

Minutes
Regular Council Meeting
Monday, July 12, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River was held on Monday, July 12, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. via video conference (Zoom).

In attendance were Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillors Brent Helgeson, Neil Ivall and Gerry Pasloski.

Giving their regrets were Councillors Larry Armstrong, Martin Kreger and Pat White.

The minutes were recorded by Chief Administrative Officer Veldron Vogan.

Opening Ceremonies, Moment of Silence and Salute to the Queen

Mayor Deb Ewald opened the meeting with a moment of silence and a salute to the Queen.

Additions, Deletions or Amendments

Motion #21-085 - Neil Ivall – Gerry Pasloski

“That the agenda be accepted as presented.”

Carried

Disclosure of Interest

No disclosures of interest were made at this time.

Adoption of Minutes

Regular Council June 14, 2021

Motion #21-086 - Gerry Pasloski – Brent Helgeson

“To approve the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of June 14, 2021 as amended.”

Carried

Special Council July 8, 2021

Motion #21-087 - Neil Ivall – Brent Helgeson

“To approve the minutes of the Special Council meeting of July 8, 2021 as presented.”

Carried

Financials (as of June 30, 2021)

There was some discussion regarding the NOHFC Greenhouse Feasibility Study, the Participaction funding (which was a joint project between the town and the health unit) and the contribution to the high interest savings account (which was excess cash that we hope to earn a little interest on).

Motion #21-088 - Gerry Pasloski – Neil Ivall

“That approval be granted for the financial statements (as of June 30, 2021) along with the accounts payable for the month of June 2021 which have been paid in the following amounts:”

Town General	\$151,936.56
Water	\$ 38,164.85
Sewer	\$ 4,636.95
Cemetery	\$ 116.46
RRHCC	\$ 376.26

Carried

Presentations/Delegations

No delegations were in attendance.

Reports from Unfinished Business

The CAO noted that the Railway Avenue Park survey was completed last week and the tax bills went out on Tuesday. It was also noted that Mayor Ewald had spoken to the CAO in Pickle Lake regarding Celerity and they provided some good commentary and felt that Celerity had worked well with them.

NEW BUSINESS – COMMITTEE REPORTS (AS NEEDED)

Finance/Personnel – Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillors Neil Ivall (Finance Chair), Pat White (Personnel Chair), Martin Kreger and Larry Armstrong

Riverside Foundation for Health Care

Motion #21-089 - Brent Helgeson – Gerry Pasloski

“The Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby commits to the donation of \$15,000 over three years to the Riverside Foundation for Health Care for the purchase of a new CT scanner with digital mammography and digital x-ray capabilities that will be used by residents throughout the district.”

Carried

Property/By-laws/AMBIS – Councillors Pat White, Neil Ivall and Brent Helgeson

Mini Golf Property Rental

Motion #21-090 - Brent Helgeson – Neil Ivall

“The Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby agrees to rent the property located at 322 Fourth Street (former Rainy River Hotel) to Martin Kreger for 2021 in the amount of \$100.00, for a mini golf installation, and under the condition that all structures be temporary.”

Carried

By-law 1769-21 Enbridge Franchise Agreement

The third reading of By-law 1769-21 was given by Councillor Brent Helgeson.

Motion #21-091 - Neil Ivall – Gerry Pasloski

“That By-law 1769-21, being a by-law to authorize a franchise agreement between the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River and Enbridge Gas Inc., having been read the required number of times, be hereby approved.”

Carried

Fort Frances International Bridge Resolution

Resolution #21-023 - Brent Helgeson – Neil Ivall

“**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Council of The Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby supports the Town of Fort Frances in calling on the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario to immediately intervene in the sale of the International Bridge and make all necessary efforts to acquire the International Bridge with their American counterparts, operate it as a public asset, and remove tolls, and meet with the Council of Fort Frances and administration of the municipality to brief it on their efforts and plans to protect this vital economic and community link.”

Carried

Perth County Domestic COVID-19 Vaccine Production and Capacity Resolution

Resolution #21-024 - Gerry Pasloski – Neil Ivall

“**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Council of The Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby supports Perth County in recommending to the Federal Government to support domestic production of a COVID-19 vaccine and that all levels of Government be encouraged to engage and support domestic vaccine capacity.”

Carried

Cochrane Motion to Include the PSA Test for Men into the Medical Care

Resolution #21-025 - Neil Ivall – Brent Helgeson

“**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Council of The Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby supports the Town of Cochrane in requesting that both the Federal and Provincial Governments move to have the PSA test for men included in the national health care system and that it be made available for all Canadian men at no charge and that the Government make every effort to have this become a reality sooner than later as every day that goes by another 11 men will die of this avoidable disease.”

Carried

Eye Care in Ontario

Resolution #21-026 - Gerry Pasloski – Neil Ivall

“**WHEREAS** every day optometrists take pride in helping their patients see clearly and preventing blindness; and

WHEREAS for over 30 years, the Ontario government has refused to formally negotiate with optometrists; and

WHEREAS in 1989, the Ontario government paid \$39.15 for an eye exam and in 2021 (32 years later) they pay an average of \$44.65; and

WHEREAS this amount does not come close to covering the cost (including rent, staff, utilities, equipment, taxes and supplies) to provide an eye exam; and

WHEREAS this is not sustainable for optometrists and the Ontario government continues to ignore eye care; and

WHEREAS optometrists are left with no choice but to end access to eye care for millions of Ontarians as of September 1, 2021;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of The Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby supports the Ontario Association of Optometrists in calling on the Ontario Government to commit to a binding, formal negotiation process—the same way they do with other health care sectors—to ensure quality eye care for everyone in Ontario, and

THAT this motion and a letter of support be distributed to the Ontario Association of Optometrists, the Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Health Honourable Christine Elliot, the Honourable Greg Rickford, MPP (Kenora—Rainy River), the Honourable Andrea Horwath (NDP Leader, Official Opposition), Steven Del Duca (Leader of the Ontario Liberal Party), all municipalities of the Rainy River District, the Association of Municipalities of

Ontario (AMO), the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) and the Rainy River District Municipal Association (RRDMA).”

Carried

Confirming By-law

By-law 1779-21 to Confirm the Proceedings of Council

The first reading of By-law 1779-21 was given by Councillor Neil Ivall.

Verbal Motion #21-091A – Brent Helgeson – Gerry Pasloski

“That By-law 1779-21 be taken as read a second and third time.”

Carried

Motion #21-092 - Neil Ivall – Brent Helgeson

“That By-law 1779-21, 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 July, 2021, having been read the required number of times, be hereby approved.”

Carried

The Pines Park

There was some discussion regarding what was observed at the park. Planning will be done to move forward with some upgrades to this area.

Next Meeting – Monday, August 9, 2021

It was noted that the next regular council meeting would be on Monday, August 9, 2021.

Adjournment

Motion #21-093 - Gerry Pasloski

“There being no further business, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 6:07 p.m.”

Carried

Original Signed

Mayor

Original Signed

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer