

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR - NOTES
TOWNSHIP INSPECTION SEPTEMBER 24, 2021

Notes of the Township Inspection held on Friday, September 24, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. starting at the municipal office.

Present: Councillors: Crane, Handy, Racicot
Clerk-Treasurer Lorna Buob
Leadhand Kelly Johnson

Absent: Mayor Vezina, Councillor Loan

Acting Mayor Crane called the meeting to order and the Township Inspection began at 9:05 a.m. A vehicle was rented from Haveman Bros. in Kakabeka Falls for the inspection.

The Township Inspection began with a tour of the Northwest side of the Township, starting on Whittaker Road. Mr. Johnson noted that this road was resurfaced this year using OCIF funding. There is also a culvert that will be replaced on Whittaker Road, in the near future. The tour continued onto Pool and Cronk Roads and then headed to the Disposal Site.

The inspection of the Disposal Site was held. The tires need to be picked up before winter and the fridges pumped and hauled away. The furniture pile will also be cleaned up before winter. The current hole will have the garbage moved around and packed to ensure space will last throughout the winter. A new storage area in the existing building was discussed. A sealed and locked area was built last year to hold the caretaker rakes, shovels and required tools. It was noted that the compacting truck is getting rusty in areas and that it will need to be patched to keep the garbage in, as well as deter the birds and bears from trying to get at the garbage. The Fire Department training area was noted, however it has not been used as a result of COVID-19. It was noted the Township's name on the sign at the entrance of the site has faded.

The tour continued to Strom Road. It was noted that this road has been budgeted for resurfacing this year, however, due to the Highway 595 construction and the use of Strom pit for that project, it has been delayed. The plan is still to complete it this year. It was also noted that the speed limit sign on Strom Road and a couple of signs on Fleming Road were recently stolen. The Township of O'Connor's signs have been replaced. The tour continued onto Fleming Road and the Boundary Road agreement with the Township of Conmee areas for maintenance were pointed out to Council. The "No Winter Maintenance Beyond This Point" sign, heading West on Fleming Road was also stolen, however the Township of Conmee has not yet replaced it. The tour continued onto Sovereign, Smart, and Loghrin Roads. The Clerk-Treasurer pointed out that the property housing the Township of O'Connor's fire hydrant has recently been sold and a new agreement will have to be entered into with the new owner. It was noted that the streetlight at the intersection of Loghrin Road and Highway 590 is not working. The Clerk-Treasurer will follow up with this and get it fixed.

The tour continued with the inspection of the O'Connor Cemetery. The shrubs in the Cremated Ashes Gardens need to be trimmed. It was noted that the summer student did an excellent job with the gardens this year. The well for watering the flowers was discussed, and it was noted that it did well, regardless of the very dry summer. The Women's Institutes bench, located near the well, is starting to rot and may need some boards replaced. The Clerk-Treasurer, Administrative Assistant and the Leadhand recently attended the Cemetery to determine what trees will have to be removed, and where new trees or shrubs could be planted, as per the Township budget and for updating the Cemetery By-law map. These areas were marked for Council's reference. It was noted that one large tree in the centre of several tombstones will need to be taken down by a professional next year.

The tour continued to Winslow, Cardiff and Luckens Road. It was noted that there is a possibility of a new home being built at the end of Winslow Road which may require the extension of Winslow Road. The Tour then continued onto Harstone and Smith Roads.

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR - NOTES
TOWNSHIP INSPECTION SEPTEMBER 24, 2021 (cont'd)

The box culvert at Cedar Creek which flows into the Whitefish River on the Harstone Road was discussed, as well as Bridge #3 on Smith Road. Mr. Johnson reminded Council that following a site visit held on November 22, 2019 the engineers attending recommended that this bridge not be disturbed as its foundation was in excellent shape. Garbutt and Holomego Roads were inspected and the newly constructed detour road between Holomego and Broome Road was driven. The Multi-plate arch culvert on Broome Road over Cedar Creek was discussed and it was noted that a culvert will also be changed on Broome Road this year.

The Helipad was inspected. Ornge also comes out once a year to do their own inspection and inform the Township of what maintenance is required.

A lunch break was taken back at the O'Connor Community Centre starting at 11:40 a.m. Following the break, a tour of the Centre was held. It was noted that several lights were out in the old office area. Currently the Norwest Community Health Mobile Clinic uses the Centre several times per month and they are very pleased with the accommodations offered. The concern of losing them once the clinic in Kakabeka Falls is open was briefly discussed and it was noted that the Township should encourage that they continue to offer services here. The road tour continued at 12:45 p.m.

The tour continued onto Connolly, Sitch, Rosengren, Earl, Allan and Wheal Roads. A new culvert will be installed on Connolly Road. The Beaver Dam Creek culverts, which were replaced and guide rails installed in 2020 through the Investing in Canada Plan – Rural and Northern Infrastructure Stream, were pointed out. Mr. Johnson noted that he will be having a portion of Earl Road brushed this fall once the leaves have dropped. The area of the resident's concern on Main Street, was also looked at. Blaikie Road was resurfaced this year, and since the last inspection in 2019 the bridge approaches were redone with asphalt. The West entrance of the intersection at Blaikie and Diana Roads has been permanently closed with a higher beam. A new culvert will also be installed on Diana Road. The area used to pump water from the Whitefish River, for the Highway 595 construction this summer, was pointed out. There were no issues with the area. Mr. Johnson noted his concern with the bank erosion on the upper side of the river before the bridge.

Chambers and Kershaw Roads were both resurfaced in 2020. The tour of the road system concluded on Flint Road and the first mile of Smith Road. It was noted that this bridge is still a wooden structure and the timbers on the bridge deck were replaced in 2020.

The inspection returned to the Township's firehall and garage. The buildings and yards were inspected. The new turnout gear rack and workbench area, as well as the renovations to the washroom in the Fire Hall, were looked at. The hall looked very neat and tidy. The area of the garage where the break-in occurred this summer was pointed out. A new steel door has been installed and can be reinstalled in the retrofit of Shop B. The summer student did a lot of painting inside of the garage this year which has brightened it up and the employees have installed a new sink in the washroom. The Shop B retrofit project was discussed. The Fire Department equipment and the Road Department equipment were also looked at.

The outdoor rink area was inspected and consideration for the location of a new well for flooding the rink was discussed. This would eliminate the need to have the O'Connor Volunteer Fire Department use the pumper truck whenever flooding is needed, making it more convenient for other volunteers to maintain the rink. As well, a secured addition to the rink shack, to house the plumbing and hose equipment required to flood, a newer heating system and storage for the snowblower, were discussed. Some boards may also need to be replaced and a new gate installed for easy access for the snowblower. An application for funding to the Ontario Trillium Foundation – Community Building Fund – Capital program will be submitted, with the deadline of September 29th.

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR - NOTES
TOWNSHIP INSPECTION SEPTEMBER 24, 2021 (cont'd)

The Township Office and Council Chambers were reviewed with no concerns and there were no concerns with the rest of the inspection at this time. The inspection ended and it was

1. Moved by W. Handy
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**THAT THE TOWNSHIP INSPECTION ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING
TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2021 AT 7:00 P.M.**

TIME BEING: 2:40 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer