

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COBALT

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL COBALT COMMUNITY HALL Via Zoom AUGUST 31, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. MINUTES

PRESENT:

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

Angela Adshead– absent with notice

Staff: John Hodgson, Clerk-Treasurer
 Dale Taylor, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer
 Cassandra Beaudoin

Media Moderator One

Audience There was one person in the audience

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 12.1 Schedule of Accounts 2021-15.
3. **Approval/Amendment of Meeting Agenda**

RESOLUTION No. 2021-138

MOVED BY: Councillor B. Gabbani

SECONDED BY: Councillor M. Johnson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the agenda of the Regular meeting of Council dated August 31, 2021 as presented.

CARRIED

4. Approval of the Minutes

RESOLUTION No. 2021-139

MOVED BY: Councillor J. Dube

SECONDED BY: Councillor D. Wilcox

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the following minutes as presented:
Regular Meeting of Council – August 10, 2021
CARRIED

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

None

6. Inquiries – Members of the General Public

None

7. Delegations and Presentations

Jim Dymont – update on the Official Plan Review that the Town is in the process of undertaking.

Mr. Dymont, Municipal Planning Consultant, presented the Official Plan background scan. Next step is already in process. Council was asked to provide feedback.

RESOLUTION No. 2021-140

MOVED BY: Councillor M. Johnson

SECONDED BY: Councillor J. Dube

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council accept the delegation as presented.
CARRIED

8. Business Arising from Delegations and Presentations

None

9. Staff & Committee Reports

9.1 By-Law Enforcement

9.2 Public Works

Councilor Wilcox asked to have the painting scheduled earlier in the season.

Animal Control Report was not received.

RESOLUTION No. 2021-141

MOVED BY: Councillor D. Wilcox

SECONDED BY: Councillor J. Dube

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council accept the Staff and Committee reports as presented.
CARRIED

10. Items for Council direction:

10.1 Establishing a new signing authority responsibility.

RESOLUTION No. 2021-142

MOVED BY: Councillor M. Johnson

SECONDED BY: Councillor P. Anderson

WHEREAS all financial transactions and banking instruments require two signatures by the Corporation;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council authorize Cassandra Beaudoin to become an alternate signing authority for all banking instruments. Council confirms that John Hodgson, Clerk-Treasurer remains the primary signing authority and Dale Taylor, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer remains as an alternate signing authority.

AND FURTHER THAT: Council confirm that George Othmer, Mayor remains the primary signing authority and Doug Wilcox, Deputy Mayor remains the alternate on behalf of Council.

CARRIED

10.2 Altering office hours and admin staff hours.

RESOLUTION No. 2021-143

MOVED BY: Councillor J. Dube

SECONDED BY: Councillor M. Johnson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council accepts the report on altering of Municipal Office hours and Admin Staff hours. The Municipal Office hours will be from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm and 12:30 pm to 4:00 pm. Lunch hour will now be reduced by one/half hour and will go from 12:00 pm to 12:30 pm while remaining closed. Office staff working hours will go from 35 hours per week to 37.5 hours. This will be effective as of September 1, 2021.

CARRIED

10.3 Report prepared by staff on ongoing changes to vaccine protocols.

RESOLUTION No. 2021-144

MOVED BY: Councillor P. Anderson

SECONDED BY: Councillor M. Johnson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council accept the Staff report as presented and further direct staff to adapt and implement Temiskaming Health Unit directives and the Province of Ontario's soon to be released template for municipal vaccine protocols implementation. In the interim the Council meetings will be open to the public with appropriate and current COVID 19 protocols.

CARRIED

10.4 Trailer Park Fee Consolidation

RESOLUTION No. 2021-145

MOVED BY: Councillor M. Johnson

SECONDED BY: Councillor P. Anderson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct staff to consolidate the current 3 billing fee structure into one monthly bill for Trailer Park tenants. This fee structure would be implemented as of January 1, 2022. A 90-day notice to the tenant is required.

CARRIED

10.5 Requests for Community Hall rentals to be considered in light of COVID Protocols.

RESOLUTION No. 2021-146

MOVED BY: Councillor J. Dube

SECONDED BY: Councillor P. Anderson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Cobalt defer approving all Community Hall rental applications, as the evolving and unpublished protocols around COVID mandates including vaccination requirements make it difficult for the Town, as the building owner, to establish rules and protect itself from liabilities associated with this matter. This decision will be reviewed in early 2022. The exception is that the Community Hall will continue to hold Council meetings.

CARRIED

Correspondence for Council information:

None

11. By-Laws

11.1 By-Law No. 2021- 29 authorizing the debenture for Public Works Garage new build.

RESOLUTION No. 2021-147

MOVED BY: Councillor J. Dube

SECONDED BY: Councillor M. Johnson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the attached By-Law 2021-29, being a By-Law to authorize the borrowing upon amortization debentures in the principal amount of \$800,000 towards the cost of the community public works facility for the Town of Cobalt be read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 31st day of August 2021

CARRIED

11.2 Amendment to By-Law 2021-12 (Clean Yards) that will allow a limit for the court's consideration when ruling on By- Law infractions, not addressed through ticketing.

RESOLUTION No. 2021-148

MOVED BY: Councillor M. Johnson

SECONDED BY: Councillor B. Gabbani

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Section 5.4 of By-Law 2021-12 (Clean Yards) be amended to state: Pursuant to section 429(1) of the Municipal Act, a person convicted of an offence contrary to a provision of this By-Law in a proceeding commenced under Part III of the Provincial Offences Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P. 33, is liable to a maximum fine of \$25,000.

CARRIED

12. General Business**12.1 Approval of the Schedules**

Councillor Dube left the meeting during the motion and did not participate in the vote.

RESOLUTION No. 2021-149

MOVED BY: Councillor P. Anderson

SECONDED BY: Councillor G. Gabbani

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

Schedule No. 2021-15 in the amount of \$167,460.17

CARRIED

13. Motion for which prior notice has been given

None

14. Mayor's Report

None

15. Notices of Motion

None

16. Councillor Updates

None

17. Question and Answer

Councillor Gabbani inquired into the status of the garage build. Clerk-Treasurer Hodgson replied that the plans are with the Building Inspector and construction should begin shortly.

18. Closed Session**RESOLUTION No. 2021-150**

MOVED BY: Councillor M. Johnson

SECONDED BY: Councillor J. Dube

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;

CARRIED

19. Business Arising from Closed Session**RESOLUTION No. 2021-151**

MOVED BY: Councillor M. Johnson

SECONDED BY: Councillor P. Anderson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council authorize staff to proceed with a poll of the public on Recreation activities including expanding on new programming within the Town of Cobalt.

CARRIED

20. Confirmation By-Law

RESOLUTION No. 2021-152

MOVED BY: Councillor B. Gabbani

SECONDED BY: Councillor P. Anderson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law No 2021-30 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 31st day of August 2021.

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

CARRIED

21. Adjournment

RESOLUTION No. 2021-153

MOVED BY: Councillor M. Johnson

SECONDED BY: Councillor J. Dube

BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned at 8:02 pm.

CARRIED

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer