

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COBALT

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING COBALT COUNCIL CHAMBERS February 4, 2020 @ 6:30 pm

MINUTES

Present:

Mayor George Othmer

Councillors Pat Anderson
Joe Dube
Matthew Johnson
Bill Gabbani
Doug Wilcox

ABSENT: Angela Adshead (with notice)

Staff: Brian Walker, CAO Clerk-Treasurer
Dale Taylor, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer
David Adshead, Working Foreman, Public Works

Alex O'Brien – EXP, Vic Legault – OCWA, David Brydges, Graham Gambles

1. **Call to Order:**

Mayor Othmer called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

2. **Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof**

NIL

3. **Approval/Amendment of Meeting Agenda**

The agenda was amended to include:
6.4 Graham Gambles – Geothermal Project

RESOLUTION No. 2020-017

MOVED BY: Councillor Gabbani

SECONDED BY: Councillor Johnson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the agenda of the Regular Meeting dated February 4, 2020 as amended.

CARRIED

4. **Approval of Minutes**

4.1 Regular Meeting of Council: January 28, 2020

RESOLUTION No. 2020-018

MOVED BY: Councillor Dube

SECONDED BY: Councillor Gabbani

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the following minutes as presented:
Regular Meeting of Council – January 28, 2020

CARRIED

5. Business Arising from The Minutes

NIL

6. Delegations and Presentations

6.1 EXP & Pedersen re: Water Treatment Plant Update

Alex O'Brein representing EXP, was present to report to Council that the commissioning of the Water Plant was now complete and that the draft Commission Report shows everything is online. He expressed that, in his opinion, the Plant is working very well and that the upgrades had met, and in some areas, exceeded all expectations. Assessment shows there is no cavitation of the pumps and the manufacturer has visually inspected the impeller and reported they are in remarkably good condition. He provided pictures of the impeller for Council to view. Alex stated he was pleased to report that the contract was completed ahead of their schedule and under budget. In response to the question from Council regarding water flow for fire protection and proper pump size, Alex responded that the pumps were sized correctly, are producing exactly as they had anticipated, and there is approximately 40% more water protection from the former setup. Alex stated EXP would remain onsite to address any deficiencies with the contract, create manuals, standard operating procedures and provide support and training to the Public Works employees until a comfort level is reached. He asked Council to consider the following items, which are outside the scope of the project, as change orders to apply to the remaining contingency:

1) Replace current reporting database with new model – unable to access current reporting pack as data base was password protected by the installer several years ago and the password is unknown. The only work around is to have an employee attend and manually record the data which is an unrealistic expense. Should the current reporting pack fail, it is outdated, and parts are unavailable. Approximately \$10,000.00

2) Install automated actuating on valve – this will improve the backwash process. Approximately \$6,000.00

3) Manual lock out – this will create a 3rd level of security. Approximately \$2,500.00

Council will review the requests.

6.2 David Brydges: Drummond Park plan

David Brydges was present to request that Council enter into a 5-year lease to create a memorial park beside the Public Library in memory of Dr. Drummond and Lois Pollard, curator of the Highway Bookshop. Mr. Brydges would be the Project Director and the Town would administer the Project. Mr. Brydges presented a list of items he would need to support the project. Council requested a Staff report for their review.

6.3 OCWA re: 2020 Capital letter

Vic Legault representing OCWA, presented a list of 2020 capital items related to the Water Treatment Plant and Wetlands operations, as well as a 5-year plan with an emphasis on maintenance issues. Council agreed to review this list during budget deliberations.

6.4 Graham Gambles – Geothermal Project

Graham Gambles was present to follow up on his previous presentation to Council. He stated that as of 2020, NSERC grants are now available for partnerships with Municipalities and he is requesting the Municipality enter into a partnership with the University of Guelph and the Temiskaming Rift Valley Aspiring Geopark (Project Coordinator) for a Geothermal Study. He was uncertain as to the exact obligations the Municipality would have under this partnership.

RESOLUTION No. 2020-019

MOVED BY: Councillor Wilcox

SECONDED BY: Councillor Anderson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the Delegations and Presentations item 6.1 to 6.4 as presented:

CARRIED

7. Business Arising from Delegations and Presentations

Staff was given direction on the delegation requests.

8. Staff & Committee Reports

8.1 By-law Enforcement re: Report:

Garett Hunting, By-law Officer reviewed his report with Council. He stated there is one property with an order that has appealed to the Property Standards Committee.

8.2 Animal Control re: Report and PetSmart program.

Roxanne St. Germain reviewed her report with Council and invited all to attend the Fundraiser on February 20, 2020 at Riverside Place. The funds will be used to assist with spay and neuter fees.

8.3 Public Works re: Report and Upcoming projects

David Adshead, Working Foreman reviewed his report with Council. With respect to the Water Plant, he stated the actuator was required or the backwash would not work properly. He stated the By-law Officer had assisted to remedy issues where vehicles had impeded Winter Operations. CAO Walker stated the research into providing authority to the Working Foreman to initiate towing operations was ongoing.

8.4 Administration Report:

(a) EMO Emergency Information Officer appointment.

Council agreed to appoint CAO Brian Walker as the Information Officer and requested a resolution for the next meeting.

(b) Commissioner of Oaths appointment.

CAO Walker reported that by virtue of his position, he has the authority to act as a Commissioner of Oaths. Council directed that CAO Walker commission documents for Municipal purposes and be available to commission documents, at his discretion, for the public.

RESOLUTION No. 2020-020

MOVED BY: Councillor Dube

SECONDED BY: Councillor Gabbani

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the Staff and Committee Reports items 8.1 to 8.4 as presented:

CARRIED

9. Correspondence

9.1 Graham Gambles letter re: Geothermal study in Cobalt - Request for partnership

This item was covered under Delegations and Presentations.

9.2 Bunker Museum – request for repairs

CAO Walker presented a quote from Mike Harrison for repairs to the Bunker Museum to address a leaking issue. Council requested that Staff create an RFQ for a temporary solution to the situation until the issue can be properly assessed in the Spring for a permanent solution.

RESOLUTION No. 2020-021

MOVED BY: Councillor Johnson

SECONDED BY: Councillor Wilcox

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the Correspondence items 9.1 to 9.2 as presented:

CARRIED

10. **Other Business**
NIL

11. **Closed Session**

RESOLUTION No. 2020-022

MOVED BY: Councillor Anderson

SECONDED BY: Councillor Dube

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council convene in closed session for the purpose of approving closed session minutes and as per Subsection 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001 as amended, in order to address a matter pertaining to subsection:

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

(2) (b) personal matter about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees -
Topic Restructure review

CARRIED

12. **Business Arising from Closed Session**
Staff was given direction on closed matters.

13. **Confirmation By-law**

RESOLUTION No. 2020-023

MOVED BY: Councillor Anderson

SECONDED BY: Councillor Dube

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law No. 2020-5 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 4th day of February 2020.

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

CARRIED

14. **Adjournment**

RESOLUTION No. 2020-024

MOVED BY: Councillor Gabbani

SECONDED BY: Councillor Wilcox

BE IT RESOLVED that the Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

CARRIED

Mayor

Clerk