

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 28, 2015

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, September 28, 2015 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

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

Visitors: Fire Chief Henry Mattas
Adrianna Lachance, Jane Pogue & Felicity Lachance

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m..

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: Councillor Racicot declared an interest in item 16 d) as his spouse is an employee of the Township.

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

THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2015 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.

Carried

Ms. Adrianna Lachance and Ms. Jane Pogue were welcomed to the table. Introductions were made. Ms. Lachance addressed Council with regard to renaming a portion of Main Street to Pogue Street, the boundary road between the Township of Gillies and the Township of O'Connor. Ms. Lachance explained her reasoning as to why she would like the road name changed. She has also spoken to the Township of Gillies but as it is a boundary road, they asked her to also bring it to the Township of O'Connor Council.

Ms. Pogue also provided additional history with regard to the Pogue family and their importance to the area.

Council informed Ms. Lachance and Ms. Pogue that they would have to ensure that the Pogue street name has not been used in any other municipality as per the 911 emergency system. At this point Council don't have a problem with it however they will discuss this further in the meeting under New Business. Council will write a letter to the Township of Gillies with their decision and will forward a copy to each of them. Ms. Lachance and Ms. Pogue were thanked for attending and they left the meeting.

Fire Chief Mattas was welcomed to the table. The Fire Department report from June 20 to September 24, 2015 was read. There were two fire related calls, three first response calls and one motor vehicle accident in this time period.

Fire Chief Mattas reported that he is removing two members off of the Fire Department roster as they have not attended any calls or meetings/training in over one year. He would also like to add a new member, Cayden Boucher. Council would like letters sent to the members informing them of this and inviting them to come back at anytime. A resolution will be brought back to the next meeting removing any members who may still be included in the Township's records and are no longer on the roster with the Fire Department and adding Mr. Boucher.

Fire Chief Mattas informed Council that he is hosting a Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder information session on Tuesday, October 6 at the Fire Hall for the group training and Council and staff are invited to attend. Council would like letters sent to each member of the Fire Department to ensure that they are made aware of this training and encouraging them to attend.

The O'Connor Fire Department Auxiliary was discussed and Councillor Racicot reported that they are looking at purchasing a 4 x 4 truck for the department. Fire Chief Mattas was unaware of this. Fire Chief Mattas and two members of the department attended the trade show at Fire Con and were looking at an argo, which does not require to be licensed and would be able to go through the snow in the winter. A quad was also discussed. Before a purchase of any type with regard to a vehicle is made it must come to Council.

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Fire Chief Mattas was thanked for attending and left the meeting.

Bills to be paid were discussed and it was

2. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by Kevin Foekens

THAT THE FOLLOWING BILLS FOR SEPTEMBER 2015 BE PAID. THESE BILLS WILL BE INCLUDED ON THE SEPTEMBER 2015 ADMINISTRATION AND ROAD VOUCHER.

CK#13155	NOMA (CONFERENCE REGISTRATION)	\$ 600.00
CK#13156	AMCTO ZONE 9 (CONFERENCE REGISTRATION)	\$ 200.00
CK#13157	JERRY LOAN (COUNCIL HONOURARIUM)	\$ 260.00
CK#13158	HYDRO ONE	\$ 573.80
CK#13159	ALS ENVIRONMENTAL (WATER TESTING)	\$ 48.00
CK#13160	KELLY JOHNSON (MEDICAL/DENTAL)	\$ 36.00
CK#13161	LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD	\$20,934.57
CK#13162	THUNDER BAY CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BD	\$ 2,253.38
CK#13163	CSDC DES AURORES BOREALES	\$ 132.19
		<u>\$25,037.94</u>

Carried

A resolution for endorsement was read from the Municipality of Central Huron with regard to Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs service office closures and it was filed.

The Thunder Bay District Social Services Board (TBDSSAB) letter with regard to a change in contact information was read. Lori Roulston will be the new Director of Client Services.

A letter from the TBDSSAB with regard to the Ontario Renovates Program was read. The funding for this program has been exhausted at this time with 125 homeowners receiving funds to do renovations to their homes and allowing them to remain in their homes. They expect new funding for the program will be available in the spring of 2017.

Correspondence was read as follows:

- a) Lakehead Rural Municipal Committee – Minutes of Meeting held July 16, 2015.
- b) Lakehead Rural Planning Board – Financial Statements – December 31, 2014.
- c) Association of Municipalities of Ontario – i) AMO Watchfile September 17, 2015.
ii) AMO Watchfile September 24, 2015.
iii) AMO Communications – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Legislation Review – AMO Makes Initial Submission.
iv) AMO Communications – Federal Election 2015 – Key Municipal Priorities.
v) AMO Policy Update – AMO Report to Member Municipalities Highlights of the September 2015 Board Meeting.
- d) Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) – Announcement of New Vice-President of Municipal and Stakeholder Relations. Carla Nell will take on the roll effective October 19, 2015.
- e) Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry regarding the Forest Tenure. The Ministry began the process of modernizing the system which governs who manages Crown forests and how companies get wood in 2009. The Ministry is currently seeking feedback on the draft measures developed. Council do not have any comment at this time.
- f) The Premier of Ontario – Thank you letter for correspondence submitted with regard to Hydro One ownership.

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed the Lakehead Rural Municipal Committee's separation from the Thunder Bay District Social Services Administration Board. The following documents were read:

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- i) Minutes of the Inaugural Meeting of the Social Services Board – July 9, 2015, Terms of Reference, Committee Formation and Operational Rules, Board Constitution and Operations Summary.
- ii) Notes from Teleconference call held September 17, 2015.
- iii) A copy of the letter to Mayor Holland from the Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS)– dated September 18, 2015 in response to a July 14, 2015 letter.
- iv) Copy of letter to Chair Katajamaki from the MCSS – dated September 18, 2015 in response to an August 4, 2015 letter regarding the LRMC's letter.
- v) MCSS – Richard Steele, Assistant Deputy Minister – letter regarding Establishing a separate District Social Services Administration Board.

In these documents the Ministry is clearly stating that there is no authority for the municipalities to establish a separate board and the expectation will be that the Municipality's continue to pay their levy to the Thunder Bay District Social Services Administration Board. The Ministry will not undertake a regulation amendment to recognize a separate social services board. A mediation process will be initiated with the goal of achieving a resolution amongst the parties. The Ministry will provide an outline of the next steps and target timelines within the next 30 business days to initiate the mediation process.

The new board is still planning on meeting September 30th to review CAO applications and have another meeting later that evening. Council expressed their opinion with regard to the process and discussed with Mayor Nelson, as the representative on the Board, the possible liability of hiring this position without the authority from the Ministry. Council does agree that we do have to continue with the mediation process and try to resolve this issue.

Under further old business, Council discussed:

The recent Northwestern Ontario Regional Conference and the sessions that Councillor Loan and Vezina attended.

The upcoming Ritchie Bros. auction to be held on October 8, 2015 was also discussed. Council would like Mr. Johnson to attend and if he sees any equipment that he feels the Township needs to let Council know.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Boundary Road Agreements expiring in November 2015
 - i) Township of Gillies – Mr. Johnson, Leadhand, has expressed his concern with the hill on Main Street, located in the Township of Gillies, which in the agreement the Township of O'Connor maintains. The hill needs to be ditched and trees removed on the Southwest side of the road to allow proper construction and ditching and allow the road to dry up in the spring and after a rainfall to redirect the water off of the road. Mr. Johnson would like Council to request that the Township of Gillies contact the property owner to negotiate with them to have the trees removed or expropriate the 5% of the property for road allowance to allow for the required construction of the road and road allowance. If the Council are not willing to do so suggest that the Township of Gillies be responsible for that section of the road in an updated Boundary Road Agreement. Council discussed the situation and requested the Clerk-Treasurer send a letter to the Township with regard to Mr. Johnson's concerns on the Main Street hill. They would also like to suggest if the land cannot be expropriated that they look into other options such as possibly making it a one-way, downward, road and ditch into the current road base. There were no concerns with the section of Wheel Road also in the agreement.
 - ii) Township of Conmee – currently there are no issues with the Conmee agreement.

Both Agreements will be redrafted similar to the agreement with Oliver Paiponge, also due for renewal and previously discussed.

- b) Thunder Bay District Municipal League 2015 Fall Meeting and Conference – October 23 & 24, 2015

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

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE THUNDER BAY DISTRICT MUNICIPAL LEAGUE 2015 FALL MEETING AND CONFERENCE TO BE HELD ON OCTOBER 23 & 24, 2015 IN THUNDER BAY.

**MAYOR NELSON
COUNCILLOR LOAN, VEZINA, RACICOT
CLERK-TREASURER BUOB**

REGISTRATION: \$160.00

Carried

- c) Ministry of Natural Resources – Wetland Conservation Program – regarding Wetland Listening Sessions – Thunder Bay September 29th. Councillor Vezina may attend as a representative of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority.

Under further new business Council discussed the request to rename Main Street to Pogue Street. Council are in favour of the change and would like the Clerk-Treasurer to send a letter to the Township of Gillies informing them of this.

Issues brought forward or letters received after the agenda was mailed

- a) Ontario Provincial Police – i) 2016 Municipal Policing Billing Statement. As per this information the Township of O'Connor's Policing costs will increase by \$14,690 from 2015 to 2016.
ii) October Newsletter – Council would like the insert with regard to hunting included in the October issue of the Cornerstone. It was suggested that possibly the ATV/ORV safety tips and rules could be included in another issue.
- b) Municipality of Neebing – invitation to meeting with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing regarding Small, Rural Municipal financial sustainability and shared services best practices. It was

4. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND A MEETING WITH THE MINISTRY OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS AND HOUSING WITH REGARD TO SMALL, RURAL MUNICIPAL FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY AND SHARED SERVICES BEST PRACTICES TO BE HELD ON EITHER NOVEMBER 25 OR 26, 2015 AT THE NEEBING MUNICIPAL OFFICE.

**MAYOR NELSON
COUNCILLOR LOAN, FOEKENS, RACICOT, VEZINA
CLERK-TREASURER BUOB**

REGISTRATION: N/C

Carried

- c) Kendal Donahue, Food Strategy Coordinator – regarding the Farmer Training Program. Confederation College has announced that it will be bringing a new Farmer Entrepreneurs program to Northwestern Ontario starting in January. Council would like this information included in the October Cornerstone at no charge.

Councillor Racicot left the room.

- d) Workplace Safety & Prevention Services – Forum North – November 3 – 4, 2015 in Thunder Bay. It was

5. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by Kevin Foekens

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THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE WORKPLACE SAFETY & PREVENTION SERVICES PARTNERS IN PREVENTION 2015 REGIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY CONFERENCE – FORUM NORTH TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 3 – 4, 2015 IN THUNDER BAY.

KELLY JOHNSON – LEADHAND & THE HEALTH & SAFETY REPRESENTATIVE – TO BE DETERMINED.

REGISTRATION: \$309.00 + HST (SUPER EARLY BIRD)
Carried

Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting.

For information purposes building permits were approved as follows: 2015-16 – new house 38 Flint Road, 2015-17 & 2015-18 – demo permits for 187 Connolly Road, 2015-19 – new home – 90 Cliffmclean road.

6. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by K. Foekens

THAT THE COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015 AT 7:00 P.M.

TIME BEING: 9:37 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer