

Minutes
Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, October 10, 2023

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River was held on Tuesday, October 10, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. in the municipal council chambers.

In attendance were Councillors Gordon Prost, Martin Kreger, Daniel Armstrong, Joel Hagarty, and Brent Helgeson. Also in attendance was delegate Deb Hagarty.

Giving regrets were Mayor Deborah Ewald due to illness and Councillor Neil Ivall for reasons of employment.

Chief Administrative Officer Veldron Vogan recorded the minutes.

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

Deputy Mayor Martin Kreger opened the meeting with a moment of silence and a salute to the King.

Additions, Deletions or Amendments

The lawnmower price on Motion #23-096 needs to be amended.

Motion #23-091 - Gordon Prost – Brent Helgeson

“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

Deb Hagarty

Ms. Hagarty was in attendance to speak about recent work done at The Pines park. She noted that it was a special place and has been cleaning it up a couple times per year on her own initiative. She had transplanted a grove of trees but some of them had been removed during the recent work done at the park. She did acknowledge that she did not have permission to plant these trees. It is her opinion that too much clearing has been done in this area and she requested that the council go and take a look. She indicated her desire to have this park around for future

generations and that she would be willing to assist in transplanting more trees if the council wishes. She noted the existence of an eagle's nest in the park that will need to be considered.

Some discussion took place regarding what was happening at the park and some of the plans for the future.

Following this discussion Ms. Hagarty left the meeting at 5:43 p.m.

Adoption of Minutes

Regular Council September 11, 2023

Motion #23-092 - Daniel Armstrong – Gordon Prost

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

Carried

Financials (as of September 30, 2023)

Councillor Brent Helgeson assumed the chair of the meeting for the passing of the financial statements.

Motion #23-093 - Gordon Prost – Brent Helgeson

“That approval be granted for the financial statements (as of September 30, 2023) along with the accounts payable for the month of September 2023 which have been paid in the following amounts:”

Town General	\$196,751.82
Water	\$ 54,097.81
Sewer	\$ 16,692.28
RRHCC	\$ 433.53

Carried

At the conclusion of this item Deputy Mayor Martin Kreger resumed as chair of the meeting.

Reports from Unfinished Business

The Health and Safety Committee is working to update some of the policies.

NEW BUSINESS – COMMITTEE REPORTS (AS NEEDED)

Finance/Personnel – Mayor Deborah Ewald and Councillors Neil Ivall, Martin Kreger and Daniel Armstrong

Riverside Foundation Donation

Motion #23-094 - Joel Hagarty – Gordon Prost

“That the 2024 Town Budget hereby includes a donation to the Riverside Foundation for Health Care in the amount \$5,000 towards the purchase of an ultrasound for the Rainy River Medical Centre.”

Carried

By-law 1853-23 – EDO Contract Renewal

The reading of By-law 1853-23 was given by Councillor Brent Helgeson.

Motion #23-095 - Gordon Prost – Brent Helgeson

“That By-law 1853-23, being a by-law to renew the appointment of Wannaku Ralalage Gajith Hiranya Jinadasa (Gajith Jinadasa) as the Economic Development Officer for the Town of Rainy River, having been read in open council, be hereby approved.”

Carried

Public Works/Water & Sewer/Recycling – Mayor Deborah Ewald and Councillors Martin Kreger, Brent Helgeson, Gordon Prost, Neil Ivall and Joel Hagarty

Lawnmower Purchase

Motion #23-096 - Daniel Armstrong – Gordon Prost

“To approve the purchase of a zero-turn lawnmower in the amount of \$12,519.45.”

Carried

Water Treatment Plant Training

Resolution #23-020 - Brent Helgeson – Joel Hagarty

“**WHEREAS** the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River is a small community in Northwestern Ontario with limited financial resources;

AND WHEREAS the Town of Rainy River owns and operates the water treatment facilities, water distribution facilities, wastewater treatment facilities and wastewater collection facilities which service the residents of the Town of Rainy River;

AND WHEREAS the Town of Rainy River requires Class II Water Treatment Operators for its facilities;

AND WHEREAS the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River attempts to provide training as prescribed by the Province of Ontario to obtain the necessary classification(s);

AND WHEREAS the Town of Rainy River has been fortunate in obtaining a full staff compliment eager to take on the responsibilities of water treatment and distribution and wastewater collection and treatment operations;

AND WHEREAS any new employees of the Town of Rainy River require certification;

AND WHEREAS training is becoming increasingly difficult to procure;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has implemented stringent review of water treatment plants to ensure compliance;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Ontario is promoting and providing an increased number of training opportunities for a variety of trades;

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River petitions the Province of Ontario to expand water treatment training opportunities for communities within Ontario;

AND FURTHER the training be delivered in a method that is flexible and affordable;

AND FURTHER utilize existing networks, such as Contact North, for on-line exam preparation and exam supervision;

AND FURTHER the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River forward copies of this resolution to Premier Doug Ford, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks Andrea Khanjin, MPP Greg Rickford, Walkerton Clean Water Centre, Ontario Municipalities.”

Carried

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

By-law 1854-23 – Property Designation Change

The reading of By-law 1854-23 was given by Deputy Mayor Martin Kreger.

Motion #23-097 - Daniel Armstrong – Brent Helgeson

“That By-law 1854-23, being a by-law to amend By-law 1614-15 to remove the “H” holding symbol related to the R-H zones along Little Street, having been read in open council, be hereby approved.”

Carried

Economic Development/Tourism – Mayor Deborah Ewald and Councillors Martin Kreger, Daniel Armstrong, Neil Ival and Joel Hagarty

New Official Town Logo

Motion #23-098 - Brent Helgeson – Daniel Armstrong

“The Town Council of the Town of Rainy River hereby approves the new corporate logo design as attached.”

Carried

Fire Board – Mayor Deborah Ewald and Councillor Martin Kreger

By-law 1855-23 to Amend Fire Services Agreement

The reading of By-law 1855-23 was given by Councillor Daniel Armstrong.

Motion #23-099 - Brent Helgeson – Joel Hagarty

“That By-law 1855-23, being a by-law to amend By-law No. 1552-11 the West Rainy River District Fire Services Establishing and Regulating by-law, having been read in open council, be hereby approved.”

Carried

Confirming By-law

By-law 1856-23 to Confirm the Proceedings of Council

The reading of By-law 1856-23 was given by Councillor Brent Helgeson.

Motion #23-100 - Daniel Armstrong – Joel Hagarty

“That By-law 1856-23, being a by-law of the Town of Rainy River to confirm the proceedings of Council at its meeting held on the 10th day of October 2023, having been read in open council, be hereby approved.”

Carried

Next Meeting – Tuesday, November 14, 2023

Adjournment

Motion #23-101 - Joel Hagarty

“There being no further business, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 6:16 p.m.”

Carried

Mayor

Chief Administrative Officer