

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES
ROAD DEPARTMENT BUDGET MEETING – MAY 8, 2023

Minutes of the Road Department budget meeting held on Monday, May 8, 2023, at 6 p.m. in the O'Connor Council Chambers and virtually.

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

Visitors: Leadhand Kelly Johnson
Brendan Rea, Larry Catillo

Mayor Vezina called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

2. Moved by J. Sobolta
Seconded by Carly Torkkeli

THAT THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING BE APPROVED.

Carried

Mayor Vezina welcomed Mr. Johnson, Leadhand, to the meeting. The Road Department draft #1 budget was reviewed. Items were discussed line by line.

The Administration and the Building Maintenance accounts for the municipal garage were reviewed. The insurance amount presented currently includes the prepaid and an estimated amount for the balance of the year, with a 10% increase from the previous policy. The insurance will be renewed for June 1, 2023, and the actual amount will be included in the final budget. It was noted that the heating fuel tanks are currently empty as they will have to be moved following completion of the construction on Shop B.

The loan repayment amount will change if the Infrastructure Ontario debenture is approved. The number included in the budget is the current bank loan for Truck #10.

Currently no capital items are included in the budget.

Road Employee wages and payroll costs were reviewed. It was noted that at this time no salaries for the road employees are distributed to the different departments, such as cemetery or disposal site, or to any different projects. The salary amounts currently do include the hiring of the intern full-time, which still has to be determined, and does not include additional monies for temporary employees.

Mr. Johnson continued his presentation with the equipment operating costs. These costs include fuel to run the equipment, safety checks, the licence plates and CVOR for the trucks. With the increase in fuel costs the operating expenses have been increased. It was also noted that, as one of the trucks will be sold off this year, only the actual expenses to date are included for Truck #7. Maintenance for each piece of equipment was also discussed. New front tires will be required for the backhoe along with some front-end parts. Mr. Johnson would like to change over the sander equipment on Truck #10, as the auger system that came with the truck does not work well with the product being used. Eight new tires were also purchased for this truck.

Road signs were discussed. As discussed at a previous Council meeting, stop signs have been purchased to replace yield signs throughout the Township. Mr. Johnson will be purchasing more warning signs and posts for Smart Road and other areas throughout the Township.

Road Materials were discussed. The cost of calcium has once again increased from last year. Mr. Johnson has budgeting for three loads, and this does not include the resurfacing projects that will also receive product, as they will be included in the project cost. The winter sand will once again be purchased from the Township of Conmee. They will be preparing for two winter seasons, with payment being made in the current

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year, with the expense being distributed appropriately in the financial year that it will be used.

At this time no bridge repairs are being considered for 2023. The large structure inspections will be completed this year as required. The cutting of the weeds along the sides of the roads is also included in the budget.

Under Road Projects Mr. Johnson would like to see more brushing and ditching, in areas to be determined by himself, completed under the Township's portion of the budget.

Under the funding programs the one-year Intern program will expire on June 9, 2023 and one summer student has been approved for the Township. The balance of the outdoor rink project will be completed this summer, which will include the painting of the exterior. Using the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) Mr. Johnson is proposing to do two gravel road resurfacing projects, 3.2 km of Luckens Road and 3.2 km of Cronk Road. With the Canada Community Building Fund (CCBF) he would like to purchase the HVAC system for the garage.

The Loghrin Road resurfacing project options, which will be completed with the Northern Resource Development Support Fund (NORDS) funding, were discussed. Concerns with the chip seal option were expressed along with the comparison between the total cost of chip seal vs asphalt, as well as the life expectancy of each. It was noted that if a treatment is applied money would also have to be put aside each year to replace the surface in seven to ten years. Mr. Johnson noted that the last gravel resurfacing of Loghrin Road was completed in 2018. With the sand in the area, he has checked the amount of gravel left on the surface in a couple of different areas and it varies throughout the road due to the amount of traffic. It was suggested that an engineering firm be hired with a **densitometer** to confirm the current base and determine how much gravel would be required prior to either surface being applied. It was suggested that perhaps the trucking companies on Loghrin road could be asked for a donation towards the upgrade of the road.

The portion of the amounts owing for repayment to the Reserves for the grader repairs in 2021 and the Shop B renovations in 2022 were included, as agreed upon at previous meetings. The balance in the Reserve Funds available were also provided.

The budget amounts will continue to be updated as actual expenses occur. Any changes will be discussed further at the full budget meeting yet to be scheduled.

Mr. Johnson was thanked for attending and presenting his budget.

It was

2. Moved by A. Crane
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**THAT THE BUDGET MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO
BE HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 8, 2023 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL
CHAMBERS AND VIRTUAL.**

TIME BEING: 7:05 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer