

Minutes
Regular Council Meeting
Monday, December 12, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River was held on Monday, December 12, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Council Chambers.

In attendance were: Mayor Deborah Ewald and Councillors Gordon Prost, Larry Armstrong, Susan Carpenter, Pat White and Gord Armstrong.

Absent was Councillor Ashley Stamler.

The minutes were recorded by CAO 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 Best Start Hub Request
 Postal Banking
 Cords across the Sidewalks

Rec. Board Charitable Number

A brief discussion took place regarding the process to obtain a charitable number for the Rec. Board. The CAO noted that she would find out how the locum house fundraising committee was able to circumvent this requirement from CNR.

Motion #16-168 - Gord Armstrong – Gordon Prost

“That the agenda be accepted as amended.”

Carried

Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts were declared.

Delegations

No delegates were in attendance.

Minutes of Previous Meetings

Regular Council November 14, 2016

Corrections will be made as indicated.

Motion #16-169 - Gord Armstrong – Gordon Prost

“To approve the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of November 14, 2016 as amended.”

Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes

Locum House – the CAO noted that she had spoken to Dean Bethune earlier in the day and they were proceeding with instructions to the contractor with regard to the tile damage in the locum house entrance.

Best Start Hub Rental at the Rec. Centre

A meeting had been held earlier today with the Rec. Board. The Rec. Board cannot at this time fulfill the rental request made by the Best Start Hub.

Financials

A question arose regarding the locum house fridge repairs. Council would like to have a note sent to the clinic requesting that this fridge be defrosted every six months to prevent the need for this type of repair in the future. A walk through of the locum house still needs to be completed. A date will be set for this purpose in January.

BDO Audit Fees for ODRAP – it was noted that these will be paid by ODRAP.

A question arose regarding the water and sewer amount for the clinic. It was noted that they are charged for four units vs. the individual unit fee. The new lease has been forwarded to the clinic but there has been no response thus far. Concerns have been raised regarding repair of some of the lights at the clinic. A work order has been written. It is unsure as to the status of this work order.

Motion #16-170 - Larry Armstrong – Gord Armstrong

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

Town General	\$440,332.13
Water	\$ 39,290.89
Sewer	\$ 1,828.58
Cemetery	\$ 33.81

Cemetery Perpetual \$
RRHCC \$ 921.28

Carried

Correspondence

A list of incoming correspondence for the month of November 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

By-law – 1645-16 – Specific Purpose Borrowing

The first reading of By-law 1645-16 was given by Councillor Pat White. It was noted that a second and third reading is not required for the borrowing by-law.

Motion #16-171 - Larry Armstrong – Gord Armstrong

“That By-law 1645-16, to authorize the temporary borrowing of money for specific purpose, be hereby approved.”

Carried

The Nexus Credit Union manager met with the finance committee last week. They are preparing a proposal for council. Nothing has been received yet.

Health and Safety – Councillors Larry Armstrong and Susan Carpenter

There have been no recent committee meetings.

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

By-law 1646-16 – Miscellaneous User Fee By-law Amendment

The first reading of By-law 1646-16 was given by Councillor Gordon Prost. An amendment was made to the motion.

Verbal Motion #16-171A – Gord Armstrong – Susan Carpenter

“That By-law 1646-16 be taken as read a second and third time.”

Carried

Motion #16-172 - Gordon Prost – Larry Armstrong

“That By-law 1646-16, to amend the miscellaneous user fees for the Town of Rainy River, having been read the required number of times, be hereby approved.”

Carried

Councillor Pat White expressed concerns with people plugging their vehicles in and leaving the cords across the sidewalks and becoming a possible liability issue. Council would like to have an information package put together for all the mailboxes by the end of the week to deal with winter parking, cords across the sidewalk and snow machines in town. The CAO was also instructed to contact Guy Beaudry of the OPP to see if he would be willing to do some public education in this regard.

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

By-law 1647-16 – Rescind By-law 1641-16 to Stop Up and Close Road Allowance

The first reading of By-law 1647-16 was given by Mayor Ewald.

Verbal Motion #16-172A – Gord Prost – Larry Armstrong

“That By-law 1647-16 be taken as read a second and third time.”

Carried

Motion #16-173 - Larry Armstrong – Gordon Prost

“That By-law 1647-16, to rescind By-law 1641-16 to stop up and close the unopened road allowance known as a portion of Sixth Avenue, having been read the required number of times, be hereby approved.”

Carried

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

A meeting took place last week; however, there was not a big turnout. A package will be mailed out to all the members of the group for review of the Economic Development Officer job description.

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

It was noted that the work on the dock was completed.

Fire Board – Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillor Susan Carpenter

The next board meeting is scheduled for December 14th at 7:00 p.m.

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

A Rec. Board meeting had taken place earlier today. Councillor Gord Armstrong reported that a door was ordered for the bottle drop and should be installed on Monday or Tuesday next week.

A drinking water fountain will be installed at the Rec. Centre. A grant has been obtained for this purchase. The cost of this fountain is \$1,683.

The job description for the maintenance person is being finalized and they will be meeting on Friday to complete this project.

Rec. Director Leslie Johnson has signed a six month employment contract.

Library Board – Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillor Gordon Prost

A lease has been signed with the new building owner. Councillor Gordon Prost is the board chair as per the elections last week.

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

Certain items have already been discussed such as the clinic lease and clinic lights. Also discussed were the tiles on the floor of the locum house.

DSSAB – Mayor Deborah Ewald

A meeting will take place on Thursday to begin budget deliberations.

Rainy River District Municipal Association – Mayor Deborah Ewald

A deacon's bench door prize made by Gary Halverson has been secured for the Annual General Meeting.

Communities Relations Liaison – Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillor Gord Armstrong

Councillor Gord Armstrong has met with Richard Trenchard and they would like to meet with various community members (that participate in events planning) to discuss the possibility of making this a coordinated effort.

REDC – Councillors Gord Armstrong and Gordon Prost

They are focusing on three main topics: housing, tourism and agriculture. A meeting is scheduled for Tuesday to establish focus groups. It is hoped that regular meetings will resume in the New Year.

Committee of Adjustment

There was nothing to report at this time.

Other Business

Madawaska Valley Residential Rental Maintenance Standards Resolution

Motion #16-174 - Pat White – Gordon Prost

“The Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby supports the Township of Madawaska Valley in their resolution to call on the Government of Ontario and the Ministry of Housing to halt the download of enforcement responsibility for residential rental maintenance standards proposed in Schedule 5 of Bill 7, in light of the significant fiscal challenge each municipality will face to provide this service to the public in a cost-effective manner.”

Carried

Georgian Bay Accommodation Review Process Resolution

Motion #16-175 - Gordon Prost – Pat White

“The Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby supports the Township of Georgian Bay in their resolution to request that the Minister of Education initiate an immediate moratorium on the Accommodation Review Process until such time as a review of the impacts on small rural communities can be studied, completed and the results and recommendations considered.”

Carried

South Stormont Pupil Accommodation Review Resolution

Motion #16-176 - Pat White – Susan Carpenter

“The Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby supports the Township of South Stormont in their resolution to demand that the Pupil Accommodation Review being undertaken by the Upper Canada District School Board (UCDSB) be immediately suspended for a period of 1 year,

to allow adequate time to complete the work necessary to chart the course ahead that is in the best interests of all UCDSB students.”

Carried

Georgian Bay Hydro Structure Resolution

Motion #16-177 - Susan Carpenter – Pat White

“The Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby supports the Township of Georgian Bay in their resolution to request that the Province re-evaluate the structure of hydro in terms of access and delivery and implement structural changes to address the unfair practice of charging more for delivery for rural residents.”

Carried

AMO Federal Infrastructure Phase 2 Incrementality Resolution

Motion #16-178 - Gordon Prost – Pat White

“**WHEREAS** municipal governments’ infrastructure is critical to our collective economic health;

WHEREAS stable, predictable and formula-based infrastructure funding allows municipal governments to plan and schedule investments in infrastructure;

WHEREAS Ontario municipal governments have asset management plans which set out a municipality’s longer term capital plan which reflects the infrastructure priorities of these asset management plans; and

WHEREAS a federal incrementality rule interferes with municipal long-term infrastructure priorities and diminishes the value of municipal asset planning and management;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River calls on the federal government to provide long-term, predictable, and formula-based funding in its Phase 2 programs for municipal governments; and

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River calls on the federal government to change incremental requirements in Phase 2 to recognize in Ontario that a municipal government’s asset management plan meets a municipal incremental infrastructure requirement.”

Carried

Best Start Hub Road Closure Request

Council discussed this request. Ultimately they felt that this was not the most appropriate location for this event and were not willing to close the street at this time. It was suggested that they look at a more suitable location and seek partnerships with other groups (including the Rec. Center). This would also give them the ability to use the washroom and indoor facilities if required.

Richmond Hill Postal Banking Resolution

Motion #178A – Pat White – Larry Armstrong

“WHEREAS the Federal Government’s Canada Post Review will conclude, in the spring of 2017, with the government announcing decisions on the future of Canada Post, including whether or not to create a new service and revenue stream through postal banking;

WHEREAS there is an urgent need for this service because thousands of rural towns and villages do not have a bank;

WHEREAS nearly two million Canadians desperately need alternatives to high interest charging payday lenders;

WHEREAS postal banking helps keep post offices viable and financial services accessible in many parts of the world;

WHEREAS postal banking has the support of over 600 municipalities and close to two-thirds of Canadians (Stratcom poll, 2013);

WHEREAS residents and businesses of Rainy River rely on mail service and see postal banking as an opportunity to improve the financial position of Canada Post while allowing the organization to continue its important service to Canadians including Rainy River without subsidy;

WHEREAS small business in Rainy River and throughout Canada require more and different forms of banking services to assist in venture capital growth as well as other financial needs currently not being serviced;

WHEREAS the Federal Government has prioritized, communicated, promoted, encouraged and challenged Canadians to be innovative, postal banking will allow customers of Canada Post to have access to banking services that will enhance productivity and quality of life for all stakeholders;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- a) That the Town of Rainy River encourages the Federal Government to review the Banking Act to allow postal banking at Canada Post;
- b) That the Town of Rainy River encourages the Federal Government to amend the *Canada Post Act* of 1981 to allow postal banking at Canada Post;

- c) That the Town of Rainy River encourages the Federal Government to instruct Canada Post to add postal banking as a service, with a mandate for financial inclusion either as a stand-alone bank or in cooperation with other financial organizations which may include the Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC);
- d) That the Town of Rainy River call on the Federal Government to instruct Canada Post to add postal banking, with a mandate for financial inclusion;
- e) That Council direct staff to forward this resolution to other local governments in Canada for whom contact information is readily available, requesting favourable consideration of this resolution to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities;
- f) And further, that Council direct staff to forward this resolution to:
 - i) Don Rusnak, Member of Parliament;
 - ii) Clark Somerville, President, Federation of Canadian Municipalities;
 - iii) Other local governments in Canada for whom contact information is readily available;
 - iv) The Federation of Canadian Municipalities;
 - v) Judy Foote, Minister of Public Services and Procurement; and
 - vi) Mike Palecek, President, Canadian Union of Postal Workers.”

Carried

Water Treatment Plant Meeting

It will be determined if this meeting can be rescheduled for December 9th at noon or 12:30 p.m. A confirmation will be sought for this from the people who need to be in attendance.

Adjournment

Motion #16-179 - Pat White – Gordon Prost

“There being no further business, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 8:16 p.m.”

Carried

Original Signed

Original Signed

Mayor

Chief Administrative Officer