

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – MAY 13, 2019

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, May 13, 2019 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

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

Visitors: Kelly Johnson, Leadhand
Paul Leboeuf

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

1. Moved by A. Crane
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING AND THE BUDGET MEETING HELD ON APRIL 23, 2019 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.

Carried

2. Moved by B. Jerry Loan
Seconded by W. Handy

THAT THE NOTES OF THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MAY 8, 2019 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.

Carried

Visitors were asked if they wished to address Council and they replied no. Introduction were made. Mr. Leboeuf is a new resident in the Township and a former Councillor in his previous hometown.

Mr. Johnson, Leadhand, was welcomed to the table. A Road Department update and roadwork in general was discussed. It was noted that Garbutt Road, between Holomego and Broome Road has a lot of frost boils right now. Mr. Johnson would like to ditch this section but will have to contact Tbaytel as the telephone line is in the ditch in this area. There are other areas in the Township which also have frost boils every year however there are natural springs in the area which also feed resident's wells, so Mr. Johnson does not want to disturb them. It was noted that there is a new construction product which helps to weep the water to the ditches. This will be looked into further.

Mr. Johnson informed Council of a Hydro Auction to be held on Friday, May 17th. He would like to go and see what items they have. Council agreed that he attend the viewing and gave him permission to bid on items as needed.

Mr. Johnson noted that he and Fire Chief Mattas attended a pre-construction meeting in Thunder Bay on May 8, 2019, hosted by Stantec, for the Highway 590 culvert replacement at Cedar Creek and road closure. The Highway will be closed on July 2, 2019 and the detour will run on Township roads. Mr. Johnson confirmed with them that proper signage, including a lower speed limit will be posted for the detour, as well dust control will be applied as needed. Fire Chief Mattas at the meeting asked if there is a call for the Fire Department on the detour will the Township be compensated as if it was a Highway call, as it is a detour for the highway, and he was told yes. Mr. Johnson noted that the Marks Township section of Cronk Road is very rough right now and noted that there is also no warning signs with regard to the "s" corner just after the Townline.

Mr. Johnson was thanked for attending and he left the meeting at 7:22 p.m.

The Administration and Roads Voucher for May 13, 2019 was reviewed, and it was

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3. Moved by A. Crane
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER 2019 - #05 DATED MAY 13, 2019 TALLING \$56,178.41 BE APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

The Statement of Revenue and Expenditures and the Balance Sheet to April 30, 2019 were reviewed.

Resolutions for endorsement were read as follows:

- a) Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA) – regarding OGRA approaching Rural Ontario Municipalities of Ontario (ROMA) to establish a working relationship to organize an annual combined conference. The history of the Conference was discussed and this item was filed.
- b) Regional Municipality of Peel – regarding Overview of Health System Transformation was filed.
- c) Township of Mulmur – regarding Aggregate extraction was filed.
- d) i) Township of Mulmur
ii) Township of McKellar; and
iii) Township of Essa regarding the funding to Ontario Library Service North and Southern Ontario Library Service were all filed.
- e) Town of Aurora – Opposing the changes outlined in Bill 108 and it was

4. Moved by Jerry Loan
Seconded by W. Handy

WHEREAS THE LEGISLATION THAT ABOLISHED THE ONTARIO MUNICIPAL BOARD (OMB) AND REPLACED IT WITH THE LOCAL PLANNING APPEAL TRIBUNAL ACT (LPAT) RECEIVED UNANIMOUS – ALL PARTY SUPPORT; AND

WHEREAS ALL PARTIES RECOGNIZED THAT LOCAL GOVERNMENTS SHOULD HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO UPHOLD THEIR PROVINCIALLY APPROVED OFFICIAL PLANS; TO UPHOLD THEIR COMMUNITY DRIVEN PLANNING; AND

WHEREAS BILL 108 WILL ONCE AGAIN ALLOW AN UNELECTED, UNACCOUNTABLE BODY MAKE DECISIONS ON HOW OUR COMMUNITIES EVOLVE AND GROW; AND

WHEREAS ON AUGUST 21, 2018 MINISTER CLARK ONCE AGAIN SIGNED THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) WITH THE ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPALITIES OF ONTARIO (AMO) AND ENTERED INTO “...A LEGALLY BINDING AGREEMENT RECOGNIZING ONTARIO MUNICIPALITIES AS A MATURE, ACCOUNTABLE ORDER OF GOVERNMENT.”; AND

WHEREAS THIS MOU IS “ENSHRINED IN LAW AS PART OF THE MUNICIPAL ACT”, AND RECOGNIZES THAT AS “...PUBLIC POLICY ISSUES ARE COMPLEX AND THUS REQUIRE COORDINATED RESPONSES...THE PROVINCE ENDORSES THE PRINCIPLE OF REGULAR CONSULTATION BETWEEN ONTARIO AND MUNICIPALITIES IN RELATION TO MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST”; AND

WHEREAS BY SIGNING THIS AGREEMENT, THE PROVINCE MADE “...A COMMITMENT TO COOPERATING WITH ITS MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS IN CONSIDERING NEW LEGISLATION OR REGULATIONS THAT WILL HAVE A MUNICIPAL IMPACT”; AND

WHEREAS BILL 108 WILL IMPACT 15 DIFFERENT ACTS – CANNABIS CONTROL ACT, 2017, CONSERVATION AUTHORITIES ACT, DEVELOPMENT CHARGES ACT, EDUCATION ACT, ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT, 2007, ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ACT, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT, LABOUR RELATIONS ACT, 1995,

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LOCAL PLANNING APPEAL TRIBUNAL ACT, 2017, MUNICIPAL ACT, 2001, OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY ACT, ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, ONTARIO WATER RESOURCES ACT, PLANNING ACT, WORKPLACE SAFETY AND INSURANCE ACT, 1997.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR OPPOSE BILL 108 WHICH IN ITS CURRENT STATE WILL HAVE NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES ON COMMUNITY BUILDING AND PROPER PLANNING; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR CALL UPON THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO TO HALT THE LEGISLATIVE ADVANCEMENT OF BILL 108 TO ENABLE FULSOME CONSULTATION WITH MUNICIPALITIES TO ENSURE THAT ITS OBJECTIVES FOR SOUND DECISION MAKING FOR HOUSING GROWTH THAT MEETS LOCAL NEEDS WILL BE REASONABLY ACHIEVED; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT A COPY OF THIS MOTION BE SENT TO THE HONOURABLE DOUG FORD, PREMIER OF ONTARIO, THE HONOURABLE CHRISTINE ELLIOTT, DEPUTY PREMIER, THE HONOURABLE STEVE CLARK, MINISTER OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS, THE HONOURABLE ANDREA HORWATH, LEADER OF THE NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY, AND LOCAL MPPS; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT A COPY OF THIS MOTION BE SENT TO THE ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPALITIES OF ONTARIO (AMO) AND ALL ONTARIO MUNICIPALITIES FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION.

Carried

Correspondence was read as follow:

- a) O'Connor Free Methodist Church – letter of support for our leaders.
- b) The District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board (TBDSSAB) –
 - i) Update from the Board - 06/06/2019
 - ii) OMSSA Leadership Symposium – Request for Promotional Items. The Township does not have any items to donate currently.
- c) Lakehead Rural Municipal Coalition (LRMC) – i) Minutes March 28, 2019 meeting. In the minutes it noted that the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge has requested the City of Thunder Bay advise them as to when the Administration will be presenting the by-law regarding the truck traffic diversion to City Council. It was noted that at the LRMC meeting held on May 9, 2019 the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge informed the group that they have hired a consultant to do a traffic count in the village of Kakabeka Falls on May 16, 2019 from 6 a.m. to May 18, 2019 at 6 a.m.
 ii) Spreadsheets provided by the Municipality of Shuniah, on behalf of the LRMC, with the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) decreases and how it affects the tax levy for each of the six municipalities, were reviewed. These spreadsheets indicate the difference between the expenses of the mandated Provincial programs and the amount of OMPF that the Townships receive and must budget for. The Township of O'Connor's deficit for 2019 is \$43,029 for these programs alone.
- d) Lakehead Police Services Board – i) copy of letter sent to Ministry of Solicitor-General regarding Board structure and requesting additional members to the board. Mayor Vezina noted that he had replied to this letter and would like his response forwarded to the rest of Council.
 ii) The OPP Calls for Service Report for the Township of O'Connor from December 2018 to March 2019. The Township had fourteen
- e) Solicitor General – copy of the letter to Judith Monteith-Farrell, MPP, Thunder Bay – Atikokan – reply regarding regulations arising from the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019.
- f) Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) i) – Municipal Policing Bureau – update on the Bureau.
 ii) Thunder Bay OPP – May 2019 Newsletter. Council would like to see the seatbelt statistics and information included in the next issue of the Cornerstone.
- g) Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport – regarding budget changes to Southern Ontario Library Service (SOLS) and the Ontario Library Services North (OLS-N). The library services decided to discontinue the inter-library loan service.

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- h) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – i) AMO President's Statement
 - ii) Budget Update: Provincial In-Year Funding Reductions
 - iii) AMO Watchfile – April 25, 2019. The funding for 405 small and rural municipalities to improve service and efficiency was highlighted.
 - iv) Another Budget Shoe drops today. The cost shared ambulance grants are now frozen at 2018 levels and based on the province's 2017 funding allocation.
- i) Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks – reply to Council's endorsed resolution regarding municipal approval for landfills.
- j) Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing – regarding More Homes, More Choice: Ontario's Housing Supply Action Plan.
- k) Elections Ontario – reply to Council's endorsed resolution and information with regard to a report that was tabled on the 2018 general election, Modernizing Ontario's Electoral Process.
- l) Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks – regarding the Regulations for Electrical and Electronic Equipment (EEE) and Batteries posted for consultation. Council would like administration to register for the webinar and submit any comments they feel appropriate.
- m) Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs – regarding the Rural Economic Development Program (RED) open for applications. The Township will not be applying at this time.
- n) Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) – 2018 Annual Report.
- o) Ontario Association of Property Standards Officers Inc. regarding Residential Tenancies Complaints against Maintenance Standards.
- p) Lake Superior Scottish Regiment Senate – Veterans' organization announces plans for a new civic monument – remarks from the Minister.
- q) Town of Mono – copy of letter to the Minister of Finance pertaining to reduction to OMPF and requesting that the Province engage municipalities in meaningful dialogue regarding the future of this program.

The balance of correspondence was passed around the table.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) Ministry of Energy, Northern Development & Mines, Linda Braun, Northern Development Advisor email regarding the Township of O'Connor's previous minutes discussing the possibility of having Broadband in the Township of O'Connor. Ms. Braun informed Council that the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC) currently supports these types of projects if the Township did want to move forward with this.
- b) Community Safety Plan – Municipality of Neebing is requesting that the member municipalities of the Lakehead Police Services Board (LRSB) work together to prepare a joint Community Safety Plan. It was

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

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR WITH THE TOWNSHIPS OF CONMEE, GILLIES AND THE MUNICIPALITY OF NEEBING WORK TOGETHER TO PREPARE A JOINT COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN, AS REQUIRED UNDER THE POLICE SERVICES ACT.

Carried

Under further old business, Council requested an update on the possibility of purchasing additional AED's for the First Response Team. The Clerk-Treasurer informed Council that she has brought this to the coordinator's attention, and she is looking into it further.

Under New Business, Council discussed

- a) Ministry of Infrastructure – i) A letter regarding the Township of O'Connor's application for funding through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP), Rural and Northern funding stream. The Township's application to replace the culverts at Beaver Dam Creek on Sitch Road and install a guide rail system has been nominated by the Province for federal review and approval.
- ii) Media announcement regarding the Township's funding. The Clerk-Treasurer informed Council that TBT News was out in the Township earlier in the day to do an interview with the Clerk-Treasurer, as the Mayor was unavailable.

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- b) The Clerk-Treasurer informed Council that the Dog Control Officer has resigned from his position. An explanation for his decision was noted. It was

6. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by A. Crane

THAT COUNCIL ACCEPT MR. DAVID FROWEN'S RESIGNATION AS DOG CONTROL OFFICER EFFECTIVE MAY 7, 2019.

Carried

Council would like a report brought back to the next meeting with the different options as to how to move forward with dog issues.

Councillor Racicot left the room.

- c) Township of Conmee – invitation to The Essentials of Municipal Fire Protection – A Decision Makers' Guide to be held at the Conmee Municipal Complex on May 28th. It was

7. Moved by A. Crane
Seconded by Jerry Loan

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE ESSENTIALS OF MUNICIPAL FIRE PROTECTION – A DECISION MAKERS' GUIDE TO BE HELD AT THE CONMEE MUNICIPAL COMPLEX IN CONMEE ON MAY 28, 2019.

COUNCILLOR HANDY

Carried

There is a minimum of nine participants required to hold the course.

- d) Sharon Bak, Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management regarding a Senior and Elected Officials Workshop. The Clerk-Treasurer informed Council that Ms. Racicot, CEMC, does have the training material to provide this workshop to all of Council and staff, however she would like to attend this session to see how it would be presented. It was

8. Moved by Jerry Loan
Seconded by W. Handy

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE SENIOR AND ELECTED OFFICIALS WORKSHOP TO BE HELD AT THE THUNDER BAY FIRE TRAINING CENTRE IN THUNDER BAY ON JUNE 5, 2019.

DEPUTY CLERK-TREASURER & CEMC – LINDA RACICOT

Carried

Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting.

- e) Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge has hired a consultant to do a traffic count in the village of Kakabeka Falls on May 16 to May 18, 2019 in regard to the City of Thunder Bay's designated truck route. This item was previously discussed under LRMC correspondence.

Under Further new business, Council discussed looking into the whether or not the Lakehead Police Services Board (LPSB) or the Municipality of Neebing purchased digital speed limit sign that they might be willing to lend out. It was noted that during the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) Conference, a supplier of signs had information regarding electronic signs that would show the current travelling speed, store data without showing speed and provide a traffic count. This will be looked into further at budget time.

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Mayor Vezina updated Council regarding the District Health Units and the Province's proposed changes to move from thirty-six (36) boards into ten (10) and renegotiating the funding formula. Mayor Vezina noted that as of today the Ministry's plan is to amalgamate the Thunder Bay District Health Unit with the Northwestern Ontario District Health Unit. The area of coverage for the one Health Unit will be from the Manitoba border to the Municipality of Wawa. This could result in the levy that municipalities pay doubling. This item should be brought to the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA)'s attention. Mayor Vezina will provide an update on this matter at the next meeting.

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

- a) Rural 60 Plus letter requesting permission to sell raffle tickets at the Strawberry Social for their quilt draw. Council agreed to allow the Rural 60 Plus to also have tickets available for sale at the office and it was

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

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE RURAL 60 PLUS BE GIVEN PERMISSION TO SELL RAFFLE TICKETS IN THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR FOR THEIR QUILT DRAW, LOTTERY LICENSE #M800850.

Carried

- b) Hydro One Networks Inc. – Information Session regarding the Waasigan Transmission Line project to be held in Kakabeka Falls May 14, 2019.
- c) FedNor Outreach regarding the sharing of ideas for developing stronger rural communities. Requesting ideas or suggestions regarding support for the growth of small and medium-sized businesses and local economies in across Northern Ontario. No suggestions will be made at this time.

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

THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 27, 2019 AT 7:00 P.M.

TIME BEING: 8:44 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer