

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – AUGUST 14, 2017

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, August 14, 2017 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

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

Visitors: Kelly Johnson, Leadhand
Linda Racicot, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer arrived at 7:10 p.m.

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 16 a) and f) as his spouse is an employee of the Township. Councillor Alkins also declared an interest in item 11 as her employer has submitted a quote for the Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

1. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by K. Foekens

THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON JULY 10, 2017 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.

Carried

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

Mr. Johnson, Leadhand, was welcomed to the table. Mr. Johnson provided a verbal Road Department update and roadwork in general was discussed. Mr. Johnson reported that they have changed over approximately half of the culverts for the Clean Water Wastewater Fund (CWWF) Projects which they started on July 10th. They have also completed some ditching. The weed cutting on the sides of the roads has begun. Mr. Johnson also reported that Truck #9 is still in the shop. The mechanic just returned from holidays so it should be ready this week. Mr. Pitton and Mr. Hamilton have both been working. Flint Road has been scheduled to be closed for two days next week for the changing of one of the large culverts. Mr. Johnson has made arrangements with Joyce Posthumus to use her driveway for access to Highway 595 for the residents on that road. Brushing along some of the Township roads will also be done this fall.

A date for a fall Township inspection was discussed. It was recommended that we wait until all the culverts replacements scheduled are complete, possibly mid-September. It was suggested that a date in October be considered and it was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting. It was suggested, that if it is possible, that Ms. Laforest, Administrative Assistant, participate in the inspection to allow her to become more familiar with the Township road system and buildings.

The National Disaster Mitigation Program – Intake Four was discussed. It was agreed to not submit an application at this time.

Mr. Johnson reported that for the OCIF – Top-up funding which was discussed at the last meeting, he would like to apply for the replacement of the culverts on Sitch Road at Beaver Dam Creek or for the resurfacing of several of the Township roads.

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

Bills to be paid were reviewed and it was

2. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by Chantal Alkins

**THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR JULY 2017
TOTALLING \$128,466.64 BE APPROVED AND PAID.**

Carried

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3. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE CLEAN WATER WASTEWATER PROJECT VOUCHER TO JULY 31, 2017 TALLING \$41,228.72 BE APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

The Statement of Revenue and Expenditures to July 31, 2017 were unavailable.

A draft policy for a Student Councillor was read. There will be minor changes made to the draft and it will be brought back to Council at the next meeting for final approval. An advertisement will be put in the September issue of the Cornerstone to invite students to apply for the position for this fall.

Councillor Alkins left the room.

The opening of the Quotes for the Community Wildfire Protection Plan began at 7:26 p.m.. Three bids were received and reviewed. It was

4. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by B. J. Loan

THAT THE QUOTE OF GCK CONSULTING FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COMMUNITY WILDLAND FIRE PROTECTION PLAN FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR AT A COST OF \$12,138.95 + HST BE ACCEPTED UPON VERIFICATION OF REQUEST FOR QUOTE TERMS.

Carried

This plan will be covered by the FireSmart funding. It was also noted that aerial photography provided by the Ministry of Natural Resources will also be covered under this funding.

Councillor Alkins returned to the meeting.

Resolutions for endorsement were read as follows:

- a) Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) regarding Endangered Species and it was

5. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

WITH RESPECT TO THE MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND FORESTRY (MNRF) PLANNING TO POST A DRAFT SPECIES AT RISK (SAR) GUIDE TO THE ENVIRONMENT REGISTRY FOR 28 SPECIES;

AND THE MNRF HAS FAILED TO CONSULT AND WORK WITH AFFECTED STAKEHOLDERS AND FORESTRY DEPENDENT COMMUNITIES ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE DRAFT SAR GUIDE;

AND THAT MUNICIPAL LEADERS HAVE CONSISTENTLY REQUESTED THE MNRF COMPLETE AND SHARE WITH MUNICIPALITY'S SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS ON ALL POLICY IMPACTING FORESTRY;

