

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – NOVEMBER 9, 2015

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, November 9, 2015 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

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

Visitors: Kelly Johnson, Leadhand

Absent: Councillor Foekens

Acting Mayor Racicot called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and asked for a moment of silence for the late Mayor Ron Nelson.

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: none

1. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by J. Vezina

**THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY,
OCTOBER 26, 2015 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.**

Carried

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

Kelly Johnson, Leadhand, was welcomed to the table. The Monthly Road Report from October 12 to November 6, 2015 was read. Council asked for more detail with regard to the flat tire. Mr. Johnson reported that he needed to purchase a new rim for the backhoe.

Roadwork in general was discussed. The employees have been getting the plow trucks ready, trying to grade up the roads with the rented grader and finishing up contract jobs.

The issue with the Township grader was discussed. It is currently still at the dealers and the engine is being replaced. Mr. Johnson has been working with the salesman to negotiate sharing the costs of the repairs. They are currently renting a grader from Gary Steele on an hourly basis to try to get the roads ready for winter before the ground freezes.

The Boundary Road Agreement with the Township of Gillies was discussed. The Township of Gillies Council have decided that they would like to close the Main Street hill during the winter months as a temporary solution while the issue of widening the road and the road allowance is being considered. Mr. Johnson noted that his initial concern of the road was not the winter maintenance, it is the spring when the road is soft and the need for proper drainage, however the liability of the narrowness of the road and trees along the road allowance remains. If the road is to be closed Council want the responsibility of the road signage to be the Township of Gillies as the road is in their Township. Council are willing to extend the agreement as is until December 1, 2015 until further negotiations are made.

The 2015 Inspection report of six structures completed by WSP was reviewed. There were no urgent concerns on these structures and most recommendations were minor in nature.

A letter from the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs with regard to the second intake of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) application-based component was read. The Township's application for replacing three culverts at Beaver Dam Creek on Sitch road was not selected to move forward to the application phase.

The Township's By-law Number 92-22 for the purpose of governing entrances in the Township of O'Connor was reviewed. Council would like the Clerk-Treasurer to contact the surrounding municipalities to see what they do when an entrance culvert needs to be replaced. The Clerk-Treasurer will also look into whether or not there is anything in the Municipal Act that states who is responsible for the replacement.

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A letter was read from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry with regard to the Aggregate Resources Act review. The Ministry is looking for comments to the proposed changes. Council made note that currently the Ministry does not pay royalty to the municipalities for material which has been removed from a pit located in a municipality like other pit owners do and they would like the Clerk-Treasurer to make comment with regard to this.

Councillor Racicot reported that he currently has been looking into the purchase of a Bailey bridge for the disposal site property to possibly access the potential aggregate material on the property, across the creek. It was noted that in order for the Township to remove material from the property, permits would be required and currently the Township is unaware of any good material available.

Mr. Johnson was thanked for attending and left the meeting.

The Administration and Roads Voucher and additional bills to be paid were reviewed and it was

2. Moved by J. Vezina
Seconded by B. J. Loan

**THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR OCTOBER 2015
TOTALLING \$120,713.87 BE APPROVED AND PAID.**

Carried

3. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by J. Vezina

**THAT THE FOLLOWING BILLS FOR NOVEMBER BE PAID. THESE BILLS
WILL BE INCLUDED ON THE NOVEMBER 2015 ADMINISTRATION AND
ROADS VOUCHER.**

CK#13257	GRAVEL LAKE SERVICES	\$1,740.00
	(WILDLIFE COMPENSATION)	
CK#13258	HYRDO ONE (STREETLIGHTING)	\$ 54.51
		\$1,794.51

Carried

The Statement of Revenue and Expenditure to October 31, 2015 was unavailable.

A resolution for endorsement from the Township of Blandford-Blenheim with regard to stray electrical current throughout the Province of Ontario was read and was filed.

A copy of the letter to Mr. Robert Katajamaki, Chair of the District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board (TBDSSAB) from the Ministry of Community and Social Services with regard to the mediation process between the TBDSSAB and the Area One Municipalities was read. The letter is asking for confirmation that both parties are committed to proceed with mediation and requested the names of the representatives.

A copy of the letter to the Minister of Community and Social Services, Hon. Helena Jaczek, from the TBDSSAB was read. This letter expressed their concerns that the Area One municipalities were ignoring the Minister's previous letter stating that the Ministry will not undertake a regulation amendment to recognize a separate social services board. The letter also requested a copy of the results of the detailed analysis of the concerns regarding the governance and accountability of the DSSAB.

As Mayor Nelson was currently the Township of O'Connor's representative with regard to the current DSSAB issues, Councillor Vezina will attend any further meeting in this regard until official appointments are made.

Correspondence were read as follows:

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- a) Ontario Provincial Police – November Newsletter. Council would like to see the Festive Ride information included in the December issue of the Cornerstone.
 - b) Association of Municipalities of Ontario – i) Watch File October 29, 2015
ii) Watch File November 5, 2015
iii) Ontario's Response to the Report of the Expert Advisory Panel on Homelessness
 - c) Town of Marathon – Response to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing regarding the Municipal Act Review
 - d) AMCTO the Municipal Expert – AMCTO Municipal Act Report & Submission
- The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) O'Connor Fire Department – the O'Connor Fire Department Auxiliary minutes for 2015 and the Fire Department records of meetings for October 2015 were read.
- b) The Disposal Site and the trial opening of 9 a.m. on Saturday mornings for the months of June to September, as well as the current hours of operation. The current changeover date between winter and summer hours was also discussed. Council decided that they would like to get feedback from the residents on this and a survey will be drafted and included in the Cornerstone and will be posted on the Township's website. The information collected in the survey's will be summarized and will be used for planning for 2016.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Ontario Power Generation – Dam Safety Stakeholder meeting – December 11, 2015. It was

- 4. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by J. Vezina

THAT COUNCILLOR VEZINA, CLERK-TREASURER BUOB AND FIRE CHIEF MATTAS ATTEND THE KAMINISTIQUIA RIVER SYSTEM MEETING TO BE HELD DECEMBER 11, 2015 IN KAKABEKA FALLS.

Carried

- b) Lakehead Region Conservation Authority – 2016 Capital Budget, draft administration budget and 3 Year Forecast applicable to the Township of O'Connor was reviewed. Councillor Vezina gave Council an overview of the budget and explained that the capital budget is lower than previous years due to a new building no longer being considered at this time and renovations to the current office are almost complete. Ms. Henttonen, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer along with Mr. Heath, Finance Manager will be attending the municipal office to go over the budget with the Clerk-Treasurer next week.
- c) Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry – letter from Minister Bill Mauro with regard to the black bear management. Based on the support for the broadening of the pilot, the Ministry is proposing to extend the pilot for an additional five years and are expanding the area.
- d) Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association – regarding the Spring Bear Hunt Pilot Project. NOMA is requesting that individual municipalities respond to the EBR in support of the spring bear hunt. Councillor Vezina will follow the link provided and look further into the what is required to make a submission.
- e) Ministry of Training, College and Universities regarding the Call for Proposals for Local Employment Planning Council (LEPC) – North Superior Workforce Planning Board. No one will apply at this time.
- f) An O'Connor Christmas Party was discussed. It was agreed to have the Clerk-Treasurer look into possible dates at the Kakabeka Hotel. Last year a cost comparison of the different venues was done and it was agreed that this would continue to be our best option again this year. An official date will be set at the next meeting.

Under Further New Business, Council discussed the passing of Mayor Nelson and thanked Clerk-Treasurer Buob for assisting his family at this time. Council authorized that she and her husband go for dinner on the Township for her support. Flowers will be ordered for the service.

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The Clerk-Treasurer noted that there is a Lakehead Rural Municipal Committee meeting scheduled for Thursday, November 19, 2015 in Gillies. Councillor Racicot, as Acting Mayor for the month of November will attend.

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

- a) AMCTO – New Policy & Management Brief with regard to Risk Management for municipal organizations was read.

No building permits have been approved since the last meeting.

- 5. Moved by J. Vezina
Seconded by B. J. Loan

THAT THE COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2015 AT 7:00 P.M.

TIME BEING: 9:35 P.M.

Carried

Acting Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer