

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – JANUARY 25, 2016

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, January 25, 2016 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

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

Visitors: Fire Chief Henry Mattas

Absent: Councillor Racicot

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: none

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

THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2016 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.

Carried

Fire Chief Mattas was welcomed to the table. Deputy Fire Chief Budiselic sent her regrets, due to the weather.

The Fire Department report was read from December 20, 2015 to January 21, 2016. There were two first response calls in that time period. It was noted that the Municipality of Neebing has had three house fires already in the new year and the Township of Gillies had a house fire on Christmas day.

Fire Chief Mattas reported that there were issues with the heater in the fire hall two weeks ago. A furnace repair company was called in and it was repaired, along with some maintenance work completed. It was also noted by another company that the tubes should also be cleaned. This will be done in the summer when the heat is shut off.

The SCBA packs have all been tested and the repaired as needed by M & L Supply.

The outdoor skating rink has been flooded and is ready for skating. The Fire Department auxiliary has purchased a pump for grass fires and they are now going to use this pump along with the tanker to flood the rink, rather than the pumper incase a call comes in while they are flooding and the tank is low on water. The Auxiliary have also purchased a smart 50" television for the fire hall for training purposes. It will be installed on January 27th. The Clerk-Treasurer has also looked into the cost of high speed internet in the fire hall and it may also be installed in the near future. If possible they will share the cost with the road department if the signal is strong enough.

Fire Chief Mattas informed Council that he attended the Zone meeting on January 21st and noted that no one from the Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management was in attendance or have been in attendance for the last few meetings. Council would like the Fire Chief to look into this further to see if it is just in our area or if this issue is province wide.

A document was read with regard to the Public Services Health & Safety Association and the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs partnering to provide improved training access, centralized services and revised high hazard curriculum for the fire service of Ontario. It was noted that the new Deputy Fire Chief was made aware of this and she will be taking care of organizing the training for the department.

Fire Chief Mattas noted that Monica Budiselic and Mo Douglas will be holding fire extinguisher training for the department members in the near future and they will also be offering it to the staff.

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – JANUARY 25, 2016

The O'Connor Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary minutes from the January 12, 2016 meeting were read.

Fire Chief Mattas was thanked for attending and left the meeting.

Bills to be paid were passed around and it was

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

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

CK#13391	SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA	\$ 925.12
CK#13392	RECEIVER GENERAL – CPP – COUNCIL	\$ 858.00
CK#13393	WORKPLACE SAFETY & INSURANCE BOARD	\$ 194.57
CK#13394	TBAYTEL	\$ 380.96
CK#13395	HYDRO ONE – STREET LIGHTING	\$ 55.76
CK#13396	LAKEHEAD CLEANERS	\$ 51.42
CK#13397	CANADA POST – FLYER	\$ 47.49
CK#13398	JERRY LOAN – HONOURARIUM	\$ 375.00
CK#13399	MONIKA ENDLER – JANITOR SUPPLIES	\$ 57.60
CK#13400	KELLY JOHNSON DENTAL/MEDICAL	\$ 61.00
CK#13401	HYDRO ONE NETWORKS	\$1,013.42
CK#13402	HENRY MATTAS	\$ 38.50
CK#13403	VOID	
CK#13404	JOHANSEN LAW FIRM IN TRUST-ESCROW PYMT	\$6,313.00
CK#13405	ALS CANADA LTD. – WATER TEST	<u>\$ 48.00</u>
		\$10,419.84

Carried

The final Statement of Revenue and Expenditure for December 31, 2015 will be presented after the Township audit is complete.

By-laws and policies were reviewed as follows:

- a) By-law #2016-03 authorizing the execution of a Boundary Road agreement with the Township of Conmee was reviewed. Item 2.02 was added from previous drafts with regard to the possibility of distance adjustments for winter maintenance if improvement to a property on Fleming road past the current turnaround should occur. It was

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

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2016-03 BEING A BY-LAW TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF A BOUNDARY ROAD AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWNSHIP OF CONMEE BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

- b) The Township of O'Connor's Health and Safety Policy was reviewed. Council would like to include a copy of the guidelines, as referred to in the document, to the policy. It was also suggested that the Safety Mission Statement be referred to in the policy. The policy will be reviewed further by the Clerk-Treasurer and brought back to another meeting for Council's review and approval.

Resolutions for endorsement were read from the Township of Madawaska Valley, the Township of Carling and the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Ragian all with regard to incentives for physicians to practice in rural areas and it was

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

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – JANUARY 25, 2016

THAT THE RESOLUTION FROM THE TOWNSHIP OF MADAWASKA VALLEY, TOWNSHIP OF CARLING AND THE TOWNSHIP OF BRUDENELL, LYNDOKH AND RAGIAN REQUESTING THAT THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND LONG TERM CARE REINSTATE INCENTIVES FOR PHYSICIANS TO PRACTICE IN RURAL AREAS OF ONTARIO; AND THAT THE MINISTER RETURN TO THE TABLE WITH ONTARIO'S DOCTORS AND WORK TOGETHER THROUGH MEDIATION-ARBITRATION TO REACH A FAIR DEAL THAT PROTECTS THE QUALITY, PATIENT-FOCUSED CARE ONTARIO'S FAMILIES DESERVE BE ENDORSED.

Carried

Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – i) AMO Watch File – January 14, 2016.
 - ii) AMO Watch File – January 21, 2016.
 - iii) AMO's 2016 Pre-Budget Submission.
 - iv) AMO Policy Update –Federal Minister Starts to Frame Infrastructure Investments.
 - v) AMO – Federal Gas Tax Survey results.
- b) AMCTO – Article from the Globe & Mail with regard to Ontario moving forward with provincial pension plan.
- c) North of Superior Workforce Planning Board – regarding Local Employment Planning Council (LEPC) and Subject Matter Working Group (SMWG) – looking for assistance in recruiting new members. No one will put their name forward at this time.

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) – options of remaining as a Section 5 or entering into a Section 10 contract. The Municipality of Neebing is currently looking into entering into a Section 10 contract with the OPP for services. The neighbouring municipalities can also enter into a Section 10 and form a Joint Police Board as long as the Municipalities are abutting. A maximum joint police services board membership is five, including one person appointed by the Province, one community member and three Councillors. It was confirmed by the OPP that the OPP costing will be the same if we go with either the Section 5 or Section 10, however with the Section 10 you will have addition board costs, however the board can also apply for different grants for program funding and the OPP can also enforce Municipal by-laws. Currently the Township of O'Connor has a Section 5 and is a part of the Community Policing Advisory Committee (CPAC) which meets quarterly. If a Section 10 is chosen a board must meet monthly. As the Township of Gillies has not yet decided if they wish to enter into a Section 10 contract the Township of O'Connor will have to wait to also make a decision as the Township does not border Neebing and would need Gillies to join before we would be eligible.

Councillor Loan also reported on the calls for service for December 2015 and noted that the calls for 2015 are at 37 down from 2014 at 46.

- b) Minister of Finance – 2016 Ontario Budget pre-consultation meeting – deadline for written submissions is January 31, 2016. No one from this Council attended the consultation meeting held in Thunder Bay and Council decided that they would like to make written comment by the deadline. Mayor Vezina noted that Mayor Holland at the LRMC meeting informed the group of some of the concern he brought forward at the consultation and it was suggested that we also make similar comments with regard to infrastructure funding and the fact that one size does not fill all. The Clerk-Treasurer will draft up a letter and have it submitted by the deadline.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) – Annual Conference & Annual General Meeting to be held April 27 to 29, 2016 in Thunder Bay. This item will be brought back to the second Council meeting in March to confirm attendance.
- b) Oliver Paipoonge Library – 2016 Contract for Service was discussed and it was

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – JANUARY 25, 2016

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

THAT THE LIBRARY CONTRACT FOR THE YEAR 2016 WITH THE MUNICIPALITY OF OLIVER PAIPOONGE LIBRARY BOARD FOR LIBRARY SERVICES BE SIGNED.

Carried

- c) Hymers Agricultural Society – request for donation and/or advertisement for the 2016 Hymers fair. It was

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

THAT A HALF PAGE ADVERTISEMENT IN THE HYMERS AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY PRIZE LIST BOOK BE PURCHASED AT A COST OF \$60.00 AND ONE O'CONNOR HISTORY BOOK WILL BE DONATED.

Carried

- d) Municipal Employer Pension Centre Ontario – regarding the renewal of support for MEPCO. It was agreed to continue the support and the membership fee will be paid at the next meeting.

Under further new business, Council discussed some of the Township of O'Connor's infrastructure. Mayor Vezina expressed his concern with regard to length of time it takes to open a new disposal site and the costs associated with it. It was suggested that we look further into how many years we do have left at our current site and ensure that enough monies is being set aside for the future needs. It was suggested that the reserve fund for the disposal site be put in a separate interest bearing account and that the interest is rolled back into that specific account. What will happen to this property once it is closed should also be considered.

It was also noted that with the new Infrastructure money which is currently being discussed by the government, that a new municipal garage be considered. It was suggested that a combination Fire Hall/garage be constructed. As we could not tear down and go without the current buildings, it was suggested that we move the new building onto the Community Centre property, this would provide additional space and possibly also allow for a salt shack which has also been previously discussed. The recreation area could then be relocated on the garage and fire hall property. Council felt that some pre-work could be done to determine building size, costs and location in case funding does become available for this type of project.

Another suggestion for a large infrastructure project is the replacement of the wooden bridge located on Smith Road.

Issues brought forward of letters received after the agenda was mailed were discussed as follows:

- a) A letter from Don Rusnak, MP requesting a detailed, prioritized list of infrastructure projects that require federal funding. It was agreed to forward to Mr. Rusnak that municipal garage/fire hall project and bridge that were just discussed under new business and some of the larger culvert replacements which are included in our asset management plan.
- b) Ontario Provincial Police – February Newsletter. It was agreed to include information from the newsletter with regard to the dialing of 9-1-1 and dangers on ice in the next issue of the Cornerstone.

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

**THAT THE COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2016 AT 7:00 P.M.
TIME BEING: 8:40 P.M.**

Carried