

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COBALT**

**REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL  
COBALT COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2017  
MINUTES**

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**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
COMMENCING AT 6:30 PM.**

**PRESENT:**

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

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

**The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Mayor Tina Sartoretto.**

**1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**Resolution # 17-040**

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

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council approve the agenda of the regular meeting dated Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017, as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OR PECUNIARY INTEREST**

Councillor Sue Nielsen declared a conflict for Item 9.6 Letter from David Brydges, Spring Pulse Poetry Festival" as Mr. Brydges is a family member.

**3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

**Resolution # 17-041**

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

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council approve the minutes of the regular meeting on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 as amended and minutes of the special budget meeting held on February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES – NIL**

## **5. PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

### **5.1 Presentation – Brit Griffin on behalf of the Mining Museum and Bunker Museum**

Brit Griffin of the Cobalt Mining Museum made a presentation on behalf of the Mining Museum and the Bunker Military Museum. Ms. Griffin spoke about who they are, why they are here, where the museums are now, what they need and what their plans are for moving forward into the future.

## **6. STAFF REPORTS**

### **6.1 Elections Report**

CAO, Michelle Larose, presented a report to Council that outlines the main changes in the Municipal Elections Act for the 2018 municipal elections.

Council provided direction to staff that they do not wish to have a ranked ballot for the next election.

## **7. REPORTS, RESOLUTIONS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS PRESENTED BY COUNCIL**

### **7.1 Mayor's Update - NIL**

### **7.2 Administration, Finance and Public Safety**

#### **7.2.1 Annual Call by Response Type Report for 2016 – Fire Department**

Council received the report for information.

### **7.3 Public Works and Safety**

Councillor Mike Harrison requested an update on the Chlorine Contact Time line that was being installed at the water plant. Staff provided Councillor Harrison with a response to his inquiry.

### **7.4 Economic Development & Tourism**

#### **7.4.1 Reinstate Passenger Rail Services – Councillor Wuest**

Councillor Perry Wuest requested confirmation that the Town of Cobalt had passed a resolution to support the reinstatement of passenger rail service. It was confirmed that a resolution was passed by Council.

### **7.5 Housing and Social Services - NIL**

### **7.6 Festivals and Recreation**

#### **7.6.1 Cobalt Lake Park Bird/Duck Box program – Councillor Nielsen**

Councillor Nielsen advised that the launch of the Cobalt Lake Park Bird/Duck Box program will be launched on March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 1:30 p.m. at St. Patricks School. Bruce Murphy will be there to address the audience about the program.

### **7.6.2 Meeting with Golden Age Club re. 150 Canada Celebrations**

Councillor Nielsen advised that she attended a meeting with the Golden Age Club regarding their participation in the Canada Day celebrations. The Club indicated that they will be participating in the Canada Day parade and would likely host an event at the Club.

### **7.6.3 Meeting with Healthy Kids Community Challenge Coordinator**

Councillor Nielsen met with Tammy Flood, Healthy Kids Community Challenge Coordinator to discuss the possibility of having a community garden in Cobalt. Healthy Kids is also looking at installing a water refill station in addition to a nutrition building program in Cobalt.

Direction was given to invite Tammy Flood to make a presentation to Council.

### **7.7 Outside Boards, Committees and Commissions**

Mayor Tina Sartoretto advised that the Temiskaming District Social Services Administration Board has finalized their budget and will be taking \$300,000 from reserves to offset expenses in 2017. This would represent an approximate reduction of \$6,000 in the levy that the Town of Cobalt pays to the Board.

## **8. SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS**

### **Resolution # 17-042**

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

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council approve the accounts as per Schedule No. 17-04 in the amount of \$47,002.92 be paid after receiving Council approval.

**CARRIED**

## **9. CORRESPONDENCE FOR COUNCIL COMMENT**

### **9.1 Motion Regarding Postal Banking**

#### **Resolution # 17-043**

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

**WHEREAS** the Town of Cobalt does not currently have banking services available to our citizens thus forcing them to obtain those services in neighbouring municipalities;

**AND WHEREAS** it is becoming increasingly more difficult for the elderly, persons with disabilities and those who do not have their own transportation to access the financial services needed;

**NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED THAT** Council petition the Honourable Judy Foote, Minister of Public Services and Procurement to consider this service for the Town of Cobalt and all rural communities that do not have financial institutions;

**AND FURTHER THAT** this resolution is sent to MP, Anthony Rota, MPP, John Vanthof and all Ontario municipalities for their support.

**CARRIED**

## **9.2 Declaration "Spread the Work to end the Word"**

### **Resolution # 17-044**

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

**WHEREAS** "Spread the Word to End the Word" Temiskaming South will be taking part in the international event that is held the first Wednesday during the month of March;

**AND WHEREAS** the Committee is seeking Council support in declaring, Wednesday, March 1, 2017 as Spread the Word to End the Word Day in our community;

**NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED THAT** Council declare Wednesday, March 1, 2017 as "Spread the Word to End the Word Day" for the Town of Cobalt;

**AND FURTHER THAT** a letter be sent to the Committee to show the Town of Cobalt's support for the campaign.

**CARRIED**

## **9.3 Letter from Cobalt Coleman Catholic Cemetery Board**

Direction was given to refer the request to budget deliberations.

## **9.4 Letter from Cobalt Coleman Latchford and Area Food Bank – Rent**

Direction was given to staff to contact the Food Bank and the Firefighters' Museum representatives.

## **9.5 Motion regarding the funding cuts to Library internet connectivity funding**

### **Resolution # 17-045**

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

**WHEREAS** the Council of the Town of Cobalt supports the Cobalt Public Library;

**AND WHEREAS** the Town recognizes the valuable services that the libraries bring to the Town by providing essential services to members of the public, including computer and internet access where it may otherwise be unavailable;

**AND WHEREAS** the Town of Cobalt has been notified that the Library will not be receiving this much needed and necessary funding for internet connectivity;

**NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED THAT** Council of the Town of Cobalt hereby petitions the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport as well as the Southern Ontario Library Service to reinstate the funding for library connectivity;

**AND FURTHER THAT** a copy of the resolution be sent to MTCS, SOLS, MP, Anthony Rota, MPP, John Vanthof, the Premier of Ontario, Honourable Kathleen Wynne and all Ontario municipalities.

**CARRIED**

**9.6 Letter from David Brydges, Spring Pulse Poetry Festival**

Council provided direction to staff to erect a tent for the event on April 22, 2017.

**9.7 Declaration "Epilepsy Month – March"**

**Resolution # 17-046**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Rochelle Schwartz

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Perry Wuest

**WHEREAS** the Seizure and Brain Injury Centre is marking the month of March as Epilepsy Awareness Month throughout Canada;

**AND WHEREAS** the Temiskaming Shores area participates in this event that is supported throughout the country;

**NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED THAT** Council of the Town of Cobalt hereby proclaims the month of March as the Epilepsy Awareness Month and encourages all members of Council, staff and citizens to show their support by wearing a purple ribbon and/or wear purple during the week of March 26<sup>th</sup>. March 26<sup>th</sup> will be designated for "Purple Day for Epilepsy";

**AND FURTHER THAT** the Municipality promotes the event on our notice boards, Facebook and website.

**CARRIED**

**10. CORRESPONDENCE FOR COUNCIL INFORMATION - NIL**

**11. OTHER BUSINESS - NIL**

**12. BY-LAWS**

**12.1 By-law 2017-008 – Procedure By-law**

**Resolution # 17-047**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Rochelle Schwartz

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor George Othmer

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-Law No. 2017-008, being a by-law to establish the rules of procedure be taken as read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 21<sup>st</sup> day of February, 2017;

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

**CARRIED**

## **12.2 By-law 2017-009 – Hiring By-law**

### **Resolution # 17-048**

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

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-Law No. 2017-009, being a by-law to establish a hiring policy for the Town of Cobalt be taken as read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 21<sup>st</sup> day of February, 2017;

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

**CARRIED**

## **12.3 By-law 2017-010 – Amendment to Winter Control By-law**

### **Resolution # 17-049**

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

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-Law No. 2017-010, being a by-law to amend By-law 2009-09, Traffic and Parking, be taken as read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 21<sup>st</sup> day of February, 2017;

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

**CARRIED**

## **13. ON-GOING BUSINESS**

### **13.1 Fraser Update**

CAO, Michelle Larose provided the following update to Council:

- Apt. 209 – The apartment is ready for occupancy. It was advertised for rent and we have a prospective person interested in renting the apartment.
- Apt. 312 – Painting is almost complete. It will have to be cleaned as well before being available for rent.

## **14. NOTICE OF MOTION - NIL**

## **15. CLOSED SESSION**

### **15.1 Resolution # 17-050**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Rochelle Schwartz  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Perry Wuest

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council meet in closed session for the following purpose:

1. To approve closed session minutes; and
2. Discuss litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals affecting the municipality or local board regarding the solar park and a law suit.

**CARRIED**

Council reconvened from closed session with the following report:  
Minutes were approved and Council received information regarding a law suit. The solar park projects are scheduled to be completed in the spring.

**16. CONFIRMATION BY-LAW**

**Resolution # 17-051**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Perry Wuest  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Rochelle Schwartz

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-Law No. 2017-011, 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 21<sup>st</sup> day of February, 2017;

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

**CARRIED**

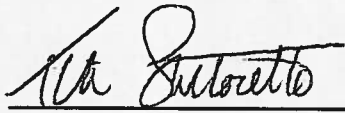

**17. ADJOURNMENT**

**Resolution # 17-052**

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

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the meeting adjourn at 8:02 p.m.

**CARRIED**

  
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Mayor  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk