

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – MARCH 12, 2018

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

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

Visitors: Kelly Johnson, Leadhand
Linda Racicot, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: Councillor Foekens declared an interest in item 7b) as he is the owner of the business being paid.

1. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by K. Foekens

THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2018 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.

Carried

The visitors were asked if they wished to address Council on any personal items and they replied no.

Mr. Johnson, Leadhand, was welcomed to the table. An update on the Road Department and roadwork in general was discussed. The Road employees have been busy steaming culverts, winging back snowbanks and grading some roads. There has been some heaving and bump signs have been put out. They are also doing maintenance on the garbage truck. Mr. Johnson reported that the employees have recently completed their First Aid and CPR training and he has also completed the Competent Supervisor Course last week. He is working on his road budget and his 5-Year Road Plan.

The Monthly Inspection Reports for January and February were read. WHMIS updates were discussed.

Council discussed with Mr. Johnson possible budget meeting dates. Mr. Johnson was thanked for attending and he left the meeting at 7:25 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 FEBRUARY 2018 TOTTALLING \$74,913.32 BE APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

3. Moved by Chantal Alkins
Seconded by B. J. Loan

THAT THE ROADS VOUCHER FOR KEVIN'S TIRE SERVICE FOR FEBRUARY 2018 TOTTALLING \$1,763.53 APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

Resolutions for endorsement were read as follows:

- a) Township of Gillies regarding the 2018 Thunder Bay District Social Services Administration Board Levy Calculation and it was

4. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE RESOLUTION FROM THE TOWNSHIP OF GILLIES CALLING ON THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT TO COMPENSATE MUNICIPALITIES

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DIRECTLY FOR THE ALLEGED FINANCIAL BENEFITS DERIVED FROM PROVINCIAL “UPLOADING”; RE-INSTALL THE LEVEL OF FUNDING THROUGH THE OMPF GRANT TO 2017 LEVELS FOR 2018; AND PROVIDE FINANCIAL COMPENSATION FOR ANY AND ALL LEVY APPORTIONMENT INCREASES FOR ANY EXTERNAL AGENCY WHICH THE TOWNSHIP IS REQUIRED TO FUND WHICH RESULT FROM THE INCREASE IN PROPERTY ASSESSMENT IN THE TOWNSHIP, ON AN ANNUAL BASIS BE ENDORSED.

Carried

- b) County of Renfrew requesting the 5-year extension in Section 22.1 of the Endangered Species Act, 2007 rather than the proposed 2-year extension and it was
5. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by Chantal Alkins

THAT THE RESOLUTION FROM COUNTRY OF RENFREW ASKING THE PROVINCE TO PROVIDE THE FOREST SECTOR WITH THE CERTAINTY IT NEEDS TO INVEST IN THE FUTURE, THROUGH A 5-YEAR EXTENSION IN SECTION 22.1 OF THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT, 2007 INSTEAD OF THE PROPOSED 2-YEAR EXTENSION;

AND SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT PANEL OF CREDIBLE STAKEHOLDERS DIRECTLY AFFECTED IN THEIR DAY-TO-DAY LIVES BY THE MANAGEMENT OF CROWN LAND FORESTS WHO WILL LOOK AT THE FACTS OF THE MATTER TO COME UP WITH A LONG-TERM SOLUTION BE ENDORSED.

Carried

- c) Town of Essex regarding user pay childcare services at AMO and FCM Conference was filed.

The Thunder Bay District Social Services Administration Board Update from the Board newsletter was read.

Correspondence was read as follows:

- a) Lakehead Region Conservation Authority (LRCA) – regarding 2018 Lakehead Region Conservation Authority Levy Request. The Township of O'Connor's levy has increase by 10% over 2017.
- b) Ministry of Municipal Affairs regarding 2018 Annual Repayment Limit (ARL). This is calculated based on 25 percent of the Township's new own source revenues as reported in the 2016 Financial Information Return.

Council suggested that a cost for a new municipal garage/fire hall be obtained. The preparation of plans/drawing could be included in this year's budget so the Township is prepared should funding become available.

- c) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – i) Response from the AMO President regarding Council's endorsed resolution regarding legislated protection from arbitrators imposing fire medic pilots or programs on unwilling municipalities.
ii) AMO Communications – OMERS Announces Strong 2017 Investment Results
iii) AMO Communications – Province Broadens Municipal Investment Powers
iv) AMO Communications – Cannabis Implementation – Municipal Funding Announcements. This document states that the Province will provide \$40 million over two years to all Ontario municipal governments to support their incremental implementation costs. Funding will be allocated on a per household basis, adjusted to ensure that each municipality receives no less than \$10,000.00.
v) AMO Communications – Discussion Paper – Community Energy Planning
- d) AMCTO – 2018 Federal Budget Update
- e) Ministry of Municipal Affairs – i) letter outlining recent reforms to municipal eligible investment authorities under the Municipal Act, 2001.
ii) Planning Act Regulations related to the Building Better Communities and Conserving Watersheds Act, 2017.
- f) The Premier of Ontario reply to Council's endorsed resolution regarding Bill 160, the Strengthening Quality and Accountability for Patients Act.

