

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – MARCH 11, 2019

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, March 11, 2019 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

Present: Mayor Vezina
Councillors: Crane, Handy, Loan
Acting Clerk Laforest
Visitors: Kelly Johnson, Leadhand
Eleanor Morin, Resident
Absent: Councillor Racicot

Mayor Vezina called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: None

1. Moved by W. Handy
Seconded by Jerry Loan

**THAT THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY,
FEBRUARY 25, 2019 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.**

Carried

Ms. Eleanor Morin was welcomed to the table at 7:03 p.m. and introductions were made. Ms. Morin is a current resident of the Township of O'Connor. As a part of her introduction Ms. Morin explained to Council why she is proposing a program geared to O'Connor Community Outreach. The purpose of the program is to reach out to the community to help those in need, bring people of all ages together to give them a sense of community in a fun and healthy way, and utilize the Community Centre as a place where everyone feels welcome and accepted.

Ms. Morin provided a booklet to Council explaining the program in more detail along with ideas to support the purpose of the program. Ms. Morin also expressed her appreciation and fondness for O'Connor Township and its residents for always being there for her and her family and is showing her gratitude by wanting to volunteer her time to give back to and help the community. Mayor Vezina asked for questions from around the table. One question asked was if the incentive was to provide programming or merely a presence. Ms. Morin responded that the intention was to provide programming for the community. Another question was pertaining to what background she and her colleagues have, to provide this type of service. Ms. Morin's response was that she and one of her colleagues are Addictions and Community Service Workers. It was also questioned and confirmed that Ms. Morin would be requesting a start up fee of \$500 with the intent of returning the money borrowed, once the program had donations and proceeds. When questioned about the workload involved in starting this program, Ms. Morin responded that she planned on recruiting students looking to earn volunteer hours, as well as presenting her ideas to the O'Connor Community Club for support. Mayor Vezina thanked Ms. Morin for the work put into the program presentation. His suggestion to her was to collaborate this information through the O'Connor Community Club and/or the Regional Food Distribution Association (RFDA) and try to assemble with other organizations rather than starting from the beginning, since this project would be such a huge undertaking. He commended Ms. Morin on her efforts and invited her to stay if she wished to hear Council discussion during the new business portion of the meeting. Ms. Morin chose to leave the meeting and thanked Council for their time. Ms. Morin was thanked for attending and left the meeting at 7:14 p.m.

Mr. Johnson, Leadhand, was welcomed to the table at 7:15 p.m. A Road Department update was provided and roadwork in general was discussed. Mr. Johnson noted that they have been continuing the scratching of the roads to keep the ice down and winging back the snowbanks where required to keep the roads from getting too wet from the melt. The steamer trailer is set up and ready to steam culverts when needed. Regular maintenance of equipment is being done for the #9 truck.

Council discussed with Mr. Johnson the Roads Department budget meeting and decided that it would be set for Tuesday, April 23, 2019, as Monday, April 22nd is Easter Monday. The meeting will be held in O'Connor Council Chambers at 330 Highway 595 and will commence at 6:00 p.m.

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Discussion took place regarding the Highway 590 detour on Cronk, Sovereign and Fleming Roads to which Mr. Johnson questioned if he should call Taranis Contracting Group to discuss the detour. Council agreed to have Mr. Johnson contact Taranis Contracting Group, as well as Firesteel Contractor's Ltd. to discuss the detour. Mr. Johnson noted that there may be some Township road projects that maybe affected by the detour as well. It is Mr. Johnson's belief that these projects should have enough time to be completed by June 29th of this year prior to the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario (MTO) undertaking.

Mr. Johnson was thanked for attending and he left the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

The Administration and Roads Voucher for February 2019 and bills to be paid were reviewed and it was

2. Moved by Jerry Loan
Seconded by A. Crane

THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER FOR FEBRUARY 2019 TALLING \$97,006.59 BE APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

3. Moved by Jerry Loan
Seconded by W. Handy

THAT THE FOLLOWING BILLS FOR FEBRUARY 2019 AND MARCH 2019 BE PAID. THESE BILLS WILL BE INCLUDED ON THE MARCH 2019 ADMINISTRATION AND ROAD VOUCHER.

