

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COBALT**

**COUNCIL MEETING  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
TUESDAY, JUNE 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017 @ 6:30 p.m.  
MINUTES**

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**PRESENT:**

**Mayor** Tina Sartoretto  
**Councillors** Gary Bigelow  
Sue Nielsen  
George Othmer  
Perry Wuest

**ABSENT:**

**Councillors** Rochelle Schwartz  
Mike Harrison

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

**Presentations:** Lorne Hillcoat and Suzanne Othmer – Temiskaming Development Fund Corporation

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

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

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

**Resolution # 17-161**

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

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council approve the agenda of the regular meeting dated June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017, as amended.

**CARRIED**

The following items were added to the Agenda:

1. 12.10 Summer Meeting Schedule
2. 12.11 Street Cleaning update

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

**Resolution # 17-162**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Gary Bigelow

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Mike Harrison

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council approve the minutes of the Council meeting of June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

**CARRIED**

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

Mayor Sartoretto reported that she met with Mayor Cleroux of the Township of Coleman regarding the Larose Bridge. Mayor Cleroux indicated that they would meet with Mayor Sartoretto, the CAO and another member of Council.

Councillor Wuest expressed his interest in attending the meeting.

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

Council reviewed the Action List.

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

#### **8. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

##### **8.1 Presentation**

Lorne Hillcoat and Suzanne Othmer presented information on the TemFund.

- It was established after the closure of the Sherman Mine. The TemFund was created through the receipt of \$4 Million dollars due to the premature closure of the mine, 5 years earlier than expected.
- The Fund has supported tourism but the focus of the fund is now to sustain employment through the industrial sector.
- The fund has been successful in its involvement with every industrial business in the area.
- The rate of success is 85-89% .

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

#### **10. CORRESPONDENCE**

**10-.1 – 10.4** These items were received for information.

**10.5 Letter from the Cobalt Historical Society – request to have the Town contact ONR regarding the transfer of property to the Town.**

Mayor Sartoretto contacted the ONR and indicated that they are agreeable to enter discussions. The Mayor will communicate with the historical society to coordinated a meeting between the two parties. A letter will also be prepared to advise that the Town is not interested in owning the property but will assist with the negotiations.

## **11. BY-LAWS**

### **11.1 User Fee By-Law**

#### **Resolution #17-163**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Gary Bigelow

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor George Othmer

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-law 2017-023, being a by-law to enable the municipality to establish user fees for the Town of Cobalt facilities and services, be taken as read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 20<sup>th</sup> day of June 2017;

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

**CARRIED**

### **11.2 Partnership with Cobalt Community Garden Committee, Healthy Kids Community Challenge of Temiskaming Shores and the Town of Cobalt**

#### **Resolution #17-164**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor George Othmer

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Gary Bigelow

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-law 2017-024, being a by-law to enter into a partnership memorandum of understanding between the Cobalt Community Garden Committee, Healthy Kids Community Challenge of Temiskaming Shores and the Town of Cobalt, be taken as read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 20<sup>th</sup> day of June 2017;

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

**CARRIED**

### **11.3 By-law to enter into a land use agreement with the Cobalt Community Garden Committee**

#### **Resolution #17-155**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Gary Bigelow

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor George Othmer

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-law 2017-025, being a by-law to enter into a Land Use Agreement with the Community Garden, be taken as read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 20<sup>th</sup> day of June 2017;

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

**CARRIED**

**11.4 By-law to enter into an agreement with the Ministry of Infrastructure for CWWF funding**

**Resolution #17-166**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Perry Wuest  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Gary Bigelow

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-law 2017-026, being a by-law to enter into an agreement with the Ministry of Infrastructure for the provision of Clean Water and Wastewater funding for capital projects at the water treatment plant and wastewater wetlands be taken as read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 20<sup>th</sup> day of June 2017;

**AND FURTHER 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 Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry – Digital Imagery Information**

**Resolution #17-167**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Gary Bigelow  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Perry Wuest

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council approve the purchase of the Digital Imagery performed in the spring of 2016 from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry in the amount of \$621.50.

**CARRIED**

**12.2 Approval of Accounts Payable Schedule**

**Resolution #17-168**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Gary Bigelow  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Perry Wuest

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council approve the accounts as per Schedule No. 17-13 in the amount of \$97,176.85 to be paid after receiving Council approval.

**CARRIED**

**12.3 Request to paint signs and logos on arena building**

**Resolution #17-169**

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

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council approve the request by Riversedge Developments to paint signs and a logo on the Father Les Costello Memorial Arena.

**CARRIED**

#### **12.4 Request to remove the for-sale sign on the arena**

**Resolution #17-170**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Gary Bigelow

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Perry Wuest

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council approve the request by Riversedge Developments to remove the for-sale sign from the Father Les Costello Memorial Arena.

**CARRIED**

**It was noted that the building is still for sale.**

#### **12.5 Term of Agreement with Riversedge Developments**

**Resolution #17-171**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Gary Bigelow

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Sue Nielsen

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council approve a change in the Term of the Agreement with Riversedge Developments (By-law 2017-019) to commence on July 1, 2017 and end on July 1, 2022;

**AND THAT** the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to make said changes to the agreement;

**AND FURTHER THAT** the changes be initialed by the Mayor, Clerk and Justus Veldman authorized to sign on behalf of Riversedge Developments.

**CARRIED**

#### **12.6 Resolution 1/3 Tax Free allowance – Municipal Council**

**Resolution #17-172**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Sue Nielsen

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor George Othmer

**WHEREAS** the 2017 Federal Budget has raised personal taxes on all municipal politicians by removing the long standing, since 1947, tax exempt portion of their municipal remuneration for all elected politicians including those of us from very small communities;

**AND WHEREAS** the purpose of this one-third tax free allowance was to provide an allowance for expenses incidental to the discharge of the person's duties as an elected officer;

**AND WHEREAS** elected officials in larger centers receive budgets to support the incidental expenses that are denied to those from smaller communities' due to budget reflective of size;

**AND WHEREAS** removing this one-third exemption can further decrease the ability of small and rural communities to attract candidates for municipal elections;

**NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED THAT** the federal budget be restructured to reinstate this one-third-tax-free exemption for municipal politicians from communities that provide no budget for elected officials to cover the cost of their incidental expenses;

**AND FURTHER THAT** copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Bill Morneau, Minister of Finance, Anthony Rota, MP, Nipissing-Temiskaming, Charlie Angus, MP, Timmins-James Bay, the Temiskaming Municipal Association, their member municipalities and TeMAG for consideration and support.

**CARRIED**

### **12.7 Canada Day Update**

Councillors Sue Nielsen and Perry Wuest provided an update regarding the Canada Day schedule:

- Breakfast will be from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- The Community Spirit Awards will be presented during the breakfast.
- The parade will be at 11:00 a.m.
- The children's activities and BBQ will be at Bass Lake from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- The tents from the Town of Cobalt will be brought to Bass Lake for July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017.
- Shuttle buses will transport people from Cobalt and Latchford to Bass Lake for the activities.
- The fireworks display will occur in Latchford in the evening.

### **12.8 Community Policing Committee update**

Councillor Perry Wuest provided an update.

- The initial meeting was productive.
- The Committee discussed the research that will have to be done.
- Boundaries for police services
- Reaching out to other communities to get information on their current policing models
- It was decided that Chris Oslund, City Manager for Temiskaming Shores would be invited to share his experiences with their change from an internal force to the OPP.
- Contacting the Town of Deep River as they currently have a town police force.

### **12.9 Update – Fraser Building**

CAO, Michelle Larose provided the following update:

- There is one apartment that is vacant. It will be advertised for rent.
- Crack sealing and elevator repairs will commence shortly.

## **12.10 Summer meeting schedule**

### **Resolution #17-173**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor George Othmer

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Garry Bigelow

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council amend the meeting schedule to have one meeting in July on the 18<sup>th</sup> and one meeting in August on the 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

**CARRIED**

## **12.11 Street Cleaning**

The timing of the street sweeping was discussed. Council asked that every effort be made to have the sweeping complete by July 1, 2017.

## **13. MOTIONS FOR WHICH PRIOR NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN – NIL**

## **14. MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Sartoretto reported the following:

- Attended the Temiskaming Municipal Association meeting. They are looking at taxing hydro for the poles situated within municipal boundaries. Once a resolution is passed it will be forwarded to Council for consideration.
  - Election changes were discussed regarding the 25-signature requirement for nomination; 3<sup>rd</sup> party support and financing and lame duck councils in the election year.
  - Residential Tenancy Act changes were discussed as well as changes to Bill 68 which will require that all municipalities hire an Integrity Commissioner.
- The Mayor attended a TemFund meeting.
- She attended the DSSAB conference in North Bay. Some of the topics were:
  - School closures.
  - Increased responsibility put on fire departments to attend medical calls.
  - PTSD for paramedics, first responders and medical staff.
  - The need for counselling for persons kept from incarceration through rehabilitation.
- The Cobalt Coleman Latchford Economic Development Committee is in the final stages of the map for the three communities.

## **15. NOTICES OF MOTION – NIL**

## **16. COUNCILLOR UPDATES**

Councillor Sue Nielsen reported that the community garden planting will take place on June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. The plant boxes were made by Fred McKewn. Funding came from the Health Kids Community Challenge. There will be a feast day at the end of the growing season. They will be erecting a sign for the Community Garden.

## **17. QUESTION AND ANSWER – NIL**

Councillor Perry Wuest asked if the Question and Answer item can be advertised again due to lack of submissions.

**18. CLOSED SESSION**

**Resolution # 17-174**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Sue Nielsen

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor George Othmer

**BE RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Town of Cobalt convene in Closed session for the purposes of Section 239 (2) (b), Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees, regarding a municipal employee; 239 (2) (c), Proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the Municipality or local board, regarding the 93 Jamieson Street; and, 239 (2) (e), litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board; regarding legal matters.

**CARRIED**

**Note:** Council rose from closed session to add the following items to the Closed Agenda under Section 239 (2) (d), labour relations or employee negotiations, regarding a union matter and Section 239 (2) (b), personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board, regarding the Community Spirit Award nominations.

The meeting then reconvened to the closed session.

**19. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION**

Council reconvened to the regular meeting at 8:46 p.m. Closed session minutes from May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 and June 6, 2017 were approved. Council provided direction to the CAO on other matters.

**20. CONFIRMATION BY-LAW**

**Resolution # 17-175**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Sue Nielsen

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor George Othmer

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-Law No. 2017-027, 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 20<sup>th</sup> day of June 2017;

**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 # 17-176**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Sue Nielsen

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor George Othmer

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the meeting adjourn at 8:48 p.m.

**CARRIED**

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