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

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Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) Residential Tenancy Act requirements – Comments from the Insurance Company with regard to liability were read. If the Township is required by law to perform an act, and does not, and any resulting bodily injury, property damage or financial hardship could be found to be the Township's responsibility, there could be a potential insurance claim.

It was noted that at the last Lakehead Rural Municipal Coalition (LRMC) meeting the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge was asked, as they already have a property standards by-law and an employee in place to enforce it, and the Township of O'Connor and the other surrounding municipalities currently do not have anyone in place to enforce this new municipal responsibility, if they would consider contracting their employee out to our municipalities, if needed. The Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge has since responded stating that they could offer the enforcement services provided the costs were covered and a service agreement was put in place.

The Township of Conmee is sending Gordon Cuthbertson, Chief Building Official, to the training for Enforcing Residential Maintenance Standards as they will be appointing him to enforce this new requirement in their Township. They have asked if the Township of O'Connor and Gillies will share in the cost of sending him, if we were considering appointing him as our enforcement officer. Council, at this time, are not considering appointing Mr. Cuthbertson and agreed not to contribute the costs.

The Clerk-Treasurer will be attending this training and will report back to Council on what is required.

- b) GHG Challenge Fund Application – The Township's applications for new vehicles and garage/fire hall building were unsuccessful. The Climate Change Action Plan is a 5-year plan and there will be multiple rounds of the fund, pending the availability of carbon market proceeds. An announcement with regard to the next round should be made later in 2018.

Under further old business, Clerk-Treasurer Buob informed Council that a celebration of life luncheon will be held for former Councillor, Gwen Garbutt, on Friday, March 23rd in the O'Connor Community Centre. Flowers will be ordered from the Township.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Norm Gale, City Manager, City of Thunder Bay email regarding the Provincial Governments downloading of Provincial Offences Act (POA) Pt 111 prosecutions to municipalities in 2019. This will impact the municipalities annual operating budgets by decreasing revenue.
- b) Dates for Township budget meetings were discussed. Council in the past have met with the Road Department and the Fire Department at 6 p.m. prior to the regular April Council meetings, however as the Official Plan special meeting will be held prior to the April 9th Council meeting this year, that date will not work. Council discussed possible dates and it was agreed to set a combined meeting for both the fire and road department and both departments will again attend the administration budget meeting to determine the final decision of Council and it was

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

THAT THE FOLLOWING DATES BE SET FOR BUDGET MEETINGS:

**FIRE DEPARTMENT AND ROAD DEPARTMENT – APRIL 16, 2018 AT 7 P.M.
ADMINISTRATION BUDGET – MAY 10, 2018 AT 7 P.M.**

THE MEETINGS WILL BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

Carried

Under further New Business, Council requested that the Clerk-Treasurer inquire with Tbaytel whether or not lights will be installed on the new cellular tower in the municipal yard.

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

- a) Lakehead Region Conservation Authority – 2017 Annual Report
- b) Thunder Bay Veterinary Services Committee – regarding the Veterinary Assistance Program and invoice. The Clerk-Treasurer will enquire as to when the annual meeting will be held for this committee as it is usually in February and we have not received any correspondence in this regard.
- c) FCC AgriSpirit Fund – funding opportunity. It was suggested that the Township submit an application for upgrades to the outdoor rink area. The deadline for the application is March 29, 2018. Administration will look further into the application to ensure that this would fit the criteria and if it does will submit an application.
- d) City of Thunder Bay – POA 2017 draft year end reconciliation and 2018 budget.
- e) Lakehead Rural Municipal Coalition (LRMC) – minutes of the February 15, 2018 meeting.
- f) MPAC – regarding the Official Launch of voterlookup.ca. Information will be included in the Township's monthly newsletter and website to inform voters to confirm that they are on the voter's list for the 2018 Municipal election.

- 7. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by Chantal Alkins

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE NEXT PORTION OF THE MEETING BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC IN ORDER TO DISCUSS A PROPOSED OR PENDING ACQUISITION OR DISPOSITION OF LAND BY THE MUNICIPALITY OR LOCAL BOARD, PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION 239(2)(C) OF THE MUNICIPAL ACT, 2001.

TIME BEING: 8:29 P.M.

Carried

Council discussed a possible purchase of land by the Township of O'Connor and instructed Administration to summarize the pros and cons of a purchase.

- 8. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

TIME BEING: 9:13 P.M.

THAT WE NOW MOVE TO OPEN MEETING.

Carried

- 9. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by Chantal Alkins

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

TIME BEING: 9:14 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer