

## TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – MAY 14, 2018

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, May 14, 2018 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

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

Visitors: Kelly Johnson, Leadhand

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

Mayor Vezina welcomed Councillor Handy to her first meeting as Councillor and provided a brief introduction of the meeting process.

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: Councillor Racicot declared an interest in items 15 e) & f) as his spouse is an employee of the Township. Councillor Foekens declared an interest in item 7 b) as the owner of the business being paid.

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

**THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2018 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.**

Carried

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

Mr. Johnson, Leadhand was welcomed to the table. A Road Department update and roadwork in general was discussed. Mr. Johnson noted that the road employees have been busy fixing frost boils and heaves in the roads and spreading some gravel. The hills on Blaikie Road will be fixed up soon. There were no real issues with flooding this year. They had to watch the Harstone Road as there was ice jams on the bends in the river that did bring the water up onto the road. There is not much water in the well at the garage to clean the equipment right now. The employees have also been busy taking required training courses.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs 2018 OCIF Top-Up funding application was discussed. The Township will submit an application by the deadline with Mr. Johnson determining what will be applied for, using the Asset Management Plan and the Township's Five Year Road Plan.

A request from a resident on the location of a headstone in a family plot of 10 was discussed. The family would like to place a headstone at the foot of the grave rather than the head. Mr. Johnson has looked at the area in question and there is a path between the rows in the area and there would not be an issue with spacing for maintenance. The other plots in this row in the future would also be placed at the foot of the grave. Council did not have an issue with the placement and the family will be notified of the decision.

Health and Safety Reports and the Monthly Workplace Inspection Reports for March, April and May were presented to Council for review. No questions were asked from Council on the reports.

Mr. Johnson was thanked for attending and left the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Bills to be paid were reviewed and it was

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

**THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR APRIL 2018 TOTTALLING \$73,648.87 BE APPROVED AND PAID.**

Carried

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3. Moved by W. Handy  
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**THAT THE ROADS VOUCHER FOR KEVIN'S TIRE SERVICE FOR APRIL 2018 TOTTALLING \$6,605.07 BE APPROVED AND PAID.**

Carried

The Statement of Revenue and Expenditures and the Balance Sheet to April 30, 2018 was reviewed. Once the budget is set variances will be available.

Resolutions for endorsement were read as follows:

- a) Town of Lakeshore regarding renovation and/or demolition of all buildings containing hazardous materials was filed.
- b) Municipality of East Ferris regarding wolf sightings was filed.
- c) Town of Oakville regarding CN Intermodal Update was filed.

DSSAB issues were discussed as follows:

- a) Newsletter - Update from the Board – May 3, 2018.
- b) 2017 Audited Consolidated Financial Statements.
- c) Thunder Bay District Social Services Administrative Board (TBDSSAB) – A discussion was held with regard to the format for appointment of the Area One representatives on the Board. The Lakehead Rural Municipal Coalition (LRMC) has been discussing this matter at their meetings and would like each Council's input on how the three appointees will be assigned following the municipal election. Mayor Vezina explained the two options that are being considered at this time, one being election with each municipality putting a name forward from their Council, if they have someone interested. The other being a rotation between municipalities as it was in the past. Council would at this time prefer the rotating appointment. This will be brought back to the LRMC for further discussion to ensure that each municipality will have an equal opportunity to sit on the board, if they so choose.

Correspondence was read as follows:

- a) Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) – May Newsletter. Council would like to see information with regard to Bear Wise, romance scams and statistical information with regard to the dramatic increase in 2017 deaths on the road included in the next issue of the Cornerstone.
- b) Lakehead Region Conservation Authority – Strategic Plan for the period of 2018-2022.
- c) Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) – Update regarding the Inter-Community Bus Service for Northwestern Ontario. At the recent NOMA Conference held in Kenora, the Premier was asked why there was no subsidy being offered to private inter-community bus transportation providers. She stated that there was subsidy and referenced a contribution designed to fund the expansion into Northwestern Ontario. This service was expanded to include Hearst and Wawa only and it is not provided in Northwestern Ontario. NOMA has followed up with the local MPP's on this issue. Minister Gravelle stated that the subsidy will be provided through increased investment and support but no routes have yet been determined.
- d) Association of Municipalities of Ontario –
  - i) AMO Communications – Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services Introduces Important Policy Changes for Fire and Police – What You Need to Know. More clarification is required on what qualifications our volunteer fire team would need to be eligible to be grandfathered and what training the team will include.
  - ii) AMO Communications – Cannabis Legalization Briefing Material Available.
  - iii) AMO Communications – Canada-Ontario Bilateral Agreement Signed for the National Housing Strategy.
  - iv) AMO/NOMA – Election Priorities.
  - v) AMO Communications – 2018-2020 AMO Board of Directors call for nominations. No names will be put forward at this time.
- e) Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport – regarding improving access to digital services in public libraries.
- f) Northern Policy Institute and Partners Launch Free Community Data Portal.
- g) Ted Gruetzner – Ontario Power Generation (OPG) – regarding Pickering Continued Operations-Economic Impact.
- h) Ministry of the Environment & Climate Change – regarding Final Food and Organic Waste Framework.

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Balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) Ontario Association of Property Standards Officers Inc. - letter regarding Residential Tenancy Act and new responsibilities for municipalities. As of July 1, 2018 all municipalities within Ontario are required to have staff available to inspect complaints from residential tenants against the Maintenance Standards contained in the Residential Tenancies Act. Council previously discussed the new responsibilities of the Township and the Clerk-Treasurer attended training in April in this regard. The members of the Lakehead Rural Municipal Coalition (LRMC) also previously discussed the appointment. The Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge has a Property Standards By-law and a By-law Enforcement Officer to enforce their By-law. At the meeting it was suggested that perhaps the surrounding municipalities could enter into an agreement with Oliver Paipoonge for their services should they be needed. The Clerk-Treasurer did speak to their By-law Enforcement Officer at the training and he is not interested in taking on the other Township's enforcement. Mr. Cuthbertson, Chief Building Official, was also at the training on behalf of the Townships of Conmee and Gillies and he will be appointed by these two Townships and he would be willing to provide the service for the Township of O'Connor as well. A wage for this service will have to be negotiated with Mr. Cuthbertson. It was noted that this new requirement is only for rental units and if the Township was interested in implementing a Property Standards By-law that would include the entire Township this could still be done at a later date. Council were in agreement to discuss and negotiate this further with Mr. Cuthbertson and to reimburse the Township of Conmee for a share of the training costs for him.
- b) Dan Campbell, Copperfin Credit Union - follow up from Mr. Campbell with regard to offering banking services to the Township of O'Connor. Council discussed the information provided and would like the Clerk-Treasurer to send a reply letter to Mr. Campbell thanking him for his interest and information and inform him that at this time the Township is not interested in changing banking institutions, however if we do go out for quotes they will be contacted.

Under further old business, the Clerk-Treasurer noted that the Fire Department Auxillary noted that Mayor Vezina or Councillor Loan did not attend their last meeting as they had previously scheduled. Mayor Vezina noted that he had to work and Councillor Loan apologized that he had forgotten.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Eco Superior – 2018 Spring Up – invitation to participate in clean-up during the month of May. Due to the lateness of month, Council did not feel that there was time to promote and get an event organized during the month of May and the item was filed.
- b) Minister of Senior Affairs regarding the Ontario Senior Achievement Award. Council would like to submit a name for the Senior of the Year Award.
- c) Lakehead Police Services Board – A report from Rosalie Evans, Board Secretary, with regard to resolutions required, relating to the Board, was read. Councillor Loan also provided an update in this regard. The Board, as has currently been appointed, includes a member of Council from each participating municipality, including Mayor Holland from the Township of Conmee as Chair and Councillor Jerry Loan as Vice-Chair. At the time the Board was formed Mayor Holland and Ms. Evans approached the Minister at the recent Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) conference and explained the groups situation. The Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services granted permission to have a Board of 5 members, however 1 member is to be of the general public and 2 members of the general public appointed by the Province through an application process. The Municipalities had also requested the expansion of the Board from a 5-person Board to a 7-person Board, increasing 1 additional Council member and 1 additional appointee. As the current arrangement was working well but does not meet the Police Services Act, the Ministry cannot provide information to the Board as it is not structured properly. The Board has requested that each municipality withdraw their request to have a 7-person Board and move forward with a 5-member Board and that the Board be recreated to meet the requirements as set out in the Act. It was

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

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT, GIVEN THE INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, COUNCIL RE-CONSIDER ITS RESOLUTION NUMBER 10, PASSED ON FEBRUARY 12, 2018, TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF LAKEHEAD POLICE SERVICES BOARD FROM FIVE TO SEVEN MEMBERS;**

**AND THAT THE SIZE OF THE BOARD FOR THE LAKEHEAD POLICE SERVICE BOARD REMAIN AT FIVE MEMBERS.**

Carried

5. Moved by Bishop Racicot  
Seconded by K. Foekens

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT, FOR THE BALANCE OF THIS TERM OF COUNCIL, MAYOR KEVIN HOLLAND (OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CONMEE COUNCIL) AND COUNCILLOR JERRY LOAN (OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR COUNCIL) BE APPOINTED AS THE TWO ELECTED MUNICIPAL OFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE LAKEHEAD POLICE SERVICE BOARD;**

**AND THAT, THE COUNCILS OF GILLIES, O'CONNOR AND CONMEE BE REQUESTED TO APPOINT TO THE BOARD AS A COMMUNITY MEMBER, FOR THE BALANCE OF THIS TERM OF COUNCIL, A CANDIDATE SELECTED BY THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF NEEBING;**

**AND THAT, THE COUNCILS OF THE MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES FURTHER DISCUSS A METHOD FOR SELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE BOARD, WITH A GOAL TO A CONSENSUS METHOD BEING APPROVED BY ALL FOUR (4) COUNCILS FOR USE BY THE NEW MUNICIPAL COUNCILS AFTER THE 2018 MUNICIPAL ELECTION.**

Carried

- d) Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services letter regarding the development of three new fire safety regulations under the Fire Protection and Prevention Act (FPPA). The regulations relates to certification of firefighters, risk assessment to inform the delivery of fire protection services, and public reporting on fire department response times. As well, a Narrative of the Fire Protection and Prevention Act Regulations, and questions and answers in this regard were read. The municipality will be required to train the Fire Department members to a new standard and they must achieve mandatory certification. Members who have previously been trained to former Ontario standards may be eligible to have their previous knowledge or experience qualify them to be grandfathered. Firefighters who wish to take advantage of grandfathering must submit an application through the Fire Department by September 30, 2018. Mandatory certification comes into force July 1, 2019, with some sections January 1, 2020 and January 1, 2021. Firefighters not certified before being hired will need to be enrolled in a two year internship program. This is a big concern to many fire departments as the amount of training required will discourage members from joining as a volunteer. This will be discussed further with Fire Chief Mattas at the next meeting.

Item 15 g) was moved forward on the agenda. A request from the Rural 60 Plus to sell raffle tickets in the Township of O'Connor, during the Annual Strawberry Festival was discussed. As per the lottery licence rules, if an organization is to sell tickets in a different municipality then where the licence is issued, they require permission from the Council. Council were in favour of allowing the Rural 60 Plus to sell their raffle tickets in the Township of O'Connor.

Councillor Racicot left the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

- e) Gillons – Municipal Risk Management & Professional Development Conference to be held in Thunder Bay on June 4, 2018 was discussed. It was

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

**THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE GILLONS RISK MANAGEMENT & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE TO BE HELD JUNE 4<sup>TH</sup>, 2018 IN THUNDER BAY.**

**REGISTRATION FEE – N/C**

**CLERK-TREASURER BUOB,  
DEPUTY CLERK-TREASURER RACICOT**  
Carried

- f) Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) regarding Lottery License session to be held on June 7, 2018 in Thunder Bay was discussed and it was

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

**THAT THE FOLLOWING PERON/S ATTEND THE ALCOHOL AND GAMING COMMISSION OF ONTARIO (AGCO) MUNICIPAL LOTTERY LICENSING SESSION TO BE HELD JUNE 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2018 IN THUNDER BAY.**

**REGISTRATION FEE – N/C**

**CLERK-TREASURER BUOB**  
Carried

For information purposes no new building permits were approved since the last meeting.

8. Moved by K. Foekens  
Seconded by W. Handy

**THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE BUDGET MEETING TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 15, 2018 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS.**

**TIME BEING: 8:55 P.M.**  
Carried

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Mayor

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Clerk-Treasurer