

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – FEBRUARY 27, 2017

Minutes of the meeting held on February 27, 2017 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

Present: Mayor Vezina
Councillors: Foekens, Loan, Racicot
Clerk-Treasurer Buob
Visitors: Fire Chief Henry Mattas
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Linda Racicot
Ms. Rosalie Evans – Solicitor/Clerk – Municipality of Neebing arrived at 7:30 p.m.
Absent: Councillor Alkins

Mayor Vezina called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m..

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

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

THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2017 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.

Carried

Council asked Ms. Racicot if she wished to address Council on any personal matters and she replied no.

Fire Chief Mattas was welcomed to the meeting. The Fire Department report from January 19, 2017 to February 25, 2017 was read. The Fire Department responded to two First Response calls and one Fire related call in that time period. It has been fairly quiet with regard to calls.

Fire Chief Mattas reported that one member of the department has just upgraded her driver's license to a DZ and two others have started the process but at this time he is not sure as to what stage they are at.

Fire Chief Mattas also reported that he, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Racicot and Morris Douglas recently attended a PTSD training session. It is a legislative requirement that the Township develop a PTSD Prevention Action Plan. The plan has to address best practices for prevention, intervention and how to recover from it. The Plan must be in place by April 23rd, 2017. It is currently mandatory to have a plan for the Fire Department and First Response, however it would be recommended that the plan be applicable to all employees. He also noted that in the session they spoke in regard to WSIB coverage. The Fire Fighters and First Responders are covered under the Township's WSIB. Should they get injured while on duty, either on a call or volunteering, the Township may be responsible for complying with obligations related to work reintegration. The members are currently covered for \$65,000.00.

Fire Chief Mattas was thanked for attending and left the meeting at 7:22 p.m.

Bills to be paid were reviewed and it was

- Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by K. Foekens

THAT THE FOLLOWING BILLS FOR FEBRUARY 2017 BE PAID. THESE BILLS WILL BE INCLUDED ON THE FEBRUARY 2017 ADMINISTRATION AND ROAD VOUCHER.

CK#14138	KELLY JOHNSON (REIMBURSEMENT MTO, MED/DEN	\$3,501.25
CK#14139	THUNDER BAY DISTRICT MUNICIPAL LEAGUE (2017 LEVY)	\$ 243.95
CK#14140	LOCAL AUTHORITY SERVICES (FUEL)	\$4,377.56
CK#14141	SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA	\$1,106.33

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CK#14142	TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR (PETTY CASH)	\$ 34.80
CK#14143	ECONOMY PRINTING (FORMS)	\$ 774.05
CK#14144	GORDON CUTHBERTSON (REIMBURSEMENT TRAINING)	<u>\$ 200.00</u>
		\$10,237.94

Carried

Mr. Johnson, Leadhand, will be calling into the meeting from Bolton, Ontario to discuss a possible purchase at the Ritchie Bros. Auction. Council discussed, before he called in, the limit they would allow him to bid up to.

Ms. Evans had arrived at 7:30 p.m. and Council agreed to move her forward on the agenda to discuss the Joint Police Services Board. The Municipality of Neebing would like to enter into a Section 10 Contract with the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) and have offered the neighbouring municipalities of Gillies, O'Connor and Conmee the opportunity to form a Joint Board with them. Ms. Evans asked to speak with Council to clarify any concerns Council may have so that they can move forward with either the Joint Board or on their own. Ms. Evans had also spoken with the Township of Gillies Council prior to her attending at our meeting in this regard. All the municipalities must be adjoining through a road system to be eligible; therefore the Township of Gillies must join in order for O'Connor to be eligible. Ms. Evans discussed and explained the process and the formation of the board. The Municipality of Neebing would be the administrative body. They would receive the billings and invoice the member municipalities and would be willing to cover the costs of doing so. The Board, with three members, would meet approximately eight or nine times per year. The costs of paying the board members would be shared between the member municipalities with a formula to be determined, possible based on population. Ms. Evans also explained the benefits of entering into a contract. Council asked a few questions of Ms. Evans to clarify their concerns and she responded. When Ms. Evans had left the Township of Gillies meeting they had still not made their decision. Council agreed to pass the resolution tonight to enter into the agreement if the Township of Gillies does and it was

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

WHEREAS, THE MUNICIPALITY OF NEEBING, WISHES TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT UNDER SECTION 10 OF THE POLICE SERVICES ACT TO HAVE THE ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE PROVIDE POLICING SERVICES TO THEIR MUNICIPALITY AND HAS INVITED THE NEIGHBOURING RURAL MUNICIPALITIES, INCLUDING THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR, THE TOWNSHIP OF GILLIES AND THE TOWNSHIP OF CONMEE TO FORM A JOINT POLICE SERVICES BOARD;

AND WHEREAS THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR WISHES TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS VENTURE AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT UNDER SECTION 10 OF THE POLICE SERVICES ACT TO HAVE THE ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE PROVIDE POLICING SERVICES TO THE TOWNSHIP;

AND WHEREAS, THE MUNICIPALITIES MUST BE CONTIGUOUS TO ENTER INTO A JOINT CONTRACT;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, SHOULD THE TOWNSHIP OF GILLIES PASS A RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE, THE MUNICIPALITY OF NEEBING BE DIRECTED TO UNDERTAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS TO HAVE A JOINT POLICING CONTRACT FINALIZED AND BROUGHT BACK TO COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL BY BY-LAW, AND TO UNDERTAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS TO HAVE A JOINT POLICE SERVICES BOARD CREATED WITH THE OTHER WILLING PARTICIPANTS;

AND FURTHER, THAT THESE ACTIONS BE UNDERTAKEN AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE SUCH THAT THE CONTRACT CAN BE ENTERED INTO ON OR BEFORE APRIL 2, 2017.

Carried

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Ms. Evans was thanked for attending and left the meeting.

The Ontario Trillium Foundation letter informing the Township of O'Connor that our application to the Ontario 150 Community Capital Program grant was successful was read. The Township will receive \$34,500.00 for renovation to the O'Connor Community Centre, including upgrades to the HVAC system and other interior upgrades to the storage room and basement washrooms. A grant contract must be entered into with the Foundation and it was

4. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2017-09 BEING A BY-LAW TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH ONTARIO TRILLIUM FOUNDATION BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

Resolutions for endorsement were read as follows:

- a) Township of Central Frontenac regarding Municipal Fire Department Structure was filed as the Township did endorse a similar resolution at their December 19, 2016 meeting.
- b) The United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria with regard to Building Code Changes was read. Clerk-Treasurer Buob noted that Mr. Cuthbertson, the Township's Chief Building Official, also asked for Council's support on these issues and it was

5. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by K. Foekens

THAT THE RESOLUTION FROM THE TOWNSHIPS OF HEAD, CLARA & MARIA REQUESTING THAT HONOURABLE BILL MAURO, MINISTER OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS, RESCIND PROPOSED BUILDING CODE CHANGE B-08-09-03, REQUIRING MANDATORY FIVE YEAR SEPTIC TANK PUMP OUT AND RECORDS RETENTION BY THE OWNER AND REQUIRING MUNICIPALITIES TO ADMINISTER AND ENFORCE THIS CHANGE BE ENDORSED.

Carried

- c) The Township of McNab/Braeside regarding Mandatory Septic Pumping was read and it was

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

THAT THE RESOLUTION FROM THE TOWNSHIP OF MCNAB/BRAESIDE ENCOURAGING THE MINISTRY OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS, TO TAKE THEIR CONCERNS VERY SERIOUSLY WITH REGARD TO THE PROPOSED CHANGE TO THE BUILDING CODE B-08-09-03, REQUIRING MANDATORY FIVE YEAR SEPTIC TANK PUMP OUT AND RECORDS RETENTION BY THE OWNER AND REQUIRING MUNICIPALITIES TO ADMINISTER AND ENFORCE THIS CHANGE, AND ASKING THAT THIS PROPOSED CHANGE BE RESCINDED BE ENDORSED.

Carried

A letter will also be sent to the Honourable Minister Bill Mauro, Ministry of Municipal Affairs expressing Council's concerns with these changes.

A letter was read from the Area One Municipalities of the Thunder Bay District Social Services Administration Board to the Honourable Minister Helena Jaczek, dated February 17, 2017 with regard to the Board Composition. The letter requests the approval of the two new seats for the Area One Municipalities to the TBDSSAB through a regulatory amendment and expressed the group's reluctance to agree to the change. The letter reinforces that the members remain firmly rooted in the belief that even with these two extra seats we cannot properly protect the financial interests of our

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constituents. The members look forward to participating in the upcoming Provincial review and urgently request that it commence immediately.

Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) Thunder Bay OPP – March Newsletter. As March Cornerstone is already printed Council would like the April special dates in the next newsletter and the ice condition Information, depending on the conditions at that time, and if it has not already been in previous issues.
 - b) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – i) AMO Watchfile - February 16, 2017.
ii) AMO Watchfile – February 23, 2017.
 - c) Premier Kathleen Wynne – reply to Council's resolution with regard to property taxation on railways.
 - d) Cheryl Gallant – reply to Council's endorsed resolution regarding family run campground operators.
 - e) Hon. Patty Hajdu – reply to Council's correspondence with regard to tax treatment of employer contributions to health benefit plans.
 - f) Lakehead Conservation Foundation/Lakehead Region Conservation Authority – thank you letter for donations towards the 2017 Conservation Dinner & Auction.
- The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Ministry of Housing's Agenda for the Planning Workshop March 22 and 23, 2017 to be held in Thunder Bay. It was

7. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by K. Foekens

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES OFFICE-NORTH ANNUAL PLANNING WORKSHOP TO BE HELD ON MARCH 22 & 23, 2017 IN THUNDER BAY.

REGISTRATION: \$100.00

COUNCILLOR LOAN, ALKINS AND RACICOT

Carried

- b) Closed Meeting Investigator – As per discussion at the February 13, 2017 Council meeting, the Clerk-Treasurer provided Council with information with regard to the current agreement with Mr. Heayn and informed Council of the other municipalities who are included in the current agreement. The current term for this Agreement is for one (1) year, with two (2) automatic renewals, to be computed from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2018. Any party who does not wish to renew shall give at least 90 days written notice to all other Parties prior to the end of the term of its intention. Termination mid-year does not give any party the right to a refund or partial refund of the retainer.

The Clerk-Treasurer has spoken with some of the surrounding municipalities to see who they are using as their Closed Meeting Investigator. There are three retired City of Thunder Bay employees who also offer the service without a retainer and a couple of the local municipalities have enter into agreements with them.

Council agreed to continue with Mr. Heayn for the year 2017 but will give notice for 2018 and will look further into entering into an Agreement with the local bodies for 2018.

- c) Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs – regarding Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) 2016 Top-Up Application. The Township of O'Connor's project "2017 Beaver Dam Creek Culvert Replacement" was not selected for funding.
- d) Ministry of Municipal Affairs/Ministry of Housing – Comments to the Township of O'Connor Draft Official Plan. Council deferred this item to the March 13, 2017 Council meeting to allow more time to review comments.
- e) Fotenn - Jaime Posen – regarding MMAH comments to draft Official Plan was also deferred to the March 13, 2017 meeting.

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Under further old business, Councillor Loan reported on the Thunder Bay District Municipal League (TBDML) meeting held on February 25, 2017 and Council's request to have a formal letter sent to Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) requesting that an additional seat be added to the Board. This request would see a Northwestern Ontario representative and a Northeastern Ontario representative. Councillor Loan informed Council that Mayor Landry, President of the League will contact the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) first to see what their opinion is on this matter and see if they feel the letter should come from them or both organizations. The next meeting of the Board will be held April 8, 2017 in Nipigon.

Time being 8:20 p.m. Kelly Johnson, Leadhand called into the meeting from Bolton, ON to discuss the Ritchie Bros. Auction. Mr. Johnson informed Council that there were three backhoes that he might be interested in from the program, however one of them, the 2012 CAT was pulled from the auction. The highest priority would be a 2014 420 CAT IT Loader Backhoe. The machine has just under 1500 hours on it and looks like new. The Township does put approximately 400 to 500 hours each year on our backhoe and this machine would last us for many years. The machine also is hydraulically plumbed for many attachments/tools. Council informed Mr. Johnson that they have agreed that he has a maximum purchase price of \$110,000.00. The Auction will be held February 28th and Mr. Johnson will be in attendance. Mr. Johnson was thanked for calling in and the call was ended at 8:32 p.m.

Councillor Racicot left the room.

Under New Business, Council discussed

a) AMCTO Zone 9 Spring Meeting and Conference and Workshop. It was

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

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE AMCTO WORKSHOP – CONTRACT TENDERING AND LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR MUNICIPALITIES TO BE HELD APRIL 24, 2017 IN THUNDER BAY.

**REGISTRATION FEE - \$100 EACH
CLERK-TREASURER BUOB**

Carried

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

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE AMCTO ZONE 9 SPRING MEETING AND CONFERENCE TO BE HELD ON APRIL 25 AND 26, 2017 IN THUNDER BAY.

**REGISTRATION FEE - \$100 EACH
CLERK-TREASURER BUOB, DEPUTY CLERK-TREASURER RACICOT**

Carried

- b) The Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) Annual General Meeting to be held on April 24 – 26, 2017 was discussed. It was

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

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION (NOMA) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TO BE HELD ON APRIL 26, 27 & 28, 2017 IN THUNDER BAY.

**REGISTRATION: \$325.00
MAYOR VEZINA
COUNCILLOR LOAN, FOEKENS, RACICOT, ALKINS
DEPUTY CLERK-TREASURER RACICOT**

Carried

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Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting.

- c) NOMA – Memorandum – First Call for Nominations for Offices of President and Executive Vice President. Councillor Loan informed Council of Mayor Wendy Landry's, from the Township of Shuniah's intention to run for President. It was also noted that Phil Vinet from Red Lake may also be putting his name forward. At this time no nominations will be submitted.

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

- a) Lakehead Region Conservation Authority – 2017 Levy request. Mayor Vezina reported on the budget process. The Township of O'Connor's 2017 levy will increase slightly over the 2016 levy.

For information purposes no building permits have been approved since the last meeting.

11. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by K. Foekens

**THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD
ON MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2017 AT 7:00 P.M.**

TIME BEING: 8:50 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer