minimize impacts and reduce time of construction by closing the Highway completely and implementing a detour. The letter is requesting the approval from the Township for the use of Township roads as the detour during the closure. The Ministry is also looking for confirmation that the Township of O'Connor has no further issues with the proposed detour. If there are no further outstanding environmental concerns the Ministry will proceed with the step-down process in accordance with the Class EA. The Ministry is confirming that they will work with the Leadhand to ensure all the Township of O'Connor's standards are met during the detour. Mr. Pacion confirmed that they will be contacting the local businesses who use Highway 590 to make them aware of the closure. It was noted that the letter did not include Strom Road in the roads noted in detour maintenance. It was confirmed that this road would be a part of the northern unmarked detour and will be included.

Council will discuss this further under new business and the Ministry staff left the meeting.

Mr. Johnson, Leadhand, was welcomed to the table. A Road Department update and roadwork in general was discussed. Mr. Johnson noted that they have been out scrapping the ice on the roads, as well as sanding and plowing as needed.

Mr. Johnson update Council with regard to the accident he had with Truck #7 where he was rear-ended on Highway 590 on Saturday November 24, 2018 as he was slowing down to turn onto Loghrin Road. Both vehicles had to be towed from the scene and the Township's truck was brought back to the shop. All repairs have been made and the truck is back on the road. The expenses will be covered through the insurance as the other driver was at fault.

Councillor Crane asked about the maintenance of the Highway 590, 595 and 588. Council confirmed that the Township is not responsible for these Highways. The new service provider for the Highway's is Emcon Service, taking over from Carillion. It was noted that the winter maintenance contract starts November 15, 2018.

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Mr. Johnson discussed with Council his plans to plow Fleming Road right through this winter season, due to the detour for 2019. This will allow the road to dry up quicker and allow them to get started sooner on the maintenance. Council were in agreement with his plans.

The Health & Safety Reports from October 18, 2018 and November 20, 2018 were reviewed.

Councillor Racicot left the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

The Ontario Good Roads Association Conference to be held in Toronto from February 24 – 27, 2019 was discussed. Mr. Johnson at this time does not plan on attending. The early bird deadline is January 18, 2019. If the agenda comes out and there are items of interest Mr. Johnson will bring this back to Council at that time.

Mr. Johnson was thanked for attending and he left the meeting at 9:07 p.m.

The Administration and Roads Voucher for November 30, 2018 was reviewed and it was

2. Moved by A. Crane
Seconded by Jerry Loan

THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR NOVEMBER 2018 TALLING \$76,868.86 BE APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

It was noted that there was an error in the total of the October 31, 2018 Administration and Roads Voucher due to the exclusion of payroll totals. It was

3. Moved by Jerry Loan
Seconded by W. Handy

THAT RESOLUTION NO. 2 OF THE NOVEMBER 12, 2018 COUNCIL MEETING, APPROVING THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR OCTOBER 2018 TALLING \$82,286.34, BE AMENDED TO CORRECT THE VOUCHER TOTAL. THE CORRECT TOTAL OF THE OCTOBER 2018 ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER IS \$100,690.68.

Carried

The Statement of Revenue and Expenditures to November 30, 2018 were unavailable due to the earliness of the meeting this month.

The Township of O'Connor's Safety Mission Statement was discussed and it was

4. Moved by A. Crane
Seconded by W. Handy

THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR SAFETY MISSION STATEMENT BE ENDORSED.

Carried

Under DSSAB issues a letter was read from the District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board with regard to the appointment of 2019 Board Members. As has been previously discussed and a By-law passed, the Township of O'Connor will share and rotate a seat with the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge. Mayor Lucy Kloosterhuis, of the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge has expressed interest in the position and it was

5. Moved by Jerry Loan
Seconded by W. Handy

THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR AGREE TO THE APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR LUCY KLOOSTERHUIS, FROM THE MUNICIPALITY OF OLIVER PAIPOONGE TO BE THE REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE MUNICIPALITY OF OLIVER PAIPOONGE AND THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR ON THE

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**THUNDER BAY DISTRICT SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BOARD
FOR AREA 1 FOR THE 2019 TO 2022 TERM, AS PER TOWNSHIP OF
O'CONNOR BY-LAW #2018-18;**

**AND THAT A LETTER BE FORWARDED TO THE MUNICIPALITY OF OLIVER
PAIPOONGE ADVISING THEM ACCORDINGLY.**

Carried

Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) The Ontario Provincial Police December 2018 Newsletter was read. It was agreed to put information with regard to open alcohol or cannabis in a vehicle being illegal in the January issue of the Cornerstone. It was noted that information with regard to the Stuff a Cruiser, Be Aware of Thin Ice and the Festive Ride Campaign were included in the December issue.

