

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COBALT

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING COBALT COMMUNITY HALL November 7, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. MINUTES

Present:

Mayor: Angela Adshead

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

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

Media Moderator

1. Call to Order:

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

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

None

3. Deputations/Delegation

John Vanthof, MPP Timiskaming-Cochrane gave an overview of his riding and received the following items for discussion from Council:

1. Catch and release update
2. Fire service standards for small municipalities
3. Rising cost of living
4. Homelessness issue
5. Uniform training for new councillors across the province
6. Financial support from the province from downloaded services
7. Wetlands Provincial approval

Mr. Vanthof will draft various letters of concern/support for Council's approval before distributing.

4. Adoption of Meeting Agenda

RESOLUTION No. 2023-257

MOVED BY: Councillor Anderson

SECONDED BY: Councillor Wilcox

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting dated November 7, 2023 as presented.

CARRIED

5. Staff Reports

5.1 Public Works – October 2023

5.2 Animal Control – September 2023 – Contract discussions will be discussed in 2024

5.3 By-Law Enforcement – October 2023

RESOLUTION No. 2023-258

MOVED BY: Councillor Starchuk

SECONDED BY: Councillor Hughes

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

CARRIED

6. Items for Council consideration:

6.1 Draft By-Law 2023-XX to Adopt a User Fee By-Law for 2024-2026 (Staff Report 2023.11.07.01)

6.2 Draft By-Law 2023-XX to Adopt Amendment No. 2 to By-Law 2020-32 Municipal Property Tax Policy to include notice of property owner's responsibility and additional arrears notice.
(Staff Report 2023.11.07.02)

6.3 Councillor Cooper – Council Stipend (Staff Report 2023.11.07.03)

Recommendation: A motion for option #1 to freeze Council stipend at the current rate for the entire term will be presented at the next Regular Meeting.

6.4 Cobalt Classic Theatre – Discussion of Lease Agreement (Staff Report 2023.11.07.04)

Recommendation: Council requested a staff report on the Classic Theatre building expenses for the December Committee of the Whole meeting.

6.5 Bunker Museum – Water Issue

Recommendation: Staff to consult with Don Dekker for repair options.

6.6 Mayor Adshead – Community Initiative

Recommendation: A motion for Council to endorse a Community Engagement Initiative will be presented at the next Regular Meeting.

6.7 Ad-Hoc Committees – Sharpe Lake Property, Budget, Procedural and Procurement to be changed to Town Manager Advisory Groups. (Staff Report 2023.11.07.05)

Recommendation: A motion to change the Ad-Hoc Committees to Town Advisory Groups will be presented at the next Regular Meeting

6.8 Timiskaming Health Unit – Municipal Expense Allocation Method (Staff Report 2023.11.07.06)

Recommendation: A motion will be presented at the next Regular Meeting to approve the Timiskaming Health Unit's recommendation to change the allocation method from MPAC data to Statistic Canada's census data.

6.9 Library Board Members – 2 New Members – Suzanne Othmer and Mary Church

Recommendation: A motion will be presented at the next Regular Meeting to appoint Suzanne Othmer and Mary Church to the Cobalt Library Board.

6.10 Surplus Lots – Pyrite Street (Staff Report 2023.11.07.07)

Recommendation: A motion will be presented at the next Regular Meeting to advertise the properties for sale.

RESOLUTION No. 2023-259

MOVED BY: Councillor Starchuk
SECONDED BY: Councillor Anderson

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

7. Items for Council information:

7.1 Temporary Closure for portion of Coniagas Road
Council received notice from Agnico Eagle’s contractor’s WSP that they will be completing remedial work starting November 14, 2023 for 4 to 5 weeks.

RESOLUTION No. 2023-260

MOVED BY: Councillor Anderson
SECONDED BY: Councillor Starchuk

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

8. Unfinished Business

9. New Business

9.1 Mayor’s Report

Mayor Adshead thanked those who responded and reissued her “What I Love About Cobalt” challenge.

10. Closed Meeting

RESOLUTION No. 2023-261

MOVED BY: Councillor Cooper
SECONDED BY: Councillor Starchuk

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 employees;
CARRIED

11. Business Arising from Closed Meeting

12. Adjournment

RESOLUTION No. 2023-262

MOVED BY: Councillor Wilcox
SECONDED BY: Councillor Hughes

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Committee of the Whole Meeting of Council be adjourned at 9:21 p.m.
CARRIED



Mayor



Clerk