

MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
March 8, 2011

PRESENT: Reeve Kevin Holland
Councillor Robert MacMaster
Councillor Robert Rydholm
Dawn Niemi, Deputy Treasurer

ALSO PRESENT: Ken Malinoski, Road Superintendent, Ingrid DeOude,
Township Resident

ABSENT: Councillor Grant Arnold, Councillor Mary-Lynne Hunt

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Reeve Holland called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

2. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Resolution No. 2011- 43

Moved by Councillor Rydholm
Seconded by Councillor MacMaster

THAT the Meeting Agenda be adopted as amended with following changes.

4.1 Paul Roche – Solar Logix deputation cancelled.

6.3 Clerk's Report – Deferred to March 22, 2011 Council Meeting

Closed Session to Receive Information from Solicitor – Deferred to March 15, 2011 Council Meeting

CARRIED.

3. **DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest on the part of any member of Council present.

4. **DEPUTATIONS AND PETITIONS**

4.1 Paul Roche – Solar Logix cancelled.

5. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held on February 22, 2011 be tabled until next meeting of Council on March 22, 2011. Councillor MacMaster would like the opportunity to speak to the Clerk Treasurer on the wording of his report.

6. **REPORTS FROM MUNICIPAL OFFICERS**

6.1 Road Superintendent's Report - filed
Landfill Report – not at this meeting

6.2 Fire Chief's Report – not at this meeting

6.3 Clerk's Report – Deferred until March 22, 2011

6.4 Councillor Reports

Reeve Holland gave a report on the OGRA/NOMA conference that he and Patricia Maxwell, Clerk-Treasurer attended on February 23 to March 2, 2011. They met with Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Minister of Transportation and her parliamentary assistant. They presented the Township of Conmee's position on the proposed four lane divided highway. Reeve Holland said the meeting was productive and well received. Minister Wynne asked numerous questions which were answered to her satisfaction. She commented that the Township's position was thoroughly substantiated with the background information and data that has been compiled over the past year by the Council appointed Highway Committee. Bill Mauro, MPP for Thunder Bay – Atikokan and Ian Smith, Regional Director of MTO for Thunder Bay also sat in on the meeting. Minister Wynne asked Mr. Smith questions regarding Reeve Holland's report and Mr. Smith commented that the facts and figures in the Township report were accurate.

Reeve Holland has asked the office to send a thank you letter to Minister Wynne for meeting with him regarding the highway issue. At the conference, Tim Hudak, the official leader of the opposition has asked to meet with Reeve Holland when Mr. Hudak comes to Thunder Bay.

Councillor MacMaster gave a report on his attendance at the Thunder Bay District Municipal League meeting on March 4 and 5, 2011. He noted that the content of agenda and the speakers were interesting. There were informative sessions on mineral exploration and mining highlights. The Thunder Bay Drug Strategy was presented to the League. An announcement was made by Michael Gravelle, MPP for Thunder Bay – Superior North on the Northern Growth Plan which is a Northern Ontario Policy funded by Northern Ontario Heritage Fund. This is a 60 page book that was made available at the League meeting for all area Council members. Copies are available in the office for Council members that were not in attendance. The President and CEO of THRHSC, Andre Robichaud, gave a very good presentation on her new role with the hospital and she is interested in meeting with the area Councils. Councillor MacMaster would like the office to invite Ms. Robichaud to an upcoming meeting of Council. On Saturday, a presentation by Ian Smith, Regional Director, MTO, Thunder Bay was informative. Bill Mauro, MPP, spoke on supportive housing re: 75 interim beds at the former McKellar Hospital, the hydro debt retirement, health care and the budget. Lastly, Councillor MacMaster questions the value of the Thunder Bay District Municipal League. He questions whether they are representative of the area municipalities concerns.

Councillor Rydholm brought in the various information packages that were available at the presentations. Most of the presentations were in Power Point format and the presenters read the material that was handed out. He did note that Ian Smith from MTO spoke without this type of aid and was interesting to listen to.

Councillor MacMaster would like to extend an invitation to Keith Hobbs, Mayor of Thunder Bay to attend an upcoming Council meeting.

Reeve Holland would like the Conmee Web page to include the recent information update from the OGRA/ROMA meeting with the Minister of Transportation on the Highway 11/17 issue.

7. **DISBURSEMENT LIST**

Disbursement List No 3A 2011

Resolution No. 2011- 44

Moved by Councillor Rydholm
Seconded by Councillor MacMaster

THAT the accounts in the amount of \$15,841.85 as per Disbursement List No. 3A 2011 be approved for payment.

CARRIED.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 8.1 By-Law N. 987 – Appointments to Recreation/Social Committee

Resolution 2011 – 45

Moved by Councillor MacMaster
Seconded by Councillor Rydholm

THAT the Reeve and Clerk be authorized on behalf of the Township of Conmee to affix their signatures to By-Law N. 987, being a By-Law to appoint volunteer members to the Recreation/Social Committee.

CARRIED

Councillor M. Hunt has submitted her name to be the Councillor Representative to sit on the above committee.

- 8.2 Thunder Bay Agricultural Research Station – Admin Report #06 will be deferred to the next council meeting when the Clerk will speak to this issue.
- 8.3 Council recommends that the Clerk be authorized to attend the Planning Workshop to be held on March 23 & 24, 2011 at the Prince Arthur Hotel. This workshop is for Northwestern Ontario and in light of the Official Plan update that is ongoing, if the Clerk feels she would benefit from this workshop, Council recommends she attend.
- 8.4 Solar Logix matter will be deferred to next meeting after their deputation.
- 8.5 Council was made aware that the application for the chair lift to the Library was denied.

9. NEW BUSINESS

- 9.1 Capital Investment Plan – Admin Report #06. Council is in agreement with the Clerk that staff is to draft an in house plan of the tangible capital assets owned, the various funding models available and the future replacement of each asset. Some of this work has already been completed due to the PSAB accounting requirements for municipal governments.
- 9.2 Thunder Bay Veterinary Services Committee Levy and representative will be deferred until next meeting of March 22, 2011 after the office receives confirmation on the representative.
- 9.3 LRCA Levy Request. Council feels that Councillor Grant Arnold needs to be at the meeting when this is discussed due to the increased levy request and questions that Council would like answered regarding the LRCA budget. Therefore the decision on the levy will be deferred until Council has more information.

- 9.4 Waste Recycling Communication Plan. Not all members of Council were able to review the twelve page document. They had questions regarding the statistics reported in the seven pages of graphs. They would like to ask the Clerk about the report at the next meeting of Council on March 22, 2011.
- 9.5 Superior North EMS request to meet with Council. Council directed the Deputy Treasurer to send a letter to Superior North EMS asking them to attend a meeting of Council on April 12 or 26, 2011.
- 9.6 Zone 1 Letter to Ministry of Health and Long Term Care. Council would like a report from the Fire Chief regarding the status of the paging service discussions to date with the Zone members. They would also like a report of the Conmee Fire Department activity for the first quarter period of 2011. The Deputy Treasurer was directed by Council to ask the Fire Chief to attend the April 12, 2011 meeting of Council with these reports.
- 9.7 Landfill Complaint – Admin report #07 The issue was discussed and staff provided the reason for the ridge of snow. The planks of wood are set along the ground to prevent persons from driving too far back and backing into the trench. If there are further concerns of residents, staff is directed to inform the residents they can submit a signed letter of complaint and/or attend a council meeting to have their concerns addressed.
- 9.8 By - Law 988 re: Tax Ratios. Some discussion took place on the ratios for business and industry. Council would like staff to compile a report on what the financial impact would be to the municipality if the business and industrial tax ratios were equal to the residential. The passing of By- Law 988 will be tabled until the April 12, 2011 Council meeting.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

- 10.1 DSSAB Minutes from January 20, 2011 - Filed. Reeve Holland had updated Council on these minutes in his report to Council.
- 10.2 LRCA Minutes from January 26, 2011 were given to Councillor MacMaster to review and comment on.
- 10.3 Ontario Prospector's Newsletter – Filed
- 10.4 Modernized Mining Act - Filed
- 10.5 Health Force Marketing and Recruitment Agency Newsletter – Filed

Closed Session to Receive Information from the Solicitor was deferred to Tuesday March 15, 2011 at 6:30 pm. After this meeting, Council will conduct their scheduled Official Plan Review.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution No. 2011-47

Moved by Councillor Rydholm
Seconded by Councillor MacMaster

THAT we do now adjourn this meeting at 9:28 pm.
CARRIED.

Reeve

Clerk