

# THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COBALT

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF COUNCIL COBALT COUNCIL CHAMBERS

November 5, 2019

### MINUTES

---

**PRESENT:**

**Mayor** George Othmer

**Councillors:** Angela Adshead  
Pat Anderson  
Joe Dube  
Matthew Johnson  
Doug Wilcox

**Absent:** Bill Gabbani (with notice)

**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**

CAO Walker stated that the presentation by Wishart Law Firm was deferred at this time.

**RESOLUTION No. 2019-269**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Anderson

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Dube

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** Council approve the Committee of the Whole meeting agenda for November 5, 2019 as presented.

CARRIED

**4. Approval of the Minutes**

**RESOLUTION No. 2019-270**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Dube

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Anderson

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

CARRIED

**5. Business Arising from the Minutes**

NIL

**6. Delegations and Presentations**

NIL

**7. Business Arising from Delegations and Presentations**

NIL

**8. Staff and Committee Reports**

**8.1 Animal Control Report**

Roxanne St. Germain reviewed her October activity report. She stated dog issues have slowed down due to the the contact she has made with problems areas and owners as they work on resolutions. Cat issues have increased as the major complaint is owners allowing them roam outdoors. She would like Council to consider becoming a PetSmart Partner which would allow funds to be flowed to Animals First, through the Municipality. This fund is for needy animal welfare cases such as spay/neuter clinics, check-ups etc. Staff was directed to prepare a report for the next meeting for Council consideration.

**8.2 By-Law Enforcement Report**

The By-Law Report was not received and deferred to the next meeting.

**8.3 Public Works Report**

Council reviewed the monthly Report. CAO Walker requested Council grant authority to Leader A to be able to contact towing companies to remove vehicles towed that are impeding winter operations. Council discussed the request and agreed that further discussions were needed to consider the impact to residents and receive further input from Public Works.

**8.4 Administration Report**

CAO Walker requested the Municipal Office be closed on December 27, 2019.

**RESOLUTION No. 2019-271**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Dube

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Anderson

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** Council approve the request to close the Town of Cobalt office Friday, December 27, 2019.

DEFERRED

Council agreed to hold a Special meeting (Closed Session) on November 12, 2019 as per CAO contract terms.

CAO Walker gave details on the Downtown Revitalization Initiative Program. The Municipality has received funds in the amount of \$38,643.41 which must be spent on eligible projects by March 31, 2020.

Council expressed interest in ideas such as:

Accessible doors

Hoist Room Improvements

Lights at Teck Park/shelter

Hanging planters/equipment for watering

Historical water fountain installation/100 mine sign

Christmas lights/banners

Mayor Othmer asked Council to send their ideas to the CAO for further Council discussion.

**RESOLUTION No. 2019-272**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Anderson  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Dube

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** Council receive the Staff and Committee Reports items 8.1 to 8.4 as discussed.

CARRIED

**9. Correspondence**

**9.1 Golden Age Club – Lighting of the Christmas Lights**

Council agreed to purchase lights for the tree in the park from the Downtown Revitalization Fund. Staff was directed to contact a local contractor to assist with the installation. Councillor Anderson will contact the Golden Age Club to co-ordinate a date and report to the CAO.

**9.2 Family Friendly Dance**

Council received a thanks of appreciation from Marie Manchester for use of the Community Hall to host a Halloween family event and reported that it was very well attended by local and out of Town participants. Council agreed that co-hosing these types of events is very beneficial to Cobalt and the surrounding area as well.

**9.3 Temiskaming Speaker – delivery of the Weekender**

CAO Walker reported that the Public Works Department has expressed concerns with the current delivery mode which causes the paper to make its way onto the municipal roadways and sidewalks and thereby causing damage to snow removal equipment. Public Works are requesting a resolution for this winter season. Council reviewed the solution put forward by the Speaker Distribution Department and found it was not adequate to resolve the issue. Staff was directed to request drop boxes rather than home delivery.

**9.4 Temiskaming Transit**

CAO Walker reported that the Transit Committee has implemented a .25 fare increase for daily riders effective January 1, 2020 and requested the Town of Cobalt's endorsement.

**RESOLUTION No. 2019-273**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Anderson  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Dube

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** Staff is directed to inform the City of Temiskaming Shores that the Town of Cobalt Council accept the fare increase as submitted by Temiskaming Transit effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020.

CARRIED

**RESOLUTION No. 2019-274**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Dube  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Anderson

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** Council receive Correspondence items 9.1 to 9.4 as discussed.

CARRIED

**10. Other Business**

10.1 TSMA By-law

**RESOLUTION No. 2019-275**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Johnson

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Adshead

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** By-law 2019-52 being a By-law to appoint a registered code agency, Chief Building Official and Building Inspectors for the enforcement of the Building Code Act, 1992 be taken as read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 5<sup>th</sup> day of November 2019;

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

CARRIED

10.2 2020 Canada Day

CAO Walker reported the deadline for applying for this grant is November 21, 2019. Council discussed the merits of a stand-alone celebration vs a combined and deferred the matter to the November 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

10.3 RBC Future Launch Community Challenge Grant Agreement

CAO Walker reported that a \$15,000 grant from the RBC Future Fund has been approved to provide youth recreational activities through a co-ordination of the Catholic School Board Community Use of Schools and the Health Unit. The program has been vetted through the Municipal Insurer and there is no cost to the Municipality. Kyle Audette, volunteer administrator and Lori Hurtubise, Principal explained the many activities planned such as basketball, volleyball, badminton, yoga etc that will take place at St. Patrick School in Cobalt. Council thanked those involved for launching this valuable project and directed the CAO to sign the agreement on behalf of the Town of Cobalt.

**RESOLUTION No. 2019-276**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Adshead

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Johnson

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** Council direct CAO Walker to sign the RBC Get Out and Get Active Cobalt Youth Rec Grant agreement on behalf of the Town of Cobalt.

CARRIED

**RESOLUTION No. 2019-277**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Johnson

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Adshead

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** Council receive other business items 10.1 to 10.3 as discussed.

CARRIED

**11. Closed Session**

NIL

**12. Business Arising from Closed Session**

NIL

**13. Confirmation By-Law**

**RESOLUTION No. 2019-278**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Johnson

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Adshead

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** By-Law No 2019-53 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Cobalt be taken as read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 5<sup>th</sup> day of November 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. 2019-279**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Johnson

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Adshead

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** The Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 7:54 pm.

CARRIED

---

Mayor

---

Clerk