

# THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COBALT

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING COBALT COMMUNITY HALL February 20, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. AGENDA

---

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof**
3. **Public Meetings**  
None
4. **Deputations/Delegation**  
4.1 Cobalt Public Library – 2024 Budget  
4.2 Cobalt Fire Department – Chief Hearn – Fire Truck Discussion
5. **Adoption of Meeting Agenda**

### DRAFT MOTION

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council approve the agenda of the Regular Meeting dated February 20, 2024 as presented.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

**DISCUSSION  
VOTE**

6. **Adoption of Previous Council Minutes**

### DRAFT MOTION

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

Regular Meeting – January 24, 2024  
Committee of the Whole Meeting – February 6, 2024

Moved by:

Seconded by:

**DISCUSSION  
VOTE**

**7. Items for Council consideration**

**7.1 Temiskaming Municipal Services Association (TMSA) – Planner Opt In**

**DRAFT MOTION**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Town of Cobalt will opt in to the Temiskaming Municipal Services Association (TMSA) expansion of a Municipal Planner.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

**DISCUSSION  
VOTE**

**7.2 Notice of Motion – Councillor Wilcox (Staff Report 2024.02.20.01)**

**DRAFT MOTION**

**WHEREAS** pursuant to Procedural By-Law 2022-25, Article 6.3.5:

“Closed Meeting materials shall be provided to Council in confidence, no later than 24 hours before the hour appointed for the holding of such meeting”;

**AND WHEREAS** pursuant to the Procedural By-Law 2022-25, Article 6.3.6:

“Only Closed Meeting materials related to Human Resources may be handed out at the table, must be printed on coloured paper and returned to the Clerk immediately following the meeting”;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** all Closed Meeting materials not related to Human Resources be provided to Council with the regular meeting package of materials.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

**DISCUSSION  
VOTE**

**7.3 Temiskaming Shores and Area Physician Recruitment and Retention Initiative – Letter for Five-Year Commitment.**

**DRAFT MOTION**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Town of Cobalt will continue to support the Temiskaming Shores and Area Physician Recruitment and Retention Initiative with an annual contribution of \$2,967.00 over a five-year period.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

**DISCUSSION  
VOTE**

## **7.4 Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO) – Resolution – Promote Stability of Municipal Finances**

### **DRAFT MOTION**

**WHEREAS** current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life;

**WHEREAS** nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year;

**WHEREAS** municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation;

**WHEREAS** unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure;

**WHEREAS** municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addiction crisis;

**WHEREAS** inflation, rising cost of interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity;

**WHEREAS** property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can't afford to subsidize income re-distribution program for those most in need;

**WHEREAS** the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities;

**WHEREAS** municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario.

**AND FURTHER THAT** this resolution be directed to the Premier of Ontario; Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).

Moved by:

Seconded by:

### **DISCUSSION VOTE**

## **7.5 Cobalt Public Library Board Member Appointment**

### **DRAFT MOTION**

**WHEREAS** as a result of two vacant seats on the Cobalt Public Library Board, Council advertised for interested persons to apply to fill the vacancies;

**AND WHEREAS** one application was received by the deadline of January 26, 2024;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** Catherine Lafoy be appointed to the Cobalt Public Library Board.

**AND FURTHER THAT** the Town of Cobalt continue advertising to fill the vacancy with a deadline March 22, 2024 at noon.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

### **DISCUSSION VOTE**

**7.6 Cobalt Day December 29<sup>th</sup>**

DRAFT MOTION

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** December 29<sup>th</sup> will be recognized at Cobalt Day as proposed by Councillor Anderson.

Moved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Secoded by: \_\_\_\_\_

**DISCUSSION  
VOTE**

**7.7 Negotiating Committee Appointment**

DRAFT MOTION

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Councillor Hughes and Councillor Starchuk be appointed to the 2024 CUPE Collective Agreement Negotiating Committee along with the Town Manager.

Moved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Secoded by: \_\_\_\_\_

**DISCUSSION  
VOTE**

**7.8 Frequency of Meetings**

DRAFT MOTION

**WHEREAS** at the Committee of the Whole Meeting on February 6, 2024, Council received Staff Report 2024.02.06.04 with a recommendation to pause Committee of the Whole Meetings with the effect of having a Regular Council Meeting once every 4 weeks;

**AND WHEREAS** pursuant Section 6.3.1 of Procedural By-Law 2022-25 that public notice of meetings shall be given by posting the meeting schedule as per the Term of Council – Calendar as adopted by Council;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council adopt the following Term of Council – Calendar for 2024 with reevaluate the frequency of meetings in 1 year – March 2025.

- April 2, 2024
- April 30, 2024
- May 28, 2024
- June 25, 2024
- July 23, 2024
- August 20, 2024
- September 17, 2024
- October 15, 2024
- November 12, 2024
- December 10, 2024
- January 7, 2025
- February 4, 2025
- March 4, 2025

**AND FURTHER THAT** The Term of Council – Calendar be posted on the Town’s official website.

Moved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Secoded by: \_\_\_\_\_

**DISCUSSION  
VOTE**

8. **Items for Council information**  
None

9. **By-Laws and Agreements**

**9.1 By-Law 2024-06 – To Regulate Smoking and Vaping Within the Town of Cobalt**

DRAFT MOTION

**WHEREAS** at the Committee of the Whole Meeting on February 6, 2024, Council received Staff Report 2024.02.06.01 with a recommendation to adopt a smoking By-Law;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-Law No. 2024-06 being a By-Law to regulate smoking and vaping within the Town of Cobalt;

**BE TAKEN AS READ** a first, second and third time this 20<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2024;

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

Moved by:

Seconded by:

**DISCUSSION  
VOTE**

**9.2 By-Law 2024-07 – Amendment No. 2 to Procedural By-Law 2022-25**

DRAFT MOTION

**WHEREAS** at the Committee of the Whole Meeting on February 6, 2024, Council received Staff Report 2024.02.06.04 with a recommendation to pause Committee of the Whole Meetings with the effect of having a Regular Council Meeting once every 4 weeks;

**AND WHEREAS** Staff Reports are only presented at the Committee of the Whole Meetings as per Section 6.1 and 6.2 of Procedural By-Law 2022-25 which outlines the Order of Business for both Regular Council Meetings and Committee of the Whole Meetings;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-Law No. 2024-07 being a By-Law to Amend Section 6.1.1 of Procedural By-Law 2022-25 to include Staff Reports on the Schedule of Meetings (Order of Business) – Regular Council Meeting;

**BE TAKEN AS READ** a first, second and third time this 20<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2024;

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

Moved by:

Seconded by:

**DISCUSSION  
VOTE**

10. **Unfinished Business**  
None

11. **New Business**  
11.1 **Schedule of Accounts**

DRAFT MOTION

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

Schedule No. 2024-02 in the amount of \$353,043.32.

Schedule No. 2024-03 in the amount of \$106,769.61.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

**DISCUSSION**  
**VOTE**

12. **Closed Meeting**  
None

13. **Business Arising from Closed Meeting**  
None

14. **Confirmation By-Law**

DRAFT BY-LAW

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-Law No. 2024-08 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 this 20<sup>th</sup> day of February 2024;

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

Moved by:

Seconded by:

**VOTE**

15. **Adjournment**

DRAFT MOTION

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned at

Moved by:

Seconded by:

**VOTE**