

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COBALT

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING COBALT COMMUNITY HALL April 18, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. MINUTES

Present:

Deputy Mayor: Doug Wilcox

Councillors: Pat Anderson
Harry Cooper
Angela Hunter
Gary Hughes
Jim Starchuk

Staff: S. Dalley, Town Manager/Clerk-Treasurer
D. Taylor, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer
C. Beaudoin, Administrative Clerk

Media Moderator

1. **Call to Order**
Deputy Mayor Wilcox called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
2. **Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof**
Nil
3. **Public Meetings**
Nil
4. **Deputations/Delegation**
Nil
5. **Approval/Amendment of Meeting Agenda**

RESOLUTION No. 2023-104

MOVED BY: J. Starchuk

SECONDED BY: H. Cooper

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the agenda of the Regular Meeting dated April 18, 2023 as presented.

CARRIED

6. **Approval of Previous Council Minutes**

RESOLUTION No. 2023-105

MOVED BY: J. Starchuk

SECONDED BY: G. Hughes

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

Regular Meeting of Council - March 21, 2023

Special Meeting of Council - March 28, 2023

Committee of the Whole Meeting of Council – April 4, 2023

CARRIED

7. **Items for Council consideration**

7.1 Letter of Resignation from Mayor Gibson

RESOLUTION No. 2023-106

MOVED BY: P. Anderson

SECONDED BY: G. Hughes

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Town of Cobalt does accept the resignation from Mayor Gibson this 18th day of April 2023;

AND FURTHER THAT pursuant to section 262 of the *Municipal Act*, the Mayor's seat be declared vacant.

CARRIED

Deputy Mayor Wilcox read the resignation letter publicly.

7.2 Staff Report 2023.04.18.01 – How to Fill Vacancies on Council

RESOLUTION No. 2023-107

MOVED BY: H. Cooper

SECONDED BY: J. Starchuk

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council accept the Staff Report 2023.04.18.01 as presented.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION No. 2023-108

MOVED BY: J. Starchuk

SECONDED BY: P. Anderson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council suspend the Procedural By-Law to allow a motion to be introduced.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION No. 2023-109

MOVED BY: H. Cooper
SECONDED BY: A. Hunter

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council request expression of interest from the general public to fill the vacant mayor’s seat.

WITHDRAWN

RESOLUTION No. 2023-110

MOVED BY: J. Starchuk
SECONDED BY: P. Anderson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council defer any decisions to the Committee of the Whole Meeting on May 2, 2023

CARRIED

7.3 Hacking of Council Meetings

RESOLUTION No. 2023-111

MOVED BY: G. Hughes
SECONDED BY: H. Cooper

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council directs staff to proceed with Zoom Webinar.

CARRIED

7.4 Motion for support for the Town of Essex – Tax Classification of Short-Term Rental Units

RESOLUTION No. 2023-112

MOVED BY: P. Anderson
SECONDED BY: A. Hunter

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council supports the Corporation of the Town of Essex’s motion regarding tax classification of short-term rental units;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of the resolution be forwarded to the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (“MPAC”), the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, and any other relevant bodies, to investigate the tax classification of short-term rental units and consider taxing them as commercial as opposed to residential.

CARRIED

7.5 Motion for support for the Town of Essex – Reinstatement of Legislation permitting a Municipality to retain surplus from Tax Sales.

RESOLUTION No. 2023-113

MOVED BY: P. Anderson

SECONDED BY: J. Starchuk

WHEREAS prior to being repealed by the Modernizing Ontario's Municipal Legislation Act, 2017, section 380(6) of the Municipal Act, 2001 allowed for a Municipality to retain surplus proceeds from tax sales within their jurisdiction;

AND WHEREAS the Public Tax Sale process is burdensome to a municipality who invest a considerable amount of time and money recovering these proceeds for the potential sole benefit of the Crown in Right of Ontario; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council supports the Corporation of the Town of Essex's motion regarding the reinstatement of previous legislation permitting a municipality to retain surplus proceeds from tax sale.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of the resolution be forwarded to the all relevant bodies, including the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, the Ministry of Finance and MPP John Vanthof urging them to re-instate previous legislation that permitted a Municipality to apply for and retain the surplus from a tax sale in their jurisdiction.

CARRIED

Items for Council information

RESOLUTION No. 2023-114

MOVED BY: G. Hughes

SECONDED BY: H. Cooper

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council accept the items for Council consideration and information as presented.

CARRIED

8. By-Laws and Agreements

8.1 By-Law 2023-11 - Amendment to By-Law 2022-25 Procedural By-Law

RESOLUTION No. 2023-115

MOVED BY: H. Cooper

SECONDED BY: J. Starchuk

WHEREAS the Procedural By-Law for the Town of Cobalt includes provisions for the necessity for staff to be present during the Ad Hoc Meetings;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Cobalt enacts as follows:

That section 7.8.2 (c) which reads “member composition, including staff member(s) who shall be responsible for the administration of the Ad-Hoc Committee;” shall be replaced with “member composition, which shall include staff members when required for the administration of the Ad-Hoc Committee”;

BE TAKEN AS READ a first, second and third time and passed this 18th day of April 2023;

AND FURTHER THAT the said By-Law be signed and sealed by the Mayor and Clerk.

CARRIED

9. **Unfinished Business**

Nil

10. **New Business**

10.1 Schedule of Accounts

RESOLUTION No. 2023-116

MOVED BY: P. Anderson

SECONDED BY: J. Starchuk

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

Schedule No. 2023-06 in the amount of \$168,505.20.

Schedule No. 2023-07 in the amount of \$126,218.30.

CARRIED

11. **Closed Meeting**

Nil

12. **Business Arising from Closed Meeting**

Nil

13. **Confirmation By-Law**

RESOLUTION No. 2023-117

MOVED BY: P. Anderson

SECONDED BY: J. Starchuk

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 2023-12 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 passed this 18th day of April 2023;

AND FURTHER THAT the said By-Law be signed and sealed by the Mayor and Clerk.

CARRIED

14. **Adjournment**

RESOLUTION No. 2023-118

MOVED BY: J. Starchuk

SECONDED BY: H. Cooper

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

CARRIED

Mayor

Clerk