

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COBALT
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF COUNCIL
COBALT COUNCIL CHAMBERS
December 3, 2019
MINUTES

PRESENT:

Mayor George Othmer

Councillors: Pat Anderson
Joe Dube
Bill Gabbani
Matthew Johnson
Doug Wilcox

Absent: Angela Adshead

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

The agenda was amended to include Section 8 - Roxanne St. Germain, Animals First

RESOLUTION No. 2019-306

MOVED BY: Councillor Gabbani

SECONDED BY: Councillor Johnson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Council approve the Committee of the Whole meeting agenda for December 3, 2019 as amended.

CARRIED

4. Approval of the Minutes

RESOLUTION No. 2019-307

MOVED BY: Councillor Gabbani

SECONDED BY: Councillor Johnson

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

Regular Meeting of Council – November 19, 2019

Special Meeting of Council – November 20, 2019

CARRIED

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

NIL

6. Delegations and Presentations

6.1 EXP & Pedersen re: Water Treatment Plant Upgrades

Alex O’Brein, EXP provided Council with a schematic diagram presentation showing the previous and current setup at the Water Plant as well as scenarios the plant will undertake during maintenance times. He reported that the expense for the piping modification he previously presented to Council would be paid by Pedersen Construction. Due to an earlier setback, the project will carry into the next year. He provided quotes for a new flange for Council’s consideration, should one need to be installed after inspection of the intake. The 4 filters are aging and consideration should be made to either replace or investigate other solutions. He is preparing a quote to do a feasibility analysis on options for consideration when The Green Energy Fund is accepting applications so that the Municipality has an engineering report in hand.

6.2 Wishart Law Firm

Tim Harmar attended via telephone to present Council with their tax collection service and the benefits his firm has seen with assisting Municipal staff with arrears. Included in this service is a cloud-based software that would allow staff access to further manage the files. The costs for the demand letters, payment arrangements, tax registrations would be added to the tax roll by the Municipality.

RESOLUTION No. 2019-308

MOVED BY: Councillor Johnson

SECONDED BY: Councillor Gabbani

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Council receive the Delegations and Presentations items 6.1 and 6.2 as presented.

CARRIED

7. Business Arising from Delegations and Presentations

NIL

8. Staff and Committee Reports

8.1 By-Law Enforcement Report

BLO Garrett Hunting reviewed his report with Council and presented orders on 3 properties that have not remedied the violations to the satisfaction of the By-law Department.

8.2 Cobalt Fire Department - Report

CAO Walker reviewed the Fire Department’s semi-annual report with Council.

8.3 Public Works Department - Report

CAO Walker reviewed the Public Works Department report with Council.

8.4 Administration - Report

Ministry of Infrastructure - Green Energy Fund

CAO Walker reported that the funding cap for Cobalt is \$2.9 million. The submission date is January 22, 2020 and he is waiting for more information on the parameters of the program. He stated that having engineered reports to produce with the application would have a better success for funding.

Tax Registration and Wishart Law Firm - Staff report

CAO Walker reviewed the staff report with Council and the recommendation from staff to retain the service offered by Wishart Law Firm to assist with tax registrations. Council agreed to discuss this matter further.

Water/Sewer reminders – Staff Report

CAO Walker reviewed the staff report with Council and the recommendation from staff to discontinue the mailing of reminder notices between the quarterly billings to reduce costs and improve efficiency. Council agreed to discuss this matter further.

8.5 January newsletter – Draft

CAO Walker requested that Council review the newsletter and bring any changes they would like to his attention.

8.6 Animal Control – Report

Roxanne St. Germain reviewed her report with Council and commented that education still seems to be an effective tool for her. She thanked Council for being the local partner in the PetSmart Program and will follow through with the request from Councillor Johnson to ensure there is no liability for the Town in the partnership.

9. Correspondence

NIL

10. Other Business

Councillor Wilcox gave an update on the grants the Library Board has accessed for Children’s Programs as well as a 3-D printer. He stated they are on budget and would like to have security cameras installed and requested the CAO assist with co-ordinating funds.

RESOLUTION No. 2019-309

MOVED BY: Councillor Dube

SECONDED BY: Councillor Anderson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Council receive Staff and Committee reports items 8.1 to 8.6 as discussed.

CARRIED

11. Closed Session

RESOLUTION No. 2019-310

MOVED BY: Councillor Dube

SECONDED BY: Councillor Anderson

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

2 (b) Personal matter about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees;

Topic – Public Works Restructure – review

2 (f) The receiving of advice that is subject to solicitor/client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose

CARRIED

12. Business Arising from Closed Session

Staff was given direction on closed session matters.

13. Confirmation By-Law

RESOLUTION No. 2019-311

MOVED BY: Councillor Dube

SECONDED BY: Councillor Anderson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: By-Law No 2019-57 being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Corporation of the Town of Cobalt be taken as read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 3rd day of December 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. 2019-312

MOVED BY: Councillor Dube

SECONDED BY: Councillor Anderson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Committee of the Whole Meeting of Council be adjourned at 9:48 p.m.

CARRIED

Mayor

Clerk

