

Minutes
Regular Council Meeting
Monday, March 14, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River was held on Monday, March 14, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Council Chambers.

In attendance were: Mayor Deborah Ewald and Councillors Larry Armstrong, Pat White, Susan Carpenter, Ashley Stamler and Gordon Prost. Also in attendance was Editor Ken Johnston of the Rainy River Record.

Absent was Councillor Gord Armstrong.

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 #16-031 - Larry Armstrong – Ashley Stamler

“That the agenda be accepted as presented.”

Carried

Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

Mayor Ewald declared a conflict with the Finance/Personnel item regarding the Northwestern Health Unit Charitable Tax Rebate.

Delegations

No delegates were in attendance.

Minutes of Previous Meetings

Regular Council February 8, 2016

Corrections will be made to the minutes as indicated.

Motion #16-032 - Ashley Stamler – Larry Armstrong

“To approve the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of February 8, 2016 as amended.”

Carried

Special Council March 2, 2016

Motion #16-033 - Larry Armstrong – Susan Carpenter

“To approve the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of March 2, 2016 as amended.”

Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

Financials

Some typing errors were noted in the financial statements.

Motion #16-034 - Pat White – Larry Armstrong

“That approval be granted for the attached accounts payable for the month of February 2016 which have been paid in the following amounts:”

Town General	\$172,171.71
Water	\$ 44,481.34
Sewer	\$ 1,789.52
Cemetery	\$ 1,206.80
Cemetery Perpetual	\$
RRHCC	\$ 1,182.09

Carried

Correspondence

A list of incoming correspondence for the month of February 2016 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

MMAH Planning Conference

Motion #16-035 - Larry Armstrong – Ashley Stamler

“That CAO Veldron Vogan attends the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) Annual Planning Workshops in Thunder Bay on March 30-31, 2016 with expenses paid as per policy.”

Carried

Due to a conflict of interest Mayor Ewald stepped down as Chair of the meeting and Deputy Mayor Pat White assumed the Chair for the next item of business.

NWHU Charitable Rebate of Taxes

Motion #16-036 - Larry Armstrong – Gordon Prost

“The Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby approves the 2015 Charitable Rebate of Property Taxes application as submitted by the Northwestern Health Unit.”

Carried

Upon completion of this agenda item Mayor Ewald returned as Chair of the meeting.

Health and Safety – Councillors Susan Carpenter and Larry Armstrong

Councillor Larry Armstrong reported that policies and procedures were being reviewed by the committee. Sub-Forman Mike Scott, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Julie Tiboni, Recreation Director Leslie Johnson and Councillor Larry Armstrong attended the previous committee meeting.

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

Councillor Larry Armstrong reported that the town crew was working at the water treatment plant on improvements to help reduce THM's.

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

Councillor Gordon Prost reported that a meeting would take place next week to discuss the property sales by-law.

It was also noted that the AMBIS committee is working together to fill the Chief Building Official position. They are waiting for a response from Advisory Services.

Economic Development/Tourism – Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillors Gord Armstrong and Susan Carpenter

Mayor Ewald reported that the committee is working on the Community Improvement Plan and Strategic Plan. They are looking into the price for new signage. Their next committee meeting is Friday, March 18th at noon.

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

CAO Veldron Vogan has been in contact with the engineers regarding the big dock.

Fire Board – Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillor Susan Carpenter

Their next meeting is tentatively set for March 30th.

Recreation Board/Curling Club – Councillors Ashley Stamler and Gord Armstrong with Councillor Susan Carpenter as alternate

The Recreation Director has planned some activities for March break.

Library Board – Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillor Gordon Prost

Councillor Gordon Prost reported that a retirement tea would be held in honour of long time board member Gill Stamler on Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. They are also planning a budget meeting for next week.

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

Councillor Pat white reported that the committee is waiting for a reply from the clinic regarding their lease renewal.

DSSAB – Mayor Deborah Ewald

Their next meeting is Thursday, March 17th. They are investigating the possibility of a six-plex or small bachelor apartments.

Rainy River District Municipal Association – Mayor Deborah Ewald

NOMA AGM Meeting

Motion #16-037 - Ashley Stamler – Larry Armstrong

“That Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillor Gord Armstrong attend the NOMA Annual General Meeting in Thunder Bay on April 27, 28 & 29, 2016 with expenses paid as per policy.”

Carried

Communities Relations Liaison/Chamber of Commerce – Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillor Gord Armstrong

Mayor Ewald had attended a Chamber of Commerce meeting on February 25th where they discussed the possible necessity of rolling the Chamber into a different organization.

Local Government Networking Group/REDC – Councillors Gord Armstrong and Gordon Prost

Councillor Prost indicated that he did not know if this organization still existed as he hasn't heard anything for a while.

Committee of Adjustment

There was nothing further to report at this time.

