

## TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 24, 2018

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, September 24, 2018 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

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

Visitors: Alex Crane

Absent: Mayor Vezina

Acting Mayor Foekens 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 8 b) and 14 a) as his spouse is an employee of the Township.

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

**THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2018 AND THE NOTES FROM THE TOWNSHIP INSPECTION HELD ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2018 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.**

Carried

Mr. Crane was asked if he wished to address Council and he replied no.

Fire Chief Mattas was welcomed to the table. The Fire Department report from June 21 to September 20, 2018 was read. It has been a quiet summer with only three First Response calls in this time period. Fire Chief Mattas reported that three Fire Department members attended the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) training and two members participated in the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Incident Safety Officer course at Fire Con held September 6 to 8, 2018.

Fire Chief Mattas reported that all the trucks have been safetied and serviced. Fire Chief Mattas was asked if there were any other tests required prior to yearend. He noted that the air compressor has to be tested once a year and the bottles every five years.

Fire Chief Mattas informed Council that Fire Chief Horan from the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge is retiring on September 28, 2018.

A new member has come forward for the Fire Department and it was

2. Moved by Bishop Racicot  
Seconded by W. Handy

**THAT THE COUNCIL APPROVE THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S AS A MEMBER OF THE O'CONNOR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AND/OR FIRST RESPONSE TEAM:**

1. **SAM TEMPELMAN**

Carried

A letter was read from the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services confirming that the Township of O'Connor was compliant with the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act (EMCPA) in 2017.

A letter was read from the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs (O AFC) with regard to the new regulations to Mandatory Training and Certification for all fire fighters. Fire Chief Mattas noted that there has been a lot of talk and rumours lately of upcoming changes to the regulation due to the new Provincial Government. The O AFC has requested that a Working Group be formed and is asking that the regulation be put in abeyance until the Standard Incident Reporting (SIR) overhaul is completed. The Township of O'Connor Fire team will continue to do training but are having difficulty getting all

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members to attend at once during their regular Tuesday night meetings, due to shiftwork and other personal commitments. They will try to switch to Saturday mornings for training to see if they can get a better attendance. It was noted that for the mandatory training the Township will be required to purchase books and manuals and so far there has been no commitment of any funding as original promised when the mandatory training was announced.

Dates for an Emergency Management Program Committee meeting and a TableTop Exercise were discussed. It was

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

**THAT THE FOLLOWING DATE AND TIME BE SET FOR AN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING**

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2018 AT 6:00 P.M.**

**THE MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS.**

Carried

4. Moved by W. Handy  
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**THAT THE FOLLOWING DATE BE SET FOR A TABLE TOP EXERCISE WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2018 AT 7 P.M.**

**THE MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE O'CONNOR COMMUNITY CENTRE.**

Carried

Fire Chief Mattas was thanked for attending and left the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

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

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

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

CK#15164	JERRY LOAN (COUNCIL HONOURARIUM)	\$	125.00
CK#15165	ALS ENVIRONMENTAL	\$	49.72
CK#15166	TBAYTEL (TELEPHONE)	\$	438.40
CK#15167	HYDRO ONE (STREETLIGHTING)	\$	49.50
CK#15168	LOCAL SERVICES AUTHORITY (FUEL)	\$	628.68
CK#15169	JASON NAPPER (PROPERTY TAX CREDIT)	\$	1,179.73
CK#15170	JERRY LOAN (COUNCIL HONOURARIUM)	\$	250.00
CK#15171	HYDRO ONE	\$	394.58
CK#15172	BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCES CENTRE	\$	31.50
CK#15173	LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD	\$	25,160.50
CK#15174	THUNDER BAY CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BD	\$	2,193.95
CK#15175	CSDC DES AURORES BOREALES	\$	164.21
CK#15176	MUNICIPALITY OF NEEBING (POLICING)	\$	6,483.00
CK#15177	GFL ENVIRONMENTAL	\$	559.35
			<u>\$37,708.12</u>

Carried

By-laws and Policies were discussed as follows:

- a) By-law Number 2018-14 with regard to the appointment of a Compliance Audit Committee for the Municipal Election. As previous discussed, employees of the surrounding municipalities will be appointed to the committee. It was

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

**THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2018-14 BEING A BY-LAW TO APPOINT A COMPLIANCE AUDIT COMMITTEE FOR THE 2018-2022 TERM OF COUNCIL BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.**

Carried

Councillor Racicot left the room.

- b) The Policy for Administrative Benefits and Wage Review was reviewed. The Clerk-Treasurer noted that due to the numerous changes made to the Policy that Administration is presenting this Policy as a new policy rather than amending the previous Administrative Benefits Policy. Council were in agreement to replace the previous policy and it was

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

**THAT THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR'S POLICY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE BENEFITS AND WAGE REVIEW BEING A POLICY TO ESTABLISH COVERAGE UNDER THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR'S BENEFIT PACKAGE AND WAGE REVIEW FOR THE FULL-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF AND REPLACE THE PREVIOUS POLICY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE BENEFITS PASSED IN APRIL 2012 BE ENDORSED.**

Carried

Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting.

- c) A draft Policy for Part-Time Employee Wage Review was discussed, changes will be made and it will be brought back to Council for final approval.  
d) The Policy for Substance Abuse with amendments as noted was reviewed. The draft now includes, the soon to be legalized, cannabis. Council would like a couple of minor changes made to the Policy and the document will be brought back to Council for final approval.  
e) A draft Policy for the Use of Medical Marijuana in the Workplace was reviewed. Minor changes will be made and be brought back to Council for final approval.

