

## TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – FEBRUARY 12, 2018

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, February 12, 2018 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

Present: Mayor Vezina  
Councillors: Alkins, Foekens, Racicot  
Clerk-Treasurer Buob  
Visitors: Kelly Johnson, Leadhand  
Absent: Councillor Loan

Mayor Vezina called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: Councillor Racicot declared an interest in items 15 e) and f) as his spouse is an employee of the Township.

1. Moved by Chantal Alkins  
Seconded by K. Foekens

**THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, JANUARY 22, 2018 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.**

Carried

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

Mr. Johnson, Leadhand was welcomed to the table. A Road Department update and roadwork in general was discussed. Mr. Johnson noted that he will be putting out some bump signs soon, as the heaves are starting to appear on the roads. He will also be cutting a couple trees along the road side. They have been doing some shop clean up, servicing of trucks and getting the steamer trailer ready. Mr. Johnson has also been finishing up some Asset Management data with administration and starting on his budget.

Council asked Mr. Johnson if he is aware of any old gravel pits in the Township that have been closed in the past. A discussion with regard to the gravel pits used for Township material was held. The Township of O'Connor does not own any property with a former gravel pit on it.

Mr. Johnson was thanked for attending and left the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Bills to be paid were passed around the table. It was

2. Moved by Bishop Racicot  
Seconded by K. Foekens

**THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR JANUARY 2018 TOTTALLING \$127,532.58 BE APPROVED AND PAID.**

Carried

The draft Statement of Revenues and Expenditures to December 31, 2017 were once again reviewed with the amendments made since the last meeting. Council discussed the 2017 budget and it was noted that money was pulled from the Working Fund Reserve to complete one of the Road Projects in 2017 and the total amount budgeted was not required. It was agreed to move the unspent portion back into the reserve. Council also agreed to add an additional amount to the Road Equipment reserve. It was

3. Moved by K. Foekens  
Seconded by Chantal Alkins

**FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2017 THE FOLLOWING AMOUNTS BE TRANSFERRED INTO THE FOLLOWING RESERVE/S.**

**WORKING FUND - \$2,000.00  
ROAD EQUIPMENT - \$847.49**

Carried

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Resolutions for endorsement were read as follows:

- a) Township of Gillies regarding regulatory requirements relative to the implementation and review of Policies, Procedures and Individualized Plans relative to the care of children in licensed child care. It was

4. Moved by Chantal Alkins  
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**THAT THE RESOLUTION FROM TOWNSHIP OF GILLIES ENCOURAGING THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT TO LEAVE THE REGULATORY REQUIREMENT RELATIVE TO THE IMPLEMENTATION AND REVIEW OF POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND INDIVIDUALIZED PLANS IN ITS CURRENT STATE TO SUPPORT THE REQUIREMENT FOR CONSISTENT UNDERSTANDING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICIES AND PROCESSES RELATIVE TO THE CARE OF CHILDREN IN LICENSED CHILD CARE BE ENDORSED.**

Carried

- b) Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA) seeking reforms to the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA) process was filed.  
c) Town of Lakeshore regarding Population Growth Projections and it was

5. Moved by Chantal Alkins  
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**THAT THE RESOLUTION FROM TOWN OF LAKESHORE REGARDING THE POPULATION GROWTH PROJECTIONS BE ENDORSED.**

Carried

- d) Town of Lakeshore regarding Marijuana Tax Revenue and it was

6. Moved by Bishop Racicot  
Seconded by K. Foekens

**THAT RESOLUTION FROM TOWN OF LAKESHORE REQUESTING THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO ALLOCATE A PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NEW TAX REVENUES GENERATED FROM THE SALE OF MARIJUANA TO THE MUNICIPALITIES DIRECTLY BE ENDORSED.**

Carried

- e) Township of Norwich regarding Ontario Building Code Amendments was filed.

DSSAB issues were discussed as follows:

- a) Thunder Bay DSSAB – 2018 Cost Apportionment letter and levy request was reviewed. The Clerk-Treasurer noted that Ms. Daniels, Director of Corporate Service also called the office to explain the levy increase. The overall levy for the TBDSSAB is down by 3% for 2018 however the Township of O'Connor's levy has increased by 2.54%, due to the increase in the Township's weighted assessment. There were five Municipalities that increased, while the City and the other ten member Municipalities and the Territory without municipal organization will see a decrease. The Township of O'Connor had the highest increase with the total 2018 levy for the TBDSSAB being \$77,725.  
b) Update from the Board – newsletter – January 26, 2018 was read.  
c) the DSSAB Governance and Accountability Review Session Summary discussed at the previous meeting was once again discussed with Mayor Vezina. He noted that the LRMC members are happy with some of the points outlined in the summary. They are waiting to see what the Ministry comes back with regard to the comments for a rural versus urban DSSAB. It was noted that Mayor Kloosterhuis is the new chair of the Board and the three representatives from Area One seem to be making a difference.

Correspondence was read as follows:

- a) Lakehead Rural Municipal Coalition (LRMC) minutes of the January 18, 2018 meeting. Mayor Vezina provided clarification with regard to Council's concerns from

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the minutes of the December meeting minutes, that noted that the alternate in attendance at an LRMC meeting would not be able to vote. It was clarified that if there is an issue that was brought back to each individual Council and an alternate is in attendance at that meeting they will be able to vote on behalf of their Council.

- b) Thunder Bay District Health Unit (TBDHU) – request for support regarding the Expert Panel on Public Health. Council previously endorsed this resolution at their December 18, 2017 meeting as per information provided by our Board representative but were awaiting the TBDHU's request. The Clerk-Treasurer will submit the letter and a copy of the resolution to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care.
- c) Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) – February Newsletter. The article with regard to statistics for the R.I.D.E. program will be included in the next issue of the Cornerstone.
- d) Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs regarding the Ontario Revitalizing Main Streets, Helping Small Businesses Grow funding announcement. The Township of O'Connor will be receiving \$36,605 to enhance and revitalize downtowns and main street areas. The Township will await the final details as to how this money can be spent.
- e) Association of Municipalities (AMO) –
  - i) AMO Communications - \$26 Million Main Street Revitalization Fund Announced – AMO to be Fund Administrator
  - ii) AMO Communications – Draft Fire Regulations for Municipal Comments. Council would like to discuss this further at the next meeting with Fire Chief Mattas. They would also like to request that he check with the other Zone 1 departments prior to the meeting for their comments or concerns.
  - iii) AMO Communications – Call to Action – Fire Medic Protection Needed for Municipal Governments. Council would like the Clerk-Treasurer to check with Ms. Oliver, Executive Director of NOMA to see if NOMA will be submitting comments or whether the Township should submit their own.
  - iv) AMO Communications – Social Media Webinars available. The Clerk-Treasurer will check with the Deputy Clerk-Treasurer to see if the webinar on social media in emergency situations might be of interest to her as she, as the CEMC for the Township of O'Connor, had suggested possibly using social meeting during an Emergency, at the last planning meeting.
  - v) So you want to Run for Council – Updated Course. This information will be included in the upcoming issues of the Cornerstone.
  - vi) AMO Annual Conference – August 19 – 22, 2018 in Ottawa. No one will be attending this year.
- f) Accessibility Directorate of Ontario – Appointment of third reviewer of the AODA. Honourable David C. Onley has been appointed to conduct the third review of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA).

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) A date for Official Plan/Zoning By-law Public Meeting. It was

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

**THAT A STATUTORY PUBLIC MEETING WITH REGARD TO THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR'S DRAFT OFFICIAL PLAN AND ZONING BY-LAW BE HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 26, 2018 IN THE O'CONNOR COMMUNITY CENTRE.**

Carried

A start time will need to be determined upon clarification from Fotenn, the Township's consultant.

- b) The Clerk-Treasurer provided an update on the complaint at the last meeting with regarding horses and dogs running at large. Both Mr. Frowen and Mr. Noy's responses were provided. A letter has been sent to the animal owners and a copy of the Animals Running at Large By-law was also provided.
- c) Thunder Bay Food Strategy – Request for donation during the deputation made at the December 4th meeting. Council were in agreement to make a donation and it was

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8. Moved by Bishop Racicot  
Seconded by K. Foekens

**THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR CONTRIBUTE TO THE THUNDER BAY AND AREA FOOD STRATEGY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$200.00 FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2018.**

Carried

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Lakehead Police Services Board – i) letter regarding resolutions requested by the Board from each member municipality.  
ii) Draft minutes of the January 24, 2018 meeting of the Board were read.  
iii) Draft proposed resolutions were read and it was

9. Moved by Chantal Alkins  
Seconded by K. Foekens

**WHEREAS THE THUNDER BAY DISTRICT DETACHMENT OF THE ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE SERVICES COVERS A VAST GEOGRAPHICAL AREA WHICH IS FAR LARGER THAN ANY REGIONAL POLICE DETACHMENT COVERS IN SOUTHERN ONTARIO;**

**AND WHEREAS, WITHIN THE THUNDER BAY DISTRICT DETACHMENT, THE ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE SERVICE FIVE INCORPORATED MUNICIPALITIES AND APPROXIMATELY 40 TERRITORIES WITHOUT MUNICIPAL ORGANIZATION AND 2 FIRST NATIONS;**

**AND WHEREAS, THE TOWNSHIPS OF GILLIES, O'CONNOR AND CONMEE, AND THE MUNICIPALITY OF NEEBING RECENTLY FORMED A JOINT POLICE SERVICE BOARD WITHIN THE THUNDER BAY DETACHMENT OF THE ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE;**

**AND WHEREAS THE MUNICIPALITY OF SHUNIAH HAS A POLICE SERVICE BOARD WITHIN THE THUNDER BAY DETACHMENT OF THE ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE;**

**AND WHEREAS THOSE TWO POLICE SERVICES BOARDS TOGETHER REPRESENT ALL FIVE OF THE INCORPORATED MUNICIPALITIES WITHIN THE THUNDER BAY DISTRICT DETACHMENT;**

**AND WHEREAS, BILL 175, ENTITLED THE "SAFER ONTARIO ACT, 2017" PROVIDES, IN SUBSECTION 67(1), THAT THERE WILL BE ONE POLICE SERVICE BOARD PER ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE DETACHMENT UNLESS THE REGULATIONS SPECIFY OTHERWISE;**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR WOULD BE OPPOSED TO A REGULATION PASSED UNDER THE PROPOSED POLICE SERVICES ACT WHICH REQUIRED THAT THE THUNDER BAY DETACHMENT OF THE ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE SERVICE BE ADMINISTERED BY A SINGLE POLICE SERVICE BOARD;**

**AND FURTHER, THAT THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR REQUESTS THAT A REGULATION PASSED UNDER SUBSECTION 67(1) OF THE PROPOSED NEW POLICE SERVICES ACT PROVIDE, AT A MINIMUM, FOR THE CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF BOTH THE SHUNIAH POLICE SERVICES BOARD AND THE LAKEHEAD POLICE SERVICES BOARD WITHIN THE DETACHMENT AREA;**

**AND THAT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION BE FORWARDED TO THE SECRETARIES FOR THE LAKEHEAD POLICE SERVICES BOARD AND THE SHUNIAH POLICE SERVICES BOARD.**

Carried

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10. Moved by Bishop Racicot  
Seconded by Chantal Alkins

**WHEREAS THE LAKEHEAD POLICE SERVICE BOARD WAS ESTABLISHED JOINTLY BY THE TOWNSHIPS OF GILLIES, O'CONNOR AND CONMEE AND THE MUNICIPALITY OF NEEBING;**

**AND WHEREAS EACH MUNICIPALITY PASSED A RESOLUTION ASKING THE PROVINCE TO ALLOW THE LAKEHEAD POLICE SERVICE BOARD TO BE COMPRISED OF FIVE MEMBERS RATHER THAN THREE;**

**AND WHEREAS, BILL 175, ENTITLED THE "SAFER ONTARIO ACT, 2017" ENACTS A NEW POLICE SERVICES ACT, WHICH PROVIDES, IN SUBSECTION 31(2), THAT MUNICIPALITIES MAY RESOLVE TO HAVE BOARDS WITH EITHER FIVE; SEVEN OR NINE MEMBERS;**

**AND WHEREAS, THE TOWNSHIPS OF GILLIES, O'CONNOR AND CONMEE, AND THE MUNICIPALITY OF NEEBING EACH WISH TO BE ABLE TO APPOINT A MEMBER OF THEIR COUNCIL TO THE BOARD;**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR, IN ANTICIPATION OF THE PASSAGE OF BILL 175, APPROVES OF THE INCREASE IN THE SIZE OF THE LAKEHEAD POLICE SERVICES BOARD FROM A FIVE MEMBER BOARD, AS ORIGINALLY PLANNED, TO A SEVEN MEMBER BOARD.**

Carried

11. Moved by K. Foekens  
Seconded by Chantal Alkins

**WHEREAS THE LAKEHEAD POLICE SERVICE BOARD WAS ESTABLISHED JOINTLY BY THE TOWNSHIPS OF GILLIES, O'CONNOR AND CONMEE AND THE MUNICIPALITY OF NEEBING;**

**AND WHEREAS EACH MUNICIPALITY PASSED A RESOLUTION ASKING THE PROVINCE TO ALLOW THE LAKEHEAD POLICE SERVICE BOARD TO BE COMPRISED OF FIVE MEMBERS RATHER THAN THREE;**

**AND WHEREAS, BILL 175, ENTITLED THE "SAFER ONTARIO ACT, 2017" ENACTS A NEW POLICE SERVICES ACT, WHICH PROVIDES, IN SUBSECTION 31(2), THAT MUNICIPALITIES MAY RESOLVE TO HAVE BOARDS WITH EITHER FIVE; SEVEN OR NINE MEMBERS;**

**AND WHEREAS APPROXIMATELY 10 PERCENT OF THE OPERATING BUDGET OF THE TOWNSHIP IS COMPRISED OF THE PAYMENT THAT THE TOWNSHIP MAKES FOR THE PROVISION OF POLICING SERVICE BY THE ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE;**

**AND WHEREAS, HAVING REGARD TO THE SIGNIFICANT DOLLARS PAID OUT AND THEIR NEEDS AND STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS TO BE ACCOUNTABLE TO, AND TRANSPARENT FOR, THEIR CONSTITUENTS IN TERMS OF THE EXPENDITURES OF TAX DOLLARS, THE TOWNSHIPS OF GILLIES, O'CONNOR AND CONMEE, AND THE MUNICIPALITY OF NEEBING EACH WISH TO BE ABLE TO APPOINT A MEMBER OF THEIR COUNCIL TO THE BOARD;**

**AND WHEREAS, THE MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES OF THE LAKEHEAD POLICE SERVICE BOARD HAVE ALL APPROVED, IN ANTICIPATION OF THE PASSAGE OF BILL 175, AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF PERSONS ON THE BOARD FROM FIVE (AS ORIGINALLY CONSTITUTED) TO SEVEN;**

**AND WHEREAS, AS IT IS CURRENTLY WORDED, THE PROPOSED NEW POLICE SERVICES ACT WILL PRESCRIBE THE COMPOSITION OF A SEVEN MEMBER POLICE SERVICE BOARD IN A MANNER THAT WILL**

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**ALLOW ONLY 3 OF THE 4 MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES TO APPOINT A COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARD;**

**AND WHEREAS, A BOARD COMPRISED OF NINE MEMBERS, WHICH WOULD PROVIDE FOR FOUR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES UNDER THE NEW POLICE SERVICES ACT, WOULD BE PROHIBITIVELY EXPENSIVE FOR THE MEMBERS TO MAINTAIN;**

**AND WHEREAS, UNDER THE NEW POLICE SERVICES ACT, BOARDS WILL HAVE TO APPOINT MEMBERSHIP BASED ON CERTAIN CRITERIA WHICH MAY BE DIFFICULT TO MEET IN NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO;**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR APPROVES OF A SUBMISSION TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE POLICY, WHICH WILL SEEK THAT EITHER:**

**(A) THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 31 OF SCHEDULE ONE OF BILL 175 BE AMENDED TO PROVIDE SOME FLEXIBILITY IN THE COMPOSITION OF THE BOARDS OF JOINT POLICE SERVICE BOARDS SUCH THAT EACH MEMBER MUNICIPALITY WILL HAVE THE ABILITY TO APPOINT A MEMBER OF ITS COUNCIL TO THE POLICE SERVICE BOARD; OR**

**(B) THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 31 OF SCHEDULE ONE OF BILL 175 BE AMENDED TO PROVIDE A SECTION RECOGNIZING THAT THE LAKEHEAD POLICE SERVICE BOARD, COMPRISED OF SEVEN MEMBERS, IS COMPOSED OF ONE COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTED FROM EACH MEMBER MUNICIPALITY, ONE COMMUNITY MEMBER RESIDING IN ONE OF THE FOUR MUNICIPALITIES, APPOINTED BY EACH MUNICIPALITY, AND TWO MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL.**

Carried

12. Moved by K. Foekens  
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**WHEREAS THE LAKEHEAD POLICE SERVICE BOARD (THE "BOARD") WAS ESTABLISHED JOINTLY BY THE TOWNSHIPS OF GILLIES, O'CONNOR AND CONMEE AND THE MUNICIPALITY OF NEEBING;**

**AND WHEREAS THE BOARD HAS PROPOSED THAT THE COST OF THE OPERATION OF THE BOARD BE DIVIDED BETWEEN THE MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES ON A PROPORTIONATE BASIS;**

**AND WHEREAS THE PROPORTION PROPOSED IS BASED UPON THE NUMBER OF PROPERTIES COUNTED BY THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES IN DETERMINING THE "BASE" PORTION OF THE COST OF POLICING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FUNDING FORMULA;**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR APPROVES OF A FUNDING MODEL WHICH WOULD DIVIDE THE COST OF THE LAKEHEAD POLICE SERVICES BOARD BETWEEN THE MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES AS FOLLOWS:**

- (A) 59 PERCENT TO THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF NEEBING;**  
**(B) 11 PERCENT TO THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF GILLIES;**  
**(C) 15 PERCENT TO THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR; AND**  
**(D) 15 PERCENT TO THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CONMEE.**

Carried

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13. Moved by Chantal Alkins  
Seconded by K. Foekens

**WHEREAS THE LAKEHEAD POLICE SERVICE BOARD WAS ESTABLISHED JOINTLY BY THE TOWNSHIPS OF GILLIES, O'CONNOR AND CONMEE AND THE MUNICIPALITY OF NEEBING;**

**AND WHEREAS THE BOARD PROPOSES THAT IT PURCHASE TWO SOLAR-POWERED, MOBILE SIGNS WHICH ARE EQUIPMENT WITH RADAR AND IDENTIFY TO APPROACHING MOTORISTS THE SPEED AT WHICH THEY ARE TRAVELLING, AND THAT IT MAKE THE SIGNS AVAILABLE FOR USE TO THE MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES UPON REQUEST;**

**AND WHEREAS THE ESTIMATED COST OF THE SIGNS ARE \$5,100.00 EACH;**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL FOR THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR APPROVES OF THE PURCHASE OF TWO SIGNS IN THIS REGARD.**

Carried

- b) Municipality of Neebing – Copy of letter to Thunder Bay Police Service with regard to the their new Business Plan and requesting that the Thunder Bay Police Service consider providing policing to our neighbouring communities in this new plan. The Clerk-Treasurer was asked to contact Ms. Evans to see if all the municipalities should submit similar letters to the Police Service.
- c) Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs – regarding the release of two proposed regulations under the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997 related to new requirements. This item will be discussed further with the Fire Chief at the next meeting.
- d) Ministry of Municipal Affairs – i) regarding the Residential Tenancies Act, 2006 (RTA) – Enforcing Residential Rental Maintenance Standards – upcoming training  
ii) Memo from Clerk-Treasurer regarding decisions required as to who will enforce this Act for the Township. Council at this time do not feel that the Township should be responsible for this Provincial download once again and would prefer not to appoint anyone. This item will be requested to be put on the LRMC's agenda for the next meeting if it is not already on. There is also concern with the potential liability and municipal insurance rate increase. Attendance at the upcoming training will be discussed after further discussion with the surrounding municipalities.

Councillor Racicot left the room

- e) Ministry of Municipal Affairs/Ministry of Housing – Annual Planning Workshop – March 21 – 22, 2018 draft agenda and registration. It was

14. Moved by K. Foekens  
Seconded by Chantal Alkins

**THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES OFFICE – NORTH ANNUAL PLANNING WORKSHOP TO BE HELD ON MARCH 21 & 22, 2018 IN THUNDER BAY.**

**REGISTRATION: \$100.00**

**MAYOR VEZINA  
COUNCILLOR RACICOT, ALKINS  
CLERK-TREASURER BUOB  
DEPUTY CLERK-TREASURER RACICOT  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT LAFOREST**

Carried

Councillor Loan will be asked if he wished to attend at the next meeting.

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f) AMCTO – Zone 9 Spring Meeting and Workshop to be held on April 24 & 25, 2018. It was

15. Moved by Chantal Alkins  
Seconded by K. Foekens

**THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE AMCTO ZONE 9 SPRING MEETING TO BE HELD IN THUNDER BAY ON APRIL 24 & 25, 2018.**

**CLERK-TREASURER BUOB  
DEPUTY CLERK-TREASURER RACICOT**

**REGISTRATION: \$100.00**

Carried

The Workshop prior to the Zone meeting is “Financial Obligations in Elections, Compliance and Audit Committees and Third-Party Advertising”. The Clerk-Treasurer discussed the workshop and whether or not it was worth attending with Council. The Compliance Audit Committee is used when a complaint is made against a candidate’s campaign expenses. The possibility of sharing the cost of sending someone from another municipality and have them share the information will be looked into further.

Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting.

- g) Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change – regarding the draft Watershed Planning Guidance for municipalities and planning authorities and their request for feedback. Mayor Vezina will enquire with the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority (LRCA) to see if they are commenting as they provide guidance for the Township’s watershed.
- h) Municipality of Neebing – regarding 2018 Minnesota/Ontario Pigeon River International Emergency Management Committee Cross-Border Conference: Response without barriers. March 21 – 22, 2018. No one will attend.

Under further new business, Councillor Alkins asked if the Township has ever applied for the Northern Communities Investment Readiness (NCIR) funding. A market study could be done showing what the Township is trying to achieve. At this point Council does not see a need for a study and have not applied for this funding in the past.

Issues brought forward or letters received after agenda was mailed

- a) Ministry of Education – regarding the Launch of Plan to Strengthen Rural and Northern Education.
- b) Centre for Rural and Northern Health Research, Lakehead University – Community Addiction and Mental Health Engagement Session – February 23, 2018.
- c) Town of Essex – regarding the offering of school property to Municipalities at market value and suggesting that the buildings should be sold to municipalities for a dollar. As the Township of O’Connor no longer has a school in the Township this letter was filed.

16. Moved by Bishop Racicot  
Seconded by K. Foekens

**THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2018 AT 7:00 P.M.**

**TIME BEING: 9:30 P.M.**

Carried

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Mayor

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Clerk-Treasurer