THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COBALT

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**COBALT COMMUNITY HALL**

**October 12, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:**

**Mayor** George Othmer

**Councillors:** Pat Anderson

Joe Dube

Bill Gabbani

Matthew Johnson

Angela Adshead (via zoom)

Doug Wilcox (via zoom)

**Staff:** John Hodgson, Clerk-Treasurer (via zoom)

Dale Taylor, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer

Cassandra Beaudoin

David Adshead, Working Foreman

**Media Moderator**

**Audience:** Six

# Call to Order

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

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

None

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

**RESOLUTION No. 2021-167**

**MOVED BY:** B. Gabbani

**SECONDED BY:** M. Johnson

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council approve the agenda of the Regular Meeting dated October 12, 2021

as amended.

CARRIED

1. **Approval of Minutes**

**RESOLUTION No. 2021-168**

**MOVED BY:** J. Dube

**SECONDED BY:** M. Johnson

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

Regular meeting of Council – September 21, 2021

CARRIED

1. **Business Arising from The Minutes**

None

**6. Inquiries – Members of the General Public**

None

**7. Delegations and Presentations**

1) Paul Chitaroni – Snow removal at 10 Grandview. Mr. Chitaroni gave a presentation in defence of the practice he does in removing snow from his property and dumping it on a portion of municipal property off of his property. Council agreed to consider his comments when dealing with the issue under the

By-Laws section.

2) Cobalt Historical Society – Maggie Wilson presented on the purpose and history of the Cobalt Historical Society, its actions and relationship with both the Town of Cobalt and the Township of Coleman. Of particular concern is the issue of liability insurance for the Heritage Silver Trail. Council directed staff to bring a report on the matter to the next Council meeting.

**8. Business Arising from Delegations and Presentations**

None

**9. Staff & Committee Reports**

9.1 Public Works

Councillor Wilcox noted that the paving of the medians took away from the greening of the downtown and will speak to the matter when Council revisits what we are doing with respect to the greening of our Town.

9.2 Animal Control

9.3 By-Law Enforcement

**RESOLUTION No. 2021-169**

**MOVED BY:** P. Anderson

**SECONDED BY:** J. Dube

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

CARRIED

**10. Items for Council direction:**

**10.1 Resolution re discontinuation of winter parking permits**

**RESOLUTION No. 2021-170**

**MOVED BY:** M. Johnson

**SECONDED BY:** B. Gabbani

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the practice of issuing winter parking permits be discontinued and that traditional users be informed immediately.

DEFERRED

**10.2 Resolution to amend By-Law 2020-50 user fee schedule for the Town of Cobalt facilities and services.**

**RESOLUTION No. 2021-171**

**MOVED BY:**  P. Anderson

**SECONDED BY:** A. Adshead

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Schedule “B” to By-Law 2020-50 is hereby amended to include the following statement of fees under Fire Services Fees: “Recover Costs of Extinguishing Open-Air Fire – Actual Cost”

CARRIED

**10.3 Resolution to defer implementation of By-Law 2021-25 to provide for Licensing and Regulation of Residential Units in the Town of Cobalt to April 1, 2022.**

**RESOLUTION No. 2021-172**

**MOVED BY:** P. Anderson

**SECONDED BY:** D. Wilcox

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** implementation of the license protocols for By-Law 2021-25 be deferred to April 1, 2022.

CARRIED

**10.4 Recommendation to approve Option 3 to fix and repair the structural issues at the Fire Museum/Food Bank Building at an estimated cost of $20,000.**

**RESOLUTION No. 2021-173**

**MOVED BY:** M. Johnson

**SECONDED BY:** D. Wilcox

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Town of Cobalt hire a firm to do an emergency repair to the Fire Museum/Food Bank building in accordance with Option 3 of the Engineer’s report on the matter.

CARRIED

**10.5 A resolution supporting FONOM’s efforts to petition the Province of Ontario to consolidate agencies to address Northern Ontario’s crisis in addressing challenges with mental health and addiction services.**

**RESOLUTION No. 2021-174**

**MOVED BY:** M. Johnson

**SECONDED BY:** P. Anderson

# WHEREAS Communities across the province are addressing an intensified social crisis and Northern Ontario is no different. We recognize that creating solutions will require a multi-ministry approach but if there are lessons to be learned from this pandemic, what were once cracks in the health care foundation, there are now large gaps forming especially around mental health, addictions, and homelessness;

**WHEREAS** Northern Ontario has significant challenges when it comes to accessing mental health and addictions services for our people in our communities;

**WHEREAS** over 300 Childcare staff who provide services to over 21,000 licensed child care spaces in over 340 locations across the North and they see the effects of Mental Health and Addictions every day in the children they care for and the parents they support;

**WHEREAS**, the defined area of Northern Ontario is over 800,000 square kilometers. Also, annually over 500 Social Services staff provide financial and employment assistance to over 15,000 families in 37 delivery sites across the North. Over 300 Community Housing staff provide safe and affordable housing to over 17,000 families in the North. In addition, there are many Police Officers and over 900 paramedics who responded to 200,000 medical emergency 911 calls. Paramedics have seen the direct results of the Mental Health and Addictions crisis in the North and in some cases becoming ill themselves trying to cope with what they have seen;

**WHEREAS** FONOM appreciates the efforts of all the agencies that are working to help and support those addicted to opioids. In some districts, over 30 agencies are providing some assistance. But we would like to see consolidation of these agencies with the input of Municipalities/DSSAB’s and local stakeholders. As we believe, a streamlined agency would be able to put the combined funds to better use;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that FONOM ask that our Northern Ontario Health Teams, in consultation with Municipalities/DSSAB’s and local stakeholders, support a province-wide strategy that supports such consolidation;

**FUTHER BE IT RESOLVED** that a copy of this Resolution be shared with Premier Ford, Christine Elliott the Minister of Health, Michael Tibollo the Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, the Leaders of the Provincial Oppositions, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).

CARRIED

**Items for Council information:**

**11. By-laws**

**11.1 By-Law 2021-32 to regulate traffic and parking of vehicles in the Town of Cobalt.**

**RESOLUTION No. 2021-175**

**MOVED BY:** J. Dube

**SECONDED BY:** B. Gabbani

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-Law No. 2021- 32 being a By-Law to regulate traffic and parking of vehicles within the Town of Cobalt be taken as read a first and second time this 12th day of October 2021.

CARRIED

**11.2 By-Law 2021-33 to regulate the removal and relocation of snow within the Town of Cobalt (repeals By-Law 2008-12)**

**RESOLUTION No. 2021-176**

**MOVED BY:** M. Johnson

**SECONDED BY:** J. Dube

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-Law No. 2021- 33 being a By-Law to regulate the removal and relocation of snow within the Town of Cobalt, be taken as read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 12th day of October 2021.

DEFERRED

Council agreed to have Councillor Gabbani and Johnson have an exploratory conversation with Public Works and the homeowner to address concerns brought to Council and provide a report for the next Council meeting.

**12. General Business**

**12.1 Schedule of Accounts**

**RESOLUTION No. 2021-177**

**MOVED BY:** M. Johnson

**SECONDED BY:** J. Dube

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council receives the following Schedule as presented:

Schedule No. 2021-18 in the amount of $119,570.70

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. Council Question and Answer**

None

**18. Closed Session**

**RESOLUTION No. 2021-178**

**MOVED BY:** B. Gabbani

**SECONDED BY:** P. Anderson

**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**

Direction was given to Staff on closed session matters.

**20. Confirmation By-law**

**RESOLUTION No. 2021-179**

**MOVED BY:** D. Wilcox

**SECONDED BY:** J. Dube

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-Law No. 2021- 34 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 12th day of October 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. 2021-180**

**MOVED BY:** D. Wilcox

**SECONDED BY:** J. Dube

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

CARRIED

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Clerk-Treasurer