The Lakehead Rural Planning Board decision for Application 1B/18/18 was read. The application was approved at the Board's meeting held on September 6, 2018, with the condition that the Board receives a letter of approval from the Township. This letter was sent after Council's meeting held September 10<sup>th</sup>.

Resolutions for endorsement were read as follows:

- a) City of Toronto regarding the bill to reduce the size of Toronto City Council and the use of Section 33 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms to exempt this bill from judicial review and defending municipal government autonomy and the right of municipalities to govern their own affairs was filed.  
b) Township of Amaranth – regarding North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) – Dairy Supply Management Program and urging the Federal Government to not allow a foreign party to interfere with our Dairy Management System and that it be removed from all negotiations. It was

8. Moved by Bishop Racicot  
Seconded by W. Handy

**THAT THE RESOLUTION FROM THE TOWNSHIP OF AMARANTH URGING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO NOT ALLOW A FOREIGN PARTY TO INTERFERE WITH OUR DAIRY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND THAT IT BE REMOVED FROM ALL NORTH AMERICAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT (NAFTA) NEGOTIATIONS BE ENDORSED.**

Carried

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An email was read from the Housing Services Corporation with regard to an invitation to attend the Spurring Affordable Housing Development: New Ideas, Approaches and Tools. The event will be held on October 30, 2018 and is being co-sponsored by the District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board (TBDSSAB), the Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association (NOSDA). No one on Council will attend.

Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) Thunder Bay District Health Unit – report from representative – Bob McMaster, Councillor Township of Conmee.
- b) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – i) Office of the President letter and copy of the Statement from Minister Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.  
ii) AMO Communications – Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority (RPRA) sets 2019 Blue Box Steward Funding Obligation.  
iii) AMO Communications – Court Decision and Next Steps: Bill 5 – Reducing the size of City of Toronto Council.  
iv) AMO Communications – Ontario Introduces Legislation to Expand Natural Gas through Private Investment.
- c) Transforming Ontario's North (TON) – Summit a success.
- d) Premier of Ontario – reply letter to Council's endorsed resolution dealing with green energy projects.
- e) Patty Hadju, MP – reply email regarding Council's endorsed resolution supporting NAFTA.

The balance of correspondence was passed around the table. It was noted that in the correspondence was an email informing Council of the passing of Bob Krause, former Mayor and current Councillor for the Township of Schreiber.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) The Township Inspection held on September 14, 2018. It was noted that the rental van used for the tour worked out really well. Councillor Handy noted that as her first time on the inspection she found it to be a very good learning experience and it helped her to understand the geographic's of the Township. At this point there was nothing further to follow up on.
- b) Shelley Thorne's response email was read with regard to her Play Space Proposal in the O'Connor Community Centre. Ms. Thorne has noted that she will be pursuing another avenue. The Clerk-Treasurer noted that she has responded to Ms. Thorne with regard to her email but she has not heard back from her as of today's date.
- c) The Fire Smart Plan. The Clerk-Treasurer noted that Mr. Scot Rubin of hmeenterprises will be attending the October 29, 2018 Council meeting to present the Township of O'Connor's Fire Smart Plan.

Under further Old Business, Council asked the Clerk-Treasurer if the office had received a response from the ratepayer requesting the speed limit be reduced on Cronk Road and the invitation to attend the Council meeting to discuss the matter further. To date the office has not received a response.

Councillor Racicot left the room.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) The Ministry of Municipal Affairs 2018 Treasurer's Forum was discussed and it was

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

**THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE TREASURERS' FORUM  
TO BE HELD IN THUNDER BAY ON NOVEMBER 21, 2018**

**CLERK-TREASURER BUOB**

**REGISTRATION: N/C**

Carried

- b) Workplace Safety and Prevention Services – Forum North to be held in Thunder Bay was discussed. Ms. Laforest, Administrative Assistant, is also the Health and Safety Representative, for the Township of O'Connor and she would like to attend. It was

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10. Moved by W. Handy  
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND FORUM NORTH TO BE HELD IN THUNDER BAY ON NOVEMBER 6 & 7, 2018**

**ERIN LAFOREST – ADMIN ASSISTANT**

**REGISTRATION: SUPER EARLY BIRD RATE BY OCTOBER 16<sup>TH</sup> - \$329.00 + HST**

Carried

- c) Thunder Bay & Area Food Strategy Golden Carrot Award Submission. At this time Council do not have any nominations to submit.
- d) Local Planning Appeal Support Centre requesting feedback on their brochure and requesting the information be forwarded to our community. Council did not have any comments at this time.
- e) Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry regarding the comment period for updated procedures for Regional Review under the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Sustainable Water Resources Agreement. Council do not have any comment at this time.

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

- a) Cemetery work bee – The work bee was cancelled on Saturday, September 22, 2018 due to the weather. Staff is also not available to attend on the scheduled rain date of September 29, 2018. Council agreed to cancel the work bees for this fall and have the staff or a volunteer do so some of the painting, weeding and trimming this year if the weather permits. The benches from the Cremated Ashes Garden will be brought in to the shop to have the wood replaced and a work bee will be scheduled for the spring to clean up the gardens.
- b) The agenda for the Lakehead Rural Municipal Coalition (LRMC) was reviewed. Mayor Vezina will be unable to attend the meeting to be held on September 27, 2018 and it was agreed to not send an Acting Mayor in his place.
- c) Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Annual Billing Statement package was reviewed. Council would like the Clerk-Treasurer to confirm where the numbers used in the property counts in the report come from.

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

11. Moved by Bishop Racicot  
Seconded by W. Handy

**THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2018 AT 7:00 P.M.**

**TIME BEING: 9:11 P.M.**

Carried

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Mayor

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Clerk-Treasurer