

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – JULY 9, 2018

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, July 9, 2018 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

Present: Mayor Vezina
Councillors: Handy, Loan, Racicot
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Racicot
Visitors: Leadhand Kelly Johnson

Absent: Councillor Foekens

Mayor Vezina called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: none

1. Moved by W. Handy
Seconded by B.J. Loan

**THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY,
JUNE 25, 2018 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.**

Carried

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

Leadhand Kelly Johnson was welcomed to the table. Roadwork in general was discussed. Three loads of calcium have been put down on the roadways so far and Connolly Road, Cardiff Road and Loghrin Road have all been resurfaced. Brushing is currently being done in areas. The roads crew has been out grading water ruts from recent heavy rains. A few contract jobs have also been completed.

A resident on Smart Road has voiced his concerns with the road not receiving calcium for dust control. The last time calcium was added to Smart Road was 2015 as the road does not see thorough traffic as it is a dead-end road. A light lift of gravel was also added to the road in 2014 at the request of a resident. Mr. Johnson will look at adding calcium to this road and other roads in the Township that require it.

Enquiries have been made as to whether the entrance of the Disposal Site will be widened by the Ministry of Transportation (MTO). The resurfacing and ditching of Highway 590 in 2017 has let the culvert at the entrance susceptible to erosion as there is only sand now where there use to be grass holding the banks. Mr. Johnson will follow up with this issue with MTO.

The inspection of the Helipad by ORNGE was discussed. The report received indicated that there were no issues at present. Mr. Johnson has spoken to the inspector indicating to him that the Township intends to put down asphalt in the future. The inspector cautioned against using asphalt as extreme heat in summer can soften the asphalt that can create problems for the helicopters. It was recommended that concrete be used instead.

The brush that is currently growing around the helipad on the adjacent property was discussed. Council would like the area brushed by the contractor that is currently brushing Township roads and to use the funds provided by ORNGE. The property owner will be contacted and asked if the Township can brush the site as the growth can pose a problem in the future.

The issue at the Mayo Road was discussed. The contractor that has been hired by MTO to ditch along Highway 590 had removed the entrance to Mayo Road which is a Township road. This has been brought to their attention and the entrance to Mayo Road will be restored.

Item 16 a) was moved forward on the agenda to discuss with the Leadhand Johnson.

The Township's Asset Management Plan was reviewed. This document has been revised to reflect the current state of the Township's assets. Schedules will be added to the plan that will be updated when required as assets are renewed, replaced or

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removed. The condition of the garage's shop B and the annex building where discussed as the plan indicates that major work is required. This issue will be looked at during the Annual Township Inspection. A date for the inspection will be set at the August 13th meeting to ensure that all Council members will be able to participate.

The Base Amount that the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) has set for the Township in the Federal Gas Tax Reporting module was discussed. This amount is what the Township should be spending on capital with own source revenue (property taxes). Council would like the Deputy Clerk-Treasurer to contact AMO to see if this amount can be reduced as it was calculated using a loan amount that should not have been included.

Leadhand Kelly Johnson was thanked for attending and he left the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

Bills to be paid were passed around the table and it was

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

**THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR JUNE 2018
TOTALLING \$165,095.31 BE APPROVED AND PAID.**

Carried

The Statement of Revenue and Expenditures to June 30, 2018 were reviewed. It was noted that a new High Interest Savings Account (HISA) has been opened to keep track of interest earned and to comply with both the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) and the Mainstreet Revitalization Fund agreements.

A resolution for endorsement from the Association of the Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) regarding calling on all OMERS Plan Sponsors to support and participate constructively in the Comprehensive Plan Review and it was.

3. Moved by W. Handy
Seconded by B.J. Loan

**WHEREAS OMERS IS A JOINTLY SPONSORED PENSION PLAN WITH
EQUAL REPRESENTATION OF EMPLOYER AND EMPLOYEE GROUPS ON
THE SPONSORS CORPORATION BOARD; AND**

**WHEREAS ALL OMERS SPONSORS HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO
ENSURE THAT THE OMERS PLAN REMAINS SUSTAINABLE, MEANINGFUL
AND AFFORDABLE FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE CONTRIBUTORS AND
PLAN MEMBERS; AND**

**WHEREAS PLAN DEMOGRAPHICS, MEMBER LONGEVITY, WORK
PRACTICES, SOCIAL NORMS AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS HAVE
EVOLVED SINCE OMERS WAS ESTABLISHED IN THE 1960S, IMPACTING
PLAN FUNDING, LIABILITIES AND ACTUARIAL ASSUMPTIONS; AND**

**WHEREAS THE OMERS RECENT STRONG ANNUAL INVESTMENT
PERFORMANCE ALONE CANNOT NOT ENSURE THAT THE PLAN WILL BE
FULLY FUNDED BY 2025 OR IN THE FUTURE; AND**

**WHEREAS COMPARABLE ONTARIO PUBLIC SECTOR PENSION PLANS
HAVE ALREADY MADE CHANGES TO RETURN TO FULL PLAN FINDING
OR SURPLUS TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE MEANINGFUL BENEFITS; AND**

**WHEREAS THE OMERS SPONSORS CORPORATION IS FOCUSED ON THE
EQUITABLE TREATMENT OF MEMBERS WITHIN AND ACROSS
GENERATIONS; AND**

**WHEREAS THE OMERS SPONSORS CORPORATION HAS DULY INITIATED
A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN REVIEW THAT WILL CONSIDER OPTIONS FOR
PROSPECTIVE AND/OR TEMPORARY CHANGES, THAT TOGETHER WITH
THE OMERS FUNDING MANAGEMENT STRATEGY, WILL ENABLE FUTURE
PLAN BENEFITS TO BE SUSTAINED;**

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WHEREAS THE SPONSORS CORPORATION BOARD IS ASSESSING THE VIABILITY AND IMPACTS OF SPECIFIC PLAN DESIGN CHANGES AS BASIS FOR CONSULTATION WITH PLAN STAKEHOLDERS TO INFORM FUTURE DECISION-MAKING;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR SUPPORTS AMO'S CALL ON ALL PLAN SPONSORS TO SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATE CONSTRUCTIVELY IN THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN REVIEW.

Carried.

A letter from the Thunder Bay District Social Services Administration Board (DSSAB) regarding the 2018 Association of Municipalities of Ontario conference Briefing Package and the related resolution from the Board was read.

Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) i) Association of Ontario Municipalities (AMO) regarding the new Ontario Government taking office.
- ii) AMO letter regarding receipt of funds from the Main Street Revitalization Fund. The Township of O'Connor has received \$38,232.05.
- b) Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) July Newsletter. Summer water safety tips will be included in the August issue of the Cornerstone newsletter.
- c) ONE Investment regarding municipal investment options. The Township does use the ONE Fund for investing money.
- d) Superior Country regarding annual membership drive and requesting financial support. The Township is not a member.
- e) Northern Ontario Business newsletter regarding appointments to the provincial cabinet.
- f) Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) regarding the Municipal Toolkit Launch. This is a new support tool for municipal staff and elected officials to learn more about MPAC and its role in the Ontario property assessment system. The document will be included with the candidate's packages that are given to individuals who are intending to run for Council in this year's municipal election.

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under further new business Council discussed the last Richie Bros. Auction that was held in Thunder Bay. It was commented that not submitting a bid for an excavator may have been a missed opportunity for the Township to be able to do their own excavation work instead of hiring a contractor each year.

Under New Business Council discussed,

- a) The Township of O'Connor's Asset Management Plan was moved forward on the agenda in order to discuss any issues with Leadhand Kelly Johnson.

Under further new business, Council discussed providing road employees with bright orange work shirts or T-shirts while they are working. Council agreed that this would be up to the Leadhand's discretion if he want to use his budgeted fund on these items. It was commented that the road employees do wear safety vests when working.

Councillor Loan informed Council that the next Thunder Bay District Municipal League Board meeting that had been scheduled for July has been cancelled. The next meeting will be held on October 13, 2018. The Annual meeting will be held on December 7th and 8th.

Council also discussed representation for Council at funerals for municipal leaders. The Township currently does have a policy for sending flowers or gift baskets that allow Council to send these items at their discretion, however it does not address costs associated with out of pocket expenses and mileage when attending out of town funeral as Township representatives. Council would like this policy brought to the August 13th Council meeting for further discussion.

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

a) Letter from the Rural Medicine Forum introducing the Rural Expert Panel at the Ontario Medical Association. They are requesting feedback from municipal leaders with regard to rural healthcare policies. It was suggested that Beth Stewart, Executive Director for the TBDML be forwarded this information for the Board to consider having a presentation at the Annual General Meeting in December of this year.

For information purposes building permit #2018-02 was approved for alteration and repair at 446 Highway 595.

8. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by W. Handy

THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 13, 2018 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

TIME BEING: 8:30 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer