

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COBALT

**BUDGET MEETING OF COUNCIL
COBALT COUNCIL CHAMBERS
TUESDAY, APRIL 25th, 2017 @ 6:00 p.m.
MINUTES**

MINUTES OF THE BUDGET MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD TUESDAY, APRIL 25TH, 2017 COMMENCING AT 6:00 PM.

PRESENT:

Mayor Tina Sartoretto
Councillors Gary Bigelow
Mike Harrison
Sue Nielsen
George Othmer
Rochelle Schwartz
Perry Wuest

Staff: Michelle Larose, CAO/Clerk-Treasurer
Dale Taylor, Deputy Clerk/Deputy Treasurer

1. Call to Order

Mayor Tina Sartoretto welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Resolution # 17-111

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

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the agenda of the Special Budget meeting dated April 25th, 2017, as amended.

CARRIED

3. Declaration of Conflict or Pecuniary Interest - NIL

4. Staff Reports

4.1 2017 Draft Budget worksheet – April 25, 2017

CAO, Michelle Larose presented the draft budget worksheet with updated figures from the previous budget meeting. The amount to be levied stands at approximately \$573,000 before any adjustment to Capital.

4.2 2017 Draft Capital Budget

Council reviewed the capital budget and provided the following direction:

1. The membrane suggested to line the sidewalk at the Fraser Building is to be installed at the Tenants cost.

2. Reduce the handrailing budget amount from \$20,000 to \$5,000.
3. Eliminate the sewer line replacement at the trailer park from \$25,000 to 0.
4. Check the price from Wyatt and Wayne's Garage for the body work on the tandem truck.
5. Fraser sidewalk leak repair – reduce from \$12,000 to \$2,000.
6. Eliminate Road capital - \$50,000 to \$0

4.3 Water/ Sewer Levy

Resolution #17-112

MOVED BY: Councillor Gary Bigelow
SECONDED BY: Councillor Sue Nielsen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council raise the flat rate for water by 4% for the 2017 budget.

CARRIED

4.4 2017 Waste Management Charges

Resolution #17-113

MOVED BY: Councillor Mike Harrison
SECONDED BY: Councillor Rochelle Schwartz

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council raise the flat rate for waste collection by \$24/yr.

CARRIED

4.5 2017 OPP Charges

Resolution #17-114

MOVED BY: Councillor Gary Bigelow
SECONDED BY: Councillor Mike Harrison

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council raise the flat rate for OPP costs to \$490 per unit for the 2017 budget.

CARRIED

4.6 2017 Street Light Charges

Resolution #17-115

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

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council bill for the street light operating costs through the general levy.

CARRIED

4.7 Summary of discussions regarding operating and capital budgets.

4.7.1 Legacy Fund Donations

Mayor Sartoretto indicated that the Legacy Fund donations to the Library, Theatre and Museums were as follows: Library - \$24,000, Bunker Military Museum - \$4,800, Classic Theatre - \$4,800 and the Mining Museum - \$9,600.

Resolution #17-116

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

BE RESOLVED THAT Council reduce the municipal operating grants to the Library, the Bunker Military Museum, the Classic Theatre and the Mining Museum by 50% of the 2017 Legacy Fund donations given to the groups;

AND FURTHER THAT the reduction is as follows: Library (\$12,000), the Bunker Military Museum (\$2,400), Classic Theatre (\$2,400) and the Mining Museum (\$4,800).

CARRIED

4.7.2 Staffing/ PW and Internship

Mayor Sartoretto proposed that the Town apply for two (2) year funding for an internship in administration. It will assist with succession planning and if a staff member is off work for any length of time.

The Mayor also proposed that the Town consider hiring a foreman/supervisor for the public works department. Much of the work is being transferred to the staff at the administration office regarding complaints, buildings, by-law and reporting to outside agencies. Staff are feeling the pressure of the added responsibilities and are falling behind in their work.

Councillor Nielsen concurred and suggested that a position be created to oversee the public works staff, by-law, reporting requirements and maintenance of municipal buildings.

Direction was given to bring the following items back for discussion at the next budget meeting: 1. Public Works oversight, 2. Complete property management.

Resolution #17-117

MOVED BY: Councillor Perry Wuest
SECONDED BY: Councillor Sue Nielsen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve an application be submitted to NOHFC for a two (2) year internship in the administration office.

CARRIED

4.8 Canada Day Activities

Councillor Sue Nielsen reported that she and Councillor Wuest met with three representatives of the Fire Department and reinforced that the Council supports and recognizes their efforts and extra-curricular activities that they provide for the community. Councillor Perry Wuest added that the meeting was very proactive and that the department is willing to work with the Council for the good of the community.

4.9 Demora – Request to use Arena for temporary storage

Resolution #17-118

MOVED BY: Councillor George Othmer
SECONDED BY: Councillor Gary Bigelow

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the use of the arena by Demora for temporary storage of solar panels for a period of 3-5 weeks.

DEFEATED

5. Closed Session

Resolution # 17-119

MOVED BY: Councillor Rochelle Schwartz
SECONDED BY: Councillor Sue Nielsen

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Cobalt convene in closed session as per Section 239(2) (b) of the Municipal Act, personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees, regarding a municipal employee.

CARRIED

The regular meeting reconvened at 9:51 p.m. There was nothing to report out of closed session.

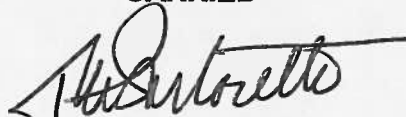
6. Adjournment

Resolution # 17-120

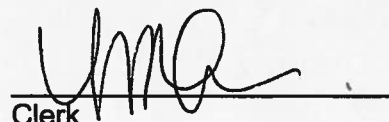
MOVED BY: Councillor George Othmer
SECONDED BY: Councillor Rochelle Schwartz

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting adjourn at 9:53 p.m.

CARRIED



Mayor



Clerk