CK#15529	TBAYTEL (TELEPHONE, FAX, SECURITY)	\$ 665.94
CK#15530	HYDRO ONE (STREETLIGHTING)	\$ 49.50
CK#15531	CANADA BROKERLINK (ONTARIO) INC.	<u>\$ 79.38</u>
		<u>\$ 794.82</u>

Carried

The Statement of Revenue and Expenditures are not available until after the completion of the Township audit.

Resolutions for endorsement were read as follows:

- a) Township of South Stormont – regarding the Provincial Review of Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund was filed.
- b) Municipality of Red Lake – regarding petitioning the Legislative Assembly of Ontario to reinstate the Indigenous Culture Fund (ICF). It was

4. Moved by Jerry Loan
Seconded by W. Handy

THAT THE RESOLUTION FROM THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF RED LAKE PETITION THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO TO HONOUR THE TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION OF CANADA AND IMMEDIATELY REINSTATE THE INDIGENOUS CULTURE FUND (ICF) TO \$5 MILLION THIS YEAR, RETAIN ALL ICF STAFF POSITIONS, AND COMMIT TO FUNDING THE ICF AT THIS LEVEL IN THE YEARS MOVING FORWARD BE ENDORSED.

Carried

- c) Town of Saugeen Shores – regarding Recreation and Culture Capital Infrastructure Funding. It was

5. Moved by A. Crane
Seconded by Jerry Loan

THAT THE RESOLUTION FROM THE TOWN OF SAUGEEN SHORES REQUEST THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA AND THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO MOVE FORWARD WITH ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING AGREED TO BY THE GOVERNMENTS OF CANADA AND

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**PROVINCE OF ONTARIO UNDER THE “INVESTING IN CANADA
INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM” TO HELP ADDRESS THE
RECREATION AND CULTURE CAPITAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEFICIT THAT
CURRENTLY EXISTS ACROSS CANADA BE ENDORSED.**

Carried

Correspondence were read as follows:

- a) Lakehead Region Conservation Authority – 2019 Levy Request. The Township Levy for 2019 is \$4,314.
- b) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – 2019 Annual Repayment Limit (ARL) for the Township of O'Connor.
- c) OPP – i) MPB Financial Services Unit – 2019 Group 2019 Court Security and Prisoner Transportation Grant update.
ii) Thunder Bay OPP – March 2019 Newsletter.
- d) District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board (TBDSSAB) –
i) Update from the Board – March 4, 2019.
ii) Abbeyfield Canada – Information Session in Thunder Bay April 23, 2019.
- e) Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) – Review Complete: Small-scale on-farm business subclasses.
- f) Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks - Reducing Litter and Waste in Our Communities: Discussion Paper.
- g) AMCTO – Legislative Express Policy Spotlight: Supports SWIFT's Application of Appeal to the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC).
- h) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) –
i) Office of the President – Taking Action for Universal Broadband Access.
ii) Policy Update – Government Announces New Health Care Plan.
- i) City of Thunder Bay – Development & Emergency Services Department Superior North Emergency Medical Services Strategic Plan.

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) 99 Year Lease with Terry and Karen Byers – update deferred until next meeting.
- b) Zoning By-law Review and set date for public meeting – item deferred until next meeting.
- c) Official Plan cover photo – a unanimous vote was made. Council chose a picture portraying round hay bales in an open field. Thoughts were expressed that this picture would depict the farming community in O'Connor.
- d) Under further Old Business, Councillor Crane requested an update on Naloxone hydrochloride (naloxone) for the Township of O'Connor & First Responder first aid kits. Administration continues to look into this matter.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Set budget meeting dates – Council discussed budget meeting dates for the Roads Department and Fire Department. It was

- 6. Moved by A. Crane
Seconded by W. Handy

**THAT THE FOLLOWING DATES BE SET FOR BUDGET MEETINGS
ROADS DEPARTMENT AND FIRE DEPARTMENT ON APRIL 23, 2019
STARTING 6:00 P.M. FOLLOWED BY REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING AT
8:00 P.M. THE MEETINGS WILL BE HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS.**

Carried

- b) Discussion with regard to possibly having a summer student for the office was held. Ms. Laforest explained to Council that recent events have led to Administrative discussion of the possibility of requiring additional assistance throughout the summer and would like to request hiring a summer student. It was suggested that we look into YES Employment or Employment Northwest for other funding options, or perhaps looking into a Business Administration student looking for co-operative education. Council asked if the Student Program funding from the federal and provincial governments had already passed. Ms. Laforest confirmed that it had passed. Council concluded that should Administration need additional help in the

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office that they have Council's approval to seek it.

- c) 2019 NOMA Conference and Annual Meeting – April 24 – 26, 2019 in Thunder Bay was discussed and it was

7. Moved by Jerry Loan
Seconded by W. Handy

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE 2019 NOMA CONFERENCE AND ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD IN THUNDER BAY APRIL 24 – 26, 2019.

**MAYOR JIM VEZINA
COUNCILLOR JERRY LOAN
COUNCILLOR ALEX CRANE
COUNCILLOR WENDY HANDY**

Carried

- d) AMCTO Zone 9 – Spring Meeting and Workshop – April 29 – May 1, 2019 in Thunder Bay was discussed and it was

8. Moved by W. Handy
Seconded by A. Crane

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPAL MANAGERS AND CLERK TREASURERS OF ONTARIO (AMCTO) ZONE 9 SPRING MEETING TO BE HELD AT THE BEST WESTERN NOR'WESTER IN THUNDER BAY APRIL 30 – MAY 1, 2019.

CLERK-TREASURER LORNA BUOB

Carried

9. Moved by Jerry Loan
Seconded by W. Handy

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE ALCOHOL AND GAMING COMMISSION OF ONTARIO (AGCO) LOTTERY LICENSING WORKSHOP TO BE HELD AT THE BEST WESTERN NOR'WESTER IN THUNDER BAY APRIL 29, 2019.

CLERK-TREASURER LORNA BUOB

Carried

- e) Thunder Bay & Area Food Strategy (TBAFS) – Second Annual Edition of the Northwest Nosh to be published in 2019! TBAFS is asking if the Township will purchase copies to share with our residents and request to have a Township advertisement appear in the Nosh. It was

10. Moved by W. Handy
Seconded by Jerry Loan

THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR PURCHASE 60 COPIES OF THE NORTHWEST NOSH MAGAZINE IN SUPPORT OF THE THUNDER BAY AND AREA FOOD STRATEGY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1.20 PER COPY.

Carried

It was agreed not to place an advertisement in the Northwest Nosh Magazine.

- f) Essentials of Municipal Fire Protection - March 7th, 2019 – update from Councillors Crane and Loan. Councillor Crane advised that the material learned from the Essentials of Municipal Fire Protection was quite extensive. He had the opportunity to meet Fire Chief John Hay of Thunder Bay. Councillor Loan concurred that the training session was worth attending and that he learned a lot of new information from it. Councillor Loan inquired as to when our Fire Department

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Policies had last been revised. Further discussion will take place on the issue with Fire Chief Henry Mattas when he is in attendance.

- g) As a Member of Council What You Need To Know – March 6th, 2019 – Councillor Training update from Councillors Crane and Handy. Councillor Handy advised that the Member of Council training went very well and had a lot of information. Councillor Crane commented that the facilitators were exceptional. Councillor Handy commented that several policies and training the group discussed at the session, O'Connor had already performed or put in place. She then commended administration staff for being ahead of the game.
- h) Video – Dr. Enid Slack – Financing Local Governments in the 21st Century: Going Back to First Principles – item deferred to another meeting.

Under further New Business, Council discussed Ms. Morin's Community Outreach Program. Council concluded that as much as they liked the idea, their recommendation was that it would make a great addition to the O'Connor Community Club being more of a community incentive rather than a municipal incentive. As a volunteer program, Council would be willing to provide Ms. Morin with the tools to help promote it such as free space in the Cornerstone and free hall rentals as opposed to a monetary start-up fee.

Mayor Vezina attended the Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA) Conference February 24th – 27th. Mayor Vezina learned that the Provincial government is looking for viable solutions to solve road issues. They discussed gravel surfaced roads and examined the differences between the roads in Northern Ontario versus roads in Southern Ontario including the effects that climate change has on the life expectancy of our roads. Municipalities should monitor the depths of gravel surfaces on a continual basis to determine their lasting effects and develop methods to help retain gravel on the roads.

No issues were brought forward, or items received after the agenda was mailed.

For information purposes one demolition permit was approved since the last meeting.

- 11. Moved by Jerry Loan
Seconded by A. Crane

**THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD
ON MARCH 25, 2019 AT 7:00 P.M.**

TIME BEING: 9:13 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Acting Clerk