

Minutes
Regular Council Meeting
Monday, January 14, 2019

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River was held on Monday, January 14, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Council Chambers.

In attendance were: Mayor Deborah Ewald and Councillors Larry Armstrong, Martin Kreger, Neil Ivall, Andrew Hartnell and Pat White. Also in attendance were press agents Anita Marcotte and Nancy Gamache.

Absent was Councillor Brent Helgeson.

The minutes were recorded by Chief Administrative Officer Veldron Vogan.

Opening of Meeting

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

Additions or Deletions to the Agenda

Add Property – School Board Site Plan

Motion #19-001 - Andrew Hartnell – Martin Kreger

“That the agenda be accepted as amended.”

Carried

Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

No declarations were made.

Delegations

No delegates were in attendance.

Minutes of Previous Meetings

Regular Council December 10, 2018

Changes will be made to the minutes as indicated.

Motion #19-002 - Andrew Hartnell – Pat White

“To approve the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of December 10, 2018 as amended.”

Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes

It was questioned whether or not a letter had been sent to Hailey Coleman of the Northwestern Health Unit regarding Hannam Park. The CAO informed the council that this letter had been completed.

Financials

Financials (as of December 31, 2018)

A number of questions were brought up and addressed regarding the financials. An explanation was provided of some of the new information included in the financials.

Motion #19-003 - Andrew Hartnell – Pat White

“That approval be granted for the pre-audit financial statements (as of December 31, 2018) along with the accounts payable for the month of December 2018 which have been paid in the following amounts:”

Town General	\$617,331.74
Water	\$ 43,333.93
Sewer	\$ 17,046.68
Cemetery	\$ 2,029.88
Cemetery Perpetual	\$ 0
RRHCC	\$ 400.20

Carried

Correspondence

A list of incoming correspondence for the month of December 2018 was reviewed. It was noted that these letters were available at the town office if Council was interested in further information. There was a question regarding the tire stewardship letter. It was noted that recycling is ongoing and Fort Frances will be approached again as a potential recycling partner.

Committees

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

The Finance Chair indicated that she would be meeting with Julie Tiboni later on this week.

The next committee meeting will be February 5th.

Chairperson White noted that she would have the Celerity agreement together by the end of the week.

Health and Safety – Councillors Larry Armstrong and Neil Ivall

The committee had nothing further to report at this time.

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

The committee will meet on Wednesday, January 16th at 10:30 a.m. A couple of issues regarding sidewalks were noted and will be addressed. The committee will also work on a capital update.

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

There will be a committee meeting on Thursday at 10:00 a.m.

School Site Plan

The Mayor and CAO provided an overview of the recent meeting with the school board. An agreement was reached regarding the overflow and off-street parking for the school (which wasn't necessarily on a roadway). Access through the former Government Road allowance was discussed. Site Plan Agreements are generally accompanied by a Letter of Credit to ensure all site plan works are completed. The letter of credit amount issued was forwarded to the Property Committee for their recommendation to council.

Economic Development/Tourism – Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillors Pat White, Andrew Hartnell and Martin Kreger

The Town of Rainy River committee meeting will take place on January 30th.

Geoff Gillon of the Rainy River Future Development Corp. has been in contact regarding wider advertisement of the EDO job. Jeff O'Brien of FedNor had called to see where things were at in this regard and to indicate that FedNor would extend the end date of our grant once a person was hired so that employment could meet the full three years.

Beautification/Cemetery/Hannam Park – Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillors Larry Armstrong and Martin Kreger

Councillor Armstrong noted that he had spoken to Hailey Coleman regarding the park project. Her first application for park upgrades will be going in on Friday.

Fire Board – Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillor Martin Kreger

The Fire Board meeting has been postponed until January 30th due to scheduling conflicts with the fire chief.

Recreation Board/Curling Club – Councillors Brent Helgeson and Andrew Hartnell

The board met last Tuesday. The Christmas dance had lost money (not sure how much at this point). A fishing derby is scheduled for February 9th and a carnival hockey/broomball–type event for March 9th.

The board would also like to review their by-law for the possibility of adjusting their quorum.

The curling rink is planning a funspeil the weekend of February 1st.

Library Board – Councillor Andrew Hartnell

The next library board meeting will take place on January 29th. The CEO has been requested to provide a synopsis of some of the safety issues facing the library. This will be presented to the OPP on February 4th. Norina Sopotniuk is now the Board Chair.

Rainy River House/Medical Centre – Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillor Neil Ival

The hospital emergency room had flooded due to an issue with the sprinkler system.

DSSAB has had to dip into their special levy due to the extra transport costs involved with acute care patients.

DSSAB – Mayor Deborah Ewald

A DSSAB meeting will take place on Thursday to elect the board’s Chair and Vice Chair. They will continue working on their capital budget.

Rainy River District Municipal Association – Mayor Deborah Ewald

RRDMA Annual General Meeting

Motion #19-004 - Larry Armstrong – Andrew Hartnell

“That Mayor Ewald, Councillors Pat White, Larry Armstrong, Andrew Hartnell, Neil Ival and Martin Kreger and CAO Veldron Vogan attend the Rainy River District Municipal Association Annual General Meeting in Stratton on January 19, 2019 with expenses paid as per policy.”

Carried

Councillor Neil Ival noted that he would not be attending the RRDMA meeting. It was noted that the meeting begins at 8:30 a.m. at the Stratton Millennium Hall.

Committee of Adjustment

There was nothing to report at this time.

Other Business

Cannabis Legalization and Retail

Motion #19-005 - Andrew Hartnell – Larry Armstrong

“THAT the Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby directs that the Chief Administrative Officer notify the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) that the Town of Rainy River will permit private cannabis retail stores in the Town of Rainy River; and

FURTHER THAT Council delegate authority to the Chief Administrative Officer to develop a process and draft a Municipal Cannabis Policy Statement in order to identify the staff and reasons required to submit the Town of Rainy River's formal response to a cannabis retail site application(s) to the AGCO, and including in the response indication of:

1. Protecting public health and safety;
2. Protecting youth and restricting their access to cannabis;
3. Preventing illicit activities in relation to cannabis;

AND FURTHER THAT Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer that the Town's formal responses to the AGCO be posted to the Town of Rainy River's Municipal website for accountability and transparency.”

Carried

NWHU Charitable Rebate of Property Taxes

Motion #19-006 - Andrew Hartnell – Larry Armstrong

“The Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby approves the 2018 Charitable Rebate of Property Taxes application as submitted by the Northwestern Health Unit (NWHU) in the municipal amount of \$640.16 and the educational amount of \$186.61.”

Carried

Kirkland Lake – Northern Ontario Natural Resource Revenue Sharing Program

Motion #19-007 - Larry Armstrong – Andrew Hartnell

“That the Town Council of The Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby issues a letter of support to the Town of Kirkland Lake in their resolution to ask the Premier of Ontario to enact

the Northern Ontario Natural Resource Revenue Sharing Program to support economic growth and sustainability of Northern Ontario municipalities.”

Carried

Adjournment

Motion #19-008 - Martin Kreger – Larry Armstrong

“There being no further business, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 8:10 p.m.”

Carried

Original Signed

Mayor

Original Signed

Chief Administrative Officer