

Minutes
Regular Council Meeting
Monday, January 8, 2024

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River was held on Monday, January 8, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. in the municipal council chambers.

In attendance were Mayor Deborah Ewald and Councillors Gordon Prost, Martin Kreger, and Joel Hagarty.

Giving regrets was Councillor Brent Helgeson and Councillors Daniel Armstrong and Neil Ival due to work schedules.

Chief Administrative Officer Veldron Vogan recorded the minutes.

Opening Ceremonies, Moment of Silence, and Salute to the King

Mayor Deborah Ewald opened the meeting with a moment of silence and a salute to the King.

Additions, Deletions or Amendments

Add EDO Gajith Jinadasa requested to attend the EDCO Conference which is a provincial Economic Development Group that is meeting on February 6th to 8th in Toronto.

Add EV Charging Station

Motion #24-001 - Joel Hagarty – Gordon Prost

“That the agenda be accepted as amended.”

Carried

Disclosure of Interest

Councillor Kreger disclosed a conflict regarding the accounts payable; and the necessary paperwork was completed.

Presentations/Delegations

Library Board – Donna Moen and Donna McDonald

Donna McDonald acknowledged and thanked the council for all their support and assistance in finding the library a new home. They are working to get this facility opened and asked where things stand with Salteaux regarding the building design and renovations. It was noted that this may need to wait until they get back to us with what is necessary in the facility before they can open.

The C-cans will be moved within a week to 10 days, as the site has been prepped for their arrival.

On January 19th an interview has been set up with a candidate for CEO/Librarian. The interview will take place at the new building.

With nothing further to discuss the delegation left the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

Adoption of Minutes

Regular Council December 11, 2023

Motion #24-002 - Gordon Prost – Joel Hagarty

“To approve the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of December 11, 2023, as presented.”

Carried

Financials (as of December 31, 2023)

Councillor Kreger declared a conflict regarding the financials.

Motion #24-003 - Gordon Prost – Martin Kreger

“That approval be granted for the financial statements (as of December 31, 2023) along with the accounts payable for the month of December 2023 which have been paid in the following amounts:”

Town General	\$308,366.24
Water	\$ 4,067.68

Carried

Reports from Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business arising at this time.

NEW BUSINESS – COMMITTEE REPORTS (AS NEEDED)

Property/By-laws/AMBIS – Councillors Brent Helgeson, Gordon Prost, and Joel Hagarty

By-law 1868-24 – Municipal Planning Services Contract for 2024

The reading of By-law 1868-24 was given by Councillor Gordon Prost.

Motion #24-004 - Martin Kreger – Gordon Prost

“That By-law 1868-24, being a by-law to establish signing authority for the Municipal Planning Services Contract with Robert Miller of Heritage and Land Use Planning Services, having been read the required number of times, be hereby approved.”

Carried

Beautification/Cemetery/Hannam Park – Mayor Deborah Ewald and Councillors Daniel Armstrong and Brent Helgeson

Clearview – Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Resolution

Resolution #24-001 - Gordon Prost – Joel Hagarty

“**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Council of The Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby supports the Township of Clearview in requesting that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- Amend the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;
- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost.”

Carried

Rainy River District Municipal Association – Councillor Martin Kreger

Motion #24-005 - Joel Hagarty – Martin Kreger

“That Councillor Martin Kreger attend the RRDMA AGM in Emo on January 13, 2024, with expenses paid as per policy.”

Carried

Other Business

EDCO Conference

Motion #24-005A - Joel Hagarty – Martin Kreger

“The Town Council of the Town of Rainy River hereby approves Gajith Jinadasa’s attendance at the EDCO Conference on February 6 – 8, 2024, with a registration fee of \$1,150.00, with expenses paid as per policy.”

Carried

A meeting will be set up with the EDO regarding the strategic plan.

EV Charging Station

The council agrees with planning for an electric vehicle charging station as long as there is no cost to the town.

Confirming By-law

By-law 1869-24 to Confirm the Proceedings of Council

The reading of By-law 1867-23 was given by Councillor Joel Hagarty.

Motion #24-006 - Martin Kreger – Joel Hagarty

“That By-law 1869-24, being a by-law of the Town of Rainy River to confirm the proceedings of Council at its meeting held on the 8th day of January 2024, having been read in open council, be hereby approved.”

Carried

Next Meeting – Monday, February 5, 2024

Adjournment

Motion #24-007 - Martin Kreger

“There being no further business, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 6:10 p.m.”

Carried

Mayor

Chief Administrative Officer