

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – FEBRUARY 10, 2020

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, February 10, 2020 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

Present: Mayor Vezina
Councillors: Crane, Handy, Loan, Racicot
Clerk-Treasurer Buob

Visitors: Kelly Johnson, Leadhand
Jason Garatti and Charles Sprovieri – North Rock Environmental

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 item 14 d) as his spouse is an employee of the Township.

1. Moved by B. Jerry Loan
Seconded by A. Crane

**THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY,
JANUARY 27, 2020 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.**

Carried

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

Mr. Jason Garatti and Mr. Charles Sprovieri from North Rock Environmental were welcomed to the table. Introductions were made. North Rock Environmental was retained by the Township of O'Connor to prepare a Design, Operations and Maintenance Report for the Township of O'Connor's Disposal Site. A presentation was made to Council explaining the work that was completed and the results of their findings. A capacity study detailing the current waste volume and remaining capacity; drawings of the general site layout with property boundaries, licensed waste footprint boundary, buffer zone and main site features; conceptual site closure plan and report to address closure requirements were all explained. The overall objective of the process was to provide the Township of O'Connor and the operator guidance on properly operating the site safely with minimal impact to the environment, optimizing capacity of the landfill and ensuring compliance with the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) legislation and environmental approvals. Mr. Garatti noted that the Township of O'Connor's disposal site is very well maintained and wanted to compliment the staff on a job well done. The site is estimated to have 28 years left with its current Certificate of Approval.

Mr. Garatti and Mr. Sprovieri were thanked for their excellent presentation and summary of their report and they left the meeting at 8:05 p.m. Hard copies of the report will be sent out in the near future.

Mr. Johnson, Leadhand was welcomed to the table. Roadwork in general was discussed. The employees continue to plow and sand the roads as required. They have been winging back the snowbanks. Some heaving has started on the roads and bump signs have been placed. The employees are currently fabricating the signpost for the new electronic sign that will be placed along the highway in front of the community centre and they will hire a lifting devise for the final installation.

Council asked Mr. Johnson to look into pricing of trucks for his budget.

The Gillies Boundary Road Agreement was reviewed. The Township of Gillies would like to have everything in the document remain the same with the exception of the reference to Main Street and the term. They would like this item removed and they would like to extend the Agreement to a five-year term.

Council reviewed the Agreement and do not agree with the removal of the boundary road, Main Street, from the Agreement. This is still a boundary road and Council feel that it should remain in the document for liability purposes. The Main Street hill was temporary closed by the Township of Gillies five years ago, this being the reason for the

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – FEBRUARY 10, 2020

Boundary Road Agreement only being signed for one year at a time. Council and Mr. Johnson, Leadhand, would still like to see the hill reopened. They consider the closed route to be a better option than the alternate route of Prouty Road. The Township of O'Connor is willing to work with the Township of Gillies to come to an applicable resolution. Council also have concerns as to the way the road is temporarily closed. A letter will be sent to the Township of Gillies addressing Council's concerns.

The hiring of summer students for the road department was discussed with Mr. Johnson and it was decided to not hire any again this year.

Mr. Johnson was thanked for attending and he left the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Marcus Powlowski, MP – Thunder Bay - Rainy River was unable to attend the Council meeting tonight but was willing to meet Council tomorrow night. It was agreed to hold a special meeting to accommodate his schedule and it was

2. Moved by A. Crane
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2020 AT 6 P.M. BE SET FOR A SPECIAL MEETING WITH MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, MARCUS POWLOWSKI, TO DISCUSS THE FEDERAL PRE-BUDGET ITEMS, HIGHSPEED INTERNET SERVICES WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR AND EXPANDING ACCESS OF NATURAL GAS. THIS MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE KAKABEKA FALLS MOTOR HOTEL TO ACCOMMODATE M.P. POWLOWSKI'S SCHEDULE.

Carried

This meeting was posted on the Township's website and bulletin board earlier.

The Administration and Roads Voucher was reviewed, and it was

3. Moved by Jerry Loan
Seconded by W. Handy

THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER #2020-03 DATED FEBRUARY 10, 2020 TOTTALLING \$86,084.49 BE APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

The Statement of Revenue and Expenditure for January 31, 2020 was unavailable until after the 2020 audit is complete.

A By-law to enter into an Access Agreement with Ontario Power Generation Inc was reviewed and it was

4. Moved by A. Crane
Seconded by Jerry Loan

THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2020-08 BEING A BY-LAW AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN ACCESS AGREEMENT WITH ONTARIO POWER GENERATION INC. BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

Resolutions for endorsement were reviewed as follows:

- a) Village of Merrickville-Wolford regarding Provincially Significant Wetlands Designation was filed
- b) Township of Madoc regarding Joint and Several Liability Consultation – Town of Amherstburg was filed

Correspondence was read as follows:

- a) The District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board (TBDSSAB) –
 - i) Update from the Board – January 31, 2020
 - ii) 2020 Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association Annual General Meeting – June 3 – 5, 2020 in Thunder Bay, request for donation to attendance gift bags. Council do not have any items to donate at this time.

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – FEBRUARY 10, 2020

- iii) TBDSSAB Organizational Realignment. A review of management structure was conducted in 2019. The organization is realigning which will result in two divisions rather than three. These changes, combined with changes previously made as a result of funding reductions and efficiency initiatives, will result in a staff complement that is 11.5 full time-equivalent less than in 2019.
- b) Lakehead Police Services Board (LPSB) – 2019 Annual Expenditures detail. The Township of O'Connor pays 15% of the total expenses of the Board.
- c) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – i) AMO-Frequency Foundary Digital Citizen Relationship Management (CRM) software Pilot for Small Municipalities – Call for Submissions Reminder. Council is not interested in the program at this time.
ii) January 31st AMO Board Highlights
- d) Ministry of Community and Social Services – regarding the Poverty Reduction Strategy survey which is available for comment until March 30, 2020.
- e) Northern Policy Institute – Call for Board Members. No one on Council will put their name forward at this time.

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) regarding the 2020 Conference to be held in Fort Frances, April 29, to May 1, 2020. Attendance was discussed and it was

- 5. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by A. Crane

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON ATTEND THE NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION 2020 CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN FORT FRANCES APRIL 29 – MAY 1, 2020.

REGISTRATION FEE - \$500.00

**MAYOR VEZINA
COUNCILLOR CRANE, HANDY, LOAN, RACICOT**
Carried

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Lakehead Region Conservation Authority (LRCA) 2020 Levy Request. The Township of O'Connor pays 0.44790% of the total levy in the amount of \$4,620.
- b) Thunder Bay District Veterinary Services Committee – Annual Meeting February 27, 2020. It was

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

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSONS ATTEND THE THUNDER BAY DISTRICT VETERINARY SERVICES COMMITTEE ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD AT THE ROSSLYN COMMUNITY CENTRE FEBRUARY 27, 2020.

REGISTRATION FEE – N/C

COUNCILLOR ALEX CRANE
Carried

- c) Fire Department member email regarding starting an online Facebook account. The Clerk-Treasurer provided Council with a copy of the email for information purposes and this item will be discussed further at the next meeting with the Fire Chief and the Deputy Fire Chief. The Clerk-Treasurer will follow up with surrounding municipalities to see what others are doing.

Councillor Racicot left the room.

- d) Fred Dean – 2020 Webinars were reviewed. Mr. Dean is offering four different webinars at this time. It was agreed not to attend any at this time.

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – FEBRUARY 10, 2020

Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting.

Issues brought forward or letters received after the agenda was sent out were read as follows:

- a) Lakehead Rural Municipal Coalition (LRMC) Minutes of Meeting January 23, 2020.
- b) Ministry of Government and Consumer Services regarding the 2020 Summer Employment Opportunities program. It was agreed that an application for a summer student would not be submitted.

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

- 7. Moved by A. Crane
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURN TO THE MEETING WITH MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, MARCUS POWLOWSKI TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2020 AT 6:00 P.M. AT THE KAKABEKA FALLS MOTOR HOTEL IN KAKABEKA FALLS.

TIME BEING: 9:30 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer