

7. **Staff Reports**

DRAFT MOTION

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

Moved by:

Seconded by:

DISCUSSION

7.1 Cobalt Public Library Minutes – October 26, 2024

7.2 Staff Report – 2024.12.10.01 Hiring Public Works Temporary Employee

7.3 Staff Report – 2024.12.10.02 St. Patrick Catholic School Evacuation Site Request

7.4 Staff Report – 2024.12.10.03 Northeastern Public Health Unit Board of Health – Representative for Rural South Region

7.5 Staff Report – 2024.12.10.04 By-Law 2024-44 To Authorize Cobalt Non-Core Asset Management

7.6 Staff Report – 2024.12.10.05 By-Law 2024-45 Amendment No.4 to User Fee By-Law 2023-33

7.7 Staff Report – 2024.12.10.06 By-Law 2024-46 Dormant Building Permit Fee

VOTE

8. **Items for Council consideration**

8.1 Letter of Support – Municipality of Callander - Urging the Government to Promptly Resume Assessment Cycle

DRAFT MOTION

WHEREAS the assessment cycle is an essential process for maintaining the fairness and predictability of property taxes in our province;

AND WHEREAS the pause in the reassessment cycle has created uncertainty and instability in the property taxation, impacting both residential and commercial property owners;

AND WHEREAS the government has delayed an assessment update again in 2024, resulting in Ontario’s municipalities continuing to calculate property taxes using 2016 property values;

AND WHEREAS both current and outdated assessments are inaccurate, increase volatility, and are not transparent;

AND WHEREAS frequent and accurate reassessments are necessary to stabilize property taxes and provide predictability for property owners, residents, and businesses alike;

AND WHEREAS the staff at the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation would benefit from further skill enhancement and training in assessments, recognizing the importance of ensuring accurate evaluations for 100% of our municipality;

AND WHEREAS the pause in the reassessment cycle has created uncertainty and instability in the property taxation, impacting both residential and commercial property owners;

AND WHEREAS the Government has announced a review of the property assessment and taxation system with a focus on fairness, equity, and economic competitiveness, and therefore further deferring new property assessment;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Cobalt hereby calls upon the Premier to promptly resume the assessment cycle to ensure the stability and predictability of property taxes while the Government conducts its review of the property assessment and taxation system, or respond with an alternative method for every municipality in Ontario to archive fair taxation;

AND FURTHER THAT all Municipalities in Ontario and their constituents are encouraged to apply pressure to the Premier, daily, weekly, and monthly, to resolve the situation before it causes undo stress to everyone in the Municipality;

AND FINALLY THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Premier, the relevant provincial authorities, the Association of Municipality in Ontario, the Rural Ontario Municipalities Association, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation, and all the municipalities in Ontario for their consideration, to make proper changes as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

**DISCUSSION
VOTE**

8.2 Letter of Support – Catch and Release

DRAFT MOTION

WHEREAS Police Services across Ontario are exhausting precious time and resources having to manage the repeated arrests of the same offenders, which in turn, is impacting their morale, and ultimately law-abiding citizens who are paying the often significant financial and emotional toll of this broken system;

AND WHEREAS the “catch and release” system is needlessly increasing the policing costs to the Municipalities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT that the Corporation of the Town of Cobalt will send a letter to the Federal and Provincial Governments requesting meaningful improvements to the current state of “catch and release” justice in the Ontario legal system;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Premier, the relevant federal and provincial authorities, the Rural Ontario Municipalities Association, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities and all municipalities in Ontario for their endorsement consideration.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

**DISCUSSION
VOTE**

8.3 Public Works – Seasonal Employee (Staff Report 2024.12.10.01)

DRAFT MOTION

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives Staff report 2024.12.10.01 as presented and approves the recommendation to hire a labourer for winter operations under Section 6.06 of the Collective Agreement – Temporary Employee/Seasonal Employee.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

