

**Minutes**  
**Regular Council Meeting**  
Tuesday, November 14, 2017

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River was held on Tuesday, November 14, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Council Chambers.

In attendance were: Mayor Deborah Ewald and Councillors Larry Armstrong, Pat White, Gordon Prost and Ashley Stamler.

Absent were Councillors Gord Armstrong and Susan Carpenter.

The minutes were recorded by Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Julie Tiboni.

**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**

No additions or deletions were made to the agenda.

**Motion #17-145** - Pat White – Larry Armstrong

“That the agenda be accepted as presented.”

**Carried**

**Declarations of Conflicts of Interest**

No declarations were made.

**Delegations**

Melissa Pearson – We Own It Campaign

The purpose of Ms. Pearson’s presentation was to provide council with a better understanding of the We Own It Campaign. She noted that the campaign is endorsed by the OPSEU members. The purpose of this campaign is to fight against the ongoing privatization of Ontario’s assets (such as highways, healthcare, etc.). Privatization generally leads to higher expenses and less quality of service. Private contractors tend to cut corners and under invest in the provision of services – the result is higher costs to the taxpayer. The Ontario Auditor General’s report noted that private contractors cost taxpayers approximately 8 billion by way of corruption, bid rigging, etc. A good example of these problems is the privatization of MTO.

The We Own It Campaign is optimistic that we can prevent further cuts and keep more services from being privatized. Council will return this item of business to the next Committee of the Whole meeting for discussion.

**Minutes of Previous Meetings**

Regular Council October 10, 2017

Corrections will be made as indicated.

**Motion #17-146 - Ashley Stamler – Pat White**

“To approve the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of October 10, 2017 as amended.”

**Carried**

Special Council – November 1, 2017

**Motion #17-147 - Larry Armstrong – Ashley Stamler**

“To approve the minutes of the Special Council meeting of November 1, 2017 as presented.”

**Carried**

**Business Arising from the Minutes**

Councillor Pat White asked Julie to contact Foreman Bob Jenson regarding the culvert at Danielle Ivall’s property on Sixth Street as the grade is very steep and needs to be corrected.

**Financials**

Financials (as of October 31, 2017)

**Motion #17-148 - Gordon Prost – Larry Armstrong**

“That approval be granted for the attached accounts payable for the month of October 2017 which have been paid in the following amounts:”

Town General	\$723,158.59
Water	\$ 45,911.09
Sewer	\$ 5,071.30
Cemetery	\$ 0
Cemetery Perpetual	\$ 0
RRHCC	\$ 384.00

**Carried**

## **Correspondence**

A list of incoming correspondence for the month of October 2017 was reviewed. It was noted that these letters were available at the town office if Council was interested in further information.

## **Committees**

### **Finance/Personnel – Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillors Pat White (Chair), Larry Armstrong and Susan Carpenter**

Councillor Pat White had a meeting with CAO Veldron Vogan on October 23<sup>rd</sup> to discuss a meeting to renew the CAO's contract which expired on July 31, 2017. A detailed report will be ready for the Personnel Committee to meet with the CAO to discuss her contract renewal.

### **Health and Safety – Councillors Larry Armstrong and Susan Carpenter**

There was nothing to report at this time.

### **Public Works/Water & Sewer/Recycling – Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillors Larry Armstrong (Chair), Gordon Prost and Ashley Stamler**

Councillor Ashley Stamler would like Foreman Bob Jenson to take a look at the heating system in the fire department office and bathrooms. The fire department will also need a key for the Fix-It Club dividing door in case they need to access the panel box.

Julie Tiboni was instructed to determine if bumpy road signs had been ordered for Atwood Avenue.

### **Property/By-laws/AMBIS – Councillors Gordon Prost (Chair), Susan Carpenter and Pat White**

Councillor Prost will request a report from CBO Rick Hallam in regard to the status of the Gasthaus building.

### **By-law 1663-17 Fences**

The first reading of By-law 1663-17 was given by Mayor Ewald and Councillors Pat White, Gordon Prost, Ashley Stamler and Larry Armstrong.

### **Verbal Motion #17-148A – Gordon Prost – Ashley Stamler**

“That By-law 1663-17 be taken as read a second and third time.”

## **Carried**

**Motion #17-149 - Gordon Prost – Larry Armstrong**

“That By-law 1663-17, being a by-law for regulating fences within the Town of Rainy River, having been read the required number of times, be hereby approved.”

By-law 1664-17 AMBIS Partnership Agreement

The first reading of By-law 1664-17 was given by Mayor Deb Ewald.

**Verbal Motion #17-149A – Larry Armstrong – Gordon Prost**

“That By-law 1664-17 be taken as read a second and third time.”

**Carried**

**Motion #17-150 - Larry Armstrong – Gordon Prost**

“That By-law 1664-17, being a by-law to designate the signing officers for the AMBIS Agreement, having been read the required number of times, be hereby approved.”

**Carried**

**Economic Development/Tourism – Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillors Gord Armstrong, Pat White and Susan Carpenter**

Fort Frances Times 2018 Vacation Guide Map Advertising

**Motion #17-151 - Gordon Prost – Larry Armstrong**

“To approve purchase of advertising in the Fort Frances Times 2018 Vacation Guide Map in the amount of \$350.00 plus tax.”

**Carried**

Councillor Pat White reported that Christmas banners had been ordered from Dutka Signs in Atikokan at a cost of \$3,900 plus tax. These banners were ordered in three different styles with one of the following greetings: “Season’s Greetings”, “Merry Christmas” and “Happy Holidays”.

**Beautification/Cemetery/Hannam Park – Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillors Ashley Stamler, Gord Armstrong, Pat White and Larry Armstrong**

Councillor Larry Armstrong noted a nice letter to the editor that had been posted in regards to how nice our cemetery looked this summer.

**Fire Board – Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillor Susan Carpenter**

Mayor Ewald reported that the fire board is holding off on the purchase of a new fire truck. The next board meeting is scheduled for January 17, 2018.

**Recreation Board/Curling Club – Mayor Deb Ewald with Councillor Susan Carpenter as alternate**

It was reported that there had been a waterline break at the curling club. The breakage was due to a frozen water line that burst. The water did not get turned off this spring and the heat had not been turned on this fall. The insurance deductible is \$15,000. Julie was asked to look up the curling club's lease.

The next recreation board meeting is scheduled for November 27, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

**Library Board – Councillor Gordon Prost**

There was nothing to report at this time.

**Locum House/Medical Centre – Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillor Pat White**

The roof condition and rent income will be discussed at the next locum house committee meeting.

**DSSAB – Mayor Deborah Ewald**

The next DSSAB meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Rainy River District Municipal Association – Mayor Deborah Ewald**

A RRDMA executive meeting will be held at the Township of Alberton in order to plan for the Annual General Meeting.

**Communities Relations Liaison – Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillor Gord Armstrong**

There was nothing to report at this time.

**REDC – Councillors Gord Armstrong and Gordon Prost**

Geoff Gillon of the Rainy River Future Development Corporation will be contacted to set up a date in regards to his recent email. He will be invited to the Committee of the Whole meeting in December.

**Committee of Adjustment**

There was nothing to report at this time.

## **Other Business**

### Health Unit Amalgamation/Boundary Changes

#### **Motion #17-152 - Larry Armstrong – Gordon Prost**

“**WHEREAS** concerns have been expressed with the recommendations of the Expert Panel Report “Public Health within an Integrated Health System” released on June 9, 2017; and

**WHEREAS** Northwestern Ontario is a large geographical area and a regional board of health does not allow adequate local representation and could lead to a reduction in public health services and programming; and

**WHEREAS** the current system of services have been effective in developing and enhancing engagement and partnerships in addressing public health issues locally; and

**WHEREAS** we have an active relationship with Northwestern Health Unit and have focused on a number of public health issues including the Alcohol Policy, Physical Activity and Healthy Eating initiatives, Smoke-free policies and Safe recreational water and drinking water; and

**WHEREAS** shifting to a regional board of health from a local board of health can be costly with respect to planning and implementation, and does not necessarily lead to cost-savings; and

**WHEREAS** experience indicates that such a change can lead to a more costly system;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Town Council of The Corporation of the Town of Rainy River supports the opposition and concerns expressed by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Association of Local Public Health Agencies and Northwestern Health Unit for the amalgamation of health units across the province to align with the LHIN boundaries.”

#### **Carried**

### Alberton Needle Exchange Program Resolution

#### **Motion #17-153 - Larry Armstrong – Gordon Prost**

“The Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby supports the Township of Alberton in their resolution to have the Northwestern Health Unit protect the health and safety of our communities at large, as well as those who participate in its harm reduction programs, by requiring NEP participants to return used or dirty needles to the dispensary site in order for them to acquire new clean needles; and that the current program be modified to include the closing of all private clinics and the locating of methadone centers in hospitals where proper supplementary health services can be readily arranged, including access to laboratories, counselling services, clinic appointment access for birth control and for other health conditions related to substance abuse; and that sharps containers be required to be available in restrooms in all public buildings, as well as in restrooms of businesses where public access to restrooms is permitted, to provide easy access to same for appropriate and safe disposal of needles.”

**Carried**

Bill 148 On-Call Provisions Resolution

**Motion #17-154** - Larry Armstrong – Gordon Prost

“The Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby requests that all municipal employees be specifically exempted from the on-call changes proposed by Bill 148 and requests that the government of Ontario conduct a full economic impact study of Bill 148 to study the effect of the Bill on businesses and municipalities across Ontario.”

**Carried**

Concrete Barriers Resolution

**Motion #17-155** - Larry Armstrong – Gordon Prost

“The Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby supports the Municipality of Chatham-Kent in their resolution to call on the provincial government to install concrete barriers on Highway 401 in order to address the serious ongoing concerns regarding traffic safety on the 401 through Chatham-Kent from Tilbury through to Elgin County.”

**Carried**

Appointment of Deputy Mayor

**Motion #17-156** - Larry Armstrong – Gordon Prost

“That Councillor Gord Armstrong acts as Deputy Mayor in the absence of Mayor Deborah Ewald beginning December 1, 2017 and ending December 2, 2018.”

**Carried**

Holiday Staff Appreciation

**Motion #17-157** - Gordon Prost – Larry Armstrong

“The Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River will hereby issue a \$50 Gift Certificate to each permanent employee of the Town of Rainy River as a Christmas gift.”

**Carried**

Christmas Donations

Councillor Gordon Prost declared a conflict regarding this motion.

**Motion #17-158 - Pat White – Ashley Stamler**

“The Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River will contribute \$150.00 towards the Rainy River Public Library Board for their Holiday Celebrations.”

**Carried**

**Motion #17-159 - Gordon Prost – Pat White**

Councillor Ashley Stamler declared a conflict regarding this motion.

“The Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River will contribute \$150.00 towards the West Rainy River District Fire Department for their Holiday Celebrations.”

**Carried**

**Motion #17-160 - Pat White – Gordon Prost**

Councillor Ashley Stamler declared a conflict regarding this motion.

“The Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River will contribute \$150.00 towards the Rainy River Recreation Board for their Holiday Celebrations.”

**Carried**

**Adjournment**

**Motion #17-161 - Ashley Stamler – Pat White**

“There being no further business, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 9:40 p.m.”

**Carried**

*Original Signed*

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Mayor

*Original Signed*

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Chief Administrative Officer