

Minutes
Regular Council Meeting
Thursday, January 12, 2023

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River was held on Thursday, January 12, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the municipal council chambers and via video conference (Zoom).

In attendance were Mayor Deborah Ewald and Councillors Joel Hagarty, Gordon Prost, Martin Kreger and Brent Helgeson (by phone).

Giving regrets were Councillors Daniel Armstrong and Neil Ivall (work related).

Chief Administrative Officer Veldron Vogan recorded the minutes. It was noted that this is the re-scheduled council meeting that was cancelled on January 9th due to a power outage.

Opening Ceremonies, Moment of Silence, and Salute to the King

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

Additions, Deletions or Amendments

Add Councillor Kreger requested a preliminary discussion regarding a by-law to limit the number of cannabis plants per property.

Motion #23-001 - Gordon Prost – Martin Kreger

“That the agenda be accepted as amended.”

Carried

Disclosure of Interest

Councillor Kreger disclosed a conflict regarding the accounts payable, and the necessary paperwork was completed.

Presentations/Delegations

No delegates were in attendance.

Adoption of Minutes

Regular Council December 12, 2022

Motion #23-002 - Gordon Prost – Martin Kreger

“To approve the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of December 12, 2022, as presented.”

Carried

Financials (as of December 31, 2022)

Motion #23-003 - Brent Helgeson – Gordon Prost

“That approval be granted for the financial statements (as of December 31, 2022) along with the accounts payable for the month of December 2022 which have been paid in the following amounts:”

Town General	\$198,007.41
Water	\$ 11,462.24
Sewer	\$ 2,661.92
RRHCC	\$ 379.47

Carried

Reports from Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business to report.

NEW BUSINESS – COMMITTEE REPORTS (AS NEEDED)

Finance/Personnel – Mayor Deborah Ewald and Councillors Neil Ivall, Martin Kreger and Daniel Armstrong

Council Vacancy

Motion #23-004 - Gordon Prost – Martin Kreger

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Rainy River Town Council declares Councillor Greg Brown’s seat vacant as per *Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, Sections 232 and 259.*”

Carried

Motion #23-005 - Martin Kreger – Gordon Prost

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Rainy River Town Council appoints the next candidate from the 2022 municipal election Joel Hagarty to the vacant Council seat as per *Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, Section 263.*”

Carried

Oath of Office – Joel Hagarty

Mayor Ewald administered the declaration of office to Joel Hagarty and Council congratulated him on becoming a member of council.

Vacation Day Carry Over Request – Leroy Hancharyk

Motion #23-006 - Martin Kreger – Gordon Prost

“That Foreman Leroy Hancharyk is authorized to carry over 43 hours of unused vacation days from 2022, with the condition that they are used by March 31, 2023.”

Carried

Property/By-laws/AMBIS – Councillors Brent Helgeson and Gordon Prost

By-law 1836-23 – Municipal Planning Services Contract for 2023

The first reading of By-law 1836-23 was given by Councillor Gordon Prost.

Motion #23-007 - Gordon Prost – Martin Kreger

“That By-law 1836-23, being a by-law to establish signing authority for the Municipal Planning Services Contract with Robert Miller of Heritage and Land Use Planning Services, having been read the required number of times, be hereby approved.”

Carried

Proposal for a Cannabis Plant Limitation By-law

Councillor Kreger noted that the local OPP have suggested that the town establish a by-law to limit the number of cannabis plants per property, as there is at least one individual who is growing it in excess but has been permitted to do so through the medical marijuana avenue. This will be investigated further.

Procedural By-law

Rainy River District Municipal Association – Mayor Deborah Ewald

Annual General Meeting Attendance

Motion #23-008 - Gordon Prost – Martin Kreger

“That Mayor Ewald and Councillors Gordon Prost and Joel Hagarty, and CAO Veldron Vogan attend the Rainy River District Municipal Association Annual General Meeting and Conference on January 14, 2023, in Barwick, with expenses paid as per policy.”

Carried

Other Business

Tweed – Affordable Natural Gas Resolution

Resolution #23-001 - Martin Kreger – Gordon Prost

“**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Council of The Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby supports the Municipality of Tweed in petitioning the Ontario Energy Board to regulate natural gas bill costs to levels that are affordable and profitable as in jurisdictions within Ontario that have lower costs.”

Carried

Lanark County – IPV/VAW Epidemic Resolution

Resolution #23-002 - Martin Kreger – Gordon Prost

“**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Council of The Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby supports the Lanark County Council in declaring that IPV (intimate partner violence)/VAW (violence against women) is an epidemic as per recommendation #1 of the Renfrew County Coroner’s jury recommendations.”

Carried

Confirming By-law

By-law 1837-23 to Confirm the Proceedings of Council

The first reading of By-law 1837-23 was given by Councillor Joel Hagarty.

Motion #23-009 - Gordon Prost – Martin Kreger

“That By-law 1837-23, being a by-law of the Town of Rainy River to confirm the proceedings of Council at its meeting held on the 12th day of January 2023, having been read in open council, be hereby approved.”

Carried

Next Meeting (if necessary) – Monday, February 13, 2023

Adjournment

Motion #23-010 - Gordon Prost

“There being no further business, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 6:40 p.m.”

Carried

Original Signed

Deputy Mayor

Original Signed

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer