

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COBALT

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL Business Resource Centre – Community Hall August 27, 2020 MINUTES

PRESENT:

Mayor George Othmer
Councillors: Angela Adshead
 Pat Anderson
 Joe Dube
 Bill Gabbani
 Matthew Johnson
 Doug Wilcox

Staff: Dale Taylor, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer
 Cassandra Beaudoin

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. 2020-15 as he had provided an invoice for Profile Plus Metal Arts.

3. Approval/Amendment of Meeting Agenda

Councillor Gabbani requested an amendment to the agenda under Councillor Updates 15.3 – By-Law Enforcement update.

Councillor Wilcox requested an amendment to the agenda under Councillor Updates 15.4 – Response to questions regarding the Library 2020 Budget and a Public Works Update.

RESOLUTION No. 2020-166

MOVED BY: Councillor Dube

SECONDED BY: Councillor Anderson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the agenda of the Regular meeting of Council dated August 27, 2020 as presented.

CARRIED

4. Approval of the Minutes

RESOLUTION No. 2020-167

MOVED BY: Councillor Johnson

SECONDED BY: Councillor Gabbani

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the following minutes as presented:
 Committee of the Whole Meeting – August 18, 2020

CARRIED

5. Business Arising from the Minutes
None

6. Inquiries – Members of the General Public
None

7. Delegations and Presentations

7.1 Kemp, Elliot & Blair – presentation of the 2019 Financial Statements.
Danielle Girard of KEB reviewed the 2019 Financial Statements for the Town of Cobalt with Council and noted that with very little debt and a surplus, the financial situation for the Town has greatly improved and to keep in mind that \$285,000 of the current surplus relates to one-time unconditional funding.

Annual surplus: \$343,919 (Water \$94,785) (Wetlands \$64,413) = adjusted annual surplus \$184,721
Net financial asset position: \$510,893
Long Term Debt: \$61,294.00 - to be fully paid by May 2021

RESOLUTION No. 2020-168
MOVED BY: Councillor Johnson
SECONDED BY: Councillor Gabbani

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council accept the Delegations and Presentations item 7.1 as presented.

CARRIED

8. Business Arising from Delegations and Presentations

RESOLUTION No. 2020-169
MOVED BY: Councillor Anderson
SECONDED BY: Councillor Wilcox

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council accept the 2019 Financial Statements for the Town of Cobalt as presented by Chartered Professional Accountants, Kemp, Elliot & Blair and directs Staff to post the statements on the Municipal website.

CARRIED

9. Correspondence

Correspondence for Council Direction:

9.1 Classic Theatre – Request for letter of support to assist with funding applications for installation of an HVAC/air filtration system.

Council unanimously approved the Classic Theatre’s proposal and directed Councillor Anderson to write a letter of support.

RESOLUTION No. 2020-170
MOVED BY: Councillor Anderson
SECONDED BY: Councillor Johnson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council supports the initiative from the Classic Theatre Board to apply for funding to upgrade the HVAC/air filtration system to assist with re-open plans to resume operations post COVID-19. The Town of Cobalt, as building owner, will be responsible for future maintenance issues which are expected to be less with the upgraded system.

CARRIED

Correspondence for Council Information:

9.2 Solaire Cobalt Solar – 2019 Financial Statements

Mayor Othmer and Councillor Adshead reported they had reviewed the statements with the Manager of Cobalt Solar. Further follow up is required as there are many unanswered questions. The financials indicate the program is unlikely to generate enough revenue to show a profit compared to the expenses and long-term debt and there does not seem to be a plan for that outcome. Council agreed that if they are not satisfied with the response a legal opinion may be the next step.

9.3 FONOM – Media Release – update on AMO conferences

RESOLUTION No. 2020-171**MOVED BY:** Councillor Dube**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Wilcox

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive the correspondence items 9.1 to 9.3 as presented.

CARRIED

10. By-Laws

10.1 Business Licence Policy By-Law 2020-36

RESOLUTION No. 2020-172**MOVED BY:** Councillor Johnson**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Anderson

WHEREAS at the Committee of the Whole Meeting of March 3, 2020, Council reviewed the draft By-Law for the Town of Cobalt Business Licence 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 2020-32 being a By-Law to adopt a Business Licence Policy to regulate Businesses in the Town of Cobalt be read a first, second and third time and finally passed on this 27th day of August 2020;

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

DEFERRED

11. General Business**11.1 Approval of the Schedules****RESOLUTION No. 2020-173****MOVED BY:** Councillor Johnson**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Anderson

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

- 1) Schedule No. 2020-14 in the amount of \$254,932.07
- 2) Schedule No. 2020-15 in the amount of \$140,700.98

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

Fraser Elevator Repairs – Quote from Savaria Sales, Installation & Service

RESOLUTION No. 2020-174

MOVED BY: Councillor Anderson

SECONDED BY: Councillor Wilcox

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council accepts the quote from Savaria Sales, Installation & Services for \$3,164.54 including HST (quote attached) for elevator repairs at 24 Prospect Avenue.

13. Mayor's Report

None

14. Notices of Motion

None

15. Councillor Updates

15.1 Councillor Johnson – Discussion Reopening Plans

Council agreed to the status quo at this time and to discuss reopening plans once all safety barriers and a controlled entry plan is put in place and with Staff input. Council directed Councillor Dube to investigate a buzzer system.

15.2 Councillor Adshead

– 2021 Budget Working Group

The initial 2021 Budget meeting for the working group will be September 23, 2020 at 9:30am. Council request that Administration and the Working Foreman be in attendance. A meeting invite will be sent out.

– Approval for use of surplus equipment – floor tiles for Fire Dept kitchen

Council approved the use of the surplus tiles for the Fire Dept kitchen. Mayor Othmer will notify the Fire Chief.

15.3 Councillor Gabbani

- By-Law Enforcement Update

Council has no objection to the demolition of a property and directed Councillor Gabbani to notify By-Law Officer Pete Gilboe to continue with the plan of action.

15.4 Councillor Wilcox

- Library 2021 Budget

Councillor Wilcox responded to Council questions regarding the Coleman donation to the library for 2019. The donation was received in January 2020 and therefore had not been recorded in the 2019 financials.

- Public Works Update

Councillor Wilcox reported that Public Works responded to a water break on Miller Avenue this past weekend. The road will need repaving and Public Works is currently getting a quote.

- He stated that in response to a request from Council to source surge protection options, that further inspection revealed that a surge protector had been installed during Phase 1 of the Water Treatment Plant Upgrades.

16. **Question and Answer**
None

17. **Closed Session**

RESOLUTION No. 2020-175
MOVED BY: Councillor Anderson
SECONDED BY: Councillor Johnson

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 school board employees;
- Human Resource Matter

(2) (e) advice that is subject to solicitor – client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose;
- Human Resource Matter

CARRIED

18. **Business Arising from Closed Session**

- 1) Direction was given to the Municipal Solicitor regarding a Human Resources matter.
- 2) Council agreed that Councillor Johnson facilitate a Workplace Policy and Procedures meeting for Staff and Council.

19. **Confirmation By-Law**

RESOLUTION No. 2020-176
MOVED BY: Councillor Anderson
SECONDED BY: Councillor Dube

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law No 2020-37 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 27th day of August 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. 2020-177
MOVED BY: Councillor Gabbani
SECONDED BY: Councillor Dube

BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned at 9:17 pm.

CARRIED

Mayor

Clerk