

# THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COBALT

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING COBALT COMMUNITY HALL April 2, 2024 at 7:15 p.m. MINUTES

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**Present:**

**Mayor:** Angela Adshead (via zoom)

**Councillors:**

Harry Cooper  
Gary Hughes  
Jim Starchuk  
Pat Anderson  
Doug Wilcox

**Absent:** Angela Hunter (without notice)

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

1. **Call to Order**  
Mayor Adshead called the meeting to order at 7:18 p.m.
2. **Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof**  
Councillor Starchuk declared a pecuniary interest with item 8.2 City of Temiskaming Shores - Letter of Support for Rural Transit Solutions Fund.
3. **Public Meetings**  
None
4. **Deputations/Delegation**  
4.1 Integrity Commissioner Report presentation re: Councillor Cooper by E4m IC Consultant Colleen Hannigan  
  
Ms. Peggy Lovelace, representing Colleen Hannigan, read from a prepared statement.
5. **Adoption of Meeting Agenda**

**RESOLUTION No. 2024-064**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Anderson  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Starchuk

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council approve the agenda of the Regular Meeting dated April 2, 2024 as presented.

CARRIED

**6. Adoption of Previous Council Minutes**

**RESOLUTION No. 2024-065**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Hughes

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Cooper

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

Committee of the Whole Meeting – March 5, 2024

Special Meeting – March 7, 2024 (1)

Special Meeting – March 7, 2024 (2)

Special Meeting – March 26, 2024

CARRIED

**7. Staff Reports**

**RESOLUTION No. 2024-066**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Starchuk

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Anderson

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council accept the staff reports as presented.

7.1 Public Works – March 2024

7.2 Animal Control – No Report Provided

7.3 By-Law Enforcement – March 2024

7.4 Cobalt Public Library - February 24, 2024 Meeting Minutes

7.5 Staff Report 2024.04.02.01 - 2024 Budget Update

7.6 Staff Report 2024.04.02.02 - Amendment No. 1 to User Fee By-Law 2023-33

7.7 Staff Report 2024.04.02.03 - Amendment No. 1 to Open Air Burning By-Law 2021-15

7.8 Staff Report 2024.04.02.04 - Amendment No. 1 to Zoning By-Law 2022-24 (Train Station)

CARRIED

**8. Items for Council consideration**

**8.1 Train Station – Site Plan Agreement**

**RESOLUTION No. 2024-067**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Anderson

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Cooper

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council direct staff to execute the Site Plan Agreement with JHTW Holdings Inc.

CARRIED

**8.2 City of Temiskaming Shores – Letter of Support – Rural Transit Solutions Fund – Funding Application**

Council Starchuk left the meeting and did not participate in the discussion or vote.

**RESOLUTION No. 2024-068**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Wilcox

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Anderson

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council will support the funding application to Rural Transit Solutions Fund by City of Temiskaming Shores.

**AND FURTHER THAT** a copy of this resolution be sent to the City of Temiskaming Shores.

CARRIED

**9. Items for Council information**

9.1 Solicitor General response to MPP John Vanthof – Fire Truck

9.2 Cobalt Public Library – Open House Invitation April 13, 2024 – Mayor Adshead said she would be attending and encouraged Council to attend.

9.3 Timiskaming Health Unit – 2023 Year End Report to the Board of Health

9.4 OCWA – Cobalt Constructed Wetlands 2023 Annual Report

**RESOLUTION No. 2024-069**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Starchuk

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Cooper

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

CARRIED

**10. By-Laws and Agreements**

**10.1 By-Law 2024-11 – Amendment No. 1 to User Fee By-Law 2023-33**

**RESOLUTION No. 2024-070**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Cooper

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Anderson

**WHEREAS** Council received Staff Report 2024.04.02.02 which detailed a cost recovery analysis on user fees with the following recommendations:

1. Increase of \$30.00 to OPP
2. Increase of \$62.00 to Waste Management
3. Increase of 8% to Water Operating

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-Law 2024-11 being a By-Law to adopt Amendment No. 1 to User Fee By-Law 2023-33 be read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2024;

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

CARRIED

**10.2 By-Law 2024-12 – Amendment No. 1 to Open Air Burning By-Law 2021-15**

**RESOLUTION No. 2024-071**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Starchuk

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Anderson

**WHEREAS** Council received Staff Report 2024.04.02.03 recommending the prohibition of fireworks during a fire ban;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-Law 2024-12 being a By-Law to adopt Amendment No. 1 to Open Air Burning By-Law 2021-15 be read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2024;

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

CARRIED

### 10.3 By-Law 2024-13 – Amendment No. 1 to Zoning By-Law 2022-24

#### RESOLUTION No. 2024-072

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Anderson

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Starchuk

**WHEREAS** in September 2023, Council received an application for a Zoning By-Law Amendment from JHTW Holdings Inc and a statutory public meeting was held on October 17, 2023;

**AND WHEREAS** the Ontario Northland Railway (ONTC) filed a letter of concern with the Town of Cobalt and Council directed staff to consult with ONTC to ensure that the concerns are addressed before the draft By-Law amendment was considered;

**AND WHEREAS** Staff have prepared a Site Plan Agreement that addressed these concerns and ONTC are satisfied with the conditions as outlined in Staff Report 2024.04.02.04.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-Law 2024-13 being a By-Law to adopt Amendment No. 1 to Zoning By-Law 2022-24 be read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2024;

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

CARRIED

### 11. Unfinished Business

#### RESOLUTION No. 2024-073

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Anderson

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Starchuk

**WHEREAS** Peggy Young-Lovelace on behalf of E4m, the Town of Cobalt appointed Integrity Commissioner, addressed Council at their meeting on Thursday, March 7, 2024.

**AND WHEREAS** she expressed concern about repeat offences of attempted direction of staff by Councillor Wilcox utilizing email which is contrary to his role as a member of Council and has led to complaints to the Integrity Commissioner;

**AND WHEREAS** Ms. Young-Lovelace requested that Council assist in the prevention of further complaints to the Integrity Commissioner as well as allegations of workplace harassment from Town Employees;

**AND WHEREAS** she recommended Council could prevent further complaints by directing that Councillor Wilcox only communicate with the Town by email and that all email communication be addressed to a specific email address for that purpose and not the Town Manager or other municipal employees;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Council hereby directs that Councillor Wilcox shall not email Town Employees

**AND FURTHER THAT** should Councillor Wilcox need to communicate with Town employees that he shall email \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ who then will liaise with the Town Manager and respond to Councillor Wilcox accordingly.

DEFERRED

**RESOLUTION No. 2024-074**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Cooper  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Wilcox

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Council defer the resolution from E4M until the next Regular Council Meeting on April 30, 2024.

Recorded Vote:

Councillor Cooper	F	Councillor Starchuk	F
Councillor Anderson	F	Councillor Wilcox	F
Councillor Hughes	F	Mayor Adshead	F

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CARRIED

**12. New Business**

**11.1 Schedule of Accounts**

**RESOLUTION No. 2024-075**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Cooper  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Anderson

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

Schedule No. 2024-04 in the amount of \$137,699.05.  
Schedule No. 2024-05 in the amount of \$316,073.68.

CARRIED

**13. Mayor’s Report**

None

**14. Closed Meeting**

None

**15. Business Arising from Closed Meeting**

None

**16. Confirmation By-Law**

**RESOLUTION No. 2024-076**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Starchuk  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Cooper

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-Law No. 2024-14 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 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April 2024;

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

CARRIED


**15. Adjournment**

**RESOLUTION No. 2024-077**

**MOVED BY:** Councillor Anderson  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Wilcox

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

CARRIED

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk