

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 9, 2019

Minutes of the meeting held on September 9, 2019 at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.

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

Visitors: Ken Yanishewski, Chief Building Official – effective October 1, 2019
Kelly Johnson, Leadhand arrived at 7:13 p.m.
Linda Racicot, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer arrived at 8:40 p.m.

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

1. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

**THAT THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY,
AUGUST 12, 2019 BE ACCEPTED AS PRINTED.**

Carried

Mr. Yanishewski was welcomed to the table. Introductions were made. Mr. Yanishewski will be taking over the position of Chief Building Official (CBO) for the Township of O'Connor, as of October 2, 2019. Mr. Yanishewski will also be taking over the CBO position for the Townships of Conmee and Gillies and he has been with the Municipality of Neebing as CBO since July 2016. He has agreed to, at this time, continue attending the Township for inspections on Monday's. He is also willing to continue with the same pay schedule as Mr. Cuthbertson. He did note that his wife does get holidays and they could possibly take those holidays in the summer months, however Mr. Cuthbertson, if he is available, will still fill in for him while he is away. The By-law Number 2019-14 appointing the CBO, also states this.

Mr. Yanishewski requested business cards and a copy of any By-laws that pertain to his position. An identification badge will also be made up for him. Mr. Yanishewski was thanked for attending the meeting and he left at 7:15 p.m.

Mr. Johnson, Leadhand, was welcomed to the table. Roadwork in general was discussed. The road employees will be installing some culverts in the next couple of weeks and the ditching for the road projects will also be done soon.

The Highway 590 detour was completed as of Friday, September 6, 2019 and the extra traffic should be off of the Township roads. Mr. Johnson noted that the Ministry was grading Cronk road regularly, usually on a Friday, during the detour. The Township was maintaining the second, unmarked detour but will be submitting the expense to the Ministry as per conversations with the Ministry staff. The Township also hauled some material from the Strom Pit for the roads.

The Township trucks will go in for their safeties this month. The Road budget was briefly discussed.

Councillor Loan noted that Luckens Road, on the hill and in the corners is very rough. Mr. Johnson noted that that portion of the road is the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge responsibility. Council asked that we notify them of the concern.

The Municipality of Neebing has agreed to allow the Township to borrow their Speed Limit/Radar sign for one month. If it is damaged or vandalized it will be the Township of O'Connor's responsibility to repair. Council would like to have the sign placed on Cronk Road to determine if the traffic is abiding by the new posted speed limit, which will take effect on October 1, 2019. There will be staff training required and the data will go to the Municipality of Neebing, which will then be shared with the Township of O'Connor when it comes in. Council discussed the timing as to when they would like to use the device. It was agreed to get it for the week of September 23, prior to the reduction, and compare the traffic and speed they are travelling once the signs are then posted

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October 1st. Staff training will take place prior to this date. The Clerk-Treasurer will make the necessary arrangements.

The LHNorth Service Agreement for the detour scheduled on Highway 595 for 2020 was discussed. Mr. Johnson has concerns with the Terms and Condition portion of the Agreement. He would like to see three items removed from the Agreement as they do not apply to the situation. Council agreed to request that these sections be removed. Mr. Johnson would be willing to take on the maintenance with compensation from the Contractor.

A date for the Township Inspection was discussed. It was

2. Moved by Bishop Racicot
Seconded by B. J. Loan

**THAT THE FOLLOWING DATE BE SET FOR A TOWNSHIP INSPECTION
OCTOBER 18, 2019 AT 8:30 A.M.**

Carried

Council agreed to move the Closed portion of the meeting forward to include Mr. Johnson in the discussion. It was

3. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by W. Handy

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE NEXT PORTION OF THE MEETING BE
CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC IN ORDER TO DISCUSS A PERSONAL MATTER
ABOUT AN IDENTIFIABLE INDIVIDUAL, INCLUDING MUNICIPAL OR LOCAL
BOARD EMPLOYEES PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION 239(2)(E) OF THE
MUNICIPAL ACT, 2001.**

TIME BEING: 7:49 P.M.

Carried

A discussion was held with regard to an employee of the Township.

4. Moved by A. Crane
Seconded by Bishop Racicot

TIME BEING: 8:10 P.M.

THAT WE NOW MOVE TO OPEN MEETING.

Carried

Mr. Johnson was thanked for attending and left the meeting at 8:13 p.m.

The Administration and Roads Voucher was reviewed, and it was

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

**THAT THE ADMINISTRATION AND ROADS VOUCHER 2019-11 DATED
SEPTEMBER 9, 2019 TALLING \$109,124.12 BE APPROVED AND PAID.**

Carried

The Statement of Revenue and Expenditures to July 31, 2019 were reviewed.

A By-law to enter into the Service Agreement with LHNorth, as was previously discussed with Mr. Johnson, was reviewed. It was

6. Moved by A. Crane
Seconded by B. Jerry Loan

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THAT BY-LAW NUMBER 2019-16 BEING A BY-LAW AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH LHNORTH GENERAL CONTRACTORS BE PASSED AND ENTERED IN THE BY-LAW BOOK.

Carried

Resolutions for endorsement were read as follows:

- a) Norfolk County request for Provincial Response to address Gas Well Issues was filed.
- b) Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury regarding the Never Forgotten National Memorial was filed.
- c) City of Kitchener regarding single-use disposable wipes was filed.
- d) City of Kitchener regarding the producer requirements for packaging in Ontario was filed.
- e) Halton Region regarding the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT) was filed.

Correspondence was read as follows:

- a) Township of Gillies – Copy of letter to Ian MacRae, Director of Education regarding a Flood Emergency Plan for Whitefish Valley Public School. Council would like a letter sent to the Board, supporting both the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority and the Township of Gillies recommendation that the Board of Education prepare an Emergency Flood Evacuation Plan for Whitefish Valley School.
- b) CUPW – regarding 2019 federal election and the future of Canada Post and door-to-door delivery.
- c) Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) – a) September 2019 Newsletter
- d) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – i) Ontario Releases Remainder of Municipal Cannabis Funding. The Township of O'Connor will be receiving \$5,000.00.
 - ii) Policy Update – Fixing the Housing Affordability Crisis: Municipal Recommendations for Housing in Ontario.
 - iii) Policy Update – The Province Announces Important Next Steps on Blue Box Program.
 - iv) AMO Communications – regarding Mental Stress Injury Claim Journey.
 - v) Things you need to know coming from the AMO Conference.
 - vi) Queen's Park Catch-Up: Recent Developments for Municipal Decision Makers
- e) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – regarding Update on the More Homes, More Choice Act, 2019.
- f) Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks – regarding More Homes, More Choice Act, 2019, Updates to the Conservation Authorities Act.
- g) Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks – regarding Ontario Announces Next Steps to Improve Recycling and Tackle Plastic Waste.
- h) Ontario Electronic Stewardship – regarding Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority (RPRA) approves Ontario Electronic Stewardship (OES) Wind Up Plan.
- i) Municipal Property Assessment Corporation – regarding Board Chair Announcement. Mr. Dan Mathieson's role as Board Chair has ended as of August 31. Mr. Alan Spacek will be in incoming Chair effective September 1, 2019.
- j) Northern Policy Institute – regarding Human Capital Series Part 3/3: Northwest, this one's for you!

The balance of the correspondence was passed around the table. The Council scroll has been updated and returned. A discussion was held with regard to the hanging of the scrolls and Reeve/Mayor's picture plaques in the Council Chambers. The pictures will be brought into the chambers for Council's review. It was suggested that perhaps they could be resized to better fit the wall space available. This will be reviewed at a future meeting with the actual plaques available.

Under Old Business, Council discussed

- a) Senate Lake Superior Scottish Regiment – Invitation to participate in the dedication of a new civic memorial in recognition of the 52nd (New Ontario) Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force. A wreath has been purchased from the Royal Canadian Legion for the ceremony which Mayor Vezina will participate in. If he is unavailable, due to work that day, Councillor Racicot will take his place as Acting Mayor.

Under New Business, Council discussed

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- a) Canada – News Release – Investing in Canada Fund announcement. The residents in Alberton, Dawson, Fort Frances and O'Connor to benefit from bridge replacement and roadway drainage improvements.
- b) Minister of Infrastructure – i) regarding the Approval of the Replacement of Beaver Dam Creek Culverts and Installation of New Three Cable Rail System project.
ii) regarding Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) – Rural and Northern Funding Stream – federal review complete and project has been approved for funding.

The Township of O'Connor will be receiving \$72,202.50 from the Federal Government and \$40,108.49 from the Provincial Government for this project. The Township will be responsible for \$20,542.00 and any overruns of the project costs. The project will be completed in 2020.

- c) Solicitor General – regarding Public Reports Regulation (O. Reg. 377/18) under the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997. This Regulation was repealed effective August 26, 2019. The reporting requirements were scheduled to come into effect on January 1, 2020.

Councillor Racicot left the room.

- d) AMCTO – Zone 9 Fall Meeting and Conference September 24 and 25, 2019 in Thunder Bay and Parliamentary Procedures Workshop of September 23, 2019.

- 7. Moved by W. Handy
Seconded by B. J. Loan

**THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE AMCTO –
PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES WORKSHOP TO BE HELD IN THUNDER
BAY ON SEPTEMBER 23, 2019.**

ERIN LAFOREST – ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Carried

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

**THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON/S ATTEND THE AMCTO ZONE 9 FALL
MEETING TO BE HELD IN THUNDER BAY ON SEPTEMBER 24 AND 25,
2019.**

DEPUTY CLERK-TREASURER LINDA RACICOT
Carried

Councillor Racicot returned to the meeting.

- e) Fred Dean's – User Friendly Webinars – Taking the Mysteries Out of Council Meeting Procedures – 5 webinar series. No one will participate in these webinars.
- f) Dillon Consulting Limited – Waasigan TL – Summary of June 24 – 26, 2019 Corridor Workshops and post workshop survey request. Mayor Vezina did attend the workshop but will not complete the survey at this time.
- g) Hydro One request for deputation to Mayor and Council on September 23, 2019. Council agreed to have the deputation as requested.
- h) Manitoba/NW Ontario Command of the Royal Canadian Legion – regarding a request for advertising in the Military Service Recognition Book. It was

- 9. Moved by B. J. Loan
Seconded by A. Crane

**THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR PURCHASE A 1/10 PAGE BUSINESS
CARD ADVERTISING SPACE IN THE MILITARY SERVICE RECOGNITION
BOOK, HONOURING THE MANITOBA/NW ONTARIO VETERANS AND THEIR
DEPENDANTS.**

COST PER ADVERTISEMENT - \$195.24 + HST = \$205.00
Carried

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- i) Ministry of Finance – update on the Ontario Cannabis Legalization Implementation Fund (OCLIF). As the Township of O'Connor did not opt-out of hosting a cannabis retail store we have received \$5,000.00 to off-set costs associated with the legislation.
- j) Minister of Infrastructure – regarding Community, Culture and Recreation (CCR) stream of Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program. Council would like administration to look further into this funding opportunity to see what might be eligible, including a possible roof over the outdoor rink. The deadline for applications is November 12, 2019.

Under further New Business, Councillor Loan informed Council that he attended a Council meeting in Gander, Newfoundland this summer and presented them with a history book from the Township of O'Connor. Council suggested perhaps we could ask them if they would like to be a sister municipality. The Clerk-Treasurer will follow up with this suggestion.

Council asked if anyone had attended the Fire Con which was held this past weekend in Thunder Bay. The Clerk-Treasurer noted that six members were registered to attend.

Councillor Crane noted that he had attended the NDP Community Luncheon, August 29, 2019.

Mayor Vezina suggested discussing the possibility of amending the Parliamentary Procedural By-law to have only one meeting during the month of December, similar to how the meetings are held during the months of July and August. At this time Council will consider it further and the Clerk-Treasurer will review the previous agendas and minutes to see if it would be feasible. The Parliamentary Procedures By-law is currently under review and has to be brought back to Council for approval.

For information purposes three building permits were approved since the last meeting. 2019-10 – 255 Earl Road - addition and renovations, 2019-11 – 221 Holomego Road - converting portion of garage to a home, 2019-12 – 351 Highway 590 – adding a porch and sauna.

The Closed portion of the meeting was previously discussed earlier in the meeting.

It was

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

THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2019 AT 7:00 P.M.

TIME BEING: 9:15 P.M.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer