

Minutes
Committee of the Whole Meeting
Monday, May 4, 2026

A Committee of the Whole meeting was held on Monday, May 4, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. in the municipal council chambers.

In attendance were Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillors Gordon Prost, Joel Hagarty, Florence Newman, Daniel Armstrong and Brent Helgeson. Also in attendance were Melanie Murray of the senior apartments group and town planning consultant Bob Miller (Zoom).

Giving regrets was Councillor Martin Kreger.

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Julie Tiboni recorded the minutes.

1) Opening of Meeting

Mayor Ewald opened the meeting and welcomed everyone in attendance.

2) Additions, Deletions or Amendments

Add Recreation Centre Letter of Support & Permission – Community Ballpark
Accessibility Improvements – a letter of support will be issued.

3) Disclosure of Interest

No disclosures of interest were declared.

4) Presentations/Delegations

a) Melanie Murray – Bridge Road Senior Apartments

Melanie was hoping to get some direction from Council on how to make sure we don't lose the opportunity to partner with Bridge Road for the construction of senior apartments. The next meeting is scheduled for May 21st. A letter will be sent to Bridge Road requesting that this meeting be made open to the public. It will be determined if there is a mailout list available. A public meeting could engage new interest in the project and provide information to the public. The possibility of booking a display table at the trade show was also discussed.

5) Adoption of Minutes – April 7, 2026

The minutes were approved as amended.

6) Correspondence

A list of incoming correspondences for the month of April 2026 was reviewed. It was noted that these letters were on file at the town office if the Council was interested in further information.

7) Committee Reports

- a) Finance/Personnel – Mayor Deborah Ewald and Councillors Florence Newman, Martin Kreger and Daniel Armstrong (Chair)

The committee had nothing to report at this time.

- b) Health and Safety – Councillor Brent Helgeson (Chair) and Joel Hagarty

Town crew member Sean Forster is working on a course to replace Mike Scott as union representative for the joint health and safety committee.

- c) Public Works/Water & Sewer/Recycling – Mayor Deborah Ewald and Councillors Martin Kreger, Brent Helgeson, Gordon Prost (Chair) and Joel Hagarty

All crew members have passed their certifications for the water treatment plant.

Work on the streetlights is being completed.

A report was provided on the public works meeting with Chris Foulds of Lakeside Process Controls.

Pine Court Sewer – a meeting will be set up with JML Engineering and Foreman Leroy Hancharyk.

A solution has been proposed regarding the Ken Jasper water quality issue.

Sidewalk repairs will cost approximately \$160,000.

- d) Property/By-laws/AMBIS – Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillors Brent Helgeson, Gordon Prost (Chair), and Joel Hagarty

AMBIS CBO Remuneration – Councillor Prost will speak to CAO Shara Lavallee in this regard.

The Building Fees portion of the Misc. User Fees By-law were reviewed.

Planning Consultant Bob Miller explained the proposed regulations for minimum residential lot size in urban areas. The draft zoning by-law will be forwarded to council for approval.

Neil Ivall Email (Fire Department Reno) – it was noted that this issue has been resolved.

- e) Economic Development/Tourism – Mayor Deborah Ewald and Councillors Martin Kreger, Daniel Armstrong (Chair), Florence Newman and Joel Hagarty

Julie Tiboni provided an update on the plans for Railroad Daze this year.

- f) Beautification/Cemetery/Hannam Park – Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillors Daniel Armstrong (Chair), Florence Newman, and Brent Helgeson

Memorial bench for a past employee – the shipping for this bench will be \$1,000 so the order will be placed on hold until we hear back from Brent Helgeson if the Lions Club is interested in ordering benches too. This may help with the shipping costs.

- g) Fire Board – Mayor Deborah Ewald and Councillor Martin Kreger

The renovations at the fire hall are on hold until Fire Chief Jessie Tait and CBO Henry Van Ael hear back from Saulteaux about the drawings.

- h) Recreation Board/Curling Club – Councillors Brent Helgeson and Florence Newman

The trade show is taking place this weekend.

- i) Library Board – Councillors Joel Hagarty and Florence Newman

The next library board meeting will be on May 20th at 5:30 p.m.

- j) Rainy River House/Medical Centre – Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillors Gordon Prost and Daniel Armstrong

A walkthrough of the locum house is scheduled for May 7th at 2:30 p.m.

- k) DRRSB – Mayor Deborah Ewald

Mayor Ewald had nothing to report at this time.

- l) Rainy River District Municipal Association – Councillor Martin Kreger

The next meeting is taking place on May 20th at 7:00 p.m.

8) Other Business

- a) Flag Designs

Council members will pick their top three choices and vote on the designs at the next council meeting.

9) Next Meeting – Monday, June 1, 2026

10) Adjournment

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Mayor

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer