

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COBALT

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING COBALT COMMUNITY HALL January 14, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. MINUTES

Present:

Mayor: Angela Adshead

Councillors:

Pat Anderson
Gary Hughes
Angela Hunter
Rene Lafleur
Jim Starchuk
Doug Wilcox

Staff:

S. Dalley, Town Manager
C. Beaudoin, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer

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. Public Meetings

None

4. Deputations/Delegation

4.1 – Matthew McLaren – 34 Cobalt Street - Minor Variance Consideration

Mr. McLaren read from a prepared statement some considerations for applying for a Minor Variance instead of Zoning By-Law Amendment for his property at 34 Cobalt Street.

5. Adoption of Meeting Agenda

RESOLUTION No. 2025-001

MOVED BY: Councillor Lafleur

SECONDED BY: Councillor Anderson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the agenda of the Regular Meeting dated January 14, 2025 as amended.

Section 7.4 and 10.3 should read Amendment No. 5 not Amendment No. 4.

CARRIED

6. **Adoption of Previous Council Minutes**

RESOLUTION No. 2025-002

MOVED BY: Councillor Hughes

SECONDED BY: Councillor Lafleur

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

Regular Meeting of Council – December 10, 2024

CARRIED

7. **Staff Reports**

RESOLUTION No. 2025-003

MOVED BY: Councillor Hughes

SECONDED BY: Councillor Starchuk

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

7.1 Cobalt Public Library Minutes – November 16, 2024

7.2 Staff Report 2025.01.14.01 – Municipal Line of Credit

7.3 Staff Report 2025.01.14.02 – Interim Tax Levy

7.4 Staff Report 2025.01.14.03 – Amendment No. 5 to User Fee By-Law 2023-33

CARRIED

8. **Items for Council consideration**

8.1 Cobalt Fire Department Recruits

RESOLUTION No. 2025-004

MOVED BY: Councillor Wilcox

SECONDED BY: Councillor Anderson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the recommendation from the Cobalt Fire Chief to appoint the following applicants as volunteer firefighters to the Cobalt Fire Department which brings the complement up to 24 members:

1. Jake Murphy
2. Jenna Gordon
3. Pat LeBel

CARRIED

8.2 Letter of Support – Township of Eanturel – Request to Ministry of Health to Consider funding Hope Air (Northern Health Travel Grant)

RESOLUTION No. 2025-005

MOVED BY: Councillor Anderson

SECONDED BY: Councillor Wilcox

WHEREAS the government of the Province of Ontario has made important enhancements to the Northern Health Travel Grant;

AND WHEREAS these enhancements will provide meaningful support through partial reimbursement of travel expenses for those travelling long distances for medical care;

AND WHEREAS upfront cost for airfare, accommodations and other necessities often reach thousands

of dollars with some essential travel expenses continuing to remain ineligible for reimbursement;

AND WHEREAS Hope Air continues to bridge this gap, complementing the government's policy reduce barriers of distance and cost in access to health care for Northern Ontario patients;

AND WHEREAS the demand for the services of Hope Air continues to grow;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Town of Cobalt expresses its support for the resolution from the Township of Ewanturel, requesting that the Ministry of Health consider funding Hope Air, in 2025, to support its vital work in assisting the residents of Northern Ontario to receive access to the health care they deserve;

AND FURTHER THAT the resolution be directed to the Minister of Health; and circulated to the Premier of Ontario; the Minister of Finance; the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities and the Temiskaming Municipal Association.

CARRIED

9. Items for Council information

RESOLUTION No. 2025-006

MOVED BY: Councillor Lafleur

SECONDED BY: Councillor Starchuk

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

9.1 Resident Feedback Survey 2024

9.2 Staff Report 2025.01.14.04 – Meeting Calendar for Q1 of 2025

CARRIED

10. By-Laws and Agreements

10.1 By-Law 2025-01 Municipal Line of Credit (Staff Report 2025.01.14.01)

RESOLUTION No. 2025-007

MOVED BY: Councillor Lafleur

SECONDED BY: Councillor Hughes

WHEREAS Council received Staff Report 2025.01.14.01 with a recommendation to adopt By-Law 2025-01;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 2025-01 being a By-Law to authorize the Municipal line of credit for the year 2025;

BE TAKEN AS READ a first, second and third time this 14th of January 2025;

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

CARRIED

10.2 Draft By-Law 2025-02 – Interim Tax Levy (Staff Report 2025.01.14.02)

RESOLUTION No. 2025-008

MOVED BY: Councillor Anderson

SECONDED BY: Councillor Starchuk

WHEREAS Council received Staff Report 2025.01.14.02 with a recommendation to adopt By-Law 2025-02;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 2025-02 being a By-Law to adopt an Interim Tax Levy for the Corporation of the Town of Cobalt;

BE TAKEN AS READ a first, second and third time this 14th of January, 2025;

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

CARRIED

10.3 Draft By-Law 2025-03 – Amendment No. 5 to User Fee By-Law 2023-33

(Staff Report 2025.01.14.03)

RESOLUTION No. 2025-009

MOVED BY: Councillor Lafleur

SECONDED BY: Councillor Hughes

WHEREAS at the February 20, 2024, Regular Meeting, Council passed resolution 2024-027 opting in to the Temiskaming Municipal Services Association (TMSA) expansion of a Municipal Planner;

AND WHEREAS the TMSA Board has adjusted their planning fee schedule to better reflect the services requested by the communities which aim to maintain a cost-recovery approach while aligning the fees with actual service demand;

AND WHEREAS Council received Staff Report 2025.01.14.03 with a recommendation to adopt By-Law 2025-03;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 2025-03 being a By-Law to adopt Amendment No. 5 to User Fee By-Law 2023-33 for the Corporation of the Town of Cobalt;

BE TAKEN AS READ a first, second and third time this 14th of January, 2025;

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

CARRIED

11. Unfinished Business

None

12. **New Business**

12.1 **Schedule of Accounts**

RESOLUTION No. 2025-010

MOVED BY: Councillor Lafleur

SECONDED BY: Councillor Anderson

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

Schedule No. 2024-24 in the amount of \$298,932.21

Schedule No. 2025-01 in the amount of \$ 25,518.27

CARRIED

13. **Mayor's Report**

14. **Closed Meeting**

RESOLUTION No. 2025-011

MOVED BY: Councillor Lafleur

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

CARRIED

15. **Business Arising from Closed Meeting**

Direction was given to Staff on Closed Session matters.

16. **Confirmation By-Law**

RESOLUTION No. 2025--012

MOVED BY: Councillor Anderson

SECONDED BY: Councillor Lafleur

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 2025-04 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 14th day of January, 2025;

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

CARRIED

17. **Adjournment**

RESOLUTION No. 2025-013

MOVED BY: Councillor Lafleur

SECONDED BY: Councillor Hughes

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

CARRIED



Mayor



Clerk