Other Business

Chem-Free Graduation Partner/Sponsor Request

Motion #16-038 - Larry Armstrong – Pat White

“To donate \$100.00 to the 2016 Rainy River High School Chem-Free Graduation in the form of four \$25.00 gift certificates to be used within the Town of Rainy River.”

Carried

AMO/LAS Broader Municipal Investment Powers Resolution

Motion #16-039 - Ashley Stamler – Susan Carpenter

“WHEREAS municipalities are required to invest their reserves in accordance with the Municipal Act, 2001 and Ontario Regulation 438/97 (as amended), which specifically outlines allowable investments;

and WHEREAS to ensure the sustainability and sound stewardship of the municipality's investments, the municipality is of the opinion that changes should be made to the Municipal Act, 2001 and Ontario Regulation 438/97 (as amended), to allow for the prudent investment of reserves, if those investments are professionally managed and part of a broader investment strategy;

and WHEREAS the Prudent Investor Standard is an industry accepted best practice in effectively managing a portfolio of investments, and the Standard applies to investments, not in isolation, but in the context of the portfolio of investments and as part of an overall strategy, that should incorporate acceptable risk and return objectives suitable to the stakeholders;

and WHEREAS the Province is conferring “Prudent Investor” status on the City of Toronto to enable greater diversification in portfolio management,

and WHEREAS the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Local Authority Services (LAS), and the Municipal Finance Officers Association of Ontario (MFOA), have long requested that the Prudent Investor Standard apply to all municipal investments that are invested with The One Investment Program;

and WHEREAS in 2005, municipalities were granted the ability to invest in longer-term corporate bonds and Canadian equity investments via only the One Investment Program, and the One Investment Program has demonstrated strong investment returns for municipalities within these ‘new’ investment sectors;

and WHEREAS the institutional portfolio managers utilized by the One Investment Program recommend that the Prudent Investor Standard approach is a more appropriate approach to investing;

and WHEREAS operating municipal investments under the Prudent Investor Standard is precluded by the Municipal Act, Eligible Investments, in its current form;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town Council of The Corporation of the Town of Rainy River supports the request of AMO, LAS, and MFOA to amend Ontario Regulation 438/97 (as amended) of the Municipal Act, 2001, to allow municipalities to invest consistent with the Prudent Investor Standard, if such investments are through the One Investment Program.”

Carried

Aurora Ontario Municipal Board Jurisdiction Resolution

Motion #16-040 - Susan Carpenter – Gordon Prost

“The Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby supports the Town of Aurora in requesting that the Government of Ontario limit the jurisdiction of the OMB to questions of law or process; and to require the OMB to uphold any planning decisions of Municipal Councils unless they are contrary to the processes and rules set out in legislation.”

Carried

Autism Ontario World Autism Awareness Day

Motion #16-041 - Susan Carpenter – Pat White

“WHEREAS World Autism Awareness Day will be recognized on April 2, 2016, in Canada thanks to Liberal Senator Jim Munson’s Bill S-206, *An Act Respecting World Autism Awareness Day*; and

WHEREAS Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) affects more than 100,000 Ontarians. Autism Spectrum Disorder is now recognized as the most common neurological disorder affecting 1 in every 94 children, as well as their friends, family and community; and

WHEREAS ASD is a spectrum disorder, which means it not only manifests itself differently in every individual in whom it appears, but its characteristics will change over the life of each individual as well. A child with ASD will become an adult with ASD; and

WHEREAS Autism Ontario (formerly Autism Society Ontario) is the leading source of information and referral on autism and one of the largest collective voices representing the autism community. Since 1973, Autism Ontario has been providing support, information and opportunities for thousands of families across the province; and

WHEREAS Autism Ontario is dedicated to increasing public awareness about autism and the day-to-day issues faced by individuals with autism, their families, and the professionals with whom they interact. The association and its chapters share common goals of providing information and education, supporting research, and advocating for programs and services for the autism community; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby declares April 2nd as World Autism Awareness Day.”

Carried

Rainy River Cross Border Conference

Motion #16-042 - Gordon Prost – Ashley Stamler

“That 2 staff members attend the Rainy River Cross Border Conference in International Falls, MN on March 22-23, 2016 with expenses paid as per policy.”

Carried

Minden Hills Review of the New OPP Billing Model Resolution

Motion #16-043 - Ashley Stamler – Susan Carpenter

“The Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby supports the Township of Minden Hills in requesting that the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services review and reconsider the new OPP Billing Model, reconsider assuming a larger portion of the overall budget for all Ontario municipalities services by OPP and perform an in-depth review of the current expenditures in order to reduce the cost per household.”

Carried

Adjournment

Motion #16-044 - Gordon Prost – Larry Armstrong

“There being no further business, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 7:40 p.m.”

Carried

Original Signed

Mayor

Original Signed

Chief Administrative Officer