

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – JANUARY 11, 2016

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, January 11, 2016 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

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

Visitors: Leadhand Kelly Johnson
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Racicot
Jaime Posen, Fotenn
Murray Armstrong, Planner, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Axel Nowak

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: Councillor Foekens declared an interest in item 7 b) as he is the owner of the business being paid. Councillor Racicot declared an interest in item 18 a) as his spouse is an employee of the Township.

1. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by K. Foekens

**THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY,
DECEMBER 21, 2015 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.**

Carried

The visitors were asked if they wished to address Council on any matter other than what was on the agenda and they all replied no.

Mr. Jaime Posen and Mr. Murray Armstrong were welcomed to the table to start the kickoff meeting for the Township of O'Connor's Official Plan and Zoning By-law review. Introductions were made. Mr. Posen provided a power point presentation including an introduction to planning, the requirements of updating the documents and the process required. He also provided some background information with regard to the company, Fotenn, who have been in existence for 25 years and currently have three offices, one in Ottawa, Kingston and Toronto. Mr. Posen will also be working with Paul Hicks, Senior Manager and they will be collaborating with Mr. Armstrong from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) and Roman Augustyn of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority (LRPB) for mapping purposes. The revised documents will include requirements laid out in the Planning Act, the 2014 Provincial Policy Statement and the Growth Plan for Northern Ontario. A draft timeline was laid out for the process. It is estimated that a draft Official Plan and Zoning By-law will be available for the Township, the Ministry and for an open house for the ratepayers by March or April of this year.

Mr. Armstrong confirmed the process described by Mr. Posen and informed Council that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing will distribute the draft to the other Ministry's and the other required agencies for comment. A meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday afternoon with the Ministries, Mr. Posen and Clerk-Treasurer Buob to address any initial concerns before the process starts. There will be a second opportunity for each Ministry and agency to make comment with regard to the draft and then the amendments will be sent back to the Township for their consideration and it will then hopefully be approved by early fall. Mr. Armstrong did make note that the Official Plan is currently a good plan, however it does need to be updated to meet the new requirements in the new planning documents.

As part of Mr. Posen's presentation Council was asked if they had any specific priorities, goals or objectives that they wanted to address, or any concerns or issues with the current plan that needed to be addressed in this review.

Council informed Mr. Posen that one of the areas of contention is the requirement to prove water during the severance process. Mr. Armstrong noted that the Ministry of

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Environment and Climate Change has been made aware of this concern. A question was asked with regard to Agricultural land and if this land in the Township is protected. It was noted that currently in the Township of O'Connor there are no lands currently zoned as Agriculture. The majority of the Township is Zoned Rural which allows for agriculture use. It was suggested that perhaps allowing subdivisions, condos or apartments should be allowed within the Township. It was noted that a couple of the new requirements include in an Official Plan are to allow for second units in homes, and to include Wildfire policies.

Council asked questions with regard to engaging the public in this process, as there has traditionally been very minimal input in previous reviews. The residents and ratepayers do not come out to voice their opinion in the first stages of the process but if there is something they don't like in the end they may come forward. Mr. Posen and Mr. Armstrong both noted that this is an issue in all municipalities. It was recommended that the information with regard to meetings and open houses be provided in the Cornerstone, on the website and on area bulletin boards.

As Council did not have any further comments, Mr. Posen noted that if they do think of anything else they would like to share in the next few days or weeks that they can be contacted by email. Mr. Posen will be back Tuesday morning to do a tour of the Township in the morning and to attend the Ministry meeting with the Clerk-Treasurer via the telephone in the afternoon.

Mr. Posen and Mr. Armstrong were thanked for attending and they left the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Mr. Johnson, Leadhand, was welcomed to the table. The Monthly Road Report was read for December 7, 2015 to January 8, 2016. Roadwork in general was discussed. Mr. Johnson reported that truck #9 blew a oil pressure sensor on Friday and is currently being repaired. The grader, with its new engine is working good. Mr. Johnson has been in contact with the manager of Strongco with regard to the invoice for grader repairs as he is still awaiting a decision on the breakdown of the invoice and who will be covering the costs. Mr. Johnson has offered to pay a portion of the invoice and he was advised to wait until a decision was made by the company.

A discussion was held with regard to the culvert replacement at Cedar Creek on Highway 595 and the required road closure and detour onto the Township roadways this summer. This was also discussed with LHNorth, the contractor, at the last Council meeting and they requested a resolution approving the use of the Township of O'Connor roadways during this time and it was

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

THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR SUPPORT THE FULL ROAD CLOSURE OF HIGHWAY 595 AT 48W-171/C APPROXIMATELY 1.45KM SOUTH OF HIGHWAY 590 DURING THE CEDAR CREEK CULVERT REPLACEMENT BY LHNORTH AND ALLOW A DETOUR ONTO THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR'S ROADWAYS DURING THE CLOSURE.

THE MAINTENANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR DETOUR ROADS AGREED TO BY BOTH PARTIES WILL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF LHNORTH DURING THE CLOSURE, INCLUDING GENERAL ROAD MAINTAINENCE AND DUST SUPPRESSANT.

AN INSPECTION OF THE ROADWAYS WILL BE HELD WITH BOTH LHNORTH AND THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR PRIOR TO THE ROAD CLOSURE AND THE ROADWAYS WILL BE RETURNED TO THEIR ORIGINAL CONDITION PRIOR TO THEIR USE AS A DETOUR.

THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR REQUESTS THAT LHNORTH INSTALL TEMPORARY REDUCED SPEED ADVISORY SIGNS ON THE DETOUR ROUTE DUE TO THE INCREASED TRAFFIC.

Carried

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An agreement will still have to be drafted to layout the specific details of the detour.

The OGRA/ROMA Combined Conference to be held on February 21 – 24, 2016 was discussed. It was agreed that no one will attend this conference this year.

Bills to be paid were discussed and it was

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

THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER #2 FOR DECEMBER 2015 TALLING \$30,848.60 BE APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

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

THAT THE ROADS VOUCHER FOR KEVIN'S TIRE SERVICE FOR DECEMBER 2015 TALLING \$4,467.56 BE APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

5. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE FOLLOWING BILLS FOR JANUARY 2016 BE PAID. THESE BILLS WILL BE INCLUDED ON THE JANUARY 2016 ADMINISTRATION AND ROAD VOUCHER.

CK#13385	AMCTO (2016 MEMBERSHIPS)	\$849.76
CK#13386	ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPALITIES OF ONTARIO	\$663.31
CK#13387	MUNICIPAL FINANCE OFFICER'S ASSOC OF ONT	\$282.50
CK#13388	ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS	\$282.50
CK#13389	AMCTO ZONE 9 (ANNUAL GRANT)	\$100.00
CK#13390	LAKEHEAD CONSERVATION FOUNDATION	<u>\$ 50.00</u>
		\$2,228.07

Carried

The Statement of Revenue and Expenditure estimates to December 31, 2015 were reviewed. Line items with variances were discussed and explained. Some line items still need to be verified, final journal entries posted and possible audit adjustments made.

Mr. Johnson and Ms. Racicot left the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

By-laws were discussed as follows and it was

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

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2016-01 BEING A BY-LAW TO IMPOSE LATE PAYMENT CHARGES FOR THE NON-PAYMENT OF TAXES OR ANY INSTALLMENT BY THE DUE DATE BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

7. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2016-02 BEING A BY-LAW TO PROVIDE FOR AN INTERIM LEVYING AMOUNT BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

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Lakehead Rural Planning Board – Consent applications 1B/03/16 and 1B/04/16 for property known as Concession 3, N ½ Lot 7 were reviewed. The complete, corrected applications with the actually surveyed measurements were included. It was

8. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by K. Foekens

THAT THE CONSENT APPLICATION 1B/03/16 FOR TIMOTHY SILVAGGIO FOR THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED AS CON 3 N ½ LOT 7, PCL 7262 FOR A SEVERANCE OF 4.713 HECTARES BE APPROVED.

Carried

9. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE CONSENT APPLICATION 1B/04/16 FOR TIMOTHY SILVAGGIO FOR THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED AS CON 3 N ½ LOT 7, PCL 7262 FOR A SEVERANCE OF 5.791 HECTARES BE APPROVED.

Carried

Resolutions for endorsement were reviewed as follows:

- a) Municipality of West Nipissing regarding an amendment to the Northern Health Travel Grant was filed.
b) Municipality of West Nipissing regarding support for expansion of Natural Gas Services and it was

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

THAT THE RESOLUTION FROM THE MUNICIPALITY OF WEST NIPISSING URGING THE MINISTER OF ENERGY TO CONSIDER EXPANDING THE ACCESSIBILITY TO NATURAL GAS SERVICES IN NORTHERN ONTARIO COMMUNITIES BE ENDORSED.

Carried

- c) Municipality of West Nipissing regarding the classification of Winter Highway classes was filed.
d) Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards regarding the recruiting family physicians to rural areas was filed.
e) Municipality of East Ferris requesting that property reports become a requirement of all real estate transactions and it was

11. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by K. Foekens

THAT THE RESOLUTION FROM THE MUNICIPALITY OF EAST FERRIS REQUESTING THAT PROPERTY REPORTS BECOME A REQUIREMENT OF ALL REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS AND THAT IT BE REGULATED AND ENFORCED BY THE REGULATORY BODIES THAT OVERSEE LAWYERS AND REAL ESTATE AGENTS IN ONTARIO BE ENDORSED.

Carried

District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board (TBDSSAB) issues were discussed as follows:

- a) District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board – regarding 2016 Cost Apportionment. The letter is urging Council to rescind their resolution and decision to withhold levy payments to the TBDSSAB. Mayor Vezina updated Council on the discussion held at the meeting held on January 7, 2016 in this regard. It was agreed to continue as planned.

Mayor Vezina also reported to Council on the recent meeting held with members of the TBDSSAB, Area One and a Ministry staff member with regard to the mediation process between the Area One municipalities and the TBDSSAB, which was also

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reported to him at the January 7, 2016 meeting. The next step in the process is to choose a mediator. Mayor Kevin Holland will be the spokesperson with regard to this issue for the Municipalities.

- b) TBDSSAB – regarding Weighted Assessment Policy change. The Board did receive double majority support to make the change. A copy of the new by-law was provided.
- c) TBDSSAB – regarding Investment in Affordable Housing (Rental Housing Component)
- d) Lakehead Rural Municipal Committee – Administrative Report for the January 21, 2016 meeting regarding an Escrow Agency was read. The report explained what an Escrow and Escrow agent are. It also explained the process, what it does and what will be required if we continue with this option. This report will be discussed further at the upcoming LRMC meeting. It was

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

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE MAYOR AND CLERK-TREASURER ARE AUTHORIZED TO EXECUTE AN ESCROW AGREEMENT, IN FORM AND CONTENT APPROVED BY THE LAKEHEAD RURAL MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, WITH AN ESCROW AGENT SELECTED BY THE LAKEHEAD RURAL MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, FOR THE PURPOSES OF HOLDING THE FUNDS ASSOCIATED WITH THE THUNDER BAY DISTRICT SOCIAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATION BOARD LEVY PAYMENTS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH RESOLUTION NUMBER FIVE (5) PASSED ON DECEMBER 21, 2015.

Carried

Mayor Vezina also reported on the hiring of Mr. Hull. The original contract with Mr. Hull has expired and his assistance is still required in this process of mediation. The LRMC would like to continue to retain him for this process and it was

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

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR AUTHORIZES ADMINISTRATION TO FORWARD TO THE MUNICIPALITY OF CONMEE THE SUMS REQUIRED TO CONTINUE TO RETAIN THE CONSULTANT HIRED BY THE INDIVIDUAL MUNICIPALITIES IN THE LAKEHEAD RURAL MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE FOR THE PURPOSES OF ASSISTANCE WITH MEDIATION RELATING TO THE THUNDER BAY DISTRICT SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BOARD, FROM TIME TO TIME, AS REQUIRED, UP TO A MAXIMUM OF \$1,000.00; AND ADMINISTRATION IS DIRECTED TO INCLUDE THIS SUM IN THE 2016 OPERATING BUDGET.

Carried

Correspondence was read as follows:

- a) Thunder Bay Area EMO Quarterly Newsletter – Oct to Dec, 2015.
- b) Thunder Bay OPP – January Newsletter. Council would like the information with regard to the household emergency supplies included in the next issue of the Cornerstone.
- c) Mosey & Mosey – regarding the Employee Group Benefit Plan Renewal Projection for June 1, 2016. Rates will be increasing.
- d) Northwest Insurance – information with regard to Northwest Insurance joining BrokerLink. The insurance coverage will remain the same however the policy documents will be issued by Brokerlink. The Clerk-Treasurer also reported that our current insurance agent has left the company. The Clerk-Treasurer asked Council if they were interested in going out and requesting quotes for this year's renewal and they agreed to not make a request this year.
- e) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – i) AMO Watchfile – January 7, 2016.
- f) Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) – Municipal Payment for Services Update & 2016 Invoice Estimate.
- g) Service Canada – Canada Summer Jobs program application period. It was agreed not to apply for this program this year.

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- h) Stewardship Ontario – regarding Industry funding for Municipal Blue Box Recycling for the third quarter of 2015 program.
- i) Ontario Good Roads Association – regarding the Notice of Poll – Election for Northern and South West Zones.
- j) Ministry of Transportation – regarding Electric Vehicle Chargers Ontario grant program. Council are not interested at this time.
- k) Municipal Finance Officers' Association (MFOA) – regarding Development Charges Update: Bill 73 and O. Reg. 428/15.
- l) Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care – regarding choosing discontinuation of fluoridation in drinking water systems and the public health issue.
- m) Federation of Canadian Municipalities – regarding the 2016 membership. It was agreed not to apply for the membership.

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) A draft copy of the notice with regard to “Seeking applications to fill the vacant Councillor seat” notice was reviewed. A minor change will be made and it will be sent out to the ratepayers the third week of January.
- b) Township of Conmee – Boundary Road Agreement – i) update from the Clerk-Treasurer and information from insurance company was read. The information from the insurance company was also sent to the Township of Conmee for their review and they will be discussing this at their meeting January 12, 2016. If the information is satisfactory to them, the draft agreement will be amended as needed and it will be brought back to the next meeting for approval.
ii) A copy of draft agreement was available for review.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Minister of Finance – regarding an invitation to participate in a discussion on the 2016 Ontario budget. An invitation was sent to Mayor Lucy Kloosterhuis of the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge. The Township of O'Connor did not receive the same invitation and have made a request for a representative from O'Connor to attend. At this time we still have not heard back from the Ministry and it was

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

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE HONOURABLE CHARLES SOUSA, MINISTER OF FINANCE'S DISCUSSION ON THE 2016 ONTARIO BUDGET TO BE HELD ON JANUARY 14, 2016 IN THUNDER BAY IF AN INVITATION IS APPROVED.

COUNCILLOR RACICOT

REGISTRATION: N/C

Carried

- b) Appointments to the different boards and the seats currently held by Mayor Nelson were discussed and it was

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

THAT DUE TO THE PASSING OF MAYOR RON NELSON THE APPOINTMENTS FOR THE YEARS 2016, 2017 AND 2018 BE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

**THUNDER BAY DISTRICT MUNICIPAL LEAGUE ALT.
EMERGENCY MEASURES ORGANIZATION**

**BISHOP RACICOT
JIM VEZINA**

Carried

Issues brought forward or letters received after agenda was mailed:

- a) Treasurer's Itemized Statement of Remunerations & Expenses paid to Council in 2015 was reviewed.

Councillor Racicot and Mr. Nowak left the meeting.

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

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: 9:23 P.M.

Carried

A review of the miscellaneous administration wages was held.

A letter from a former part-time employee with regard to returning to work was read.

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

TIME BEING: 9:40 P.M.

THAT WE NOW MOVE TO OPEN MEETING.

Carried

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

THAT THE SALARY AND WAGE SCHEDULE FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR NON-UNION STAFF COMPRISING OF THE DISPOSAL SITE CARETAKER, JANITOR, GROUNDSKEEPER, DOG CONTROL OFFICER, FENCEVIEWER, LIVESTOCK VALUATOR AND WEED INSPECTOR WILL RECEIVE AN INCREASE AS FOLLOWS:

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1ST, 2016 INCREASED BY 2 PERCENT.

THE ENTRY LEVEL WAGE WILL REMAIN THE SAME.

Carried

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

THAT THE COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2016 AT 7:00 P.M.

TIME BEING: 9:42 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer