

MINUTES - REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, August 27 2024 – 6:00 pm



PRESENT: Mayor Sheila Maxwell
Councillor David Maxwell
Councillor Grant Arnold
Councillor Chris Kresack
Councillor David Halvorsen

ALSO PRESENT: Shara Lavalley, CAO/Clerk
Len Arps, Public Works Manager
Tara Wupori, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer
Leanne Maxwell, Treasurer (virtual)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Maxwell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Maxwell provided a statement of land acknowledgement.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

RESOLUTION 2024-0160

Moved by Councillor Maxwell

Seconded by Councillor Arnold

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda for the regular council meeting of August 27th, 2024 be approved

CARRIED

3. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None

4. DEPUTATIONS

None

It was the consensus of Council to move Item 9.2 and Item 9.3 forward for discussion.

9.2 Draft – Firearms Discharge By-Law

The amended draft by-law prohibited firearms on municipal property and municipal roads, including unopened roads. Exemptions were not provided.

Due to the number of public members which were present, a brief background of the draft by-law was provided.

The Chair opened the floor to comments by the members of the public.

Robert Pajamaki made comments against the draft by-law.

Lisa Croft made comments against the draft by-law.

Danny Gunsinger made comments against the draft by-law.

Verner Kivipelto made comments against the draft by-law.

Randy McDonald made comments against the draft by-law.

Council discussed the draft bylaw and decided to remove the item from further discussion.

Mayor _____
Clerk _____

9.3 Draft – Noise By-Law

The draft by-law prohibited certain types of noise in general and in specific.

Council discussed the draft bylaw and decided to remove the item from further discussion.

5. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

5.1. Minutes – Regular Council Meeting – Aug 13th 2024

RESOLUTION 2024-0161

Moved by Councillor Halvorsen

Seconded by Councillor Kresack

BE IT RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on Aug 13th 2024 be approved

CARRIED

6. DISBURSEMENT LIST

6.1. Payroll Report

6.2. Payment Register

RESOLUTION 2024-0162

Moved by Councillor Maxwell

Seconded by Councillor Kresack

BE IT RESOLVED that Council approve the disbursements represented by Check Numbers 7069 through 7078 totalling \$23,685.21 and electronic bank payments totalling \$8,019.89, for a grand total of \$31,705.10

CARRIED

7. REPORTS FROM MUNICIPAL OFFICERS

7.1. Clerk's Report

The Township of Conmee successfully completed Year Two of the WSIB Health and Safety Excellence program. The Township has been granted \$2000 in recognition of its participation. Annual road inspection was scheduled for September 21st.

7.2. Public Works Report

Holland Rd West received additional gravel, approximately 20 loads of gravel. The new row markers at the cemetery were installed and the benches are scheduled to be repainted. Landfill maintenance was conducted.

Public Works Manager Arps left at 6:54 p.m.

7.3. Fire Chief's Report

Training continues every week; attendance lower due to summer and schedules. One new member was recruited. Shared services discussion continues with other municipalities. Maintenance continues for the fire truck; search for a replacement or spare truck continues. The Fire Chief attended HazMat training.

7.4. Councillor Reports (verbal)

Mayor Maxell had a pre-brief meeting with MTO re AMO delegation. She attended the AMO conference. She also attended an HR interview for the Assistant Facilities Manager position. She reported that the AMO conference was successful, especially the deputations with MTO, Ministry of Health and the Solicitor-General.

Councillor Arnold assisted with draft by-laws. He is scheduled to attend the monthly LRCA meeting.

Councillor Maxwell attended the TBDML monthly meeting. He also assisted with repairs to the handicapped bathroom.

Councillor Kresack attended the AMO conference.

Mayor _____
Clerk _____

7.5. Other Agencies' Reports

8 NEW BUSINESS
None

9 BY-LAWS

- 9.1 Bylaw - Social Committee Terms of Reference
The updated terms of reference were reviewed and approved by Council. The new by-law shall be passed at the next council meeting.
- 9.2 Draft – Firearms Discharge By-Law
Addressed earlier in the meeting
- 9.3 Draft – Noise By-Law
Addressed earlier in the meeting
- 9.4 By-Law 1461 - Being a By-Law to amend By-Law 1176, being a By-law to enter into an Access Agreement with Ontario Power Generation Inc. (OPG) and the Corporation of the Township of Conmee
Action requested: approve the By-Law; Agreement is required for access to the OPG Aqueduct

RESOLUTION 2024-0163

Moved by Councillor Kresack

Seconded by Councillor Halvorsen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law 1461 be passed;

AND, FURTHER, THAT the Mayor and Clerk be authorized on behalf of the Township of Conmee to affix their signatures to By-law No. 1461, being a by-law to enter into an Access Agreement with Ontario Power Generation Inc. (OPG) and the Corporation of the Township of Conmee

CARRIED

10 CORRESPONDENCE

- 10.1 We the Free Nuclear North – sample resolution regarding transportation of nuclear waste (as provided in Item 4.1 of June 26th 2024)
Action requested: support resolution

WHEREAS The Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) has been in the process of investigating potential sites for a deep geological repository for high-level nuclear waste from all of Canada's nuclear power reactors since 2010; and

WHEREAS the NWMO project involves the transportation, processing, burial and abandonment of an estimated 100,000 tonnes of highly radioactive waste; and

WHEREAS there are scientific and public concerns about the risks of radioactive exposures along the transportation route and in the region of and downstream from the repository site under both normal operating and accident conditions; and

WHEREAS the roads infrastructure in Northwestern Ontario is already under strain from heavy truck and vehicle traffic and the NWMO project will add 2-3 trucks per day for more than fifty years thereby increasing the risks; and

AND WHEREAS communities in Northern Ontario do not rely on nuclear power and should not be burdened with the risks of transportation, processing, burial and abandonment of the highly radioactive wastes the nuclear power reactors have produced.

Mayor _____
Clerk _____

RESOLUTION 2024-0164

Moved by Councillor Halvorsen

Seconded by Councillor Arnold

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Conmee urges the Nuclear Waste Management Organization to find storage solutions for nuclear waste in the vicinity of the reactor stations where the waste is and not pursue the transport of these radioactive wastes to Northern Ontario

CARRIED

A recorded vote was requested by Councillor Halvorsen.

	Yay	Nay	Abstain
Mayor Maxwell	x		
Councillor Arnold	x		
Councillor Halvorsen	x		
Councillor Kresack	x		
Councillor Maxwell	x		

- 10.2 Voice of Northern Business – request for council resolution: support a set-aside for Northern Ontario within the OINP

WHEREAS employers across Northern Ontario are experiencing a critical shortage of skilled workers, contributing to a shrinking labour market.

WHEREAS, the labour shortage is causing significant economic hardship for Northern Ontario communities, including reduced productivity and business closures; and

WHEREAS population and migration trends to 2021 suggest that Northern Ontario needs 100,000 newcomers by 2041 to sustain current population; and

WHEREAS the success of the federal Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot (RNIP) demonstrates the effectiveness of allocating nomination spots to address regional labour shortages in attracting newcomers to Northern Ontario; and

WHEREAS, the Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program has been expanded from 9,750 nominees in 2022 to a goal of 21,500 nominees in 2024

RESOLUTION 2024-0165

Moved by Councillor Halvorsen

Seconded by Councillor Arnold

BE IT RESOLVED the Council of the Township of Conmee urges the Government of Ontario to address the critical labour market shortage in Northern Ontario by allocating 3,000 Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program spots to support the region's economic growth and development.

AND THAT copies of this resolution be forwarded to: the Ontario Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training & Skills Development; local Members of Provincial Parliament; the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association/Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities; and the Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce

CARRIED

- 10.3 MMAH – PPS
A new Provincial Planning Statement (PPS) is scheduled to come into effect in October.
- 10.4 Thunder Bay District Municipal League
10.4.1 Strategic Plan

Mayor _____
Clerk _____

- 10.5 Town of Grimsby – resolution requesting provincial government to support increasing funding for public libraries and community museums

RESOLUTION 2024-0166

Moved by Councillor Arnold

Seconded by Councillor Kresack

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of Conmee supports the resolution by the Town of Grimsby requesting increased funding for public libraries and community museums by the Province of Ontario

AND THAT copies of this resolution be forwarded to Premier Ford, the Minister of Tourism Culture and Sport, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

CARRIED

- 10.6 Township of Nairn and Hyman – resolution regarding concerns with the Transport and Deposition of Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (NORM) at the Agnew Lake Tailings Management Area

RESOLUTION 2024-0167

Moved by Councillor Maxwell

Seconded by Councillor Kresack

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of Conmee supports the resolution by Township of Nairn and Hyman regarding concerns with the Transport and Deposition of Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (NORM) including requesting consultations with municipalities

AND THAT copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable George Pirie, the Minister of Mines; the Honourable Prabmeet Sarkaria, the Minister of Transportation; the Honourable Andrea Khanjin, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; the Ontario Ombudsman; the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission; the Canadian Environmental Law Association; MP Marcus Powlowski; MPP Kevin Holland; the Association of Ontario Municipalities

CARRIED

- 10.7 Town of Stirling-Rawdon – resolution regarding public sector salary disclosure

RESOLUTION 2024-0168

Moved by Councillor Maxwell

Seconded by Councillor Halvorsen

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of Conmee supports the resolution by Town of Stirling-Rawdon requesting that the Public Sector Salary Disclosure Act be updated to reflect the inflation rates since 1996 and updated annually

AND THAT copies of this resolution be forwarded to Premier Ford, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and the Association of Municipalities (AMO)

CARRIED

- 10.8 City of Quinte West – resolution regarding the Canada Community-Building Fund

RESOLUTION 2024-0169

Moved by Councillor Halvorsen

Seconded by Councillor Maxwell

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of Conmee supports the resolution by City of Quinte West requesting a supplement to the allocations provided under the Canada Community-Building Fund

AND THAT copies of this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Trudeau, MFOA, AMO, MP Marcus Powlowski and the Federal Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland

CARRIED

- 10.9 Other correspondence
Included LRCA drinking water source protection best practices; invasive species centre

Mayor _____
Clerk _____

11 UPCOMING MEETING DATES

September 10 th , 2024	Regular Council Meeting
September 24 th , 2024	Regular Council Meeting
October 8 th , 2024	Regular Council Meeting
October 22 nd , 2024	Regular Council Meeting
November 12 th , 2024	Regular Council Meeting
November 26 th , 2024	Regular Council Meeting
December 17 th , 2024	Regular Council Meeting
January 14 th , 2025	Regular Council Meeting
January 28 th , 2025	Regular Council Meeting
February 11 th , 2025	Regular Council Meeting
February 25 th , 2025	Regular Council Meeting
March 11 th , 2025	Regular Council Meeting
March 25 th , 2025	Regular Council Meeting

12 CLOSED SESSION

RESOLUTION 2024-0170

Moved by Councillor Kresack

Seconded by Councillor Maxwell

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the time being 8:31 p.m., Council resolve into closed session, under the authority of paragraph 239(2)(b) and (d) of the Municipal Act, 2001 to discuss Item 12.1 regarding identifiable individuals, labour relations, and negotiations

CARRIED

12.1 Public Works – Fleet Management, Human Resources

RESOLUTION 2024-0171

Moved by Councillor Kresack

Seconded by Councillor Arnold

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the time being 9:06 p.m., Council rise from closed session and report in open session

AND THAT Administration proceed as directed

CARRIED

13 CONFIRMING BY-LAW

13.1 By-law 1462 – To Confirm the Proceedings of the Meeting

RESOLUTION 2024-0172

Moved by Councillor Arnold

Seconded by Councillor Kresack

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law 1462 be passed;

AND, FURTHER, THAT the Mayor and Clerk be authorized on behalf of the Township of Conmee to affix their signatures to By-law No. 1462, being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of this evening's meeting.

CARRIED

14 ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Sheila Maxwell

Clerk Shara Lavallee