

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – OCTOBER 23, 2017

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, October 23, 2017 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

Present: Mayor Vezina
Councillors: Alkins, Foekens, Loan, Racicot
Clerk-Treasurer Buob
Visitors: Fire Chief Henry Mattas

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: Councillor Racicot declared an interest in items 14 e) and 15 b)ii) as his spouse is an employee of the Township.

1. Moved by C. Alkins
Seconded by B. J. Loan

THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2017 AND THE NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP INSPECTION HELD ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2017 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.

Carried

Fire Chief Henry Mattas was welcomed to the table. The Fire Department Report from September 24, 2017 to October 23, 2017 was read. There were five First Response calls since the last report.

Fire Chief Mattas reported that training has started back up again about a month ago after the summer break. They will continue to do group training once a month with the Gillies and Nolalu departments as well as their weekly meeting/training.

The Fire Department air bottle program was discussed. An Air Bottle report was presented to Council by Fire Chief Mattas. Fire Chief Mattas noted that he has a program on his computer which indicates which tanks are in need of inspection. The tanks need to be tested every five years. In the last round of testing in September of 2017 fourteen bottles were tested. During the testing one bottle failed. Fire Chief Mattas explained the process of inspection and the high pressure testing which is done. Cracks in the threads can be found this way and cannot be seen with the naked eye. The one bottle that failed will be replaced. All bottles are up to the standard required.

The O'Connor Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary minutes from March to September 2017 were read. A brief report on the 2-Bit Auction held on October 21 and hosted by the Auxiliary was made by Councillor Racicot.

Fire Chief Mattas was thanked for attending and left the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

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

2. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by K. Foekens

THAT THE FOLLOWING BILLS FOR SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2017 BE PAID. THESE BILLS WILL BE INCLUDED ON THE OCTOBER 2017 ADMINISTRATION AND ROAD VOUCHER.

CK#14567 O'CONNOR FIRE DEPARTMENT AUXILIARY	\$ 300.00
CK#14568 THUNDER BAY DISTRICT MUNICIPAL LEAGUE	\$ 867.80
CK#14569 JERRY LOAN (COUNCIL HONOURARIUM)	\$ 250.00
CK#14570 HYDRO ONE	\$ 521.37
CK#14571 BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCES CENTRE	\$ 28.00
CK#14572 LOCAL AUTHORITY SERVICES	\$ 430.35
CK#14573 TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR (PETTY CASH)	\$ 45.20
CK#14574 GFL ENVIRONMENTAL	\$ 372.90
CK#14575 DP CONSTRUCTION (HALL MAINTENANCE)	<u>\$3,882.00</u>
	\$6,697.62

Carried

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The Revenue and Expenditures report to September 30, 2017 was reviewed. It was noted that the variance totals were not adding correctly and they will be looked into further to see why.

A draft policy for tax payments was reviewed. Council did not have any concerns or changes for the draft. A final copy for approval will be brought back to the next meeting.

Resolutions for endorsement were read as follows:

- a) i) Township of Montague – requesting that all municipal employees be specifically exempted from the on-call changes proposed by Bill 148.
- ii) Information from the North Grenville Times – regarding Municipalities concerned about Bill 148.
- iii) Township of North Frontenac – regarding negative impacts of Bill 148, including potential increase of costs on Volunteer Fire Departments.

Council discussed the correspondence and the resolutions. It was noted that this subject also came up at the last Lakehead Rural Municipal Coalition (LRMC) and if this bill is not amended it will have a large impact on municipality's budgets. It was

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

THAT THE RESOLUTION FROM THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTAGUE REQUESTING THAT ALL MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES BE SPECIFICALLY EXEMPTED FROM THE ON-CALL CHANGES PROPOSED IN BILL 148 AND THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO CONDUCT A FULL ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY OF BILL 148 TO STUDY THE EFFECT OF THE BILL ON BUSINESSES AND MUNICIPALITIES ACROSS ONTARIO BE ENDORSED.

Carried

- b) Municipality of Killarney and the Town of Halton Hills – regarding zero tolerance for racism of any kind, including nazi'ism and white supremacy and supporting zero tolerance against racism and condemn all racism acts of violence was filed.
- c) Town of Amherstburg – regarding Concrete Barriers on Highway 401 was filed.

A resolution for submission of comments to the Social Services Administration Board was deferred to the next meeting.

Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) Lakehead Rural Municipal Coalition (LRMC) – i) Minutes July 20, 2017.
ii) Minutes September 14, 2017.
iii) Ministry of Municipal Affairs – reply letter to the LRMC from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs regarding concerns with Bill 68, Modernizing Ontario's Municipal Legislation Act, 2017.
- b) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – i) Watch File - October 12, 2017.
ii) Watch File – October 19, 2017.
iii) AMO Opposes Proposed Changes to Public Health System. Council would like the Clerk-Treasurer to contact Councillor MacMaster, as the Conmee/O'Connor representative on the Thunder Bay District Health Unit, to see if the board is making comment.
iv) CRA Pursuing Municipal Emergency Workers Parking as Taxable Benefit.
v) Tight Budget for 2018? How the Local Share Can Help.
- c) Ministry of Transportation (MTO) Class D Licences – MTO to Phase in Knowledge/Vision Test for Class D Renewals.
- d) Minister of Housing, Minister Responsible for the Poverty Reduction Strategy - Honourable Peter Milczyn – Minister's Letter about the Fair Housing Plan.

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed:

- a) Township Inspection held on October 13, 2017. During the inspection the suggested maintenance work at the cemetery was looked at. Council agreed with the majority of the suggestions that were made by Mrs. Krieg and Council would like administration to look for possible funding to do some of this work and include a project to mark all of the old unmarked graves. The maintenance will be discussed again during the 2018 budget.

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- b) A meeting date with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Ministry of Housing staff regarding the draft Official Plan comments and changes was discussed. As November 13th is a holiday for the Ministry staff Ms. Kosny and Ms. Oulton will not be available to attend the November 13th Council meeting as was previously planned. It was agreed not to call a special meeting of Council to review and discuss the changes and Council would like to check with the Ministry staff to see if they could attend the December 4, 2017 Council meeting.
- c) GHG Municipal Challenge Fund – i) email with regard to changes made to eligibility criteria.
ii) Report from Administrative Assistant – regarding possible options for applications. The funding is part of Ontario's Climate Change Action Plan to fight climate change, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and transition to a low-carbon economy. It was noted that more than one application can be submitted for this funding. Options of eligible projects that the Township of O'Connor could consider would be a new municipal garage, or fleet trucks for both the Road Department or the Fire Department. Council agreed to submit three separate applications with the main priority being a municipal garage. Council would like to see a new building built on the community centre property in the ball diamond area. The projects could be 100% funded however if the municipality leverages some of their own funds they will receive a higher score in the selection process. Council agreed to contribute 10% of the project costs in the application. The deadline for applications is November 14, 2017. Council would like staff to start the application process.
iii) Evaluation Criteria and Leveraging for GHG Fund applications.
- d) Reminder of Upcoming Emergency Management meetings – October 24, 2017, November 1, 2017 and November 8, 2017. All meetings will take place prior to the next regular Council meeting. Times and locations were discussed.
i) Agenda for November 1, 2017 Municipal Emergency Control Group Annual Training was reviewed.

Councillor Racicot left the room.

- e) AMCTO – Bill 68 Training – How to Implement the Newest Municipal Accountability & Transparency Measures; Local Government
4. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by K. Foekens

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE AMCTO BILL 68: HOW TO IMPLEMENT THE NEWEST MUNICIPAL ACCOUNTABILITY & TRANSPARENCY MEASURES; LOCAL GOVERNMENT WORKSHOP TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 3, 2017 IN THUNDER BAY.

REGISTRATION: - \$344.65

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

Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting.

Under further old business, Councillor Racicot made note that at the 2-bit auction held in the community centre on Saturday evening the air conditioner was not keeping up to the needs. With all the people in attendance and the vents only along the edge of the room, the center of the hall was very warm. The basement and other areas of the building were cool. It was noted that the two emergency doors on the main floor were open and may have been letting the cool air out instead of staying in the room and circulating. It was suggested that more vents be installed in the center of the room. It was agreed to provide clearer instruction to the users with regard to controlling the heat and using the air conditioner and see if at another event the same issue occurs.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Stolen batteries from the garbage truck at the Disposal Site. It was noted that two – twelve volt batteries were stolen from the garbage truck between Saturday, October 14th after the site closed and before Tuesday, October 17th when it reopened at 3 p.m.

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The batteries have been replaced and the Ontario Provincial Police have been notified of the incident. Council would also like this information written in the Cornerstone to let our residents know in case anyone is aware of the incident and may have some information on the thief.

Councillor Racicot left the room.

- b) Thunder Bay District Municipal League (TBDML) – i) Elections will be held at the upcoming Annual Meeting. Mayor Holland, Township of Conmee, informed the members of the LRMC at their last meeting that he will be putting his name forward to sit as League Representative to the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) for the TBDML, Western side.
ii) Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Racicot would be interested in putting her name forward once again for the Administrative Representative on the NOMA Board. Council discussed the position and it was
5. Moved by C. Alkins
Seconded by B. J. Loan

THAT COUNCIL ENDORSES DEPUTY CLERK-TREASURER LINDA RACICOT'S NOMINATION TO SIT AS THE THUNDER BAY DISTRICT MUNICIPAL LEAGUE'S (TBDML) ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD MEMBER ON THE NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION (NOMA) REPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEE.

Carried

Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting.

- iii) The draft TBDML Annual Meeting agenda was read.
c) Ministry of Transportation (MTO) – regarding the LRMC Compendium issue – Provincial Designation of Roads for Maintenance Purposes. A meeting has been set for November 6th at 5:30 p.m. at the James Street Office with Mr. Ken Mossop of the MTO. It was
6. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE MEETING WITH THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION WITH REGARD TO THE LAKEHEAD RURAL MUNICIPAL COALITION'S CONCERNS AND THE PROVINCIAL DESIGNATION OF ROADS FOR MAINTENANCE PURPOSES TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 6, 2017 IN THUNDER BAY.

MAYOR VEZINA

Carried

- d) Ontario Power Generation – regarding the Kaministiquia River System Dam Safety Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan Stakeholder Meeting – November 6, 2017 and it was

7. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by K. Foekens

**THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE ONTARIO POWER GENERATION KAMINISTIQUIA RIVER SYSTEM DAM SAFETY EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PLAN STAKEHOLDER MEETING TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 6, 2017 IN KAKABEKA FALLS.
REGISTRATION – N/C**

**MAYOR VEZINA
CLERK-TREASURER BUOB
FIRE CHIEF MATTAS**

Carried

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- e) Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs – Kendal Donahue, Agriculture Development Advisor. The Ministry is asking if Council would be interested in meeting with Ms. Jocelyn Beatty, Rural Planner. Council would be interested in meeting with her and suggested that perhaps she could also come to the spring Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association to do a presentation. A suggested topic could be abattoirs.
- f) Discuss Township Christmas Party date. It was agreed that the 2017 Christmas party will once again be held in February and it was
- 8 Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by K. Foekens

**THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR HOLD A 2017 CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR COUNCIL, STAFF, FIRE DEPARTMENT AND FIRST RESPONSE VOLUNTEERS AT THE KAKABEKA HOTEL ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2018.
SPOUSES AND GUESTS WILL PAY FOR THEIR OWN DINNER.**

Carried

Under further new business, Councillor Racicot made a suggestion with regard to the Fire Department's equipment and what he felt should be purchased through next year's budget. Council agreed that if the Fire Department are interested in making this purchase that they bring it to Council through the budget process.

Council again discussed the Thunder Bay District Municipal League Representative to NOMA. Mayor Vezina asked Council if any members were interested in putting their name forward. At this time no one is interested. Each Township has one vote and Council discussed how they would like to vote if there is anyone running against Mayor Holland. It was agreed to support and vote for Mayor Holland for this position.

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

- a) Council discussed concerns with regard to the width of the new pavement on Highway 590. The Clerk-Treasurer noted that she has been receiving comments at the office that the new pavement on the Highway seems very narrow and with all the big trucks that haul on this Highway some people are concerned. Council noted that this is a secondary highway and it looks to be the proper width for this class. It was also noted that immediately after paving there were rubber marks on the highway from vehicles performing. It was noted that if caught the driver of the vehicle could be charged with stunt driving. It was suggested that information on this be clarified with the Ontario Provincial Police(OPP) and a warning be put in the next issue of the Cornerstone. The contractor will be turning the highway back to Carillion for winter maintenance in the next couple weeks and construction will continue next summer.
- b) Federal Gas Tax Program – AMO's 2016 Federal Gas Tax Fund Annual Report. The full report was emailed to Council for their review.
- c) Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs – regarding complementary commemorative signs to Ontario farming families, farming communities and farm properties that have been continuously connected to agricultural production for more than 150 years. No names will be submitted.

For information purposes no building permits were approved.

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

**THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2017 AT 7:00 P.M.
TIME BEING: 9:10 P.M.**

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer