

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COBALT
REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
Business Resource Centre
July 28, 2020
MINUTES

PRESENT:

Mayor George Othmer

Councillors:

Pat Anderson
 Bill Gabbani
 Matthew Johnson
 Doug Wilcox

Staff:

Dale Taylor, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer
 Cassandra Beaudoin

Absent:

Councillors: Angela Adshead (with notice)
 Joe Dube (with notice)

1. Call to Order

Mayor Othmer called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

Councillor Dube declared a conflict of interest with item 11.2 – Schedule No. 2020-13 as he had provided an invoice for Profile Plus Metal Arts.

3. Approval/Amendment of Meeting Agenda

Councillor Wilcox requested an amendment to the agenda under Councillor Updates 15.4 hydrant flushing

RESOLUTION No. 2020-150

MOVED BY: Councillor Johnson

SECONDED BY: Councillor Wilcox

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the agenda of the Regular meeting of Council dated July 28, 2020 as amended.

CARRIED

4. Approval of the Minutes**RESOLUTION No. 2020-151**

MOVED BY: Councillor Johnson

SECONDED BY: Councillor Anderson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the following minutes as presented:
 Committee of the Whole Meeting – July 14, 2020

CARRIED

5. Business Arising from the Minutes
None

6. Inquiries – Members of the General Public
None

7. Delegations and Presentations
None

8. Business Arising from Delegations and Presentations
None

9. Correspondence for Council Direction:
9.1 Timiskaming Health Unit – Mandatory mask or face covering for indoor public space – covered under Section 15.3

Correspondence for Council Information:
9.2 Chris Oslund – City Manager Temiskaming Shores re: May 2020 Transit Report

RESOLUTION No. 2020-152
MOVED BY: Councillor Anderson
SECONDED BY: Councillor Wilcox

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approves the correspondence items 9.1 to 9.2 as presented.

CARRIED

10. By-Laws

10.1 By-Law 2020-32 Municipal Property Tax Collection Policy

RESOLUTION No. 2020-153
MOVED BY: Councillor Johnson
SECONDED BY: Councillor Gabbani

WHEREAS at the Committee of the Whole Meeting of March 3, 2020, Council reviewed the draft By-Law for the Municipal Tax Collection Policy;

AND WHEREAS after review, Council approved Resolution No. 2020-32 being a By-Law to accept the Policy as presented and directed staff to prepare the necessary By-Law;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 2020-32 being a By-Law to adopt a Municipal Property Tax Collection Policy for the Corporation of the Town of Cobalt be read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 28th of July 2020;

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

CARRIED

11. General Business

11.1 Approval of the Schedules

RESOLUTION No. 2020-154

MOVED BY: Councillor Anderson

SECONDED BY: Councillor Johnson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approves the following schedules as presented:

- 1) Schedule No. 2020-12 in the amount of \$131,739.30
- 2) Schedule No. 2020-13 in the amount of \$175,799.01
- 3) Revenue and Expense Report January to June 2020

CARRIED

Councillor Dube was not in attendance at the meeting and therefore did not participate in the vote.

12. Motion for which prior notice has been given

None

13. Mayor's Report

Mayor Othmer requested that a statement on the Budget be included with the tax bills.

The August Council meetings have been rescheduled to:

Committee of the Whole meeting - August 18, 2020 at 6:30 pm

Regular Council Meeting – August 27, 2020 at 6:30 pm

14. Notices of Motion

None

15. Councillor Updates

- 15.1 Councillor Wilcox – installation of glass barrier at Public Library (quote)
Councillor Wilcox reported that the library has not received the quote yet. Council agreed that the expense would be covered by the Town and tagged as a COVID19 expense.
- 15.2 Councillor Anderson – update on Cobalt Recreation Program
Councillor Anderson reported that the Timiskaming Health Unit is gathering opinions from local municipalities that would like to participate in a program where games would be painted on sidewalks for children to play. Council is in favour of this concept in principal, pending a decision on locations. Councillor Anderson reported that the Golden Age Club met to discuss reopening options and have decided to remain closed and assess again at the end of September.
- 15.3 Councillor Johnson – Covid19 Status of Municipal Buildings and Facilities
Councillor Johnson stated that the Timiskaming Health Unit has reported 1 new active case of Covid19 in our District. Councillor Johnson made a recommendation to reopen the Playground, as long as Council agreed that once a case threshold has been reached, the Playground would close again until a further decision is made. He also recommended that the Splash Pad and Municipal Office should remain closed as further discussion is required. The Mandatory Use of Mask Policy has been implemented. Council agreed with the recommendations and directed Councillor Johnson to prepare a statement.
- 15.4 Councillor Wilcox – Public Notice of Water Flushing
Councillor Wilcox reported that Public Works is nearing completing on the hydrant flushing and requested that a public notice be issued in the future.

16. Question and Answer

Councillor Gabbani requested information on the Town’s overtime policy. Councillor Wilcox responded that overtime is normally generated from alarms or emergency situations. When possible during the winter months, shifts are adjusted in an effort to control the overtime. The pay-out policy is addressed in the Collective Agreement.

17. Closed Session

RESOLUTION No. 2020-155

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)(b) personal matter about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employee
Topic 1) Staffing Matter
2) Employee further training options

CARRIED

18. Business Arising from Closed Session

Council received an update on the employee leave of absence and direction for employee training.

19. Confirmation By-Law

RESOLUTION No. 2020-156

MOVED BY: Councillor Wilcox
SECONDED BY: Councillor Gabbani

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law No 2020-34 being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Regular meeting of Council be taken as read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 28th day of July 2020.

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

CARRIED

20. Adjournment

RESOLUTION No. 2020-157

MOVED BY: Councillor Johnson
SECONDED BY: Councillor Wilcox

BE IT RESOLVED THAT The regular meeting of Council be adjourned at 8:49 pm.

CARRIED

Mayor

Clerk