A question was asked if Naloxone was included in the Township of O'Connor's first aid kits. This is a nasal spray or needle that blocks the effects of opioids if someone is overdosing. It was noted that the Township's kits do not include this, however the Clerk-Treasurer was not sure if the First Response Team has it in theirs. The Clerk-Treasurer will follow up on this.

- b) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Policy Update regarding the Ontario Governments release of new Environment Plan for consultation.

The balance of correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) Thunder Bay District Municipal League (TBDML) Conference to be held December 7 & 8, 2018 in Thunder Bay. A draft agenda was reviewed. It was also noted that the TBDML Board has vacancies following the recent municipal election and they will attempt to fill these vacancies at the conference.
- b) The Community Wildland Fire Protection Plan was briefly discussed. It was noted that the Deputy Clerk-Treasurer has reviewed the plan and found several housekeeping errors and references to other organizations or businesses that were not accurately described. This information has been forwarded to hmeenterprises for correcting. Council did not add any additional changes. It was suggested that it be noted in the plan that fire breaks be put on property on Loghrin Road be included, however as this is private property it would not be a part of the Township plan. This however could be discussed with the property owner to make them aware of the risk.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Lakehead Region Conservation Authority – 2019 Representatives to the Board of Directors was discussed. Mayor Vezina is our current representative and would like to remain on the Board for another term.
- b) Thunder Bay District Health Unit – Municipal Representative to the Board of Health for the next term of Council. This position is alternated between the Township of Conmee and the Township of O'Connor. It is the Township of O'Connor's term and Mayor Vezina noted he would be interested on sitting on this Board.
- c) Lakehead Rural Planning Board – Appointment to the Board. Councillor Racicot is the current representative and he would like to step down from this position. Councillor Handy would be interested in this Board.

The balance of the Board appointments were discussed at the inaugural meeting and it was

6. Moved by Jerry Loan
Seconded by W. Handy

**THAT APPOINTMENTS FOR THE YEARS 2019, 2020, 2021 AND 2022 BE
MADE AS FOLLOWS:**

**LAKEHEAD REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
LAKEHEAD RURAL PLANNING BOARD**

**JIM VEZINA
WENDY HANDY**

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THUNDER BAY DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT	JIM VEZINA
THUNDER BAY DISTRICT VETERINARY COMMITTEE	WENDY HANDY
	ALEX CRANE
THUNDER BAY DISTRICT MUNICIPAL LEAGUE	JERRY LOAN
	ALT. JIM VEZINA
THUNDER BAY DISTRICT SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BOARD – AREA 1	MUNICIPALITY OF OLIVER PAIPOONGE'S TURN
LAKEHEAD POLICE SERVICES BOARD	JERRY LOAN
Carried	

d) Signing Authority for the Township of O'Connor banking was discussed. A cheque must be signed by one Administration employee and one Council member. Currently three members of Council have signing authority due to work schedules and their availability. Council discussed whether or not to continue with three or go to two. It was agreed to stay with three members and it was

7. Moved by A. Crane
Seconded by W. Handy

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR'S AUTHORIZED SIGNING OFFICERS FOR BANKING PURPOSES BE: MAYOR JIM VEZINA OR COUNCILLOR JERRY LOAN OR COUNCILLOR WENDY HANDY AND CLERK-TREASURER BUOB OR DEPUTY CLERK-TREASURER RACICOT.
Carried

e) Senior Homeowners; Property Tax Grant – information with regard to concerns expressed at the Public meeting held on November 26, 2018, with regard to high taxes for seniors. There is a grant of up to \$500 available for seniors depending on their family net income. This information will be included in the Township's newsletter in the new year.
f) The Township of O'Connor Christmas Party was discussed. It was agreed to hold the party at the Kakabeka Falls Hotel once again. Due to their closure for the month of January it was agreed to hold it the second weekend in February and it was

8. Moved by A. Crane
Seconded by Jerry Loan

THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR HOLD A 2018 CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR COUNCIL, STAFF, FIRE DEPARTMENT AND FIRST RESPONSE VOLUNTEERS AT THE KAKABEKA HOTEL ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2019. SPOUSES AND GUESTS WILL PAY FOR THEIR OWN DINNER.
Carried

g) Lakehead Public Schools – invitation to attend their Facility Partnership meeting to be held on January 15, 2019 at 1:30 p.m. in Thunder Bay. No one will attend.
h) The appointment of Acting Mayor was discussed. Currently this position rotates alphabetically monthly between the Council members. Council agreed to continue with this method and it was

9. Moved by Jerry Loan
Seconded by W. Handy

THAT ACTING HEAD OF COUNCIL SHALL BE APPOINTED ON A ROTATING ALPHABETICAL ORDER OF COUNCIL FOR EACH MONTH OF THE YEARS, FROM DECEMBER 2018 TO NOVEMBER 14, 2022 AS FOLLOWS:
COUNCILLOR CRANE: MONTHS OF JANUARY, MAY, SEPTEMBER
COUNCILLOR HANDY: MONTHS OF FEBRUARY, JUNE, OCTOBER
COUNCILLOR LOAN: MONTHS OF MARCH, JULY, NOVEMBER
COUNCILLOR RACICOT: MONTHS OF APRIL, AUGUST, DECEMBER

BE IT RESOLVED THAT IF THE ACTING HEAD OF COUNCIL IS NOT AVAILABLE FOR MEETINGS, EMERGENCIES, ETC., THE COUNCILLOR

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FOR THE PREVIOUS MONTH WILL BE APPOINTED ACTING HEAD OF COUNCIL IN HIS/HER STEAD.

Carried

Under further new business, Councillor Crane noted that he would like to see fibre internet in the Township and he was told that the Township can canvas for grants. This will be looked into further by administration.

The Ministry of Transportation's letter and discussions with the MTO staff earlier in the meeting was further discussed. Council were in agreement to allow the detour on Township roads as long as they work closely with our Road Department and the roads are maintained to the Township's standard. Mr. Johnson will be asked to speak with the Township of Conmee's Road Department to make them aware of the detour route. It was

10. Moved by Jerry Loan
Seconded by W. Handy

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR APPROVE THE USE OF CRONK ROAD AS THE POSTED DETOUR ROUTE DURING THE HIGHWAY 590 CLOSURE AT CEDAR CREEK #2 CULVERT, GWP 6573-16-00;

AND FURTHER TO MINIMIZE POTENTIAL CONFLICTS BETWEEN THE TRAVELING PUBLIC AND TRUCK TRAFFIC, THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR APPROVE THE USE OF SOVEREIGN ROAD AND FLEMING ROAD AND STROM ROAD NORTH OF HIGHWAY 590 AS AN UNMARKED TRUCK ROUTE;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF CRONK ROAD, FLEMING ROAD, SOVEREIGN ROAD AND STROM ROAD, INCLUDING DUST SUPPRESSANT, PERFORMING GENERAL ROAD MAINTENANCE AND UPON COMPLETION OF THE DETOUR, RETURNING THE CONDITION OF THESE ROADS TO THE CURRENT CONDITION PRIOR TO THE DETOUR. AN INSPECTION WILL BE HELD WITH THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVE AND THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR LEADHAND PRIOR TO THE USE OF THE ROADS, AS WELL AS AT THE COMPLETION OF CONSTRUCTION TO MUTUALLY AGREE ON ANY REPAIR WORK REQUIRED. THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR ALSO REQUESTS SIGNIFICANT SIGNAGE IDENTIFYING THE DETOUR BE INSTALLED BY THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION INCLUDING THE INSTALLATION OF TEMPORARY REDUCED SPEED ADVISORY SIGNS ON THE DETOUR ROUTE DUE TO THE INCREASED TRAFFIC.

Carried

Issues brought forward or letters received after the agenda was mailed out.

- a) 3 Lions – Gavin Surerus, Research Assistant with regard to Zoning and Planning. He has currently been retained for a research project to help determine the proper land use zoning in our jurisdiction for those looking to apply with Health Canada under the Micro-cultivation Licensing Program. Council agreed to have the administration submit a response.

For information no building permits were approved since the last meeting.

11. Moved by A. Crane
Seconded by W. Handy

**THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON DECEMBER 17, 2018 AT 7:00 P.M.
TIME BEING: 10:03 P.M.**

Carried