AND THAT MNRF HAS CONDUCTED ANALYSIS FOR ON PRESCRIPTION, CARIBOU, AND THE ANALYSIS CLEARLY DEMONSTRATES THAT MILLS WILL CLOSE;

AND THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO ANALYSIS OF THE CUMULATIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT OF ALL SAR RULES CONTAINED WITHIN THE GUIDE (PRESCRIPTIONS) OF MULTIPLE SPECIES;

AND THAT ONTARIO HAS WORLD-CLASS LEGISLATION, THE CROWN FOREST SUSTAINABILITY ACT (CFSA), WHICH PROVIDES BALANCED AND SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT;

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AND THAT THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT'S (ESA) MANDATE OF THE PROTECTION AND RECOVERY OF INDIVIDUAL SPECIES AT RISK CONFLICTS WITH THE MULTI-SPECIES AND MULTI-VALUE APPROACH OF THE CFSA, THREATENING FOREST SUSTAINABILITY;

AND THAT THE GOVERNMENT IN 2007 COMMITTED TO REALIZING CFSA EQUIVALENCY TO THE ESA, ACKNOWLEDGING THAT THE UNDER THE CFSA, THE FOREST SECTOR MUST IMPLEMENT SAR RULES (PRESCRIPTIONS);

AND THAT EVEN UNDER A SECTION 55 RULES IN REGULATION 'EXEMPTION', THE FOREST SECTOR MUST IMPLEMENT SAR RULES (PRESCRIPTION);

AND THAT IF THE GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO IMPLEMENT FLAWED ESA POLICY, MILLS WILL CLOSE, JOBS WILL BE LOST, AND FORESTRY DEPENDENT COMMUNITIES WILL BE DECIMATED;

AND THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR IN SUPPORT OF ITS HARDWORKING CITIZENS AND THE RENEWABLE FOREST SECTOR, IS PREPARED TO WORK WITH THE GOVERNMENT TO AVOID THE UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES OF THIS ESA POLICY;

WE RECOMMEND THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR CALLS UPON THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO TO PERMANENTLY DELAY THE POSTING OF THE MADE-IN-ONTARIO SPECIES AT RISK (SAR) GUIDE WHICH CONTAINS PRESCRIPTIONS (RULES) FOR 28 SPECIES BY 2 YEARS;

AND THAT THE RESPECT TO CARIBOU, THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO IMMEDIATELY MODIFY ONTARIO'S PROPOSED CARIBOU PRESCRIPTION BY MOVING THE CARIBOU RANGE NORTH TO REFLECT ANIMAL COLLARING DATA, MOVING AWAY FROM THE NATIONAL 35% DISTURBANCE THRESHOLD, AND ACKNOWLEDGING THAT OTHER FACTORS ARE THREATENING CARIBOU RECRUITMENT AND SURVIVAL;

AND THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO SUPPORT ITS FOREST SECTOR AND THE 175,000 HARDWORKING MEN AND WOMEN, DIRECTLY AND INDIRECTLY, WHO LIVE IN COMMUNITIES IN EVERY REGION OF THE PROVINCE BY ASKING THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA TO POSTPONE THE OCTOBER 5, 2017 DEADLINE FOR COMPLETING PLANS AND ACKNOWLEDGE RECOVERY COULD REQUIRE TIMEFRAMES IN EXCESS OF 50 TO 100 YEARS,

AND THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO LEAVE NO WORKER, REGION OR FAMILY BEHIND BY ENSURING PROVINCIAL POLICY SUPPORTS AT A MINIMUM, CURRENT FORESTRY OPERATIONS AND DOES NOT REDUCE THE FOREST SECTOR AND ITS EMPLOYMENT TO A SEASONAL ACTIVITY,

AND THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO EXTEND THE CURRENT SECTION 55 REGULATION (EXEMPTION), WHICH CURRENTLY EXPIRES ON JUNE 30, 2018, FOR ANOTHER 5 YEARS RECOGNIZING THAT THE CFSA ENSURE THAT ALL FOREST MANAGEMENT IN ONTARIO PROVIDES FOR ALL 3 PILLARS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT – ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENT.

AND THAT ANY NECESSARY BY-LAWS BE PRESENTED TO COUNCIL FOR RATIFICATION.

Carried

- b) Township of the Archipelago and the Municipality of Killarney requesting that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs reconsider the proposed changes under Bill 68 pertaining to our of court payments was filed.

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- c) City of Owen Sound support for the Ontario Chamber of Commerce request for an Economic Impact Analysis was filed.
- d) Peterborough County requesting that the Ontario Government withdraw the proposed changes to the minimum wage until a comprehensive economic impact analysis is complete was filed.

DSSAB issues were discussed as follows:

- a) Ministry of Community and Social Services – Invitation to participate in the DSSAB review and a request for contact information of the person attending.
- ii) DSSAB Review Team – Consultation date set for September 20, 2017. It was

- 6. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by Chantal Alkins

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S PARTICIPATE IN THE DISTRICT SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BOARD REVIEW TO BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2017 IN THUNDER BAY.

COUNCILLOR RACICOT

Carried

- b) Ministry of Community and Social Services – copy of letter to the Association of Ontario Municipalities (AMO) regarding DSSAB Act Review was read.
- c) The District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board – July 31, 2017 Newsletter was read.

Correspondence was read as follows:

- a) Lakehead Rural Municipal Coalition – (LRMC) – Minutes of the May 18, 2017 meeting.
 - b) Ontario Provincial Police – Thunder Bay OPP - August Newsletter.
 - c) Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry – regarding Wildland Fire Risk Assessment and Mitigation Reference Manual in support of the Provincial Policy Statement, 2014. This information will be passed on to gck Consulting for possible use in creating the Township of O'Connor's Plan.
 - d) Ministry of Education – Follow-up letter regarding the launch of Ontario's plan to strengthen rural and northern education.
 - e) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – i) AMO Watchfile – July 13, 2017.
ii) AMO Watchfile – July 20, 2017.
iii) AMO Watchfile – July 27, 2017.
iv) AMO Watchfile – August 3, 2017.
v) AMO Watchfile – August 10, 2017.
vi) AMO Policy Update – Now Available AMO Response to Ontario Asset Management Regulation Proposal.
vii) AMO Policy Update – Ambulance Act Legislative Consultation Including Fire-Medic Proposal. This information will be forwarded to the Fire Department.
viii) AMO Policy Update – AMO Submission on Bill 148 – Fair Workplace, Better Jobs Act, 2017.
ix) AMO Policy Update – Minister's Expert Panel Report on Public Health Released.
 - f) Thunder Bay District Municipal League (TBDML) – regarding Food Strategy Communications.
 - g) Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management – regarding OFMEM Leadership update.
 - h) Minister of Natural Resources – reply letter to Council endorsed resolution regarding the Conservation Land Tax Incentive Program.
 - i) Sylvia Jones, MPP – Dufferin-Caledon – regarding Highlights of summer events.
 - j) Northern Policy Institute – i) Announces State of the North Conference.
ii) New Report says using a Tax System to Deliver a Basic Income Guarantee has both benefits and barriers.
 - k) Resource Productivity & Recovery Authority (RPRA) – Introduction of new CEO.
 - l) Ontario Trillium Foundation – i) Capital and Projects with provincial impact outreach – next round open.
ii) regarding Building Up Communities with Innovation New Programs and Services.
- The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

