

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – MAY 9, 2022

Minutes of the Council meeting held on May 9, 2022 at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers and virtually.

Present: Mayor Vezina
Councillors: Crane, Handy (virtually), Loan, Racicot
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer
Clerk-Treasurer Buob

Visitors: Kelly Johnson, Leadhand
Henry Mattas, Fire Chief (virtually from 8:01 p.m. to 8:10 p.m.)

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

Mayor Vezina requested that item 19 a) be moved forward on the agenda in order to discuss the Intern Position with Leadhand Johnson.

1. Moved by Jerry Loan
Seconded by A. Crane

THAT THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING BE APPROVED AS AMENDED.
Carried

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof: none.

2. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by A. Crane

THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT BUDGET MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2022 AND THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2022 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.
Carried

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

Mr. Johnson, Leadhand, was welcomed to the table. Roadwork in general was discussed. It was noted that Blaikie Road had to be closed during the weekend due to water over the roadway. The road crew has been hauling gravel to repair roadways that are being affected by high water levels and water over the road. Council also inquired about cleaning up the trees that had fallen in front of the municipal yard. Mr. Johnson did indicate that they will be cleaning up all trees on road allowance, however, with the volume of trees that came down during the recent snow storms, it will take time.

The upcoming Ritchie Bros. Auction in Toronto, scheduled for Tuesday, May 10th to the 12th was discussed. Mr. Johnson has expressed interest in a few trucks that he would like to bid on. Council discussed his bid limit, and it was

3. Moved by A. Crane
Seconded by Jerry Loan

THAT KELLY JOHNSON, LEADHAND, BE APPROVED TO BID ON A COMBINATION PLOW AND SANDER TRUCK AT THE RITCHIE BROS. AUCTION TO BE HELD FROM MAY 10 – 12, 2022 FOR UP TO \$300,000.00.
Carried

The Health and Safety Report for both Public Works and Administrative for the April 19, 2022 meeting was read. Council had no questions or concerns.

Item #19, being the Closed session to discuss the Intern position was moved forward on the agenda and it was

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3. Moved by A. Crane
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE NEXT PORTION OF THE MEETING BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC IN ORDER TO DISCUSS LABOUR RELATIONS OR EMPLOYEE NEGOTIATIONS; PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION 239(2)(D) OF THE MUNICIPAL ACT, 2001.
TIME BEING: 7:35 P.M.**

Carried

The Report from the Clerk-Treasurer regarding reference checks was reviewed and Council discuss the possible candidates for the position of Intern Equipment Operator #1.

5. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by A. Crane

TIME BEING: 7:50 PM

THAT WE NOW MOVE TO OPEN MEETING.

Carried.

6. Moved by Jerry Loan
Seconded by A. Crane

THAT BRANDON KADIKOFF BE HIRED AS AN INTERN EQUIPMENT OPERATOR #1 UNDER THE NORTHERN ONTARIO HERITAGE FUND CORPORATION (NOHFC), PEOPLE AND TALENT PROGRAM, WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT STREAM.

Carried.

The Administration and Roads Voucher #2022-09 to May 9, 2022 was reviewed and it was

7. Moved by W. Handy
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER #2022-09 DATED MAY 9, 2022 TOTALLING \$61,520.13 BE APPROVED AND PAID.

Carried

The Statement of Revenue and Expenditures to April 30, 2022 were unavailable for review.

Resolutions for endorsement were read as follows:

- a) Town of Arnprior regarding support for Humanitarian Efforts in Ukraine was filed.
- b) Municipality of Mississippi Mills regarding Ontario Must Build it Right the First Time was filed.
- c) Town of South Bruce Peninsula regarding New Home Tax Rebate Program was filed.
- d) Towns of Gravenhurst regarding Russian Sanctions was filed.
- e) City of Thorold regarding Russian Sanctions was filed.

Correspondence was read as follows:

- a) Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) regarding Gwayakocchigewin Limited Partnership and Hydro One enter into an agreement to advance the Wassigan Transmission Line Project.
- b) NOMA Board Meeting Summary for April 27, 2022.
- c) Minister of Housing and Diversity and Inclusion regarding response letter to Council's endorsement of the District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board (TBDSSAB).
- d) TBDSSAB regarding 2021 Annual Report.
- e) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing regarding 2022 Delegation Form.

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- f) Minister of Infrastructure regarding Asset Management Planning Tools and Support.
- g) Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry regarding Decision Notice for Proposed Regulation Changes under the Aggregate Resources Act was moved to review with item 14 j).
- h) Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA) regarding 2022 Ontario Budget.
- i) We the Nuclear Free North regarding Who Should Decide About the Transportation and Burial of Nuclear Waste in Northwestern Ontario.
- j) Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry regarding Changes to Regulation 244/97 under the Aggregate Resources Act.

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table. It was noted that a thank you card was received from the local Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) for the use of the Community Centre for their weekly meetings at no cost as many TOPS groups have had to close due to the cost of hall rental fees.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) Letter of Resignation from Ken Yanishewski, Chief Building Official (CBO). Also discussed was what the Municipality of Neebing and the Township of Conmee are doing to replace Mr. Yanishewski as he is also their CBO. Clerk-Treasurer Buob has been in contact with the both Neebing and Conmee Clerks and they have indicated that they are willing to work together to hire a CBO.
- b) Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Compliance with Bell Canada Next Generation 9-1-1 Authority Services Agreement. It was clarified that this is only information to inform us that the OPP is fully compliant with the agreement.

Under Further Old Business Council discussed the NOMA Conference held in Fort Frances in April. Mayor Vezina and Councillor Racicot indicated it was a good conference. Councillor Racicot did raise concerns with the announcement that the Pickering Nuclear Plant will be decommissioned in a few years and there are no plans to compensate for the energy shortfall. Mayor Vezina also commented on the presentation by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) where it was commented that the increase in property assessments does not mean an increase in property taxes. Mayor Vezina did clarify with the presenter that as the weighted assessment increases for the municipalities the levy of the various agencies that use weighted assessment in their calculations will also increase which will impact property taxes.

The Wildfire Preparedness Day was discussed. Clerk-Treasurer Buob inquired as to who from Council will be able to volunteer at the event which is being held on Saturday, May 14th. Councillor Crane and Loan both indicated that they can attend.

Under Further New Business Council Crane informed Council that he had attended his first Lakehead Rural Planning Board (LRPB) meeting as the Township's representative on the Board.

Clerk-Treasurer Buob asked permission to purchase a new computer for Administrative Assistant Laforest as her computer needs to be replaced. Council had no issue with the purchase.

A date for the next budget meeting was discussed and it was

- 8. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by Jerry Loan

**THAT THE FOLLOWING DATE BE SET FOR A BUDGET MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9, 2022 AT 6:00 PM**

Carried.

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

As the Closed portion of the meeting was moved forward on the agenda and was previously discussed, it was

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

THAT THE COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 24, 2022 AT 7:00 P.M. IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS AND VIRTUAL.

TIME BEING: 8:29 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer