

**Minutes**  
**Regular Council Meeting**  
Monday, February 11, 2019

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River was held on Monday, February 11, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Council Chambers.

In attendance were: Mayor Deborah Ewald and Councillors Larry Armstrong, Brent Helgeson, Neil Ivall, Andrew Hartnell and Pat White.

Absent was Councillor Martin Kreger.

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 The CAO and Deputy Mayor had participated in a conference call regarding an immigration program offered through the Federal Government. A report will be provided during the Personnel/Finance portion of the meeting.

**Motion #19-009** - Andrew Hartnell – Pat White

“That the agenda be accepted as amended.”

**Carried**

**Declarations of Conflicts of Interest**

Councillor Ivall declared a conflict with regard to Pam Ivall’s request for a building permit fee refund.

**Delegations**

No delegates were in attendance.

**Minutes of Previous Meetings**

Regular Council January 14, 2019

Changes will be made to the minutes as indicated.

**Motion #19-010** - Andrew Hartnell – Pat White

“To approve the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of January 14, 2019 as amended.”

**Carried**

**Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising.

**Financials**

Financials (as of January 31, 2019)

A number of questions arose regarding the following items:

- Township of Dawson Fees for Fire Service – the CAO noted that this was a semi-annual payment and that a half year payment had been made in July.
- Yeti Mugs – it was noted that these were for departing council members and not the sitting council.
- Rainy River Electric Bill – it appeared that there might be an error in the amount paid to them. This will be investigated by the Administration.
- Recreation Board – had received two payments in January which were both designated for January. The CAO will confirm that one is for January and one is for February.
- Busy Beaver Fuels/Paul Caruso – the CAO noted that Busy Beaver Fuels has experienced some interrupted business due to some personal matters and Paul Caruso is now registered with his own business number. Bills are being paid according to the invoices presented.

**Motion #19-011 - Andrew Hartnell – Pat White**

“That approval be granted for the accounts payable for the month of January 2019 which have been paid in the following amounts:”

Town General	\$315,543.77
Water	\$ 14,025.08
Sewer	\$ 2,653.69
Cemetery	\$ 60.62
Cemetery Perpetual	\$ 0
RRHCC	\$ 423.12

**Carried**

**Correspondence**

A list of incoming correspondence for the month of January 2019 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 Neil Ivall**

#### Meeting of February 5<sup>th</sup>

The school's site plan agreement and letter of credit was reviewed. Much of this work is being done by our Planning Consultant Bob Miller.

The committee also discussed a five year tax plan and looked into fair minimum tax billings per property.

The Finance Committee is asking the committee chairs to bring forward budget amounts by mid-March so that budget work can be completed.

#### Immigration Policy

A conference call took place regarding an immigration program brought forward by the Federal Government. This program does not include the Maritime Provinces or Quebec – for the remaining provinces consideration will be given to 10 - 15 municipalities (or regions). There will be approximately 275 immigration individuals per project over these 10 regions and the government indicated that they may be able to open up more positions. They would like to see Northern Ontario divided into a Northeastern and a Northwestern region – with regional proposals due in March 2019. The program is completely employer driven. If an employer sees an immigrant source to provide a key position within the organization they would work with the regional organization to help fast track this individual's immigration into Canada.

### **Health and Safety – Councillors Larry Armstrong and Neil Ivall**

Chairperson Armstrong noted that the committee had met last Wednesday and will endeavour to meet on the last Wednesday of each month. They are currently reviewing policies and looking into First Aid, CPR and AED training for new staff members (especially at the Recreation Centre).

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

Councillor Armstrong noted that the committee had met on Wednesday, February 6<sup>th</sup>; unfortunately the outside staff was unable to attend as there were issues at the water treatment plant. The staff is working diligently with MOE in order to mitigate any non-compliance issues due to the equipment failure at the plant. The replacement equipment had arrived earlier on

Monday, has since been installed and is working. They have also been dealing with a lot of snow events.

The committee has also looked into recycling and has received some information from Fort Frances.

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

Councillor White noted that they have looked at school site properties and a site plan. They are working with Bob Miller and Henry Van Ael in order to finalize the plans.

There was also some discussion regarding the CIP policies, including the land availability and the building permit rebate. The first building permit rebate application has been received from Pam Ivall.

Construction Permit Rebate Application

**Motion #19-012** - Andrew Hartnell – Pat White

“To approve the Construction Permit Rebate for Pam Ivall in the amount of \$937.00 for 306 Third Street.”

**Carried**

By-law 1701-19 Interim Tax Levy

The first reading of by-law 1701-19 was given by Councillor Pat White.

**Verbal Motion#19-012A** – Larry Armstrong – Neil Ivall

“That By-law 1701-19 be taken as read a second and third time.”

**Carried**

**Motion #19-013** - Andrew Hartnell – Pat White

“That By-law 1701-19, being a by-law to provide for an Interim Tax Levy and to provide for the payment of taxes and to provide for penalty and interest of 1.25 percent, having been read the required number of times, be hereby approved.”

**Carried**

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

A committee meeting was held on February 1<sup>st</sup>. There was much discussion regarding the entrance signs and other brainstorming ideas. The final location of the entrance signs on the west side will need to be decided. The talking boards were also discussed and funding will be sought. Heritage Square signage was discussed and other attractions and promotional items were looked at.

Economic Development Officer Position – another application had been received. There was a request from Geoff Gillon of Rainy River Future Development to attend the regional west end meeting but he will be unable to make the tentative March 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. The committee agreed to move this meeting to March 4<sup>th</sup>. The other community partners will be notified of these changes.

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

The Northwestern Health Unit is working on a number of grants. So far they have applied for four and should hear back in the next couple of months. If any other grant funding opportunities become available, Hailey Coleman at the Northwestern Health Unit should be notified.

### **Fire Board – Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillor Martin Kreger**

#### Essentials of Municipal Fire Protection Seminar

**Motion #19-014** - Andrew Hartnell – Pat White

“That Councillor Martin Kreger and CBO Henry Van Ael attend the Essentials of Municipal Fire Protection Seminar in Fort Frances on February 21, 2019 with expenses paid as per policy.”

#### **Carried**

It was noted that Henry’s costs for this seminar would be covered by the AMBIS Board.

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

#### Fishing Derby Sponsorship Request

**Motion #19-015** - Andrew Hartnell – Pat White

“To approve sponsorship of the Rainy River Recreation Board’s 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Ice Fishing Derby on February 9, 2019 in the amount of \$250.00.”

#### **Carried**

It was noted that there had been a low turnout for the tournament, with only 28 people fishing. This may be due to the fact that it was a very cold day. The Recreation Board has a meeting on Tuesday at 5:15 p.m.

Andrew reported that the Curling Club had a malfunction in their ice plant but it was running now. Brian Bonot indicated that a heater in the plant room might be beneficial (as the equipment will fail when it gets too cold). The board will obtain a quote for this. A bonspiel will be held on March 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> during the spring break.

### **Library Board – Councillor Andrew Hartnell**

A library board meeting will take place at the end of the month.

### **Rainy River House/Medical Centre – Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillor Neil Ivall**

There was nothing to report for the medical centre.

A walkthrough of the locum house is scheduled for February 20<sup>th</sup>. The committee is looking at a lease renewal with the physician group.

### **DSSAB – Mayor Deborah Ewald**

They will be working on the budget this Thursday and their regular meeting will take place on February 21<sup>st</sup>.

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

There was nothing to report at this time.

### **Committee of Adjustment**

There was nothing to report at this time.

### **Other Business**

#### Safe Communities Per Capita Funding Request

**Motion #19-016** - Andrew Hartnell – Pat White

“That the Town Council of the Town of Rainy River hereby authorizes payment of the \$.50 per capita fee as requested by the Safe Communities Rainy River District for 2018/2019, based on a population of 807.”

**Carried**

#### Rainy River Future Development Corp. Per Capita Funding Request

**Motion #19-017** - Brent Helgeson – Larry Armstrong

“The Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby approves the payment of per capita funding for 2019-2020 to the Rainy River Future Development Corporation (RRFDC) in the amount of \$5,649.00 (which represents a \$7.00 per capita contribution based on a population of 807).”

**Carried**

By-law 1702-19 Purchasing Card Policy

The first reading of by-law 1702-19 was given by Mayor Deb Ewald.

**Verbal Motion #19-017A** – Pat White – Andrew Hartnell

“That By-law 1702-19 be taken as read a second and third time.”

**Carried**

**Motion #19-018** - Brent Helgeson – Larry Armstrong

“That By-law 1702-19, being a by-law to amend the purchasing card policy for the Town of Rainy River, having been read the required number of times, be hereby approved.”

**Carried**

By-law 1703-19 Council Staff Relations Policy

The first reading of by-law 1703-19 was given by Councillor Neil Ivall.

**Verbal Motion #19-018A** – Larry Armstrong – Brent Helgeson

“That By-law 1703-19 be taken as read a second and third time.”

**Carried**

**Motion #19-019** - Brent Helgeson – Larry Armstrong

“That By-law 1703-19, being a by-law to establish a Council Staff Relations Policy for the Town of Rainy River, having been read the required number of times, be hereby approved.”

**Carried**

By-law 1704-19 Tree Canopy Policy

The first reading of by-law 1704-19 was given by Councillor Pat White.

**Verbal Motion #19-019A** – Andrew Hartnell – Brent Helgeson

“That By-law 1704-19 be taken as read a second and third time.”

**Carried**

**Motion #19-020** - Larry Armstrong – Andrew Hartnell

“That By-law 1704-19, being a by-law to establish a Tree Canopy Policy for the Town of Rainy River, having been read the required number of times, be hereby approved.”

**Carried**

By-law 1705-19 Employee Code of Conduct Policy

The first reading of by-law 1705-19 was given by Councillor Neil Ivall.

**Verbal Motion #19-020A** – Larry Armstrong – Andrew Hartnell

“That By-law 1705-19 be taken as read a second and third time.”

**Carried**

**Motion #19-021** - Brent Helgeson – Larry Armstrong

“That By-law 1705-19, being a by-law to establish an Employee Code of Conduct Policy for the Town of Rainy River, having been read the required number of times, be hereby approved.”

**Carried**

By-law 1706-19 Strategic Asset Management Policy

The first reading of by-law 1706-19 was given by Councillor Larry Armstrong.

**Verbal Motion #19-021A** – Pat White – Andrew Hartnell

“That By-law 1706-19 be taken as read a second and third time.”

**Carried**

**Motion #19-022** - Larry Armstrong – Andrew Hartnell

“That By-law 1706-19, being a by-law to establish a Strategic Asset Management Policy for the Town of Rainy River, having been read the required number of times, be hereby approved.”

**Carried**

By-law 1707-19 Pregnancy & Parental Leave of Members of Council Policy

The first reading of by-law 1707-19 was given by Councillor Neil Ivall.

**Verbal Motion #19-022A** – Andrew Hartnell – Brent Helgeson

“That By-law 1707-19 be taken as read a second and third time.”

**Carried**

**Motion #19-023** - Brent Helgeson – Andrew Hartnell

“That By-law 1707-19, being a by-law to establish a Pregnancy and Parental Leave of Members of Council Policy for the Town of Rainy River, having been read the required number of times, be hereby approved.”

**Carried**

**Adjournment**

**Motion #19-024** - Brent Helgeson – Andrew Hartnell

“There being no further business, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 8:20 p.m.”

**Carried**

*Original Signed*

*Original Signed*

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Mayor

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Deputy Clerk-Treasurer