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Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) Lakehead Light Horse Association – regarding request for sponsorship. It was agreed that the Township of O'Connor would not sponsor the Association at this time. It was confirmed that the O'Connor Community Club will provide a sponsorship.
- b) University of Waterloo – regarding Asset Management Planning. Council at the last meeting had instructed the Deputy Clerk-Treasurer to inquire into what the University was offering. It was reported that they are offering their services to redo our Asset Management Plan for an estimated cost of \$31,000. It was agreed that the Township would not be redoing the plan at this time.
- c) Report to Council regarding the Places to Grow Implementation Fund – deadline was August 10th. In the report from Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Racicot she reported on the eligible and not eligible projects and noted that she did not feel that the Township had any projects that would currently fit the criteria.
- d) Update of Ontario 150 project – O'Connor Community Centre renovations. The Clerk-Treasurer reported that the storage room is almost complete. The contractor just needs to finish the ventilation. The new furnaces and air conditioning are currently being installed. A new larger propane tank will be installed behind the Municipal office. Jersey barriers will also need to be installed. It was suggested that we also look into the option of balusters. It was also recommended that the soffit and fascia on the community centre be awarded to Mr. Posthumus as per his quote. The quote will be brought back to the next meeting for approval.
- e) The Clerk-Treasurer updated Council on the Hymers fair getting the sleigh tables previously used for O'Connor Day. They have at this time decided that they would like to borrow them this year and see if they work out for them and possibly bring them back after they are done with them. Council were okay with this. There has also been an inquiry as to whether or not we would be interested in selling one or two of the bench sleigh tables. Council suggested that we could possibly sell a couple for \$100 each.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) AMCTO Zone 9 Fall Meeting and Conference & Election Workshop and it was

- 7. Moved by Chantal Alkins
Seconded by B. J. Loan

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE AMCTO ELECTIONS WORKSHOP TO BE HELD IN THUNDER BAY ON SEPTEMBER 18, 2017.

CLERK-TREASURER BUOB

REGISTRATION: \$327.70

Carried

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

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE AMCTO ZONE 9 FALL MEETING & CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN THUNDER BAY ON SEPTEMBER 19 AND 20, 2017.

CLERK-TREASURER BUOB

DEPUTY CLERK-TREASURER RACICOT

REGISTRATION: \$100.00

Carried

- b) Thunder Bay District Municipal League (TBDML) – message regarding the Provincial Government neglecting to consult with municipalities on draft Species at Risk Guide. NOMA, ROMA and FONOM are all expressing their concerns and the effect that these changes will have on the forestry industry.
- c) Slate River Plowing Match – requesting participation of Council in the celebrity class. Mayor Vezina will participate.

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- d) Canadian Union of Postal Workers – requesting further support for rural postal services. Council have previously supported their concerns and this request was filed.
 - e) Development and Growth Strategy for Northern Ontario – Survey. As the deadline for submission is after the next meeting, Council will each review the survey and bring their comments back to the September 11 meeting for submission.
 - f) Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) – Northwestern Ontario Regional Conference Sept 20 - 22, 2017 – agenda and registration was reviewed. It was
9. Moved by K. Foekens
Seconded by B. J. Loan

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO REGIONAL CONFERENCE TO BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 20 – 22, 2017 IN THUNDER BAY.

REGISTRATION: \$250.00

**COUNCILLOR RACICOT AND ALKINS
DEPUTY CLERK-TREASURER RACICOT**
Carried

Under further new business, Councillor Loan reported that he was unable to attend the Thunder Bay District Municipal League meeting that was held on Saturday, August 12, 2017 due to illness. Ms. Stewart will forward the information from the meeting.

It was also noted that the road name sign on Highway 590 for Loghrin road has been broken since the spring. As the sign is along the highway it is Carillons responsibility and the Clerk-Treasurer will inquiry into this further.

Council also requested information on Forum North. The Clerk-Treasurer will also inquire into the dates for this year's conference.

It was noted that someone had dropped off several bags of garbage on Loghrin Road a few weeks ago. It was picked up and looked through to see the owner could be identified but nothing was conclusive.

For information purposes building permit #2017-03 was approved for a garage on Sitch Road.

10. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by Chantal Alkins

THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2017 AT 7:00 P.M.

TIME BEING: 8:45 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer