

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR - MINUTES – PUBLIC MEETING – MARCH 25, 2024

Minutes of the Public meeting held on Monday, March 25, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in the O'Connor Council Chambers.

Present: Mayor Vezina
Councillors: Crane, Rea, Sobolta, Torkkeli
Clerk-Treasurer Buob

Visitors: Tim Silvaggio, Jennifer Silvaggio

Mayor Vezina called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

1. Moved by Brendan Rea
Seconded by Carly Torkkeli

THAT THE AGENDA FOR THE PUBLIC MEETING BE APPROVED.

Carried

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: none

Mayor Vezina called the meeting to order and welcomed all present to the public meeting and introductions were held. Copies of the full draft by-law and building permit forms were available.

The Clerk-Treasurer provided an explanation of the process for increasing the Building Permit fees. The fees cannot exceed the anticipated reasonable costs for administering and enforcing the Building Code Act. Any amendment to a Municipal Permit Fee By-law requires Notice and a Public Meeting. Notice of the meeting was provided in the March 2023 issue of the Cornerstone and posted on the Township bulletin boards and website.

Council have reviewed the current fees, approved by By-law #2016-12 and feel that they should be increased and be similar to the surrounding municipalities. The current Chief Building Official (CBO) is employed by the Township of Conmee and the Municipality of Neebing and is paid based on the fees administered. Council feel that the CBO should be paid a similar amount for the same work in each municipality and the fees should therefore be similar.

The Clerk-Treasurer presented the draft By-law #2024-11 and provided an explanation of the fees and how they were increased, still using a per square foot fee and similar to the Municipality of Neebing's. The minimum fee for a permit was increased from \$50.00 to \$100.00.

Mayor Vezina asked the visitors if they had any questions regarding the by-law or any of the changes. Jennifer Silvaggio asked for the reasoning of the minimum fee going from \$50.00 to \$100.00. The Clerk-Treasurer explained that the CBO is paid a percentage of the Building Permit fee and the time involved to prepare the Permit, and work associated with it, was not sufficient. Tim Silvaggio asked how the square footage of a home was determined and if a crawl space was considered as square footage. The maximum height of what is considered a crawl space was also asked. Council explained how the measurement is considered and noted that a crawl space is a maximum of 1800 millimetres.

Mayor Vezina asked if there were any speakers in support of the proposed by-law. No comment was made.

Mayor Vezina asked if there were any speakers in opposition to the proposed by-law. No comment was made.

The By-law will be considered by Council at the Council meeting held following this Public meeting.

The guests were thanked for attending.

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It was

2. Moved by J. Sobolta
Seconded by Carly Torkkeli

THAT THE PUBLIC MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2024 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE O'CONNOR COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

TIME BEING: 6:49 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer