

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COBALT**

**COUNCIL MEETING  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2018  
MINUTES**

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**PRESENT:**

**Mayor** Tina Sartoretto  
**Councillors** Gary Bigelow (via telephone)  
Mike Harrison  
Sue Nielsen  
George Othmer  
Rochelle Schwartz (left the meeting at 8:45 p.m. during closed session)  
Perry Wuest

**Staff:** Michelle Larose, CAO/Clerk-Treasurer

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Tina Sartoretto welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Sartoretto spoke about the validity of Councillor Schwartz's notice of motion indicating that if the motion was to be carried that an integrity commissioner would have to investigate whether the Mayor violated the code of conduct. This would have to happen before a decision to penalize the Mayor with a reduction in her stipend. The Mayor requested that the motion be withdrawn.

Councillor Rochelle Schwartz indicated that she would withdraw the motion but with the promise that the situation be discussed in closed session.

Mayor Sartoretto agreed and advised that it will be dealt with in closed session that evening.

**2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF**

Mayor Sartoretto indicated that she may have a pecuniary interest under item 13.2.

**3. APPROVAL/AMENDMENT OF THE AGENDA**

**Resolution # 18-09**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Mike Harrison  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor George Othmer

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council approve the agenda of the regular meeting dated January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018, as amended.

**CARRIED**

The following items were added to the Agenda:

1. 10.8 – Letter from North Eastern Ontario Children's Foundation
2. 12.10 – Library Work List

#### **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

##### **4.1 Approval of Council Meeting minutes**

**Resolution # 18-10**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Rochelle Schwartz

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Mike Harrison

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council approve the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting of January 9, 2018, as amended.

**CARRIED**

#### **5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES - NIL**

#### **6. ACTION LIST**

Council reviewed the Action List.

#### **7. PUBLIC HEARING - NIL**

#### **8. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS - NIL**

#### **9. BUSINESS ARISING FROM DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

#### **10. CORRESPONDENCE**

##### **10.1 Letter to the Library Board from the Township of Coleman**

The letter was discussed, and the Mayor indicated that she would draft a letter to the Township of Coleman to ask them to reconsider their funding for the library.

##### **10.2 Sale of Land to Maurice Dupuis**

**Resolution # 18-11**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Sue Nielsen

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Rochelle Schwartz

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council approve the request to purchase the Town property adjacent to Maurice Dupuis for a purchase price of the value of assessment or \$2,000 whichever is higher;

**AND FURTHER THAT** Mr. Dupuis pay all legal costs of the Town.

**CARRIED**

##### **10.3 Letter from Diabetes Canada -RE. Presentation**

Council received the information.

##### **10.4 Letter from District School Board Ontario North East – Consultation Invitation**

**Resolution # 18-12**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Mike Harrison

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor George Othmer

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council approve the following members of Council to attend the District School Board Ontario North East's Strategic Planning session on Thursday, February 1, 2018 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Timiskaming District Secondary School:

Mayor Tina Sartoretto

Councillor George Othmer

**CARRIED**

**10.5 Email from Sue Nielsen – Cobalt High School Reunion Committee Chair**

**Resolution # 18-13 (A)**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Mike Harrison

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor George Othmer

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council amend motion 18-13 to remove "on August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018" and replace it with "for the weekend of August 3, 2018".

**CARRIED**

**Resolution # 18-13**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor George Othmer

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Mike Harrison

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council approve the request from the Cobalt High School Reunion Committee to use the Teck Park for camping and the use of the mini putt for free for the weekend of August 3, 2018;

**AND FURTHER THAT** the Committee be able to rent the Community Hall on August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at the charitable rate.

**CARRIED**

**10.6 Letter from Camp Cadanac – Request for Sponsorship**

This item was received by Council. Direction was given to staff to draft a letter of response.

**10.7 Letter from Felicity Buckell – SPARC Symposium 2018**

**Resolution # 18-14**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Rochelle Schwartz

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Mike Harrison

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council approve the request made by Felicity Buckell of SPARC Symposium 2018 to rent the community hall from Friday, May 25<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at the charitable rate.

**CARRIED**

## **10.8 Letter from the North East Children's Foundation**

This item was received by Council. Direction was given to staff to draft a letter of response.

## **11. BY-LAWS**

### **11.1 By-Law 2018-003 being a by-law to enter into a tax arrears agreement**

#### **Resolution # 18-15**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Mike Harrison

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Perry Wuest

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-law 2018-003, being a by-law to enter into an agreement for the provision of a tax arrears agreement;

**AND FURHTER THAT** the said by-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk and recorded in the by-law book.

**CARRIED**

### **11.2 By-law 2018-04 being a by-law to enter into an agreement with the Timmins Police Service for dispatch services**

#### **Resolution # 18-16**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Perry Wuest

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Sue Nielsen

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-law 2018-004, being a by-law to enter into an agreement with the Timmins Police Service for the provision of dispatch services for the Town of Cobalt;

**AND FURHTER THAT** the said by-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk and recorded in the by-law book.

**CARRIED**

## **12. GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **12.1 Approval of Accounts Payable Schedule**

#### **Resolution # 18-17**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Perry Wuest

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Sue Nielsen

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council approve the Accounts Payable Schedules:

1. Schedule 17-26 in the amount of \$234,779.99 be approved as paid in the month of December 2017;
2. Schedule 17-27 in the amount of \$116,596.20 be approved as paid in the month of December 2017;

**CARRIED**

## **12.2 Approval of Accounts Payable Schedule**

### **Resolution # 18-18**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Perry Wuest

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Sue Nielsen

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council approve the Accounts Payable Schedules:

1. Schedule 18-01 in the amount of \$117,031.66 be approved as paid.
2. Schedule 18-02 in the amount of \$18,905.28 be approved as paid after receiving Council approval.

**CARRIED**

## **12.3 Approval of filter work – Water Treatment Plant**

### **Resolution # 18-19**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor George Othmer

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Rochelle Schwartz

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council approve the replacement of the turbidity units of filters 1 and 2 as per quotation received by OCWA in the amount of \$10,171.49.

**CARRIED**

## **12.4 Motion of Support for Agnico Eagle**

### **Resolution #18-20**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Rochelle Schwartz

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Perry Wuest

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council support the plan presented by Agnico Eagle regarding the rehabilitation project for Cobalt Lake.

**CARRIED**

## **12.5 Request for time off – CAO – Michelle Larose**

Council indicated that the requests for time off did not have to be pre-approved, although they asked that the CAO advise in advance as to when she will be taking vacation.

## **12.6 Recommendation from Budget Committee to use proceeds from the sale of the arena to pay the demand loan for the LED lighting**

### **Resolution #18-21**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor George Othmer

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Rochelle Schwartz

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council support and approve the recommendation to use the proceeds from the sale of the arena to pay the demand loan for the LED street light project.  
**CARRIED**

### **12.7 Drilling – Hudson Bay**

CAO, Michelle Larose, advised Council that the company that is drilling samples in the Hudson Bay area is quite close to the creek going to the wetlands as well as being close to Sasaginaga Lake. The company that is coordinating the drilling is Brixton Mining from British Columbia.

Councillor Gary Bigelow indicated that patented claims don't have to follow the same rules as unpatented ones do.

It was recommended that a Water Commission meeting be called. Mayor Sartoretto advised that she is still waiting for the Health Unit and a representative of MOE to provide information regarding their roles.

### **12.8 Hoist Room**

A discussion took place amongst Council regarding the fate of the Hoist Room. It was decided that an RFP will be issued with the following key factors:

1. Relocation – council will want to know if it will be relocated
2. Operation – Who would be operating the facility
3. That it be located in Cobalt
4. Preference would be given to a private enterprise
5. Start date for business to operate

The RFP will be brought back to Council for review before being advertised.

### **12.9 Fraser Building Update**

CAO, Michelle Larose indicated that things are going well. Comments were made regarding the appeal of the signs for the medical clinic and pharmacy.

Direction was also given to have the medical clinic sign removed from the Town Hall.

### **12.10 Library Work List**

Councillor Rochelle Schwartz questioned why the list had not been brought to the Council table for review and discussion.

CAO, Michelle Larose, advised that a meeting had been set up for the next day with the Chair and Treasurer of the Library Board to review the budgets and capital needs. The Library Board will be making a presentation to Council and the proposed budget including capital will be included in the budget for discussion.

### 13. MOTIONS FOR WHICH PRIOR NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

#### 13.1 Notice of Motion – Perry Wuest

##### Resolution # 18-22

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Rochelle Schwartz  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor George Othmer

**WHEREAS** an open dialog between the Town and its policing partners is critical to a healthy relationship between them;

**AND WHEREAS** the police service is very encouraging of ongoing, formally scheduled meetings to discuss policing matters in Cobalt for the benefit of the community;

**NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED THAT** the group which is currently involved in these policing meeting be permitted to continue this important work with no set termination date.

**DEFEATED**

#### 13.2 Notice of Motion – Rochelle Schwartz

*Original Motion:*

**WHEREAS** *the Mayor is the leader of Council;*

**AND WHEREAS** *the Mayor is charged with leading Council through administrative procedures, including the CAO evaluation;*

**AND WHEREAS** *the Mayor has failed to conclude the CAO evaluation, a CAO who is now over a year into her employment with the Municipality;*

**AND WHEREAS** *during this process, the Mayor released closed session minutes addressing the CAO's performance directly into a meeting attended by the CAO, creating further barriers to Council-CAO relations;*

**NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED THAT** *Council enact the maximum penalty available by reducing the Mayor's stipend by ninety days or three months.*

##### Resolution # 18-23

**Moved by:** Councillor Rochelle Schwartz  
**Seconded by:** Councillor Perry Wuest

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the notice of motion under item 13.2 be removed from the agenda.

**CARRIED**

**14. MAYOR'S REPORT - NIL**

**15. NOTICES OF MOTION - NIL**

**16. COUNCILLOR UPDATES**

Councillor Sue Nielsen thanked the Public Works staff for installing the Community Garden sign.

Councillor George Othmer asked why the outside lights were not illuminated at the Fraser Building. Staff will follow up on the matter.

**17. QUESTION AND ANSWER – NIL**

**18. CLOSED SESSION**

**Resolution # 18-24**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Sue Nielsen

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Rochelle Schwartz

**BE RESOLVED THAT** Council convene in closed session under section 239(2)(b) of the Municipal Act, Personal matter about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees, regarding the evaluation process of a municipal employee.

**CARRIED**

**19. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION**

Council reconvened to the regular meeting at 8:49 p.m.  
There is nothing to report from closed session.

**20. CONFIRMATION BY-LAW**

**Resolution # 18-25**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Mike Harrison

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor George Othmer

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-Law No. 2018-05, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council of the Corporation of the Town of Cobalt, be taken as read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of January 2018;

**AND FURTHER THAT** the said by-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk and recorded in the by-law book.

**CARRIED**

**21. ADJOURNMENT**

**Resolution # 18-26**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor George Othmer

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Sue Nielsen

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the meeting adjourn at 8:50 p.m.

**CARRIED**



Tina DiStefano

Mayor

[Signature]

Clerk