

Minutes
Regular Council Meeting
Monday, May 11, 2020

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River was held on Monday, May 11, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in the Municipal Council Chambers.

In attendance through video conference were Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillors Andrew Hartnell, Neil Ivall, Larry Armstrong, Martin Kreger, Brent Helgeson and Pat White.

The minutes were recorded by Chief Administrative Officer Veldron Vogan.

Opening Ceremonies, Moment of Silence and Salute to the Queen

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

A second moment of silence was held to express condolences to the Province of Nova Scotia regarding the recent shootings. A letter will be sent to the communities involved or to the Province to express our condolences.

Additions, Deletions or Amendments

Add Resolution #20-011 was added as a final order of business.

Motion #20-036 - Brent Helgeson – Neil Ivall

“That the agenda be accepted as amended.”

Carried

Disclosure of Interest

No disclosures of interest were declared.

Adoption of Minutes

Regular Council April 14, 2020

Motion #20-037 - Larry Armstrong – Pat White

“To approve the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of April 14, 2020 as presented.”

Carried

Financials (as of April 30, 2020)

Several items of discussion included a loan to the Recreation Centre, why we are still paying for ASP items as the program is not continuing at this time (it was noted that these were purchases from March), and the DSSAB invoices (will be looked into).

Motion #20-038 - Neil Ivall – Larry Armstrong

“That approval be granted for the accounts payable for the month of April 2020 which have been paid in the following amounts:”

Town General	\$148,657.10
Water	\$ 24,033.90
Sewer	\$ 11,544.11
Cemetery	\$ 58.07
RRHCC	\$ 583.77

Carried

Presentations/Delegations

No delegations were present.

Reports from Unfinished Business

400 Atwood Avenue (Walla Walla Inn)

Verbal Motion #20-038A – Pat White – Neil Ivall

“The owners be given 30 days to pay the full amount and then other avenues of collection will take place (i.e. tax sale).”

Carried

EDO Agreement – we are waiting for the latest FedNor agreement.

Celerity Agreement – no further correspondence has been received from them. They have never sent an acknowledgement of our requests or even a delivery receipt from the e-mail sent to them. The CAO was instructed to send a registered letter.

New Business – Committee Reports (as needed)

Finance/Personnel – Mayor Deb Ewald, and Councillors Pat White (Chair), Larry Armstrong and Neil Ivall

By-Law 1742-20 – Electronic Payment of Invoices Policy

The first reading of By-law 1742-20 was given by Councillor Neil Ivall.

Verbal Motion #20-038B – Larry Armstrong – Andrew Hartnell

“That By-law 1742-20 be taken as read a second and third time.”

Carried

Motion #20-039 - Larry Armstrong – Pat White

“That By-law 1742-20, having been read the required number of times, be hereby approved.”

Carried

Insurance Renewal

Motion #20-040 - Brent Helgeson – Andrew Hartnell

“The Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby accepts the proposal for general insurance, risk management and cyber insurance services as submitted by the Gillons Insurance Brokers in the amount of \$89,693 annually including taxes.”

Carried

Public Works/Water & Sewer/Recycling – Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillors Larry Armstrong (Chair), Brent Helgeson and Martin Kreger

Water and Sewer Policy

Motion #20-041 - Larry Armstrong – Neil Ivall

“The Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby suspends the water service disconnections procedure found within the Water and Sewer policy passed by Motion #13-142 with regard to delinquent accounts, until such time as the Provincial Emergency Declaration has been lifted.”

Carried

Property/By-laws/AMBIS – Councillors Pat White (Chair), Andrew Hartnell and Brent Helgeson

Planning Act

Motion #20-042 - Pat White – Marty Kreger

“The Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River, effective immediately, hereby suspends any actions which have deadlines under the Planning Act until the conclusion of the Provincial Emergency Declaration or until the Province of Ontario has rescinded or otherwise made allowances for Planning Act matters to proceed. Applications in process and new applications received by the Town of Rainy River in the interim will be reviewed for completeness and pre-consultation will take place with the applicant(s). Acknowledgment of complete applications, statutory notices and statutory public meetings will be deferred.”

Carried

Property Transfer

Motion #20-043 - Brent Helgeson – Andrew Hartnell

“The Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby approves the proposal made by the Madelyn Dalle Ve Dove to take over the properties located at the corner of Government Road and Third Avenue, falling under roll numbers 59-42-000-000-46300-0000 and 59-42-000-000-46400-0000. Ms. Dalle Ve Dove has proposed to turn the properties over to the Corporation of the Town Rainy River in exchange for the Town assuming all back taxes and fees associated with the transfer. The Chief Administrative Officer is authorized to move forward to have the transfer completed.”

Carried

Borderland Pride – Pride Week Proclamation

Resolution #20-009 - Larry Armstrong – Pat White

“WHEREAS:

1. Borderland Pride is the LGBTQ2 (lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer/questioning, and two-spirit) Pride organization for the Borderland region, which is comprised of the Rainy River District, Koochiching County, and the southern part of Treaty #3 territory;
2. Pride events across Canada and the United States and around the world promote diversity and inclusion and take a positive stance against discrimination and violence towards LGBTQ2 people;
3. Pride is necessary to show community support and belonging for LGBTQ2 individuals and families, and LGBTQ2-identifying youth in particular;
4. Acknowledging and participating in Pride underscores and affirms our respect for the dignity, equality, and visibility of LGBTQ2 people and families;
5. The diversity of sexual orientation and gender identity represents a positive contribution to society and is a matter in which to take pride and celebrate;

6. The global pandemic has increased the isolation, anxiety, and insecurity of some of society's most vulnerable citizens, including LGBTQ2 people and youth;
7. Pride has been observed and celebrated in the Borderland region, and has become a highlight on the summer calendar;
8. The values of diversity and inclusion should be shared in common by all people, and know no border;
9. The month of June is internationally recognized as Pride Month;

THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED THAT:

10. I, Mayor Deborah Ewald do hereby proclaim the month of June 2020 to be Pride Month in the Town of Rainy River;
11. The Town of Rainy River will publicly display a Pride flag in a prominent location for the week of May 31 – June 6 in celebration of Pride; and
12. All citizens are encouraged to reflect and work together on equality, acceptance, and inclusion for all people throughout the year.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand this 11th day of May, 2020.

Mayor Deborah Ewald”

Carried

Emo Cell Phone Service on Hwy. 502 Resolution

Resolution #20-010 - Brent Helgeson – Neil Ivall

“That the Town Council of The Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby supports the Township of Emo in their resolution to call on the provincial government and the Minister of Energy, Northern Development and Mines, the Hon. Greg Rickford, Kenora-Rainy River MPP, to swiftly and aggressively work to close this gap in safety for residents of Northwestern Ontario, by working with area mobility providers and other key stakeholders to establish network infrastructure coverage over the entire length of Provincial Highway 502.”

Carried

Fort Erie Cross Border Traffic Resolution

Resolution #20-011 - Larry Armstrong – Andrew Hartnell

“WHEREAS the COVID-19 Pandemic has resulted in all countries taking extraordinary measures to ensure the health of their populations, and

WHEREAS the limiting to essential traffic only at the border between the United States of America (US) and Canada has undoubtedly assisted in the containment of this disease, and

WHEREAS the medical community has stated that the possibility exists for another wave of infections, and

WHEREAS the Governors of the US States have been empowered to begin easing restrictions, and

WHEREAS the conduct and travel of residents, and the operation of businesses in the US States bordering Canada and beyond, has a direct impact on the potential spread of the virus by virtue of those individuals entering Canada, and

WHEREAS Canadians and Americans entering each other’s countries have the potential to return home after becoming infected, and

WHEREAS in less extraordinary times our American friends, family and neighbours are welcome in our community, and

WHEREAS we urge the government of Canada to continue to be guided by health and science in makings its decisions regarding the border;

NOW THERE IT BE RESOLVED,

THAT the Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River, in support of the Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie, requests the Prime Minister of Canada to continue limitation of cross-border traffic to essential traffic only, and further

THAT the restrictions remain in place until such time that it can be demonstrated that the flattening of the outbreak curve in the United States of America is on par with the progress we are seeing in Ontario, and further

THAT Canada Border Services Agency, in association with other health and law enforcement authorities, continues its protocol of screening and monitoring those individuals crossing the border to ensure that only essential travellers or individuals who reside in Canada gain entry into Canada as long as the border restrictions remain in place, and further

THAT special attention be paid to the outbreak statistics concerning border States in the eventual decision making process to return cross-border travel to pre-pandemic normalcies, and further

THAT a copy of this resolution be circulated to the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister, The Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister, The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, Greg Rickford, MPP Kenora-Rainy River, Legislative Assembly of Ontario and Marcus Powlowski, Thunder Bay-Rainy River MP, for their support.”

Carried

Confirming By-law

By-law 1743-20 – to Confirm the Proceedings of Council

The first reading of By-law 1743-20 was given by Mayor Deb Ewald.

Verbal Motion #20-043A – Larry Armstrong – Pat White

“That By-law 1743-20 be taken as read a second and third time.”

Carried

Motion #20-044 - Brent Helgeson – Andrew Hartnell

“That By-law 1743-20, being a by-law of the Town of Rainy River to confirm the proceedings of Council at its meeting held on the 11th day of May, 2020, having been read the required number of times, be hereby approved.”

Carried

Next Meeting – Monday, June 8, 2020

Adjournment

Motion #20-045 - Martin Kreger

“There being no further business, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 6:32 p.m.”

Carried

Original Signed
Mayor

Original Signed
Chief Administrative Officer