

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COBALT

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING COBALT COMMUNITY HALL

March 3, 2026

MINUTES

Present:

Mayor: Angela Adshead

Councillors: Pat Anderson
Rene Lafleur
Gary Hughes
Jim Starchuk
Doug Wilcox
Stephen Ward

Staff: J. Allen, Interim Clerk-Treasurer
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

None

5. Adoption of Meeting Agenda

RESOLUTION No. 2026-032

MOVED BY: Councillor Lafleur

SECONDED BY: Councillor Wilcox

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the agenda of the Regular Meeting dated March 3, 2026 as amended.

Item 9.5 was moved to the Closed Session as per the legal advice obtained by the Town's Solicitor.

CARRIED

6. Adoption of Previous Council Minutes

RESOLUTION No. 2026-033

MOVED BY: Councillor Anderson

SECONDED BY: Councillor Wilcox

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

Regular Meeting of Council – February 3, 2026

Special Meeting of Council – February 10, 2026

CARRIED

March 3, 2026

7. **Staff Reports**

RESOLUTION No. 2026-034

MOVED BY: Councillor Lafleur

SECONDED BY: Councillor Starchuk

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

7.1 By-Law Enforcement – November & December 2025

7.2 Staff Report 2026.03.03.01 – 2026 Municipal Elections – Advance Voting

7.3 Staff Report 2026.03.03.02 – 2026 Municipal Elections – Use of Corporate Resources

CARRIED

8. **Items for Council consideration**

8.1 Temiskaming Municipal Association – Urgent Highway Safety and Driver Training Concerns in Northern Ontario

RESOLUTION No. 2026-035

MOVED BY: Councillor Ward

SECONDED BY: Councillor Hughes

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Temiskaming Municipal Association (TMA) members endorse the proposed highway safety and driver training recommendations, including:

1. Requiring all commercial drivers and all new drivers to undergo road testing exclusive by Ministry of Transportation or Ontario (MTO) – certified inspectors, eliminating the use of third-party private testing companies for these categories;
2. Directing the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario to implement enhance oversight and auditing of driving schools, including mandatory performance reviews tied to student road test outcomes, and corrective actions or suspension of accreditation of schools with consistently poor results; and
3. Requiring drivers to demonstrate clear and comprehensive knowledge of road regulations, signage, and highway safety rules without the use of electronic devices prior to licensing;

AND FURTHER THAT the draft letter outlining these concerns and recommendations as approved by the TMA members, be forwarded to the following officials for their consideration and action:

- The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
- John Vanthof, MPP, Timiskaming-Cochrane
- The Honourable Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation of Ontario

CARRIED

8.2 2025 Council Remuneration and Expenses

RESOLUTION No. 2026-036

MOVED BY: Councillor Lafleur

SECONDED BY: Councillor Wilcox

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Annual Statement of 2025 Remuneration and Expenses for Council members be submitted to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.

Position	Name	Renumeration	Expenses	Total
Mayor	Adshead, Angela	\$9,327.01	0.00	\$9,327.01
Councillor	Anderson, Patricia	\$6,663.48	0.00	\$6,663.48
Councillor	Hughes, Gary	\$6,663.48	0.00	\$6,663.48
Councillor	Hunter, Angela	\$3,887.03	0.00	\$3,887.03
Councillor	Lafleur, Rene	\$6,663.48	0.00	\$6,663.48
Councillor	Starchuk, Jim	\$6,663.48	0.00	\$6,663.48
Councillor	Ward, Stephen	\$1,415.05	0.00	\$1,415.05
Councillor	Wilcox, Douglas	\$6,663.48	0.00	\$6,663.48

Committee/Board Representative

Position	Name	Honorarium	Board / Committee

CARRIED

8.3 Cobalt Drinking Water System – 2025 Annual / Summary Report

RESOLUTION No. 2026-037

MOVED BY: Councillor Wilcox

SECONDED BY: Councillor Hughes

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council hereby acknowledges receipt of the 2025 Annual/Summary Report for the Cobalt Drinking Water System as prepared by Ontario Clean Water Agency.

CARRIED

9. Items for Council information

RESOLUTION No. 2026-038

MOVED BY: Councillor Lafleur

SECONDED BY: Councillor Starchuk

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

9.1 Northeastern Public Health – Minutes of the November 27, 2025 Regular Meeting

9.2 Northeastern Public Health – Minutes of the January 12, 2026 Regular Meeting

9.3 Cobalt Historical Society – Minutes of the December 1, 2025 Regular Meeting

9.4 Sue Nielsen – Memorial Bench Installation at Drummond Park

9.6 Coleman Township – Water System

9.7 Coleman Township – Library Budget Request

9.8 DTSSAB – Response to Sewer Backup at 24 Prospect Avenue

CARRIED

10. By-Laws and Agreements

10.1 By-Law 2026-11 Use of Corporate Resources During an Election (Staff Report 2026.03.03.02)

RESOLUTION No. 2026-039

MOVED BY: Councillor Lafleur

SECONDED BY: Councillor Anderson

WHEREAS Council received Staff Report 2026.03.03.02;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 2026-11 being a By-Law to establish a use of corporate resources during an election policy for the Town of Cobalt be taken as read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 3rd day of March, 2026;

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

CARRIED

11. Unfinished Business

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12. New Business

12.1 Schedule of Accounts

RESOLUTION No. 2026-042

MOVED BY: Councillor Lafleur

SECONDED BY: Councillor Starchuk

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

Schedule No. 2026-03 in the amount of \$257,917.22

CARRIED

13. Mayor's Report

None

14. Closed Meeting

RESOLUTION No. 2026-043

MOVED BY: Councillor Anderson

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

Council scheduled a Budget Meeting for March 10, 2026 at 2:30 p.m

16. **Confirmation By-Law**

RESOLUTION No. 2026-044

MOVED BY: Councillor Lafleur

SECONDED BY: Councillor Anderson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 2026-12 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 3rd day of March 2026;

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

CARRIED

17. **Adjournment**

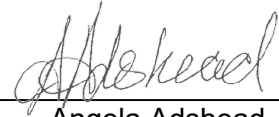
RESOLUTION No. 2026-045

MOVED BY: Councillor Wilcox

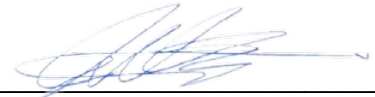
SECONDED BY: Councillor Ward

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

CARRIED



Angela Adshead, Mayor



Jaime Allen, Interim Clerk