DISCUSSION VOTE

8.4 Cobalt Community Hall – Evacuation Site Request from St. Patrick Catholic School (Staff Report 2024.12.10.02)

DRAFT MOTION

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council agrees to allow St. Patrick Catholic School to use the Cobalt Community Hall as an Evacuation Site.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

DISCUSSION VOTE

8.5 Northeastern Public Health Unit Board of Health – Representative for Rural South Region (Staff Report 2024.12.10.03)

DRAFT MOTION

WHEREAS the Municipality of the Corporation of the Town of Cobalt is required to appoint a representative to the Northeastern Public Health Unit Board of Health to represent the Rural South region, including the municipalities of Armstrong, Brethour, Casey, Cobalt, Coleman, Harley, Harris, Hilliard, Hudson, Kerns, Latchford, Temagami, and Thornloe;

AND WHEREAS a nomination process has been conducted to select a candidate to represent the municipality on the Board of Health;

AND WHEREAS the candidate(s) for this position have been duly nominated and their candidacy has been reviewed by Council;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of the Corporation of the Town of Cobalt hereby nominates and selects Carol Lowery to serve as the municipal representative on the Northeastern Public Health Unit Board of Health until the end of the current term.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT in the event of a tie vote among nominees, the Heads of Council of the municipalities within the Rural South region will vote to break the tie, with the decision being determined by majority vote.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this nomination be communicated to the Northeastern Public Health Unit for final approval and appointment.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

**DISCUSSION
VOTE**

9. Items for Council information

DRAFT MOTION

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

Moved by:

Seconded by:

DISCUSSION

9.1 OPP - Revised 2025 Costs

9.2 Councillor Anderson - Cobalt's 118th Birthday on December 29th, 2024

VOTE

10. By-Laws and Agreements

10.1 By-Law 2024-44 To Authorize a Cobalt Non-Core Asset Management Plan
(Staff Report 2024.12.10.04)

DRAFT MOTION

WHEREAS Council received Staff Report 2024.12.10.04 with a recommendation to accept By-Law 2024-44 to Authorize a Cobalt Non-Core Asset Management Plan;

WHEREAS under Section 8. (1) of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O., 2001, c.25, as amended, the powers of a municipality under this or any other Act shall be interpreted broadly so as to confer broad authority on the municipality to enable the municipality to govern its affairs as it considers appropriate and to enhance the municipality's ability to respond to municipal issues;

AND WHEREAS under Section 9 of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O., 2001, c.25, as amended, a municipality has the capacity, rights, powers and privileges of a natural person for the purpose of exercising its authority under this or any other act;

AND WHEREAS under Section 10 (1) of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c.25 as amended, a single tier municipality may provide any service or thing that the Municipality considers necessary or desirable for the public;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 2024-44 being a Non-Core Asset Management Plan for the Town of Cobalt be taken as read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 10th day of December 2024;

December 10, 2024

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 2024-46 being a By-Law Respecting Construction, Demolition and Change of Use Permits and Inspections be taken as read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 10th day of December, 2024;

Moved by:

Seconded by:

**DISCUSSION
VOTE**

11. Unfinished Business

12. New Business

12.1 Schedule of Accounts

DRAFT MOTION

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

Schedule No. 2024-22 in the amount of \$109,819.05

Schedule No. 2024-23 in the amount of \$111,531.05

Moved by:

Seconded by:

**DISCUSSION
VOTE**

13. Mayor’s Report

- Grand Lighting of the Downtown Park
- Notice of Meeting Date for January 2025
(Regular Council Meeting – Tuesday January 14, 2025)

14. Closed Meeting

DRAFT MOTION

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(a) Security of the property of the municipality or local board;

2(b) Personal matter about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees;

Moved by:

Seconded by:

VOTE

15. **Business Arising from Closed Meeting**

16. **Confirmation By-Law**

DRAFT BY-LAW

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 2024-47 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 10th day of December, 2024

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

Moved by:

Seconded by:

VOTE

17. **Adjournment**

DRAFT MOTION

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

Moved by:

Seconded by:

VOTE