

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COBALT
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF COUNCIL
COBALT COUNCIL CHAMBERS
October 1, 2019
MINUTES

PRESENT:

Mayor George Othmer

Councillors: Angela Adshead
Pat Anderson
Matthew Johnson
Doug Wilcox
Bill Gabbani – via telephone

Staff: Brian Walker, CAO/Clerk-Treasurer
Dale Taylor, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer

1. Call to Order

Mayor Othmer called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. He stated that as per Section 4.5.11 of the Procedural By-Law, recording of Council meetings is prohibited and reminded everyone to mute electronic devices.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

NIL

3. Approval/Amendment of Meeting Agenda

RESOLUTION No. 2019-237

MOVED BY: Councillor Adshead

SECONDED BY: Councillor Johnson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Council approve the agenda for the Committee of the Whole meeting for October 1, 2019 as presented.

CARRIED

4. Approval of the Minutes

RESOLUTION No. 2019-238

MOVED BY: Councillor Adshead

SECONDED BY: Councillor Wilcox

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Council approve the following minutes as presented:

Regular Meeting of Council – September 17, 2019

Special Meeting of Council – September 26, 2019

CARRIED

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

5.1 Adoption of "Appointment to Council Selection Process"

RESOLUTION No. 2019-239

MOVED BY: Councillor Adshead

SECONDED BY: Councillor Wilcox

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Council adopt the "Appointment to Council Selection Process" as presented to enable Council to select a candidate to fill the Council vacancy.

Each applicant in alphabetical order will be given two minutes to address Council and audience to outline why they should be selected to serve on Council. Following the remarks from the applicants, Council will select the successful appointee using the adopted process.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION No. 2019-240

MOVED BY: Councillor Adshead

SECONDED BY: Councillor Johnson

WHEREAS: the Town of Cobalt passed resolution No. 2019-199 accepting the resignation of Mike Harrison, from the Town of Cobalt Council and declared the seat vacant;

AND WHEREAS: Council passed resolution 2019-213 on September 3, 2019 to invite interested eligible citizens to submit expressions of interest to serve on the Town of Cobalt Council;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Council accepts the expressions of interest from the following persons that submitted by the deadline of September 30, 2019 by 2:00 p.m.;

Kyle Audette, Gary Bigelow, Joseph Dube, Amber Fulford

AND FURTHER THAT: the above-noted persons be invited to attend a Special Meeting of Council on October 8, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. to be interviewed to enable Council to select the candidate to fill the Council vacancy.

CARRIED

6. Delegations and Presentations

6.1 Story Environmental – MOE meeting

Maria Story briefed Council on the meeting held with the Ministry of the Environment and representatives of the Town of Cobalt, OCWA and Story Environmental. The Ministry's stance is that they have not heard much from the Municipality in the past 6 years and time has run out on the extensions the Town has received. They want a solid plan from the Town to address the issues in the Draft Inspection Report which refers back to the Director's Order. Maria stated the Town needs to keep the lines of communication open with the MOE and suggested their request for a Receiving Water Assessment Study may provide data that could strengthen the Wetland's case in the end. Mayor Othmer suggested a tour should be organized for Council and the public and that Council is very firm on its desire to achieve compliance as the alternate of a mechanical system is not fiscally responsible for the citizens of Cobalt. Council agreed to have a Receiving Water Assessment Study completed as part of their plans to move forward in achieving an ECA.

6.2 EXP and Pedersen Construction

Alex O'Brien from EXP and Clint Beirsto from Pedersen Construction updated Council on the status of the Water Plant upgrades. The standpipe and 2 variable frequency drive high lift pumps have been installed. The lab and chemical area have been reconfigured for better functionality and new cabinets have been installed. The project is at the half way point.

6.3 Geothermal Study in Cobalt

Graham Gables briefed Council on the visit from Professor Mostafa Elsharqawy from the University of Guelph. He is requesting support in principle from Council for a Federal research grant they are applying for which will investigate the merits of geothermal energy as a heat source. They are requesting a partnership with the Town to access larger funders such as Agnico and Golder. Council requested updates as the project progresses.

7. Business Arising from Delegations and Presentations

RESOLUTION No. 2019-241

MOVED BY: Councillor Anderson

SECONDED BY: Councillor Wilcox

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Council desires to have a Receiving Water Assessment Study performed on the Wetlands system and requests that Story Environmental prepare a quote for services.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION No. 2019-242

MOVED BY: Councillor Adshead

SECONDED BY: Councillor Johnson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Council receive the Delegations and Presentations items 6.1 to 6.3 as presented

CARRIED

8. Staff and Committee Reports

8.1 Public Works – Council reviewed the monthly Activity Report. CAO Walker requested Council review the Public Works recommendations for the Winter Operations Plan and come back with their suggestions for a future meeting.

8.2 CAO Report - CAO Walker reported a number of activities over the summer. Council approved his request to attend the Treasurer's Forum and a series of webinars hosted by Fred Dean.

8.3 By-law Enforcement Report – Garrett Hunting reported on the activities in the past month and noted that there are 4 properties in Town that are nearing the end of the compliance process with no resolution and the onus will be on the Town to remedy the situations.

8.4 Animal Control Report – Council reviewed the monthly Activity Report from Animals First and will consider their request for the Town to become an Adoption Partner.

RESOLUTION No. 2019-243

MOVED BY: Councillor Johnson

SECONDED BY: Councillor Wilcox

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Council receive staff and committee reports items 8.1 to 8.4 as discussed.

CARRIED

9. Correspondence

9.1 Shannie Christo – Firefighter's Museum

Council discussed Ms. Christo's request to re-open and manage the Firefighter's Museum. The building is currently in need of repair. Council requested that she organize a Committee and present a plan to fund the operations.

9.2 Enbridge Gas Inc. – Pipeline Easement

Council agreed to sign an agreement for an easement on Hudson Bay Road.

RESOLUTION No. 2019-244

MOVED BY: Councillor Wilcox
SECONDED BY: Councillor Johnson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Council enter into an agreement with Enbridge Gas Inc with a payment of \$1,000.00 to the Town of Cobalt for a pipeline easement on Hudson Bay Road in order to provide gas service to residents who have contracted with Enbridge and directs staff to prepare the necessary By-law.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION No. 2019-245

MOVED BY: Councillor Wilcox
SECONDED BY: Councillor Adshead

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Council receive correspondence items 9.1 to 9.2 as discussed.

CARRIED

10. Closed Session

RESOLUTION No. 2019-246

MOVED BY: Councillor Johnson
SECONDED BY: Councillor Wilcox

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Council convene in Closed Session as per Section 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001 as amended in order to address a matter pertaining to subsection:

- 2 (a) Security of the property of the municipality or local board; Topics – Hoist Room, Fraser Building
- 2 (b) Personal matter about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees;
Topic – Human Resources

CARRIED

11. Business Arising from Closed Session

RESOLUTION No. 2019-247

MOVED BY: Councillor Wilcox
SECONDED BY: Councillor Anderson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Staff is directed to post internally for the position of Administration Clerk.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION No. 2019-248

MOVED BY: Councillor Wilcox
SECONDED BY: Councillor Anderson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Subject to the development of a job description for an entry level Labourer position, staff is directed to post this position internally.

CARRIED

12. Confirmation By-Law

RESOLUTION No. 2019-249

MOVED BY: Councillor Wilcox
SECONDED BY: Councillor Adshead

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: By-Law No 2019-47 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 1st day of October 2019;

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

CARRIED

14. Adjournment

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-250

MOVED BY: Councillor Johnson
SECONDED BY: Councillor Wilcox

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The meeting of Council be adjourned at 9:33 p.m.

CARRIED

Mayor

Clerk