

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – OCTOBER 29, 2018

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, October 29, 2018 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

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

Visitors: Scot Rubin, hmeenterprises
Fire Chief Henry Mattas, Deputy Fire Chief Monica Budiselic,
Fire Department Member Mo Douglas,
Alex Crane, Councillor Elect, Lorna Buob, Clerk-Treasurer

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 15 c) as his spouse is an employee of the Township.

1. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY,
OCTOBER 9, 2018 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.**

Carried

Mr. Crane and Ms. Buob were asked if they wished to address Council and both replied no.

Mr. Scot Rubin from hmeenterprises was welcomed to the table. Introductions were made.

Mr. Rubin presented Council with the draft Community Wildland Fire Protection Plan for Council's review. Mr. Rubin presented hard copies of the plan and provided a power point presentation that explained the mapping. There are five maps which include a Community Base map, Fire Resources and Suppression map, Forest Cover and Topography map, Wildland Fire Hazard map and a Risk Assessment map. The maps, the presentation and the plan were also made available in electronic format. Mr. Rubin was thanked for attending and he left the meeting.

Fire Chief Mattas and Deputy Fire Chief Budiselic were welcomed to the table. The Fire Department report from September 20 to October 25, 2018 was read. There had been three fire related calls and one medical first response call in the Township since the last report. Fire Chief Mattas reported that one fire call was a result of a tree down on a power line on private property. The second call, which had been paged out to the Oliver Paipoonge Fire Department in error, was for a barn fire on Luckens Road and third fire call was for an abandoned building on Kershaw Road. Both structural fires were on the same night. Fire Chief Mattas did comment that the second fire call was well attended by members of the Oliver Paipoonge Fire Department and the felt that there was no need to call out the O'Connor fire team.

The Ontario Provincial Police had been notified and did attend the scene of both structural fires.

Fire Chief Mattas, Deputy Fire Chief Budiselic and Mo Douglas attended the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs meeting that was held on October 20, 2018. Training was the biggest issue with Fire Department Chiefs. The mandated standardized training for volunteer firefighters across the province that was announced earlier in the year has been revoked by the new Provincial Government. Mo Douglas, the Fire Departments training officer was invited to the table to discuss the Fire Departments plans for training. He commented that our department is still aiming to train our firefighters to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards for Fire Fighter Certification, however, it is estimated that it would take 60 months before a member would be certified. It was also noted that the theory part of training will be done on-line with practical done at the hall and during joint training with other fire departments.

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Fire Chief Mattas, Deputy Fire Chief Budiselic and Mo Douglas were thanked for attending the meeting and left at 8:00 p.m. Clerk-Treasurer also left the meeting.

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

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

THAT THE FOLLOWING BILLS FOR SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2018 BE PAID. THESE BILLS WILL BE INCLUDED ON THE OCTOBER 2018 ADMINISTRATION AND ROAD VOUCHER.

CK#15213	JERRY LOAN (COUNCIL HONOURARIUM)	\$	125.00
CK#15214	TBAYTEL (TELEPHONE)	\$	436.73
CK#15215	HYDRO ONE (STREETLIGHTING)	\$	49.50
CK#15216	CANADA POST (STAMPS)	\$	288.15
CK#15217	RICHARD PITTON (REIMBURSEMENT)	\$	120.00
CK#15218	JERRY LOAN (COUNCIL HONOURARIUM)	\$	360.00
CK#15219	ERIN LAFOREST (ELECTION OFFICIAL)	\$	345.00
CK#15220	LORNA JACOBSON (DEPUTY RETURNING OFF)	\$	375.00
CK#15221	JERRY LOAN (REIMBURSEMENT)	\$	100.00
CK#15222	OMERS (PENSION PLAN)	\$	3,315.18
CK#15223	CUPE LOCAL 87 (UNION DUES)	\$	261.88
CK#15224	SUN LIFE ASSURANCE CO OF CANADA	\$	1,222.55
CK#15225	CANADA POST (FLYER POSTAGE)	\$	48.69
CK#15226	TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR (PETTY CASH)	\$	83.90
CK#15227	HYDRO ONE	\$	429.57
CK#15228	VERSUS BUSINESS FORMS & LABELS	\$	316.40
CK#15229	GFL ENVIRONMENTAL (RECYCLING)	\$	372.90
CK#15230	KAK CONTRACTING	\$	9,763.20
CK#15231	LOCAL AUTHORITY SERVICES (FUEL)	\$	<u>6,033.31</u>
			\$24,046.96

Carried

By-laws and Policies were discussed as follows:

- a) Policy for Council Representation at Non-Political Functions. It was

3. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE POLICY FOR COUNCIL REPRESENTATION AT NON-POLITICAL FUNCTIONS BE APPROVED AND ENTERED INTO THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR POLICY BOOK.

Carried

- b) A By-law to set out the Appointment Procedure for Council Representatives in the Six Area One Municipalities on the Thunder Bay District Social Services Board was discussed. As representation with the Township's partner, the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge has not yet been determined, the By-law will be deferred until representation on the Board is discussed further with the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge.

Quotes for the renovations to the washroom in the O'Connor Fire Department were opened. As all quotes received exceeded the budgeted amount for the renovations it was decided that the request for quote be withdrawn and that Council revisit this issue in the new year. The contractors that submitted quotes will be contacted and informed of Council's decision.

Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) Lakehead Rural Municipal Coalition Meeting Minutes from the September 11, 2018 meeting.
b) i) The Thunder Bay District Health Unit letter regarding labour disruptions causing the Health Unit to suspend some programs and services.
ii) Email from Mr. Bob McMaster, Thunder Bay District Health Unit Representative regarding no Health Unit Flu Clinics in the District.

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- c) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – i) AMO's 2017 report on the Federal Gas Tax Fund.
 - ii) AMO Communications, MEPCO update – MEPCO Endorses Important Plan Changes Required for OMERS Sustainability.
 - iii) AMO Communications regarding AMO Recommendations: Bill 36 Ontario Cannabis Statute Law Amendment Act, 2018.
 - iv) AMO Communications regarding Bill 36 Ontario Cannabis Statute Law Amendment Act – Ready for Legislative Approval.
- d) Jenna Marsh, Northern Policy Institute regarding new series analyzing Northern Ontario's population trends and suggesting that Northern Ontario is in need of a Newcomers Strategy.
- e) Jim Sheehan, North Line regarding the Black Cat Radar Detection Solution. Council would like more information, including costing, brought back to the next Council meeting.

The balance of correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) The public meeting that has been scheduled for Monday, November 26, 2018 with the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) was discussed. Mr. Chad Tanner, MBA, Account Manager, District of Thunder Bay, has confirmed that he is confident that he will be able to address most questions that are general in nature, however, he will not be able to address questions that are property specific. The Deputy Clerk-Treasurer will draft a report that can be used to inform people attending the public meeting of how property assessment values impact both the Township's Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) and the cost of government mandated programs. This report will be drafted and present to Council at the November 12, 2018 regular meeting for approval. As the Public Meeting has been scheduled at 6:00 p.m. Council decided that the start time of the regular Council meeting scheduled that same night be changed and it was

- 4. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by B.J. Loan

THAT THE TIME OF THE COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2018 AT 7:00 P.M. BE CHANGED TO 7:30 P.M. TO ACCOMMODATE THE MUNICIPAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT CORPORATION (MPAC) PUBLIC MEETING TO BE HELD AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE O'CONNOR COMMUNITY CENTRE.

Carried.

- b) The request to hold a playgroup in the O'Connor Community Centre by Ms. Shelley Thorne was discussed. Council will permit the use of the Centre for the playgroup, however they would like Ms. Thorne to meet with Erin Laforest, Administrative Assistance and Health and Safety Representative to establish guidelines to ensure the safety of participants. Council has requested that the guidelines, once drafted, be brought back to the next Council meeting for review.
- c) Resolute Forest Products letter to the City of Thunder Bay regarding the proposed closing of Dawson Road to truck traffic and routing them through outlying communities such as Kakabeka Falls, west of Thunder Bay was read.

Under further Old Business, Council asked the Deputy Clerk-Treasurer where we were with regards to the Main Street Revitalization Project. Council was informed that the funding has been received, however work to start the project has not yet began and that the deadline to start the process is in March of 2019.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) i) Thunder Bay District Municipal League (TBDML) Conference and it was;

- 5. Moved by B. Jerry Loan
Seconded by W. Handy

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE THUNDER BAY DISTRICT MUNICIPAL LEAGUE ANNUAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE TO BE HELD

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IN THUNDER BAY, ONTARIO AT THE PRINCE ARTHUR WATERFRONT HOTEL ON DECEMBER 7TH AND 8TH, 2018.

MAYOR JIM VEZINA, COUNCILLORS JERRY LOAN, WENDY HANDY, BISHOP RACICOT, CLERK-TREASURER BUOB, ADMIN ASSISTANT ERIN LAFOREST, COUNCILLOR ELECT ALEX CRANE.

REGISTRATION: \$175.00

Carried

- ii) E-mail from Ms. Beth Stewart, Executive Director of the TBDML regarding vacancies on the board as a result of recent election results was read.
- b) Council Honourarium for the 2018-2022 term was discussed. The current rates and the rates of neighbouring municipalities were reviewed. It was decided that the honourarium for the Mayor increase to \$160.00 from \$150.00 and to \$150.00 from \$125.00 for the Councillors. A by-law will be presented to Council at their meeting to be held on November 12, 2018 with the new Honourarium rates for Mayor and Council members.

Councillor Racicot left the room.

- c) An invitation from Ms. Sarah Shoemaker, Nolalu Fire Chief inviting the Township's Community Emergency Management Coordinator (CEMC) to their round table exercise was read and it was

- 6. Moved by Jerry Loan
Seconded by W. Handy

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE NOLALU EMERGENCY SERVICES AND THE NOLALU LOCAL SERVICE BOARD'S ROUND TABLE EXERCISE ON NOVEMBER 28, 2018 AT 6:30 P.M.

LINDA RACICOT, CEMC

Carried.

Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting.

- d) The composition of the Municipal Emergency Control Group (MECG) was discussed. The reference Mayor and Alternates was changed just Mayor in order to make meeting compliance with Ontario Regulation 380/04 training requirements easier and it was

- 7. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by B.J. Loan

WHEREAS ONTARIO REGULATION 380/04 SECTION 12 (1) STATES THAT EVERY MUNICIPALITY SHALL HAVE A MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY CONTROL GROUP;

AND WHEREAS THE REGULATION ALSO STATES THAT THE MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY CONTROL GROUP SHALL BE COMPOSED OF SUCH OFFICIALS OR EMPLOYEES OF THE MUNICIPALITY AS MAY BE APPOINTED BY THE COUNCIL AND THAT SUCH MEMBERS OF COUNCIL AS MAY BE APPOINTED BY COUNCIL;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBER AND EMPLOYEES BE APPOINTED TO THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR'S MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY CONTROL GROUP

**MAYOR
CLERK-TREASURER
FIRE CHIEF
DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF**

Carried.

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- e) Email from the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines regarding the upcoming Aquaculture workshop that is being held in Nipigon on Monday, November 5, 2018. Council agreed no one will attend.

Under further new business Council discussed;

- a) During the recent power outage in the Township a resident expressed her disappointment that the O'Connor Community Centre had not been opened to residents who were affected by the extended power outage. She commented that the Conmee Community Centre had opened its doors to residents and had used social media to get the message out. Mayor Jim Vezina offered to bring this issue to the next Lakehead Rural Municipal Coalition meeting to discuss how they approach this issue in their communities. The Deputy Clerk-Treasurer was also instructed to look into drafting a Social Media Policy.
- b) Council discussed Council's involvement in O'Connor Fire Department meetings to better understand issues that the department faces. This item will be brought to Council once the new term of Council begins.
- c) As President of the O'Connor Community Club, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Racicot asked Council if there would be any opposition to the Club looking into funding opportunities to erect playground equipment on municipal grounds. Council were not opposed to the suggestion, however Council would need to discuss where the playground equipment would be erected if the Community Club is successful in securing funding.

Issues brought forward, or letters received after the agenda was mailed:

- a) Notice of completion of the Ministry Review regarding the amended environmental assessment for the proposed Hammond Reef Gold Project and an invitation to comment on the review was read. No comment will be submitted.

For information purposes no building permits have been approved since the last meeting.

8. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by W. Handy

**THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD
ON NOVEMBER 12, 2018 AT 7:00 P.M.**

TIME BEING: 10:00 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer